



**GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2D**

Minutes

Monday, September 8th, 2025; 7:00 p.m.

In-Person – St. Margaret’s Episcopal Church, 1830 Connecticut Avenue NW

Online via Zoom –

If you do not have a computer or access to the internet, you may join the meeting via phone at
(301) 715-8592 or (646) 558-8656 with meeting ID 820 2765 4787 #.

Call to Order

Chair Feld called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm

Establishment of Quorum

Commissioners Robyn Lipton (2D01) and Carole Feld (2D02) were present, establishing a quorum.

Approval of Agenda

Chair Feld moved to approve the ANC’s meeting agenda with a few changes: 1) Removing an ACLU Representative -will not be attending; 2) Adding a resolution about the embassy of Cameroon trash disposal and, 3) Removing the Kalorama Loading Zone resolution, since it is in progress. She reminded constituents that public comment on this issue was at the ANC2D June 2025 meeting—and did not hear any problems at that time, only support for the market and loading zone. Commissioner Lipton seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 2-0-0).

Approval of June 2025 Meeting Minutes

Chair Feld moved to approve ANC2D June 2025 meeting minutes. Commissioner Lipton seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 2-0-0).

Commissioner’s Comments

Chair Feld thanked our volunteer administrator Peter Sacco, St. Margaret’s, especially John Bello for their community service and special thanks to John for the water they provided for the meeting. She recognized and thanked community advocates for their work they do and supporting our community with a special thank you to fellow Commissioner Robyn Lipton for her service.

Treasurer’s Report

Commissioner Lipton noted that the current balance for ANC2D’s checking bank account is \$20,022.18. Received govt. allotment of \$939.20. No expenses over the course of the summer.

Approval of ANC FY’25 Qtr.3 Report

QFR 3rd qtr. of FY’25 Qtr.3, ended in June. Included an Allotment of \$939.20 and \$50.75 in interest with an ending balance of \$19,046.78. Commissioner Lipton moved to approve the QFR, Commissioner Feld seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 2-0-0).

Government Reports

Chair Feld thanked our Govt. Liaisons for their time and support.

Mayor's Office

"Ty" Abilla, update on Federal takeover of MPD, budget, ICE activities and people's rights

Ty Abilla Manager with the Mayor's office of Community Relations and Services discussed the city's new labor agreement with MPD Fraternal Order of Police Union and pay increases for non-union officers with ranks of Lt. and above. Also discussed the new Mayor's Order, extending the work of the Safe and Beautiful Emergency Operations Center, centralized command structure to coordinate its responses to emergencies and advance federal law enforcement operations working in partnerships with various federal agencies. Federal surge expected end on Sept. 10. Collaboration with federal agencies done prior to federal surge, excludes ICE and Homeland Security and the National Guard. Federal Agents and Officers always been able to stop people, have arrest authority in the District. Req. that DC mayor is compelled to provide MPD services will continue to work with federal agencies in ways that are strategic with public safety.

Chair Feld asked if Ty could clarify the federal agents that DC will be working with after the surge, also asked about the use of masks, etc. Ty noted that the mayor has advocated for that following the federal surge; but doesn't know what it will look like. Federal agents DC will be working with after the surge include Secret Service and NPS Park police. She can provide additional info in the coming days. It excludes: ICE, National Guard, & Homeland Security. Commissioner Lipton asked if the provisions that requires people to not wear masks and ID themselves would be applied to ICE agents. Ty would look for more information in the coming days. She indicated that the exit plan for the National Guard deployment will most likely be extended, but DC will not be collaborating with them after the surge. Commissioner Lipton also asked about the status of the \$1.1 billion dollars that Congress took away from DC for this current fiscal year. Ty indicated she would get back.

Commissioner Feld thanked Ty for her service.

Councilmember's Office

Brian Romanoski, Councilmember Pinto's office provided an update on Federal Presence in the city and other issues.

Actions taken causing a lot of anxiety and fear for residents. Pinto has been clear that militarizing our street is not the right solution for our city's challenges. Pinto's priority is improving public safety; crime rates have fallen to lowest rates in 30 years. Many things in place that are not happening, need people to be working with MPD on a regular basis, Congress needs to confirm judges on the courts, and pass the budget fix. Was originally 1 billion, got it down to \$300-400 million that they still owe us. Fy year starts on Oct. 1. Money does go back into our account on Oct.1. Goes to our reserves, won't be reprogrammed right away. Still a lot of questions have had a hiring freeze hurting a lot of agencies, such as indoor public pools, can't hire new lifeguards, our money, can't access it. Need US Attorney to prosecute more cases. Current federal action hurting trust with law enforcement officials/MPD, doesn't help people feel comfortable reporting crimes or calling 911. Hurting our businesses and local economy already hurt from DOGE cuts, restaurants reservations and other small businesses are hurting as well. Exec. order only lasted for 30 days, not a takeover, only requesting the services of MPD. President Trump has the authority to deploy National guard in DC. They are extending them deployed until Nov. 30. Hearing it's for them to get benefits, 30-day deployment was too short. Don't direct any hate at them, most are DC residents and citizens. First 800 were DC people. DC National Guard wants to know where to go to help beautify the city. Over a million dollars in deferred maintenance in DC alone. There are federal lands in 2D, triangles, can do mulching and trash removal. Pinto will continue to advocate for improvements that respect home rule. Full Council sent a letter to Congress opposing the 14 bills, almost all anti-home rule, we're ok with the one allowing us to transmit our laws to you electronically. Other 13 are not good, one removes our ability to appoint our attorney general, one changes the age that juveniles to be tried at 14 as adults. Moving it very quickly. Don't expect it to pass the Senate.

Advocate to senators for those 13 bills. Contact moderate republican Senators' office.

Next Council meeting Wed. 17th, second and final vote to bring back the Commanders to DC. Current stadium is already being demolished.

School year: Cell phone ban Pinto got passed is now in place. Teachers are already seeing improvements.

DPW has been having challenges with staffing working to address challenges to make sure they can address leaf and Xmas tree collection.

Go to ACLUdc.org. Posted a great article. August 29, 2025. Have different options on what to do if you or someone you know has been arrested. Many issues, such as language barriers. Important to educate people about their rights.

Kindy French asked about the Pentagon using 600 lawyers for federal immigration court to help with immigration backlog. Commissioner Lipton noted that there was a question if that is even legal. Would be judges. Marie Drissel asked about the extensions of the Residential Tranquility Amendment Act of 2025. Commissioners asked for a status on all the bills, especially when the permanent bills go into effect.

Brian asked us to advocate for the Amplified Sound Mitigation Act of 2024. Bill passed, already law, but not funded in the budget this year. Chair Mendelsohn said he would be happy to fund it in the budget next year. Would like to see the changes where the decibel readings take place on the device itself, not in an adjacent home. Dept. of licensing and consumer protection would have enforcement agents to come out and measure it. Would need to have a license to use the amplified device. Funded in FY'27 budget. Advocate to the mayor's office in Dec. and the Council in January. Exempts parades and public gatherings. Brian will find out what exactly must be funded for this act to pass.

Marie Drissel noted a trash collection issue at the Embassy of Guinea. Trash in the back; thought it was a one-time issue. Got rid of their collection entity. Seen it filled with embassy documents. Tonight, it's on Leroy. Marie will take another picture. Brian already talked about the Secretary's office about this and asked for more photos. She also mentioned that she has heard from Pepco that their prices are skyrocketing and asked Brian Romanowski to address that address that.

Commissioner Feld thanked Brian for his service and for attending the meeting in person.

Metropolitan Police Department

Capt. Hamelin Metropolitan Police Department, representative for the Metropolitan Police Department's (MPD) Second District reported on Fed takeover of MPD, ICE and other issues

Capt. Hamelin emphasized that they are a Patrol Division, not working directly with the federal agents--other MPD units are working with federal agents. Focused on patrol efforts, prevention and reduction of crime. Not changed over the last 30 days, still solving local crime, ID hotspots and relocating resources as needed on every shift. There are cases where federal agents showed up, possibly take custody of the person we retained, can't stop them. Obligated to assist federal agents when we need to. However, we are not stopping people for immigration for the federal agents, sometimes they showed up on a traffic stop, and interviewed the person we had stopped, but that's very few of our interactions. When we make an arrest it's for crimes that we see being committed in DC. Also not retaining the prisoner any longer for Fed agents. Once they are in our custody can't be questioned by the federal agents, they are in our secure block.

Crime stats for this month: Violent crime is still down. Burglaries are still down. Thefts are up, mail and car. Crime still down. For mail, recommend setting up a neighborhood system to get packages. Car thefts are more challenging. Unless we're standing right there, not much we can do. Will continue doing patrol. Struggling the most with thefts in autos. Remind visitors don't leave anything in the car. Working closer with CVS to address retail theft more seriously.

Commissioner Feld asked if there has been a lack of trust because of the surge. Capt. Hamelin indicated in general, most people still trust MPD and know that we're trying to do our job and be professional about it. Want to reiterate that we are about "patrol" when we get a call, we are addressing that call for service.

Chair Feld thanked Capt. Hamelin for his service and for keeping us safe.

Traffic Safety Input (TSI) Updates from the District Department of Transportation

Christophe Wassmer, the Ward 2 Community Engagement Specialist for the District Department of Transportation (DDOT), gave an overview Traffic Safety Input (TSI) Updates, the Dupont Deckover and other issues including:

- Connecticut Ave Streetscape and Dupont Deckover: Doing staging in Connecticut Ave and Calif St. Coordinating with DC Water. Deckover part, north of Dupont Circle will begin this month. Already closed one lane underneath Dupont Circle and will be closing the service lanes.
- Taft Bridge: Project to build fencing barriers on the bridge. Discussion among the community about appropriate fencing, decided on the type of fencing and construction will start this month. Started staging, construction will take 12 months. Commissioner Lipton asked if there were going to be lane closed because of this. Christophe said he would get back, doesn't think so. Comm. Feld noted there was a high rate of suicides on the bridge and this will prevent it. There was a discussion among neighbors if this was necessary and the importance of having bridges open and if this is where money should be spent. Christophe said that the design is similar, just raising the current rails and keeping the viewshed. It went through the National Commission of Fine Arts, and all funds are allocated.
- Installation and Restoration of the Call Box at 24th and Mass Ave. Vendor has finished their work on the Call Box, installation Sept. 15 set. Holly Sukenik asked if it will have the artwork in it, Christophe doesn't know how to get the artwork restored, hoping that the Call Box Project can help with that. Holly asked if they could bill DDOT for that. \$500-\$800 to get the artwork on the metal plate. Christophe said it would be a whole new project to do that, basically saying no, the best way to speed the process is having the Callbox Project do it. There was discussion re: the details and location of the Call Box. Holly S. asked if the location of the callbox could be reset back a little bit, because it's vulnerable to be hit, Christophe mentioned that they need to take in utilities during installation, he will work on that.
- Kalorama Loading Zone: Comm. Lipton mentioned that the loading zone is in place, but that the space in front of the Ora apt. building has not yet been converted to "no parking." There is no signage on that. And asked about the four spaces on Phelps that need to be converted to Zone 2 parking. Christophe noted that many times, the work orders are staggered and will get back. Comm. Feld mentioned that in the NOI, there was a mistake, and it said zone 1 parking, but it needs to be converted to zone 2 parking.
- Buffalo Bridge & Q Street Safety issues: Marie Drissel asked how to get a study of safety issues on Q street near the Buffalo Bridge. A neighbor has observed many issues, i.e., it's unclear whether to take a left etc. Christophe said that the neighbor on Q street should go on 311 and put in a traffic safety request and outline the safety issues with that intersection. Comm. Feld requested that if people put in a 311 request, should copy Comm. Lipton and herself with the number and issue so we can advocate for them.
- Construction on the Entry off P Street to the Rock Creek Parkway. Discussion about NPS working with DC water to address the sinkhole. NPS and DC Water's website have info on that. The ramps are federal. Brian Romanowski mentioned that they are now working with the Federal Highway Administration instead of DC Water on this.
- Role of Ai in helping DDOT solve traffic and safety issues: Christophe indicated they use data, but DC has a strong policy against Ai, so he doesn't think there is not much happening with this.

- Belmont and Mass No Parking Poles at the Corner of Belmont: Kindy French asked if DDOT could paint stripes on the street until we get the poles. Christophe mentioned it's a traffic enforcement issue, COMM. Feld and Kindy mentioned it's really a traffic back up issue, and that DDOT should do a study on this to make sure it doesn't cause a larger traffic problem. Maybe it requires a resolution to get things going.

Commissioner Feld thanked Christophe.

New Business/Old Business

2439 Wyoming HPA, 25-379 Application discussion and site plan review Christian Zapatka architects and owner of the property. <https://www.christianzapatkaarchitect.com/>

Proposal to add Dormers to the existing roof and the wing at the back of the house, submitted a proposal to HPRB. No plans to expand the footprint. Want to use of the large attic space for the owner's family. Vincent Roberti, owner also attended and mentioned he has been in discussion with the neighbors—or have sent a letter to the trustees and owners of the 3 abutting neighbors. Indicated they believe in getting neighbors input every step of the way. Plan on sending letters certified mail to make sure people get the letters. Kindy French asked about the public alley and fencing for the pool. Owner mentioned they have no intentions to affect the public alley which is the south of their property and will consult their neighbors on what they would prefer and will be code compliant, keeping fence at the top the same. Is between 24th and Kalorama Rd. Comm. Feld thanked them and said it appears they have neighborhood support.

ANC 2D Resolution: ANC 2D Sheridan-Kalorama Resolution Condemning Federal Overreach in DC and Insistence on the Immediate Return of Local Funds 9.8.25

It was noted the importance DC Judges going through DC approval process. Chair Feld moved to approve the ANC2D resolution with the addition of clarifying that DC judicial nominees follow the current nomination process. Commissioner Lipton seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 2-0-0).

ANC 2D Resolution: Further Priority Support to Resolve by September 30, 2025 Removal of Hazardous and Rodent Infested Trash Pile at the Cameroon Embassy

Chair Feld noted the issue and thanked neighbors, members of the city, Council office and State Dept. who have been working on this for over a year and moved to approve the ANC2D resolution. Commissioner Lipton seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 2-0-0).

There was also discussion about other ANC2D abandoned diplomatic properties, including Syria.

Announcements and Open Comment

- Mitchell Park Fall Fun Day. Oct 26 2-5; Call Boxes are being restored
- American Fazl Mosque, Open House. Sept. 27-Oct. 9 11:00am-6:00 Commemorating 75 years of being the first mosque in Washington. Will have DC Historic Artifacts, Slide Shows, and special sessions

Date of Next Meeting:

Chair Feld said the next meeting is Tuesday, October 7 and will take place at St. Margaret's or via zoom.

Adjournment

Chair Feld called the meeting over at 8:46 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Carole Feld, ANC2D Chair and Secretary.

