



Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2A

“Serving the Foggy Bottom and West End communities of Washington, D.C.”

Regular Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, May 17th, 2023; 7:00 p.m.

In-Person – West End Library, Meeting Room, 2301 L Street NW

Online via Zoom

Call to Order

Commissioner Jim Malec (02) called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm. Commissioners Yannik Omictin (01), Trupti Patel (03), Ed Comer (04), Kim Courtney (05), Joel Causey (06), Dasia Bandy (07), Jordan Nassar (08), and Evelyn Hudson (09) were present.

Adoption of the Agenda

Chair Malec made a motion to adopt the ANC’s meeting agenda. Commissioner Patel seconded the motion, which was adopted by unanimous consent.

Adoption of Past Meeting Minutes

Chair Malec made a motion to adopt the ANC’s regular April 2023 meeting minutes. Commissioner Patel seconded the motion, which was adopted by unanimous consent.

Community Forum

Report from Dr. Oye I. Owolewa, U.S. Representative of Washington, DC

Dr. Oye I. Owolewa, the U.S. Representative of Washington, DC, gave an update regarding his work on behalf of DC.

Report from the Metropolitan Police Department’s PSA 207

Lieutenant Michael Howden, a representative for the Metropolitan Police Department’s (MPD) Second District, gave an overview of the recent crime statistics for the neighborhood.

Report from the Executive Office of the Mayor

Christopher Powell, a Ward 2 representative for the Mayor’s Office of Community Relations and Services (MOCRS), gave updates from the Mayor’s Office.

Report from the Office of Ward 2 Councilmember Brooke Pinto

Pablo Velasco Rodriguez, the Constituent Services Coordinator for Councilmember Brooke Pinto’s Office, gave updates from the Councilmember’s Office.

Commissioner Updates

Chair Malec and Commissioners Omictin, Patel, Comer, Courtney, Causey, Bandy, and Nassar gave commissioner updates.

Announcements and Public Comments

Five local residents gave announcements and public comments.

Election of Officers

Election of the ANC's Vice Chairperson

Commissioner Bandy nominated Commissioner Patel to serve as the ANC's Vice Chair. Commissioner Omictin seconded the motion. Commissioner Comer nominated Commissioner Nassar to serve as the Vice Chair. Commissioner Causey seconded the motion. A roll call vote was requested. The nominations were voted on and Commissioner Nassar was elected as the ANC's Vice Chair (VOTES: 5 for Commissioner Nassar, 3 for Commissioner Patel, 1 abstention). The roll call vote was as follows:

Commissioner Omictin: Commissioner Patel
Chair Malec: Abstain
Commissioner Patel: Commissioner Patel
Commissioner Comer: Commissioner Nassar
Commissioner Courtney: Commissioner Nassar
Commissioner Causey: Commissioner Nassar
Commissioner Bandy: Commissioner Patel
Commissioner Nassar: Commissioner Nassar
Commissioner Hudson: Commissioner Nassar

General Agenda

Update from the Office of the Tenant Advocate Regarding the Work of the Office

Christopher Lucas, a Program Analyst for the Office of the Tenant Advocate (OTA), gave an update regarding the work of the office.

Update from the DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities Regarding the Commission's Grant Opportunities

JR Russ, a Public Affairs Specialist for the DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities, gave an update regarding the commission's grant opportunities.

Update Regarding the DC Smart Street Lighting Project

Enora Moss and Chris Lockard, representatives for the DC Smart Street Lighting Project, gave an update regarding the project.

Matters Before the Commemorative Works Committee

Commemorative Works Committee Application by the Embassy of Spain for the Installation of a Statue at 2375 Pennsylvania Avenue NW

Chair Malec made a motion to table the matter until a future ANC meeting. Commissioner Patel seconded the motion, which was adopted by unanimous consent.

General Agenda (Continued)

Update from the Office of the Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development Regarding the Office's Grant Opportunities for DC Family Fun Destinations

Chair Malec made a motion to table the matter until a future ANC meeting. Commissioner Patel seconded the motion, which was adopted by unanimous consent.

Matters Before the DC Council

Consideration of a Resolution Regarding the DC Council's Budget Oversight Hearing for the District of Columbia Housing Authority

Commissioner Patel made a motion to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Bandy seconded the motion. A roll call vote was requested. The motion was voted on and passed (VOTES: 7-0-0). The roll call vote was as follows:

Commissioner Omictin: Yea
Chair Malec: Yea
Commissioner Patel: Yea
Commissioner Comer: Yea
Commissioner Courtney: Yea
Commissioner Bandy: Yea
Commissioner Nassar: Yea

The resolution reads as follows:

WHEREAS, on April 19, 2023, ANC 2A voted 7-0-0 on a resolution advising the DC Council's Committee on Housing (the committee) on allocation of Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 budget funding,

WHEREAS, on April 26, 2023 the committee released their report for the proposed budget for Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 for all agencies under its purview,

WHEREAS, the committee outlined fourteen policy recommendations directed at the District of Columbia Housing Authority (DCHA) with multiple sub-parts addressing the following areas:

- Ethics & Compliance,
- Integrity & Public Trust, and

- Responsiveness, Effectiveness & Efficiency,

WHEREAS, the committee report recommended new subtitles with regards to the Budget Support Act (BSA) 2024 some of which are:

- Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP) Transparency,
- Housing Authority Accountability,
- Housing Authority Financial Reporting, and
- Local Rent Supplement Program Eligibility,

WHEREAS, ERAP Transparency will lead to future reforms to ensure that the program is effective and is financially stable for the District,

WHEREAS, Housing Authority Accountability makes permanent the following accountability requirements that apply to DCHA since November 2022:

- submitting monthly reports on key metrics such as:
 - operating reserves,
 - vacant public housing units, and
 - use of local funds,
- DCHA board members along with the Executive Director must complete training on critical public housing authority topics, and
- DCHA is subjected to consumer protection laws on the same terms as other landlords in matters starting on or after December 19, 2016,

WHEREAS, Housing Authority Financial Reporting requires a yearly financial report to have greater transparency and that it now be performed by the Office of the Inspector General (OIG), and

WHEREAS, the BSA fully accepted the recommendation to provide additional funding for the Local Rent Supplemental Program in addition to expanding who is eligible for the program, helping the program meet the goal of being a critical part of the District's affordable housing toolbox as it is one of the few programs that is guaranteed to provide housing that extremely low income families need.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2A supports the DC Council adopting the fourteen policy recommendations put forward by the committee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2A requests that the DC Council focuses its approach to keep the new BSA subtitles between the first vote and the final vote to strengthen and clarify legislation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2A appreciates that the committee report has afforded ANC 2A "great weight" in accepting all policy recommendations that were outlined in the April 2023 resolution, including:

- Enhanced DC Council oversight of the voucher program,

- Any increase in funding for DCHA must attach stipulations of oversight, and
- Transparency in finance and operations with regards to budget repairs.

Consideration of a Resolution Regarding Funding for the K Street Transitway

Commissioner Patel made a motion to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Omictin seconded the motion. A roll call vote was requested. The motion was voted on and passed (VOTES: 7-0-0). The roll call vote was as follows:

Commissioner Omictin: Yea

Chair Malec: Yea

Commissioner Patel: Yea

Commissioner Comer: Yea

Commissioner Courtney: Yea

Commissioner Bandy: Yea

Commissioner Nassar: Yea

The resolution reads as follows:

WHEREAS, the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) has held numerous public meetings over the years (beginning in 2019) to overhaul K Street NW from 12th Street to 21st Street that would adjust bus lanes and bike lanes better known as the K Street Transitway,

WHEREAS, DDOT's original plan for K Street NW was to:

- remove the street's service lanes to make way for a mile-long transit way,
- two dedicated bus lanes in the center, flanked by a bike lane on either side, one in each direction, and
- that would leave two lanes for vehicular traffic in each direction and result in an estimated 7,500 bikes traveling alongside 1,600 cars per hour — almost five bikes to every car, according to DDOT,

WHEREAS, in April of 2023 DDOT revised the K Street Transitway design without input from the community, proposing a plan that removes bike lanes in both directions, offers multiple lanes for cars without speed-limiting interventions, and deprioritizes road diets and multimodal circulation, violating the spirit of Vision Zero,

WHEREAS, in May of 2023, DDOT clarified that their revised K Street NW design would include improved bicycle infrastructure on L Street NW, but offered no design proposal, timeline, or estimated cost for these facilities which were originally planned for K Street NW,

WHEREAS, the revised K Street Transitway disregards the public input and stakeholders who have been weighing in since 2019,

WHEREAS, the K Street Transitway was initially planned during pre-pandemic times, and the revised concept has not meaningfully accounted for what a new downtown DC could look like,

WHEREAS, to allocate \$130 million reworking the transportation network would take a take a minimum of three years to complete from groundbreaking to finish, and

WHEREAS, without a finalized revised plan redesign, a better and more inclusive multi-modal K Street Transitway project including bike lanes would divert funding that could provide more immediate relief for downtown DC.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2A supports the DC Council's budget vote in having the K Street Transitway project return to the planning stage until next year so that a design is returned that prioritizes safety for everyone.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2A requests that the process be transparent while including different stakeholders.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2A requests that DDOT meets the following criteria in a revised K Street Transitway plan:

- accounts for a post-pandemic mixed-use K Street NW corridor that prioritizes pedestrian and cyclist safety,
- ensures that it remains multi-modal, including a protected cycle track in line with the original design proposal, and
- prioritizes bus service efficiency.

Administrative Matters

Approval of the Addition of New ANC Officers as Signatories for the ANC's Checking Account

Chair Malec made a motion to approve the addition of the new ANC officers as signatories for the ANC's checking account. Commissioner Comer seconded the motion, which was adopted by unanimous consent.

Adjournment

Chair Malec adjourned the meeting at 10:39 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Ed Comer
Secretary, ANC 2A04