



Monthly Public Meeting
Monday, May 8th, 2023 at 7:00 pm
Washington, DC 20002

[Register](#) and enter: ANC5D

or

Dial: 301-715-8592 and enter: 889-3119-8671#

STANDING REPORTS & ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS

Welcome & Reports

- Call to Order & Roll Call Comm. Saucedo-Guzman 07:00 PM

Present: Commissioners Roblin, Cobb, Saucedo-Guzman, Henderson, McCullum, May, Blacknell;
Absent: Rhodes - 5D02 (5D01 is vacant as of February 11, 2023). Commissioner Saucedo-Guzman confirmed that 5D has quorum and called the meeting to order at 7:09 pm. 45 participants were engaged as of 7:50 pm.

- Adoption of the Agenda Comm. Saucedo-Guzman 07:05 PM

ANC 5D voted 6-1-0 (motion: Saucedo-Guzman; second: Blacknell; opposed: Henderson) FOR a motion to add a letter of support for the art room in Union Market as a voting item.

ANC 5D voted 1-5-1 (motion: Henderson; second: Saucedo-Guzman; opposed: Blacknell, Cobb, May, Roblin, Saucedo-Guzman; abstention: McCullum) AGAINST a motion to add a brief discussion regarding changing the chair and membership of the Zoning and Development Committee.

- Adoption of the [Minutes](#) Comm. May 07:10 PM

ANC 5D voted 6-1-0 (motion: May; second: Saucedo-Guzman; opposed: Henderson) to approve the April 2023 meeting minutes as presented.

- Treasurer's [Monthly Report](#) Comm. Cobb 07:15 PM

Commissioner Cobb shared that ANC 5D had an opening balance of \$31,454.76, expenses totalling \$988.59 (MailChimp - \$27.56; Fios - \$961.03) and a closing balance of \$30,466.17.

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	5D04: Stephen Cobb	5D05: S. Saucedo-Guzman	5D06: Kathy Henderson
	5D07: Juan McCullum	5D08: Reid May	5D09: Bernice Blacknell

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Standing Presentations (5-8 minutes; 2 minutes for questions)

- Commissioner Reports (3 min each) ANC 5D Commissioners 07:20 PM
- 5D01: Vacant as of February 11, 2023
- 5D02: Comm. Rhodes was absent.
- 5D03: Comm. Roblin reminded residents that they can sign up for her newsletter. She also shared plans for “know your rights” conversations within the community and reminded residents that they can always reach out to 311 with concerns or complaints.
- 5D04: Comm. Cobb had no pressing updates and withheld comments in the interest of time.
- 5D05: Comm. Saucedo-Guzman is meeting with DPR regarding the transfer of a recreation specialist away from Trinidad Rec.
- 5D06: Comm. Henderson held a recent meeting with new residents on 17th PI NE and is looking forward to further collaboration. She is requesting an audit of past ANC 5D expenditures (from a prior ANC term). Comm. Henderson also shared that she is requesting that the chair of the ANC 5D Zoning and Development Committee be removed and that more of her constituents be allowed to join the committee. Comm. Henderson also invited residents to join a boat ride on the Anacostia River this Saturday.
- 5D07: Comm. McCullum shared that he was recently able to walk the facility at 1701 H St NE prior to its turnover to the community along with Comm. Saucedo-Guzman. Additionally, he is planning a community meetup between developers and neighbors in 5D07 to enhance community relationships. Comm. McCullum also shared a request that fellow commissioners cease representing themselves as the representative of ANC 5D07.
- 5D08: Comm. May shared that there have been two recent shootings in 5D08 (2013 M St NE and the intersection of 19th and M St NE) and that he regrets the loss of a valued

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community member.

- 5D09: Comm. Blacknell echoed Comm. McCullum’s request related to other Commissioners representing themselves as representatives of 5D09. Comm. Blacknell is working with government agencies to address the encampment at Maryland Ave and M St NE. She also once again invited neighbors to Langston Day on August 19th from 10am-5pm.
- Public Safety Report 5th District 07:50 PM

Captain Jerome Merrill shared that there have been two homicides since the last meeting - one in the 2000 Block of M St NE (currently under investigation) and the other in the 1600 Block of Benning Rd NE (likely to close soon).

Captain Merrill also advised residents to be alert and cognizant of their surroundings, as there have recently been a number of crimes committed by individuals in vehicles who are actively targeting residents. He advised neighbors to be alert while unloading vehicles and going between their home and vehicle.

Comm. Henderson asked for a briefing related to work being conducted in the 1600-1700 block of Maryland Ave NE and Captain Merrill offered to provide the information that he can share publicly.

Comm. May asked about the homicide at 2000 M St NE and Captain Merrill shared that the victim, John Coleman, was known in the neighborhood and that he was well regarded. Captain Merrill did share that the shooting seemed intentional and that any video footage or other information from residents in the neighborhood would be helpful.

Comm. Blacknell asked about a shooting on I St NE last month (directly across the street from her residence) and Captain Merrill said that MPD is still investigating; he said they welcome information or video footage from residents.

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Comm. McCullum shared that he continues to have concerns about the environment at 19th and Benning Rd. NE. Captain Merrill shared that they have made several arrests recently, but several of the cases were not prosecuted.

Comm. Saucedá-Guzman shared some concerns about a group of people that has been gathering at Raum St NE and Meigs Pl NE within Trinidad.

Community member Desiree Williams asked about a recent newsletter from Mayor Bowser related to “focused patrol.” Captain Merrill shared that as relates to 5D, Trinidad has had focused patrol related to construction theft. He noted that officers will be spending time outside of their vehicles during these focused periods.

- Executive Office of the Mayor Christopher Ingram 08:00 PM

No members of the Mayor’s Office were present.

- Ward 5 Councilmember’s Office Oliver Stoute 08:10 PM

Mr. Stoute shared that Ward 5 has secured a budgetary win: \$200,000 for targeted mental health/substance abuse intervention on Mt. Olivet Rd NE. Mr. Stoute also shared that CM Parker’s office will be hosting a public safety meeting related to the intersection of Orren St NE and Neal St NE. CM Parker will be having a community coffee in Trinidad at Calypso Ice Cream & Coffee (1730 Trinidad Ave) on 5/10 from 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm.

Comm. McCullum thanked Mr. Stoute for his recent engagement in a community walk, but noted that he will need additional support with issues related to 1835 H St NE and a lack of response from the Department of Buildings.

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Comm. Saucedá-Guzman mentioned an upcoming meeting regarding the Trinidad Recreation Center and the transfer of Mr. Anthony Higginbotham to another recreation facility.

COMMISSION ACTIONS

Requested Presentation (5-8 minutes; 5 minutes for questions)

- DDOT H St. NE Bus Priorities Update Zack Gambetti-Mendez 08:20 PM

Mr. Gambetti-Mendez joined the meeting to provide updates related to the H St NE Bus Priority Project; he shared that the primary reason for his meeting is to ensure the community knows this information is available! The project focuses on the portion of H St NE between 3rd St NE and Benning Rd NE (Starburst Plaza) and is currently in the traffic and environmental phase, with plans for implementation in 2024. Within a substantial presentation, Mr. Gambetti-Mendez recapped the assessment and main goals of the process (increased on-time performance and enhanced pedestrian safety) and key design elements (a 24-hour transit-only lane, bulb-outs and enhanced enforcement).

Mr. Gambetti-Mendez also shared results of the traffic analysis, which estimates that there will be some delay during peak hours once the project (and adjacent projects that will create temporary diversions) concludes. DDOT’s model concludes that safety and transit reliability will improve.

See slide deck on minutes w/ attachments for more details.

- Ward 5 Care Project Update Arianna Gard, Ph.D. - UMD 08:35 PM

Dr. Arianna Gard shared that the Care Project supports all stages of development and well-being and has been particularly engaged in 5D07 and 5D09. The project is focused on community engagement around health and wellbeing, including developing better understanding of how people think about their own wellbeing. Dr. Gard shared that the project conducts community outreach events to get people excited about science and would love to attend Ward 5 events occurring this summer,

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including Langston Day. They also recently completed a community survey in Wards 4 and 5 and will be providing the data to the community in partnership with the DC Public Library.

See slide deck on minutes w/ attachments for more details.

Voting Actions (10-15 minutes; 5 minutes for questions)

- Union Market Stage 2 PUD Todd Christensen 08:45 PM

Mr. Christensen previously presented regarding PUD 1527G or Parcel C2 in Union Market (the final building within the Union Terminal Project and part of a consolidated PUD first presented to ANC 5D in 2017) during the April 2023 ANC 5D public meeting. He joined again for the May 2023 meeting and shared that he is focusing his presentation today on the public benefits that they are providing to the Ward 5 community. These benefits include:

- 11% inclusionary zoning, which is an increase versus the Stage 1 PUD with the subsidy level increased from 80% MFI to 60% MFI.
- Public parks, including the “Florida Avenue Park,” a plaza that extends from that park to the market area, and a park space on Neal PI NE. All parks will be professionally maintained.
- Various infrastructure improvements, including privately maintained roads at the western terminus of Union Market, a traffic signal at 4th St NE and Morse St NE, improvements to the Metropolitan Branch Trail.
- Construction positions for local residents.

Mr. Christensen shared that he is requesting a vote of support for their application to modify the approval for an existing consolidated first phase PUD, switching their plans from office space to residential space. The developers are awaiting a “set down” date from the Office of Planning.

ANC 5D voted 6-0-1 (motion: Saucedo-Guzman; second: May; abstention: Cobb) to provide a letter of support for PUD 1527G or Parcel C2 in Union Market.

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- 801 17th St. NE Streetscape Project Carlos Iglesias 09:00 PM

Mr. Iglesias previously presented regarding 801 17th St NE (tracking number 414968 within the DDOT TOPS information system) and its streetscape at the April 2023 Public Meeting. During the May 2023 Public Meeting, Mr. Iglesias returned to expand on their last presentation along with his colleague, Peter Braunohler.

Mr. Braunohler shared that planned new construction will be set further back from the rear alley (widening the alley), that 30 bike locking spaces will be available at the two main entrances to the building, and a brief overview of the landscaping planned for the surrounding spaces. Mr. Iglesias shared that he spoke with staff members at the Office of Planning around pick-off/drop-off location concerns (potentially a cul-de-sac), which DDOT said that they would not support that option for an apartment building (they only support them for hotels).

Mr. Iglesias shared that he is requesting a letter of support for the public space improvement application, which is before DDOT. They are set to present at the May 25 hearing of DDOT's Public Space Committee. Meanwhile, construction at the location is ongoing, currently in an excavation phase, with plans to proceed to above grade construction soon.

Commissioners asked various questions, with a particular focus on pedestrian safety and pick-up/drop-off zones. Commissioners proposed a walkthrough or community conversation with members of ANC 5D and representatives from DDOT.

ANC 5D voted 7-0-0 (motion: Saucedo-Guzman; second: McCullum) to table conversation to June 2023 to allow time for a DDOT walkthrough.

- [BZA Case 20900](#) - 1108 Montello Ave. PSG 5 Fisher SPV, LLC 09:15 PM

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Adam Crain and his colleagues presented BZA Case 20900 to request ANC 5D’s support for relief for parking, which they cannot provide on site due to DDOT’s requirement that they close an existing curb cut. Mr. Crain had previously presented at ANC 5D’s Zoning and Development Committee meeting and Committee of the Whole meeting.

The facility is a mixed-use development with 9 units ranging from 683 to 1,221 sq. ft each. 7 of the 9 units are two-bedroom and 2 of the 9 units are one-bedroom units. Their retail space will allow for a small (600-700 sq. ft) retail space, which could be increased in size.

Mr. Crain shared that he and his colleagues are requesting a letter of support for their application for zoning relief related to on-site parking and a small variance in the front to accommodate the large bay window.

ANC 5D voted 1-4-2 (motion: May; second: Saucedo-Guzman; opposed: Blacknell, Henderson, McCullum, Saucedo-Guzman; abstention: Cobb, Roblin) AGAINST supporting the request for support from the developers at 1108 Montello Ave.

- Safer Sidewalk [Resolution](#) Comm. May 09:30 PM

ANC 5D voted 6-0-1 (motion: May; second: Blacknell; abstention: Henderson) to adopt the resolution as presented.

- [Proposal](#): Public Meeting Modality ANC 5D 09:35 PM

ANC 5D voted 6-0-1 (motion: Saucedo-Guzman; second: Blacknell; abstention: Henderson) to adopt the proposal as presented. ANC 5D will meet virtually through the September 2023 public meeting and will enable the chat function for those conversations.

- Letter of Support The Art Room - Union Market

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Jacey Max is a D.C. resident who plans to open a new establishment called The Art Room, which is an artist’s studio and pottery space. Ms. Max requests ANC 5D’s support for her request for a stipulated liquor license to offer beer and wine to artists during the protest period before ABRA considers her request for a full license. Ms. Max shared that she is eager to create community connections, cultivate artists, and that, as a pop-up store with a limited planned operation (through the summer), Ms. Maxy is eager to begin operating fully as soon as possible.

ANC 5D voted 6-1-0 (motion: Saucedá-Guzman; second: May; opposed: Henderson) to offer a letter of support for The Art Room and its request to serve alcohol during the ABRA protest period.

Community Feedback & Questions (10-20 min)

09:50 PM

Desiree Williams shared that she has heard from a sponsoring agency that inclusionary units are not being afforded to locals or native Washingtonians. She wondered how community members can request newly constructed buildings in our community prioritize ward 5 residents, and or native Washingtonians. In her view, this may encourage ward 5 residents to remain in the community. Commissioner Saucedá-Guzman encouraged Ms. Williams and other members of the community to attend our monthly Zoning and Development Committee meetings.

Az Ah asked if residents are still able to join the Transportation Committee. Commissioner Cobb encouraged him to reach out directly for more information.

Adjournment

10:00 PM

ANC 5D voted 7-0-0 (motion: Saucedá-Guzman; second: Roblin) to adjourn the monthly public meeting at 10:30 pm.

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