

2022 Annual Report

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B
Government of the District of Columbia



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Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B (Commission), at a duly noticed public meeting held on November 28, 2022, at which a quorum of Commissioners was present, voted with 7 yeas, 0 nays, and 0 abstentions to file this Annual Report with the Mayor, the DC Council, and the Office of Advisory Neighborhood Commissions, as well as publish this Report on the [Commission's website](#) and on the [Advisory Neighborhood Commission Resolution Portal](#). This Report covers Commission and Commissioner activities between November 2021 and November 2022 but excludes actions taken at the Commission's November 28, 2022, meeting given the Commission's vote to approve the Report at that meeting. This Report satisfies the Commission's statutory reporting obligations. See [DC Code § 1-309.10\(j\)\(1\)](#) (providing that each Commission may file an annual report with the Council and the Mayor for the preceding fiscal year); *id.* at [\(n-1\)](#) (providing that each Commission shall publish an annual report summarizing its activities over the preceding 12 months).

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B's Annual Report 2022 provides (1) a summary of the Commission's activities, including details regarding the Commission's officers and the Commission's regular public meetings, as well as the activities of individual Commissioners within their Single Member Districts; (2) information regarding key issues faced by the Commission and actions recommended by the Commission via resolution, other official Commission action, or individual Commissioner action; (3) details on the Commission's operational status, including redistricting and the addition of a new Single Member District to the Commission area in 2023, subject matter committees offering expertise to the Commission's work, structural improvements implemented by the Commission, and the continued need for centralized supports, particularly as related to technology and a continued virtual option for Commission meetings; and (4) updates regarding the Commission's

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Commissioner LaRoya Huff (4B09) and Commissioner Alison Brooks (4B08) attended the ribbon cutting for the new Lamond-Riggs / Lillian J. Huff Library on June 27, 2022.

financial status, including the Commission's Fiscal Year 2023 Budget and its Fiscal Year 2022 Quarterly Financial Reports.

This year, the Commission continued its track record of operational excellence in meeting accessibility and transparency, including fiduciary stability. In addition, the Commission made progress toward goals in the community, including substantial improvements in traffic safety and affordable housing. It should be noted, however, that the Commission's achievements largely occur without support from the District government, despite repeated requests for assistance.

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B's Activities

Nine Commissioners were appointed to Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B and served from November 2021 through March 2022. Eight Commissioners served from March 2022 through the present. The Commissioner for Single Member District 4B05, who was sworn in on July 30, 2021, resigned on March 24, 2022, and that seat has been vacant since that time. The Commission's Executive Board – specifically, the Commission's Chair and Secretary – have addressed resident requests and matters related to Single Member District 4B05 from March 2022 until the present.

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B unanimously elected the following officers at its January 24, 2022, meeting:

- Alison Brooks, Chair, ANC 4B08 Commissioner;
- Brenda Parks, Vice Chair, ANC 4B04 Commissioner;
- Geoff Bromaghim, Treasurer, ANC 4B07 Commissioner; and
- Erin Palmer, Secretary, ANC 4B02 Commissioner.

The Commission also voted to appoint Commissioner Bromaghim (4B07) as its representative to the Walter Reed Community Advisory Committee at its January 24, 2022, meeting. See [DC Code § 10 1906\(b\)\(1\)\(G\)](#) (providing that “[o]ne member of ANC4B chosen by ANC4B” shall sit on the Walter Reed Army Medical Center Site Reuse Advisory Committee). Each officer and appointee has served in their role for the entire year.

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B Commissioners continued to work constructively and collaboratively, with the Commission approving 52 resolutions from November 2021 through October 2022 (as discussed in greater detail below). Commissioners regularly collaborated across Single Member Districts on resolutions and other official Commission action, committee meetings, and community meetings and events, including community cleanups.

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B held nine (9) regular public meetings and nine (9) planning meetings from November 2021 through October 2022. The Commission held regular public meetings and planning meetings in November 2021 and January, February, March, April, May, June, September, and October 2022, with a Commission recess in July, August, and December 2022. While the Commission met in July 2021, the Commission decided to return to a July recess in light of the Commission's demanding workload and lack of centralized administrative and other supports.

Since March 2019, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B has held its meetings virtually in light of the COVID-19 (coronavirus) public health emergency and resulting pandemic. Overall, the Commission has seen an increase in the number of meeting attendees and participation from virtual meetings, and the Commission strongly desires to retain a continued virtual option as one measure to improve the inclusivity and accessibility of Commission meetings. The Commission has used a Zoom subscription for its virtual meetings. While the Office of Advisory Neighborhood Commissions offered use of the WebEx platform, the Commission has found WebEx less user friendly and there are questions regarding whether the Office has secured continued use of WebEx licenses. The lack of continuity and unclear communications have reinforced a general sense that Commissions have been left to fend for themselves.

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The DC Council has worked to extend the ability of Advisory Neighborhood Commissions to meet virtually (currently, through early 2023 via [B24-1079](#), the Advisory Neighborhood Commissions Pandemic Provisions Extension Second Emergency Amendment Act of 2022), but the ability to meet virtually has not always been clearly or timely communicated to Commissions. In addition, centralized support for hybrid meetings that would allow continued virtual participation as in-person meetings resume is nonexistent. Absent greater effort to support hybrid meetings, many Commissions will be forced to resume in-person meetings without a virtual option once authorization for virtual meetings expires. The Commission strongly urges prompt and complete action to support Commissions in meeting with a continued virtual option and notes that there has been ample time to provide such centralized support.

Each of Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B's nine (9) regular public meetings included standing presentations from the Commission's Treasurer (including approval of the Commission's participation in the 2022 Advisory Neighborhood Commission Security Fund, Quarterly Financial Reports, and the Commission's budget), individual Commissioner updates, and details regarding recent committee activities, as well as standing invitations to the Mayor's Office of Community Relations and Services, the Office of the Ward 4 Councilmember, and the Ward 4 Representative to the State Board of Education. The Metropolitan Police Department attended Commission meetings through April 2022; the Commission desires the Department to resume attending the Commission's meetings to provide valuable information to the community.

The Commission welcomed additional presentations from DC government agencies, community groups, and others over the course of the year, including:

- a presentation from Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton at the Commission's January 24, 2022, meeting regarding the work of her office, including as related to the National Park Service, US Postal Service, Metro and other infrastructure projects, and COVID-19 (coronavirus) fiscal relief;
- a presentation from the Interim Director of the District Department of Public Works at the Commission's March 28, 2022, meeting regarding Mayor Muriel Bowser's proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2023;
- a presentation and detailed discussion with the Deputy Director of the District Department of Transportation at the Commission's June 27, 2022, meeting regarding longstanding Commission issues and areas of concern related to the Department's work on traffic safety and infrastructure; and
- a presentation from the Ward 4 Redistricting Task Force at the Commission's February 28, 2022, meeting on the Task Force's recommendations regarding Advisory Neighborhood Commission and Single Member District boundaries in Ward 4.

Each of Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B's regular public meetings also included time for community concerns. See [DC Code § 1-309.11\(b\)\(3\)](#) ("Each Commission shall set aside a portion of each public meeting to hear the views of residents within the Commission area and other affected persons on problems or issues of concern within the Commission area and on proposed District government actions that affect the Commission area. Community views shall be adequately considered in positions taken by the Commission."). The Commission has appreciated increased public participation and engagement in meetings held virtually, which allow residents to both "raise hands" to speak during the meeting and/or place a written question or comment in the chat or Q&A box in the virtual meeting, which are read aloud and addressed during the meeting.

In addition, Commissioners in Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B engaged in numerous activities within their Single Member Districts designed to inform and educate residents. These include the following:

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Evan Yeats, ANC 4B01 Commissioner

Commissioner Yeats is Co-Chair of the Commission's Vision Zero Committee, focused on reducing traffic deaths and injuries in the Commission area. During the prior year, Commissioner Yeats hosted four (4) single member district meetings (two (2) co-hosted with Commissioner Palmer and Commissioner Bromaghim) focused on new housing developments within the community. He is proud to have worked closely with the Housing Justice Committee under the leadership of Commissioner Palmer to advocate for increased affordable housing in his Single Member District, which includes the Takoma Metrorail station. He also hosted (with Commissioner Palmer and Commissioner Bromaghim) a community walk with engineers from the District Department of Transportation on the proposed extension of the Metropolitan Branch Trail. He led a citywide coalition of elected officials in supporting organizing workers, and he has collaborated on efforts for greater traffic safety around schools across DC. He worked to provide support to the schools in his Single Member District boundaries – Takoma Elementary School and San Miguel International School – with a focus on safe environments for students to walk, roll, and play. He has built strong connections with businesses both on Georgia Avenue, NW, and in Takoma and advocated on their behalf with District agencies and Main Street programs. Commissioner Yeats co-hosts a regular Adopt-a-Block (Mayor's Office of the Clean City) cleanup with Commissioner Palmer and has a regular email newsletter for his residents.

Erin Palmer, ANC 4B02 Commissioner

Commissioner Palmer serves as the Commission's Secretary, maintaining and ensuring distribution of Commission agendas, minutes, and the Commission's Annual Report. She is Chair of the Commission's Housing Justice Committee. She also serves as an At-Large Board Member of the Old Takoma Business Association (Main Street Takoma) and Co-Chair of the Washington Area Bicyclist Association ANC Vision Zero Caucus. Commissioner Palmer helped organize an Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B information session to inform residents about new Commission and Single Member District boundaries following redistricting and to encourage residents to run for Advisory Neighborhood Commissioner. She co-hosted the first Takoma and South Manor Neighborhood Crawl in support of the neighborhoods' local nightlife (co-hosted with Commissioner Brooks and Commissioner Yeats). Commissioner Palmer supported neighbors in obtaining a second round of grant funding from the District Department of Energy and Environment and the Chesapeake Bay Trust and implementation of a planting plan to address blockwide stormwater management issues, following a first round of grant funding to engage neighbors via two educational events to solicit input regarding a design solution. She has hosted several community cleanups over the year, including several Adopt-a-Block (Mayor's Office of the Clean City) cleanups (co-hosted with Commissioner Yeats) and rotating cleanups throughout her Single Member District. In addition, Commissioner Palmer organized #TranspoBINGO, an active transportation challenge, and Sidewalk Palooza, a series of events dedicated to highlighting pedestrian safety and infrastructure (including an event in Takoma co-hosted with Commissioner Yeats). She also hosted several events to support women and non-binary Commissioners across DC, including a technology chat, a beginner bicycle lesson, and a meet up for outgoing, current, and incoming women and non-binary Commissioners. Commissioner Palmer distributes a regular email newsletter, maintains a Commissioner website, and holds regular office hours + neighborhood walks to help keep neighbors informed regarding her work on the Commission.

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Jocelynn Johnson (JJ), ANC 4B03 Commissioner

Commissioner Johnson serves as the Vice Chairperson of the Ward 4 Mini Commission on Aging, lending support to Ward 4 seniors. Commissioner Johnson continued to work with residents to address various neighborhood issues, including working with government agencies and Councilmembers to address homelessness and traffic safety and infrastructure that has been overlooked by the District Department of Transportation (including parking permit programs). She has continuously raised the issue of the functionality of the Metropolitan Police Department's cameras by asking for statistics regarding the number of working cameras throughout the District, including through conversations with the Captain of the Department. Commissioner Johnson is currently supporting Whittier Elementary School as it seeks to address deplorable school building conditions that have existed for years. She has advocated for modernization of the school building and immediate action to address the health and safety concerns presented, including through testimony before DC Public Schools. She has also raised building safety and quality issues with regard to the 4th District Police Station.

Brenda Parks, ANC 4B04 Commissioner

Commissioner Parks serves as the Commission's Vice Chair, assisting the Commission's Chair and presiding over Commission meetings in Commissioner Brooks' absence. As a senior member of the Commission, Commissioner Parks offers historical perspective and institutional knowledge regarding issues that come before the Commission. She has regular conversations with the District Department of Public Works, the District Department of Transportation, the District Department of Health, and the District Department of Buildings (formerly the Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs) to address the needs in her Single Member District. This year she held a community meeting with DC Water regarding lead pipe replacement and ensured installation of a speed hump on 7th Street, NW. Commissioner Parks is a strong proponent of equity in the community and continues to work toward addressing the needs of her residents in Single Member District 4B04.

Vacant, ANC 4B05 Commissioner

The most recent Commissioner for Single Member District 4B05 was sworn in on July 30, 2021, filling an existing vacancy, and resigned on March 24, 2022. The seat has been vacant since that time. The Commission's Executive Board – specifically, the Commission's Chair and Secretary – have addressed resident requests and matters related to Single Member District 4B05 from March 2022 until the present.

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Tiffani Nichole Johnson, ANC 4B06 Commissioner

Commissioner Johnson serves as Chair of the Commission's Community Safety and Support Committee. She holds monthly Single Member District meetings to share information with residents and learn about resident concerns requiring attention and follow-up. Commissioner Johnson sponsored two (2) community clean-ups of Fort Slocum Park in collaboration with the National Park Service and the Rock Creek Conservancy. She entered over twenty (20) 311 requests for sidewalk repairs, illegal dumping, and traffic safety investigations. In addition, Commissioner Johnson has collaborated with government agencies and DC Council representatives on behalf of her residents. For example, Commissioner Johnson has held community walk throughs with the District Department of Health regarding rat abatement and with the Metropolitan Police Department and the Mayor's Office of Community Relations and Services regarding traffic calming and community safety. Commissioner Johnson provides the community with information and resources via her Single Member District 4B06 website, social media (Nextdoor, Facebook, Twitter), and her Little Free Library. Commissioner Johnson has a free pantry where she accepts food donations for distribution to her residents.

Geoff Bromaghim, ANC 4B07 Commissioner

Commissioner Bromaghim serves as the Commission's Treasurer, developing the Commission's Annual Budget and preparing Quarterly Financial Reports. He is also the Commission's representative to the Walter Reed Community Advisory Committee. He regularly participates in various neighborhood meetings. He organized one (1) Single Member District community meeting in 2022 to meet with residents and share information about matters before the Commission. The most consuming issues for Single Member District 4B07 continue to include coordinating input on multiple proposed developments and responding to traffic safety concerns.

Alison Brooks, ANC 4B08 Commissioner

Commissioner Brooks has served as the Commission's Chair for two years. Additionally, Commissioner Brooks is Co-Chair of the Commission's Vision Zero Committee, focused on reducing traffic deaths and injuries within the Commission's boundaries. Commissioner Brooks attends all community association meetings within her Single Member District and is always available to residents via telephone and email. Commissioner Brooks regularly holds Single Member District meetings to meet with residents and share information about matters before the Commission and other community concerns. Within Single Member District 4B08, Commissioner Brooks is focused on addressing blighted properties; oversight of two ongoing Kennedy Street, NW, developments; responding to public safety issues; and cleaning up the community. Quarterly, residents participate in an Adopt-a-Block (Mayor's Office of the Clean City) community cleanup, and Commissioner Brooks hopes to expand to multiple locations in 2023. To work toward the city's Vision Zero goal, she has collaborated with the District Department of Transportation to reduce the number of traffic crashes. Commissioner Brooks has held regular neighborhood walk throughs with government agencies to address traffic concerns, signage, dumping, community safety,

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dangerous intersections, reduction of the rodent population, and abandoned, vacant, and blighted properties. Commissioner Brooks continues to collaborate with government agencies and the DC Council on behalf of her residents to create the outcomes requested to improve the quality of life within the community.

LaRoya Huff, ANC 4B09 Commissioner

Commissioner Huff has worked with DC government agencies, including the District Department of Buildings (formerly the District Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs) to resolve and secure the safety of abandoned homes and lots; the District Department of Transportation regarding increased lighting, roadway repair and replacement, alley replacement, sidewalk replacements, curb replacements, and sign replacements, as well as in support of numerous Traffic Safety Investigations; the Metropolitan Police Department to address public safety concerns, including installation of security cameras and helping residents obtain related rebates; and the District Department of Energy and the Environment and the STAY DC program to help residents with rental and utility assistance and other resources. Commissioner Huff continues to hold walk throughs with the District Department of Health to address rodent abatement; with the District Department of Public Works to address trash can and recycling can replacement, coordinated alley cleaning, bulk trash pickup, abandoned car removal, and to address residents parking tickets; and with the District Department of Parks and Recreation for improvements for the Riggs-LaSalle Community Center site and future field development and programs for residents. She has worked with the DC Water to coordinate programs to address back-flow prevention assistance and Pepco to address vibrations and damage to residents' homes resulting from infrastructure work. Commissioner Huff is dedicated to community outreach, including an Annual Christmas Give-Away and a Thanksgiving Turkey Give-Away.

Clockwise, from top left:

Commissioner Jocelynn Johnson (4B03) attended a "Rally for Your Rights" organized by Whittier Elementary School's Parent Teacher Organization on November 4, 2022.

Commissioner Tiffani Nichole Johnson (4B06) hosted two community clean-ups of Fort Slocum Park in collaboration with the National Park Service and the Rock Creek Conservancy.

Commissioner Brenda Parks (4B04), Commissioner Alison Brooks (4B08), and Commissioner Evan Yeats (4B01) regularly patronize our local small businesses.



Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B's Key Issues & Recommended District Government Action

The Commission has addressed many important neighborhood-level and citywide issues, primarily via resolution or other formal Commission action. Commissioners have also responded to issues individually or as sub-groups. These resolutions, official actions, and individualized efforts can be grouped into six (6) general subject matter areas: (1) budget, legislation, and agency oversight; (2) vision zero; (3) housing justice; (4) community safety and support; (5) schools, libraries, and recreation centers; and (6) government services. In addition, the Commission has addressed routine matters, including those related to zoning and alcohol licenses, which are not listed in this Report but are available on the [Advisory Neighborhood Commission Resolution Portal](#).

Budget, Legislation & Oversight:

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B strives to amplify residents' voices for a strong and effective District government. As an independent branch of DC government and the elected representatives closest to the people, the Commission often focuses on the efficient operationalization of the District's goals. The Commission has worked to improve government operations and services to residents through budget advocacy, substantive feedback to improve legislation, and quasi-oversight of DC government agencies. While Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B values this role, Advisory Neighborhood Commissions are not staffed or funded to the level residents expect or deserve. For that reason, the Commission has continued to advocate for increased support and funding to perform its role well and in service of residents, as well as to improve equity citywide in Commission functionality to avoid disparities among Commissions. The Commission believes that having a strong, well-functioning, and accountable government at every level not only serves residents well but helps the District advocate for the statehood it deserves. In this pursuit, the Commission continues to demand the best and highest standards for itself and all other parts of DC government.

In furtherance of the Commission's goals of a DC budget, laws, and government agencies that meets residents' needs, the Commission has acted in the following ways:

- The Commission approved a comprehensive [Letter](#) regarding Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B's Fiscal Year 2023 Budget Priorities at the Commission's April 25, 2022, meeting. The Letter provided feedback on Mayor Muriel Bowser's proposed budget specifically related to the Commission's Housing Justice and Vision Zero priorities (as discussed in more detail below). The Letter built on the Commission 4B's previously stated budget priorities contained in the Commission's March 22, 2021, [Letter](#) to Mayor Muriel Bowser and the Commission's June 28, 2021, [Supplemental Letter](#) to the DC Council regarding the Fiscal Year 2022 Budget.
- The Commission welcomed a presentation from the Interim Director of the District Department of

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Public Works at the Commission's March 28, 2022, meeting regarding Mayor Muriel Bowser's proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2023. The discussions following that presentation informed the Commission's feedback on the Fiscal Year 2023 Budget.

- The Commission's Housing Justice Committee welcomed a presentation from the Legal Aid Society for the District of Columbia regarding advocacy related to Mayor Muriel Bowser's proposed Fiscal Year 2023 Budget at the Committee's March 2, 2022, meeting and from the District Alliance for Safe Housing, Inc. (DASH) addressing budget-related advocacy at the Committee's February 2, 2022, meeting. These discussions informed the Commission's feedback on the Fiscal Year 2023 Budget.
- The Commission approved [Resolution 4B-22-1011](#), Supporting & Providing Recommendations on [B24-0802](#), Green New Deal for Housing Amendment Act of 2022 at the Commission's October 24, 2022 meeting. The Resolution expressed support for proposed social housing legislation, as well as substantive feedback on the legislation based on the expertise of the Commission's Housing Justice Committee. The Commission has not yet received a response to or engagement with its feedback, although several other Commissions have used this Resolution as a template for their own Commissions.
- The Commission approved [Resolution 4B-22-0502](#), Maintaining Access to Abortions in Washington, DC at the Commission's May 23, 2022, meeting, stating that abortion is healthcare. The Resolution urged, in part, the DC government guarantee access and affordability for reproductive health services in the District of Columbia to all who may seek it; the DC Council and the Mayor to pass and sign into law legislation protecting self-management of abortions and medical practitioners' right to offer abortions and related reproductive health services; and the DC Council and the Mayor to pass and sign into law full Medicaid funding of abortion and other reproductive health services in the District of Columbia, including for self-medicated abortions; the DC government to provide financial and logistical support to community organizations willing and able to provide safe travel to and from reproductive health service provider premises for individuals attempting to attain reproductive health services; and the DC Council and the Mayor to pass legislation prohibiting state courts from enforcing the penalties of another state against any individual who obtained reproductive health services that are illegal in another state. The DC Council has proposed and moved the following legislation affirming the Commission's values regarding abortion rights:
 - * [B24-0726](#), Enhancing Reproductive Health Protections Amendment Act of 2022 (protecting those who support and assist individuals seeking to self-terminate a pregnancy and shielding those who provide, dispense, or transfer any product used for self-managed abortions from any penalties) (enacted Nov. 21, 2022);
 - * [B24-0808](#), Human Rights Sanctuary Amendment Act of 2022 (preventing the District from cooperating with interstate investigations in furtherance of proceedings that have the potential to infringe upon the exercise of reproductive freedom and creating a private right of action against parties engaged in conduct that infringes on reproductive freedom) (enacted Nov. 21, 2022);
 - * [B24-0830](#), Protecting Health Professionals Providing Reproductive Health Care Amendment Act of 2022 (prohibiting disciplinary measures against licensed health professionals solely for providing abortion and reproductive health care services to patients who live in states where the services are illegal) (marked up by Committee on Health on Nov. 21, 2022);
 - * [B24-0820](#), Medical Malpractice Clarification Amendment Act of 2022 (prohibiting medical malpractice insurers from penalizing DC health care professionals for providing abortions for people who are residents of states where abortion is illegal) (public hearing before Committee on Business and Economic Development on Oct. 25, 2022); and
 - * [B24-0831](#), Reproductive Health Care Insurance Coverage Expansive Amendment Act of 2022 (requiring private insurers to cover abortion care without out-of-pocket cost to make this crucial healthcare affordable for as many people as possible) (public hearing before Committee on Business and Economic Development on Oct. 25, 2022).

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- The Commission approved Resolution [4B-22-0101](#), Supporting and Providing Feedback on the Walk Without Worry Amendment Act of 2021 and the Safe Routes to School Expansion Regulation Amendment Act of 2021 at the Commission's January 24, 2022, meeting. The Resolution provided substantive feedback to the DC Council on the proposed legislation based on the Commission's years of work on traffic safety issues. The Commission has not received a response to or engagement with this Resolution.
- Commissioner Palmer testified in support of [B24-0653](#), Period Equity Righting an Injustice of District Residents (PERIOD) Act of 2022, requiring free period products in government-owned and leased buildings and for shelters and congregate care facilities at the DC Council Committee on Housing and Executive Administration's hearing regarding the legislation. She noted the human rights implications of how menstruating people are treated, highlighted the need for menstruation products for incarcerated individuals, and called for expansion of the public bathroom pilot. The DC Council unanimously passed the bill on November 15, 2022.
- The Commission approved a [Letter of Inquiry](#), Requesting Additional Information and Action regarding the District Department of Transportation's June 27, 2022, Presentation to ANC 4B at the Commission's September 28, 2022, meeting. The Letter noted repeated efforts to discuss systemic and process challenges with the District Department of Transportation, as well as to share Commissioner viewpoints and solutions with regard to 311 procedures and service level agreement timelines; traffic safety investigation requests; lack of response to Commission action and neighborhood-wide traffic calming; publication of Department responses to official Commission action on the [Advisory Neighborhood Commission Resolution Portal](#); installation, maintenance, and hardening of projects; sidewalk repairs and gaps; larger project prioritization; and bus shelters. The Commission has not yet received a response from the Department to this Letter, although the Department indicated in June that it will endeavor to respond to Commission action within 60 days.
- The [Letter of Inquiry](#), Requesting Additional Information and Action regarding DDOT's June 27, 2022, Presentation to ANC 4B, approved at the Commission's September 28, 2022, meeting followed a presentation and detailed discussion with and questioning of the Deputy Director of District Department of Transportation regarding the Commission's issues and community concerns at the Commission's June 27, 2022, meeting.
- The Commission approved a [Letter](#) to the DC Council's Committee on Transportation and the Environment regarding Oversight of the District Department of Transportation at the Commission's January 24, 2022, meeting, noting the lack of substantive responses to Commission action on neighborhood-wide traffic calming, the lack of transparency around the Department's procedures and implementation of traffic calming and infrastructure, and efforts to limit Commission-wide action on traffic calming and infrastructure issues. The Department has responded to some of the Commission's Resolutions since this Letter, but these responses often advise Commissioners to go back and enter dozens of individual 311 requests or file Freedom of Information Act requests for additional information.
- The Commission approved [Resolution 4B-22-0302](#), Resolution in Opposition to Confirmation of Karima Holmes as Director of the District Office of Unified Communications at the Commission's March 28, 2022, meeting. This Resolution noted the Commission's ongoing efforts to seek both service improvements and accountability in the District's emergency call center. Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B, along with other Ward 4 Advisory Neighborhood Commissions, began pressing for an audit and improvements at the District Office of Unified Communications in 2019, following the fatal fire on Kennedy Street, NW, approving [Resolution 4B-19-0904](#), which called for greater transparency and accountability. In 2020, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B joined with other Commissioners in formally requesting the Office of the District of Columbia Auditor in demanding an audit. Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B's [Letter](#) noted that Commissioners "repeatedly heard concerns from constituents and neighbors about the functioning of the Office both in emergency and

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non-emergency call-taking” and had received inconsistent and contradictory responses from District Office of Unified Communications leadership. In response to the Commission’s request, the Office of the District of Columbia Auditor performed the audit and a follow-up report, both of which showed significant flaws in the District Office of Unified Communications’ ability to serve DC residents. Commissioner Yeats testified in furtherance of resident concerns about emergency call-taking and inadequate responses at the DC Council Committee on the Judiciary and Public Safety’s oversight roundtable for the District Office of Unified Communications on September 28, 2022.

- Commissioners have continued to advocate for safe and healthy school buildings and recreation centers, as well as diligent oversight of the District Department of General Services with regard to work orders, including the following:
 - * Commissioner Brooks (4B08) advocated for prompt attention to a broken HVAC at Emery Recreation Center throughout the summer of 2022, while children were attending summer camps at the Recreation Center. Commissioner Brooks requested that the campers be moved to another location but the District Department of Parks and Recreation was not able to accommodate the request. Commissioner Yeats (4B01) and Commissioner Palmer (4B02) also highlighted these issues in continuing to advocate for greater accountability from the District Department of General Services with regard to maintenance of public buildings.
 - * Commissioner Jocelynn Johnson (4B03) and Commissioner Palmer (4B02) have continued to advocate for school building repairs and modernization at Whittier Elementary School, including attending protests and testifying before the DC Council and DC Public Schools. See [Letter](#), Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B Fiscal Year 2023 Budget Priorities (Apr. 25, 2022) (calling for funding to “swiftly modernize Whittier Education Campus and LaSalle-Backus Education Campus, including considerations for the safety of students and teachers with regard to leaks and mold, as well as accessibility, without displacing modernizations of other schools”); [Resolution 4B-19-1002](#), Calling for Accelerated Modernization of Whittier Education Campus (Oct. 28, 2019) (“For years, the roof has leaked, causing a collapsed ceiling in 2018, pooling water on all floors, peeling and bubbling paint, squishy and stained walls, damaged classroom materials, and displaced students from classrooms to common areas.”).
 - * The Commission approved [Resolution 4B-22-0202](#), Calling on DCPS to Allocate FY 2023 Funding to Build Swing Space in Ward 4 at the Commission’s February 28, 2022, meeting, noting the urgent need to secure swing space to allow timely modernization of Truesdell Elementary School, Whittier Elementary School, and LaSalle-Backus Elementary School. This project was funded in the District’s Fiscal Year 2023 Budget, preventing the delay of the modernization projects at these schools and ensuring in-ward swing space.
 - * The Commission’s work builds on [Resolution 4B-21-0904](#), Calling for District Department of General Services to Provide Online Dashboard to Track Status of DC School Facilities, approved at the Commission’s September 27, 2021, meeting, which noted a stream of documented facilities issues in school buildings across the District in the weeks before the start of in-person school, including “faulty heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) equipment, missing high efficiency particulate air (HEPA) filters, missing outdoor equipment necessary for social distancing during lunch, and other facilities issues” and that the District government “had 17 months to prepare for the return to in-person learning, fully aware of the importance of proper air filtration and temperature control in schools.”

While the DC Council has taken some action on transparency with regard to District Department of General Services work orders, the problems persist.

- The Commission welcomed a presentation from Co-Chair of the Ward 4 Redistricting Task Force at the Commission’s February 28, 2022, meeting regarding the work of the Task Force, map proposals, and how community members could provide feedback. The Commission’s [Letter of Inquiry](#) regarding Ensuring Adequate Resources for Successful Advisory Neighborhood Commissions, approved at its

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January 25, 2021, meeting, noted the growing importance of centralized support for Advisory Neighborhood Commissions in light of the increase in Single Member Districts: “The process of redistricting Advisory Neighborhood Commissions should focus on equity and create Commissions that are approximately equal in size and reflect the diversity of the District’s population, and not Commissions that are divided by other political boundaries like Wards.” Commissioner Yeats testified in furtherance of these needs at the Subcommittee on Redistricting’s Ward 4 hearing on October 28, 2021.

- The Commission welcomed a presentation from the District Office of Campaign Finance regarding DC’s Fair Elections Program at the Commission’s May 23, 2022, meeting. The Commission has continued to support fair elections (public financing) of local elections, serving as a partner of the DC Office of Campaign Finance for its inaugural 2020 debates for candidates for the DC Council (At-Large) and the State Board of Education (At-Large) and approving [Resolution 4B-19-0507](#), Encouraging Candidates to Participate in Public Financing of Elections (Fair Elections) at the Commission’s May 20, 2019, meeting.
- The Commission welcomed a presentation from and discussion with Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton at the Commission’s January 24, 2022, meeting regarding the work of her office, including as related to the National Park Service, US Postal Service, Metro and other infrastructure projects, and COVID-19 (coronavirus) fiscal relief. The Commission has continued to support the work of Congresswoman Norton in pursuit of DC Statehood and to hold the federal government accountable for its obligations to the District of Columbia.

Vision Zero

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B prioritizes safe, accessible, and affordable modes of transportation for all District residents, regardless of mode. The Commission and Commissioners regularly pursue infrastructure improvements and traffic calming efforts to ensure the safety of Commission residents. While the Commission has had notable successes, the Commission continues to face challenges in terms of the District Department of Transportation’s transparency and consistency of procedures, as well as implementation of improvements. These challenges include failure to respond to requests for traffic calming and lack of transparency around the outcomes of traffic safety investigations, failure to act on proposed infrastructure projects, and failure to execute planned construction projects in a timely manner and in accordance with community expectations. The Commission’s and the community’s commitment to safer streets is for naught without focused, ongoing support from the District Department of Transportation.

While Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B has had success in seeking some traffic calming, the District Department of Transportation does not have standards for transitioning interim, temporary traffic safety improvements to permanent traffic calming that the community can rely upon. Oftentimes, interim traffic calming projects require considerable amounts of maintenance and oversight by Commissioners and community members to prevent their deterioration into ineffectiveness. Additionally, the Commission continues to question the prioritization of traffic safety projects, in part due to the District Department of Transportation’s inadequate urgency to address high-crash corridors and to ensure safety around the areas used by children like schools and recreation centers.

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B strongly supports Mayor Muriel Bowser’s Vision Zero efforts to ensure zero fatalities and serious injuries to users of the District’s transportation systems and has consistently acted to further these goals. The Commission approved [Resolution 4B-20-1006](#), Establishing Vision Zero Committee at the Commission’s October 26, 2020, meeting and reauthorized the Committee via [Resolution 4B-22-0105](#) at the Commission’s January 24, 2022, meeting. The Vision Zero Committee’s

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mandate includes (1) considering and recommending strategies for increasing community safety in accordance with Vision Zero goals within the Commission area; (2) analyzing and providing feedback on relevant proposed plans and projects, as well as legislation and agency decisions that impact community safety in line with these goals; and (3) working with neighborhood groups representing vulnerable road users to receive feedback on Commission efforts toward Vision Zero goals.

Commissioner Brooks (4B08) and Commissioner Yeats (4B01) serve as Co-Chairs of the Vision Zero Committee. The Committee members include the following individuals:

- Tony Giancola has a BSCE from Syracuse University and MS degree in Civil Engineering (Transportation and Environmental Systems) and a Master of Public Works Engineering and Administration from the University of Pittsburgh. After a twenty-year active duty career in the Civil Engineer Corps, U.S. Navy, he served as a District of Columbia appointed representative on the Citizens Advisory Committee, Transportation Planning Board, Washington Council of Governments (2018 -2020). He currently serves as a Mayoral appointee on the DC Water Board.
- Charon P.W. Hines is the Senior Advisor to the Chancellor of the District of Columbia Public Schools. In addition, she holds membership on several boards and community organizations throughout the metropolitan area. Previously, she served as Director of the Mayor's Office of Community Affairs and three term Past President of Lamond-Riggs Citizens Association, Inc. A third generation Washingtonian, she has resided in the Ward 4 neighborhood of Riggs Park for the past 20 years. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology from Mary Baldwin College, Master of Arts in Teaching from Bowie State University, and Master of Science in Educational Administration from Trinity University. She is a community leader, engagement ambassador, and strategist.
- David Eubanks is the Deputy Director of Public Works for the City of Takoma Park where he works to ensure the efficient provision of city services to residents. Prior to beginning his career in public service, he was an affordable housing developer at The NHP Foundation and Investment Officer with the AFL-CIO Housing Investment Trust. He has also served as a researcher with the National Center for Smart Growth Research and Education and the Citizens Planning and Housing Association. As an engaged community member his mission is to actively contribute to the betterment of the Brightwood/Manor Park neighborhood, the District, and surrounding region through advocacy, community service, and sustainable practices.
- Jeff Speir is an attorney for the Federal Government who works on environmental issues. He has advocated for pedestrian and cyclist safety in Wards 4 and 6. Personally affected by a car crash as a pedestrian – and vehicular traffic's impact on public health, more broadly – he is eager to work on strategies to increase traveler safety, critically analyze proposals, and implement solutions for the Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B community.
- Amber Trout is a resident in Single Member District 4B08 who is interested in traffic safety and infrastructure.

The Vision Zero Committee held seven (7) meetings from November 2021 through November 2022, working collaboratively to learn about the District's transportation systems and safety measures, as well as pushing for improvements in local communities. The Committee has welcomed presentations from the District Department of Transportation on projects within the Commission's area, including the proposed construction of the Metropolitan Branch Trail from Blair Road, NW, to Piney Branch Road, NW; the proposed construction of a bike trail at the intersection of Riggs Road, NE, and South Dakota Avenue, NE; and from engineers on already constructed projects regarding the process for improving and hardening existing interim traffic safety improvements.

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In furtherance of the Commission's goals of more transparent and accountable District Department of Transportation procedures; consistent and effective traffic calming; safer and improved bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure; and increased and improved Metrobus and Metrorail service, the Commission has acted in the following ways:

Transparency & Accountability

- The Commission approved a comprehensive [Letter](#) re Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B's Fiscal Year 2023 Budget Priorities at the Commission's April 25, 2022, meeting. The Letter provided feedback on Mayor Muriel Bowser's proposed budget specifically related to the Commission's Vision Zero priorities, including:
 - * "fully fund[ing] the Vision Zero Enhancement Omnibus Act of 2020 by \$171.5 million over the next five years to reduce the increasing number of serious injuries and fatalities on the District's streets, including by increasing the routine installation of safety measures for vulnerable road users when a street is reconstructed";
 - * "fund[ing] increased staffing at the District Department of Transportation to process and assess Traffic Safety Assessments with a goal of reducing the Traffic Safety Assessment process to thirty (30) days from submission to evaluation and report";
 - * "supplement[ing] the federal Safe Routes to Schools program with local funds to aggressively improve safety in the areas around the District's schools with a focus on increased automated enforcement of school zones with the proceeds reinvested directly into school safety programs";
 - * "increas[ing] funding for a fulsome audit of sidewalk conditions and annual sidewalk expansion, as well as repairs, similar to efforts to expand the protected bicycle lane network and rehabilitat[ing] road surfaces with a goal of ensuring adequate sidewalks on both sides of every road throughout the District," see also [Resolution 4B-21-0701](#), Petitioning for Priority Sidewalk Installations within Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B (July 26, 2021);
 - * "fully fund[ing] and schedul[ing] construction of a District-wide multi-use trail network by funding all trails outlined in the Capital Trails Coalition's planned trail expansions, the Rock Creek Park and Suitland Parkway trail network rehabilitation, and construction of the Piney Branch Parkway and Metropolitan Branch Trail multi-use trails";
 - * "fully fund[ing] the proposed reconstruction of Eastern Avenue, NE, from Whitter Street, NW, to New Hampshire Avenue, NE, in Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B that has already been fully designed"; and
 - * "expand[ing] funding for construction of new Bikeshare stations to meet Mayor Bowser's goal of a Capital Bikeshare station within a quarter mile of every District resident and constructing a station within every high priority zone within Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B."

The Letter built on the Commission's previously stated budget priorities contained in the Commission's March 22, 2021, [Letter](#) to Mayor Muriel Bowser and the Commission's June 28, 2021, [Supplemental Letter](#) to the DC Council regarding the Fiscal Year 2022 Budget.

- The Commission approved [Resolution 4B-22-0902](#), Requesting Funding to Implement Rock Creek East I Livability Study at the Commission's September 28, 2022, meeting, noting that Corridor 4 (North Capitol Street, NW, and New Hampshire Avenue, NE), within Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B, remains largely untouched with no plans for improvement.
- The Commission approved [Resolution 4B-22-0101](#), Supporting and Providing Feedback on the Walk Without Worry Amendment Act of 2021 and the Safe Routes to School Expansion Regulation Amendment Act of 2021 at the Commission's January 24, 2022, meeting. The Resolution provided substantive feedback to the DC Council on the proposed legislation based on the Commission's years of work on traffic safety issues. The Commission has not received a response to or engagement with this Resolution.

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- The Commission approved a [Letter of Inquiry](#), Requesting Additional Information and Action regarding DDOT's June 27, 2022, Presentation to ANC 4B at the Commission's September 28, 2022, meeting. The Letter noted repeated efforts to discuss systemic and process challenges, as well as to share Commissioner viewpoints and solutions, and requested the following:
 - * information regarding the District Department of Transportation's efforts to consider and modify service level agreement timelines to best reflect citywide priorities and needs;
 - * additional transparency around traffic safety investigation requests – including those without action – such as details regarding the underlying request, data gathered, and other information regarding the District Department of Transportation's investigation, and justification for the action taken (or lack of action), as well as a process by which the Department will consider broader traffic calming;
 - * information regarding the mechanism by which Advisory Neighborhood Commissions can submit neighborhood-wide requests for traffic calming infrastructure – including multiple individual locations or a broad stretch of road;
 - * timely posting of all formal responses to official Advisory Neighborhood Commission action on the [Advisory Neighborhood Commission Resolution Portal](#);
 - * information regarding the District Department of Transportation's installation protocol, including the timing for striping, signage, and other elements of an installation and a plan and timeline for determining standards for hardening short- and mid-term traffic calming projects in the District;
 - * details confirming the full scope of sidewalk gaps, as well as the District Department of Transportation's sidewalk gap priority list and the cost needed to address all sidewalk gaps;
 - * the full list of reconstruction projects that are currently pending without funding, as well as information that determines prioritization of projects on the District Department of Transportation's budget submission;
 - * information regarding the number of bus shelter installations required and the mechanism for achieving that number and determining where installations will take place; and
 - * details on the installation of no commercial vehicle parking signs, where applicable throughout the Commission area and a summary of the District Department of Transportation's efforts with the Metropolitan Police Department to enforce commercial vehicle restrictions and a record of the citations given for commercial vehicles on residential roads across the District.

The Commission has not yet received a response from the Department to this Letter, although the District Department of Transportation indicated in June that it will endeavor to respond to Commission action within 60 days.

- The [Letter of Inquiry](#), Requesting Additional Information and Action regarding DDOT's June 27, 2022, Presentation to ANC 4B approved at the Commission's September 28, 2022, meeting followed a presentation and detailed discussion with and questioning of the Deputy Director of the District Department of Transportation regarding the Commission's issues and community concerns at the Commission's June 27, 2022, meeting. That discussion followed months of unfulfilled requests to the District Department of Transportation that the Director attend a Commission meeting.
- The Commission approved a [Letter](#) to the DC Council's Committee on Transportation and the Environment regarding Oversight of the District Department of Transportation at the Commission's January 24, 2022, meeting, noting the lack of substantive responses to Commission action on neighborhood-wide traffic calming, the lack of transparency around the Department's procedures and implementation of traffic calming and infrastructure, and efforts to limit Commission-wide action on traffic calming and infrastructure issues. The District Department of Transportation has responded to some of the Commission's Resolutions since this Letter, but these responses often advise Commissioners to go back and enter dozens of individual 311 requests or file Freedom of Information Act requests for additional information. The Commission has not received a response to or engagement with this Letter.

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- The Commission approved a [Letter of Inquiry](#), Documenting District Department of Transportation's Lack of Response to Commission Resolutions at the Commission's November 22, 2021, meeting. Similar to the January 24, 2022, Letter, this Letter of Inquiry provided a list of Resolutions and other formal actions that had not received an agency response. The District Department of Transportation responded to this letter on January 4, 2022, requesting individual 311 submissions for dozens, if not hundreds, of requests for traffic safety improvements throughout the Commission area. This response highlights the District Department of Transportation's refusal to engage with Commissions with regard to neighborhood-level traffic calming. The District Department of Transportation's response has not been posted to the [Advisory Neighborhood Commission Resolution Portal](#), preventing transparency and full public understanding of the Department's procedures.
- The Commission approved a [Letter of Inquiry](#), Requesting Underlying Data and Results of Traffic Safety Assessments Throughout Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B at the Commission's November 22, 2021, meeting. The Letter of Inquiry noted the recent changes from a Traffic Safety Assessment to Traffic Safety Investigation process for traffic calming requests – changes instituted in part in response to the Commission's consistent advocacy, as well as the need for fulsome information regarding traffic safety assessments submitted since January 2019 to have a complete record regarding the Commission's work with the traffic safety assessment process, to ensure transparency regarding the District Department of Transportation's traffic calming efforts, and to better understand and be able to provide feedback regarding the Department's proposed changes. The District Department of Transportation responded to this letter on January 4, 2022, noting that the Department would not provide additional information and that the Commission would need to file Freedom of Information Act requests for additional information. The District Department of Transportation's response has not been posted to the [Advisory Neighborhood Commission Resolution Portal](#), preventing transparency and full public understanding of the Department's procedures.
- The Commission approved a [Letter of Inquiry](#), Requesting Information Regarding the District Department of Transportation's School Crossing Guard Program at the Commission's November 22, 2021, meeting. The District Department of Transportation responded to this letter on January 4, 2022, providing that the Department has 17 school crossing guard vacancies as of December 15; to meet the program needs of the current fiscal year, the Department would need 31 new positions, including 21 outstanding requests from schools; and "[t]he placement of crossing guards is based on availability and funding." The District Department of Transportation indicated the Commission would need to file a Freedom of Information Act request the crossing guard deployment plan. The information provided in the District Department of Transportation's response has proved helpful in citywide advocacy to improve and expand the school crossing guard program. The District Department of Transportation's response has not been posted to the [Advisory Neighborhood Commission Resolution Portal](#), preventing transparency and full public understanding of the Department's procedures.
- Due in part to the Commission's advocacy, the District Department of Transportation's process for requesting speed humps has changed and no longer requires a Commission resolution. These changes follow dozens of Commission Resolutions requesting speed humps and advocacy to ensure a response to those requests and implementation of speed humps. See [Letter of Inquiry](#), Follow-Up on Outstanding ANC 4B Speed Hump Requests (July 26, 2021). The District Department of Transportation's decisionmaking and implementation of speed humps continues to lack transparency and be inconsistent.
- The Commission continues to advocate for action related to commercial vehicles on residential roads – a persistent problem within the Commission area, particularly along the 6500 block of Piney Branch Road, NW. See [Letter of Inquiry](#), Requesting Additional Information and Action regarding DDOT's June 27, 2022, Presentation to ANC 4B (Sept. 28, 2022); [Supplemental Letter](#), Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B's Fiscal Year 2022 Budget Priorities (June 28, 2021); Follow-Up [Letter of Inquiry](#) Regarding Commercial Vehicles on Residential Roads (Apr. 26, 2021); [Letter of Inquiry](#), Use of Heavy

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Trucks on Aspen St, NW, and Other Residential Streets (June 25, 2019); [Testimony](#) of Commissioner Palmer (4B02), DC Council Committee on Transportation and the Environment, District Department of Transportation Performance Oversight Hearing (Dec. 26, 2021). Despite promises to install no commercial vehicle parking signs in specific locations, the District Department of Transportation has not acted, and enforcement by the District Department of Public Works has been minimal. Commissioners have continued to submit dozens of 311 requests and emails seeking support from the DC Council and DC agencies with this issue.

Neighborhood Traffic Calming & Infrastructure

- The Commission has continued to weigh in extensively regarding the Metropolitan Branch Trail, including:
 - * [Resolution 4B-22-0303](#), Providing Feedback on Construction of the Metropolitan Branch Trail from Blair Road, NW, to Piney Branch Road, NW (Mar. 28, 2022) (supporting and providing recommendations on the District Department of Transportation’s planned construction of the Metropolitan Branch Trail from Blair Road, NW, to Piney Branch Road, NW); see also [Resolution 4B-20-0104](#), Providing Feedback on Proposed Changes to the Comprehensive Plan (Jan. 27, 2020); [Supplemental Letter](#) re Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B Fiscal Year 2022 Budget Priorities (June 29, 2021);
 - * [Resolution 4B-22-0102](#), Supporting Construction of the Metropolitan Branch Trail from Fort Totten to Takoma (Jan. 24, 2022) (supporting and providing recommendations on the District Department of Transportation’s planned construction of the Metropolitan Branch Trail from Fort Totten to Takoma); see also [Resolution 4B-21-0206](#), Providing Feedback on 65% Design of Metropolitan Branch Trail from Fort Totten to Takoma (Feb. 22, 2021) (noting past Commission action in support of completion of the Metropolitan Branch Trail and calling for specific improvements at the intersection of Blair Road, NW, and Aspen Street, NW);
 - * [Letter](#), Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B Fiscal Year 2023 Budget Priorities (Apr. 25, 2022) (requesting “fund[ing] completion of the Metropolitan Branch Trail, including recommendations from Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B”); see also [Resolution 4B-21-0206](#), Providing Feedback on 65% Design of Metropolitan Branch Trail from Fort Totten to Takoma (Feb. 22, 2021); [Resolution 4B-21-0101](#), Supporting Construction of the Metropolitan Branch Trail (NOI #20-110-PSD) (Jan. 25, 2021); [Resolution 4B-20-0702](#), ANC 4B Additional Recommendations on the Metropolitan Branch Trail (July 27, 2020);
 - * Commissioner Palmer (4B02) and Commissioner Yeats (4B01) held a meeting with residents regarding the District Department of Transportation’s proposals for the Metropolitan Branch Trail impacting 4th Street, NW, on March 18, 2022; and
 - * Commissioner Yeats (4B01), Commissioner Palmer (4B02), and Commissioner Bromaghim (4B07) held a community walk with the District Department of Transportation regarding options for constructing the Metropolitan Branch Trail from Blair Road, NW, to Piney Branch Road, NW, on February 11, 2022.
- The Commission approved [Resolution 4B-22-0203](#), Requesting Completion of Bike Lanes on Kansas Avenue, NW, between Chillum Place, NW, and Blair Road, NW at the Commission’s February 22, 2022, meeting, noting the Commission supports the [MoveDC plans](#) to complete the bike lane on Kansas Avenue, NW, by closing the gap between Chillum Place, NW, and Blair Road, NW. See also [Resolution 4B-20-0702](#), ANC 4B Additional Recommendations on the Metropolitan Branch Trail (July 27, 2020) (similarly recommending closing this gap).
- The Commission has continued to press for traffic calming and improved implementation of traffic calming measures in specific locations and along particular roads, including:

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- * [Resolution 4B-22-1009](#), Calling for Maintenance & Hardening of Traffic Safety Improvements to Intersection at Piney Branch Road, Whittier Street & 8th Street, NW (formerly NOI #21-6-TOA) (Oct. 24, 2022) (noting faulty implementation and continued challenges with drivers making turns by driving across the east-west crosswalks at Piney Branch Road, NW, Whittier Street, NW, and 8th Street, NW); see also [Resolution 4B-21-0303](#), Supporting Proposed Improvements to Intersection of Piney Branch Road, Whittier Street, and 8th Street, NW (NOI #21-6-TOA) (Mar. 22, 2021);
- * [Resolution 4B-22-0501](#), Noting Lengthy History of Requests & Calling for Four-Way Stop Signs at 6th and Butternut Streets (May 23, 2022) (“[T]he Commission has requested traffic calming, including fourway stop signs, at the intersection of 6th Street, NW, and Butternut Street, NW, via 311 requests, Traffic Safety Assessments, Traffic Safety Investigations, Letters, Resolutions, and community petitions. The Commission has never received a direct response regarding requests for all-way stop signs at the intersection of 6th Street, NW, and Butternut Street, NW.”); see also [Resolution 4B-21-0501](#), Calling for All-Way Stop Signs within Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B (May 24, 2021); [Letter](#), Requesting Additional Traffic Safety Improvements on Butternut Street, NW (Oct. 26, 2020);
- * [Resolution 4B-22-0401](#), Calling for Meaningful Consideration of Traffic Safety Investigation Requests and Traffic Calming Infrastructure Along 5th Street, NW (Apr. 25, 2022) (“The Commission is tired of making the same requests for meaningful consideration of traffic calming only to be ignored by the District Department of Transportation.”); see also [Resolution 4B-21-1001](#), Calling for Crosswalk and Intersection Improvements Within Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B (Oct. 25, 2021); [Letter](#), Requesting Additional Traffic Safety Improvements on Butternut Street, NW (Oct. 26, 2020); and
- * [Resolution 4B-21-1101](#), Requesting Installation of Four-Way Stop Signs at Kansas Avenue, NW, and Madison Street, NW; Kansas Avenue, NW, and Longfellow Street, NW; and along 3rd Street Corridor from Missouri Avenue, NW, to Sheridan Street, NW (Nov. 22, 2021) (also requesting speed humps 6200-6300 Blocks of 2nd Street, NW, and 100-800 Blocks of Sheridan Street, NW); see also [Resolution 4B-21-0501](#), Calling for All-Way Stop Signs within Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B (May 24, 2021).

These Commission traffic calming efforts have required years of work and continued diligence by Commissioners to ensure action and implementation. As the Commission has stated previously, “The Department’s lack of consistent communication and spotty adherence to its own procedures and proposals has forced Commissions to engage in oversight. Commissions are not equipped, funded, or staffed to engage in proper and complete oversight, which exacerbates inequities across DC.” [Letter](#), Oversight of the District Department of Transportation (Jan. 24, 2022).

- The District Department of Transportation recently installed speed humps on the 500 block of Aspen Street, NW, following a refusal to install speed humps on this specific block as part of installation of speed humps on Aspen Street, NW from Blair Road, NW, to Piney Branch Road, NW. This installation is the result of years of Commission and resident efforts to push back on the District Department of Transportation’s refusal to install speed humps along this road and subsequent piecemeal installation of speed humps along this stretch. See [Letter](#), Requesting Traffic Safety Improvements on Aspen Street, NW (May 24, 2021) (noting “residents have sought action from DDOT to calm traffic, limit commercial vehicles, and make this residential street safer, but they have seen no action”).
- Commissioner Brooks (4B08) continues to meet regularly with the District Department of Transportation regarding traffic safety concerns at the intersection of North Capitol Street, NW, and Longfellow Street, NW. The Department evaluated traffic patterns within the intersection and installed flexible delineator posts in July 2021. Although the flexiposts were installed, they do not prevent cars from making an illegal left turn at the intersection. Residents and Commissioner Brooks continue to advocate for a concrete median to ensure safety.

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- Commissioner Brooks (4B08) worked diligently regarding installation of a traffic light at Riggs Road, NE, and 1st Street, NE. Although the District Department of Transportation indicated in July 2020 that a traffic light at the intersection of Riggs Road, NE, and 1st Street, NE, had been approved and was scheduled for installation, it took several years before the light was installed in the Fall of 2022 after three Single Member District 4B08 residents were injured in the crosswalk when hit by a car.
- Commissioner Brooks (4B08) continues to engage with the District Department of Transportation about traffic calming measures along 3rd Street, NE. The Commission has submitted several Resolutions, but to date, the District Department of Transportation has not taken action.
- Commissioners repeatedly 311 requests for action on matters impacting traffic safety and infrastructure, including traffic safety investigations.

Metro & Bus Service

- The Commission approved a comprehensive [Letter](#) re Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B's Fiscal Year 2023 Budget Priorities at the Commission's April 25, 2022, meeting. The Letter calls for funding "to reduce barriers to transit and ensure better service for our communities, including through the proposed Metro for DC Amendment Act of 2020, introduced by Councilmember Charles Allen (Ward 6), to improve access to bus service and increase transit affordability for District residents." See also [Supplemental Letter](#), Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B Fiscal Year 2022 Budget Priorities (June 28, 2021) (same); [Letter](#), Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B Fiscal Year 2022 Budget Priorities (Mar. 22, 2021) (same).
- The Commission approved [Resolution 4B-22-1012](#), Recommending Improvements to the District's Kids Ride Free Program at the Commission's October 24, 2022, meeting. The Resolution calls for "reduc[ing] barriers to the District Department of Transportation's Kids Ride Free Program by automatically opting-in all public and public charter school students and mailing SmarTrip cards to their homes" and "continu[ing] to have cards available at school and partner with human services providers to distribute cards ... at the start of the school year using venues like Summer Meals Program sites." The Resolution follows continued Commission advocacy regarding improvements to the Kids Ride Free program. See [Letter](#) re Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B Fiscal Year 2023 Budget Priorities (March 22, 2021) (calling to "substantially expand funding for and reduce barriers to the District Department of Transportation's Kids Ride Free Program by automatically opting-in all public school students and mailing SmarTrip cards to their homes and renewing existing, functioning cards rather than requiring physical replacement"); [Letter](#), Request for Kids Ride Free SmarTrip Cards Distribution in Wards 1 & 4 (July 12, 2019) (describing proper distribution as "critical to removing barriers to attendance at our schools," but suffering from "well-publicized problems") (signed by Commissioner Yeats (4B01), Commissioner Palmer (4B02), and Commissioner Tiffani Nichole Johnson (4B06)).
- The Commission's comprehensive [Letter](#) re Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B Fiscal Year 2023 Budget Priorities, approved at the Commission's April 25, 2022, meeting, calls for "increas[ing] District funding for bus shelters beyond what is currently provided in the contract with Clear Channel Adshel to meet increased demand for safe and inviting transit stops in every neighborhood." See also [Supplemental Letter](#), Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B Fiscal Year 2022 Budget Priorities (June 28, 2021) (same); [Letter](#), Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B Fiscal Year 2022 Budget Priorities (Mar. 22, 2021) (same). The Commission has at least one unfulfilled bus shelter request.

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Presentations

- The Commission welcomed a presentation from the District Department of Transportation regarding the Riggs Road Connector Cycletrack at the Commission's September 28, 2022, meeting.
- The Commission welcomed a presentation from the Deputy Director of the District Department of Transportation regarding the Department's policies and practices at the Commission's June 27, 2022, meeting. The discussion included high turnover of the Department's Community Engagement Specialists; lack of transparency and action for traffic safety investigation requests; difficulties with the Department's traffic safety investigation dashboard; closure of 311 requests without action; lack of responses to Commission resolutions and changing standards for Commission requests; the inability to seek action on neighborhood-wide traffic calming; the lack of standards for hardening of short-term traffic safety infrastructure; protocols around placement and replacement of traffic signs; mechanisms to address sidewalk gaps and repairs; and specific outstanding requests (including Commission Resolutions, traffic safety investigations, and 311 Requests). The presentation followed several months of requests that the District Department of Transportation attend a meeting to respond to concerns.
- The Commission welcomed a presentation from the District Department of Transportation on the Department's Georgia Avenue, NW, Livability Study at the Commission's June 27, 2022, meeting.
- The Commission welcomed a presentation from the District Department of Transportation on the Metropolitan Branch Trail Project from Blair Road, NW, to Piney Branch Road, NW, at the Commission's June 27, 2022, meeting.
- The Commission welcomed a presentation from Pipkin Creative and the District Department of Transportation on an Art in the Right of Way installation at 5th Street, NW, Dahlia Street, NW, and Blair Road, NW, at the Commission's June 27, 2022, meeting.
- The Commission welcomed a presentation from the District Department of Motor Vehicles on adjudicating tickets in DC at the Commission's April 25, 2022, meeting.
- The Commission welcomed a presentation from the District Department of Transportation about the Metropolitan Branch Trail from Blair Road to Piney Branch Road, NW, at the Commission's January 24, 2022, meeting.
- The Commission's Vision Zero Committee welcomed a discussion with District Department of Transportation engineers on hardening existing interim safety measures installed as part of the Piney Branch Road traffic calming project; the intersection closure at Whitter Street, NW, 8th Street, NW, and Piney Branch Road, NW; and pedestrian safety improvements at the Takoma Metrorail Station entrance at the Committee's November 17, 2021, meeting.
- The Commission's Vision Zero Committee welcomed a presentation from and discussion with the District Department of Transportation on the proposed extension of the Metropolitan Branch Trail from Blair Road, NW, to Piney Branch Road, NW, at the Committee's January 19, 2022, meeting.
- The Commission's Vision Zero Committee welcomed a presentation from the District Department of Transportation on the proposed Riggs Road, NE, cycletrack at the Committee's September 23, 2022, meeting.

Housing Justice

Since 2019, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B has sought at every opportunity to support and promote safe, stable, and secure housing for all District residents. The Commission holds at the core of its actions related to housing that housing is a human right. The Commission has noted repeatedly its interest "in doing our fair share regarding deeply affordable housing within our Commission boundaries," with an explicit goal of "maximiz[ing] affordable housing" within the Commission area. [Resolution 4B-22-0104](#),

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Reauthorizing Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B's Housing Justice Committee (Jan. 24, 2022); [Resolution 4B-20-0205](#), Establishing Housing Justice Committee (Feb. 24, 2020). "The affordable housing crisis requires the District to use every tool available to ensure affordable housing" such as public housing, social housing, and permanent supportive housing, and "the increased supply of housing – while important – will not alone solve the affordable housing crisis, particularly as related to extremely-low and very low-income households, and must be accompanied by active and robust City goals and policies to ensure affordability, including affordability for extremely low- and very low-income households, in relation to increased supply." [Resolution 4B-20-0104](#), Providing Feedback on Proposed Changes to the Comprehensive Plan (Jan. 27, 2020).

Over the course of the year, the Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B furthered its housing justice goals through extensive feedback on the District's Fiscal Year 2023 Budget, including supporting funding to end chronic homelessness and funding to preserve and expand public housing; advocating to maximize affordable housing, including deeply affordable housing, in new developments within the Commission area, as well as supporting affordable housing preservation within the Commission area; and holding DC government agencies accountable in their affordable housing commitments.

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B approved [Resolution 4B-20-0205](#), Establishing Housing Justice Committee at the Commission's February 24, 2020, meeting and reauthorized the Committee via [Resolution 4B-22-0104](#) at the Commission's January 24, 2022, meeting. The Housing Justice Committee's mandate includes (1) considering proposed developments within the Commission's boundaries for purposes of determining how best to maximize affordable housing, including deeply affordable housing; (2) analyzing and providing feedback on proposed legislation and policy affecting affordable housing and homelessness with a goal of increasing and expanding deeply affordable housing; and (3) hosting and supporting educational events on topics related to affordable housing and homelessness.

Commissioner Palmer (4B02) serves as Chair of the Housing Justice Committee. The Committee members include the following individuals:

- Latifa Lyles is a longtime advocate for women and working families, including working on issues of economic security and survivor justice at a national level. Her work includes serving in the Obama Administration as head of the Women's Bureau at the US Department of Labor. She has lived in DC for 25+ years and in Ward 4 since 2007. Currently, she sits on the DC Democratic State Committee.
- Julia Moran Morton is Chief Housing Development Officer with SOME (So Others Might Eat). She has worked in Housing Development in DC for decades and been involved with the Coalition for Non-profit Housing and Economic Development and Housing Association for Non-profit Developers. Two of her most recent projects are at Walter Reed. She is also President of the All Souls Housing Corp Board. She has resided in the neighborhood for over 20 years.
- LeighAnn Smith Rosenberg practices housing law in Maryland, representing seniors and individuals living below the poverty line on a range of issues, including landlord-tenant disputes, tenant association advocacy, mortgage foreclosures, and property tax liens. Her work includes familiarity with federal, state, and local housing agencies, and engaging those agencies on their planning and rulemaking processes.
- Christopher Sousa is a former litigator for the District of Columbia government, who has represented the District government in affirmative litigation, enforcing public policy in a variety of contexts, including land use. He has long been interested in improving public policy to make housing more affordable.

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The Committee held seven (7) meetings from November 2021 through November 2022, including discussions regarding five proposed developments within the Commission area; a presentation from and discussion with the Office of the Attorney General's Land Use Section regarding its new mission and collaboration with Advisory Neighborhood Commissions to support more affordable housing and holding developers accountable; presentations from and discussions with the District Alliance for Safe Housing, Inc. (DASH) and the Legal Aid Society for the District of Columbia regarding budget advocacy; and presentations from subject matter experts on social housing and housing vouchers in the District.

In furtherance of the Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B's goals of pursuing and supporting deeply affordable housing and contributing to affordable and other housing supply within the Commission's boundaries, as well as the Commission's dedication to sufficient funding and oversight to accomplish the District's affordable housing goals, the Commission has acted in the following ways:

- The Commission approved a comprehensive [Letter](#) re Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B's Fiscal Year 2023 Budget Priorities at the Commission's April 25, 2022, meeting. The Letter expressed gratitude for Mayor Muriel Bowser's budget proposal to address chronic homelessness in DC, which included \$31 million in funding for permanent supportive housing to end homelessness for 500 individuals, 260 families, and 10 youth, as well as resources for homeless street outreach and shelter improvements. These two investments are consistent with the Commission's commitment to housing as a human right. See [Resolution 4B-20-0407](#), Supporting Funding in FY2021 to Address Chronic Homelessness (Apr. 27, 2020); [Resolution 4B-19-0307](#), Supporting Funding in FY2020 Budget to Address Chronic Homelessness (Mar. 25, 2019). In addition, the Letter provided feedback on Mayor Muriel Bowser's proposed budget specifically related to the Commission's housing justice priorities, including:
 - * "ensur[ing] funding to extend families in rapid re-housing until they can be transitioned into permanent housing assistance and invest[ing] 27.7 million in targeted affordable housing for 1,040 families who have been in permanent supportive housing and no longer need intensive services";
 - * "fund[ing] tenant-based local housing vouchers for the 39,000 individuals on the DC Housing Authority waitlist, where Mayor Bowser's budget provides no or uncertain funding for these efforts";
 - * "dramatically expand[ing] funding and ensur[ing] recurring funding for the Emergency Rental Assistance Program based on the '[gross underestimation](#)' of demand, which may be as high as \$187 million dollars (as well as implementing data collection mechanisms to better understand needs going forward), and with the goal of preventing evictions to every extent possible";
 - * "ensur[ing] the \$500 million invested by Mayor Bowser in the Housing Production Trust Fund for Fiscal Year 2023 adheres to the legal requirement that 50 percent of its resources be used to serve families with the lowest incomes and with sufficient annual investments in the project-based component of the Local Rent Supplement Program, in part through additional accountability measures as provided in the Housing Production Trust Fund Accountability and Transparency Amendment Act of 2022";
 - * "expand[ing] funding to every extent possible and provide recurring funding for public housing repairs, in light of persistent neglect, including recent reports of the DC Housing Authority keeping residents in units with high lead levels";
 - * "provid[ing] additional funding for community land trusts and funding for Tenant Opportunity to Purchase Act and Limited Equity Cooperatives to ensure permanently affordable housing, local small businesses, and other public assets through community ownership of land";
 - * "ensur[ing] that PEP-V, non-congregate shelter for residents experiencing homelessness who are at high risk of dying of COVID-19 is maintained through the pandemic and that the District Department of Human Services can continue to offer 24-hour shelter access"; and
 - * "fully fund[ing] housing needs for survivors of domestic violence by [\\$27.93 million dollars more than last year's budget](#) to respond to meet the need."

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This Letter built on Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B's previously stated budget priorities contained in the Commission's March 22, 2021, [Letter](#) to Mayor Muriel Bowser and the Commission's June 28, 2021, [Supplemental Letter](#) to the DC Council regarding the Fiscal Year 2022 Budget. See also [Resolution 4B-20-0407](#), Supporting Funding in FY2021 to Address Chronic Homelessness (Apr. 27, 2020); [Resolution 4B-19-0307](#), Supporting Funding in FY2020 Budget to Address Chronic Homelessness (Mar. 25, 2019); [Resolution 4B-19-1004](#), Calling on DC Housing Authority to Preserve Public Housing and Protect Public Housing Residents (Oct. 28, 2019); [Resolution 4B-19-0506](#), Supporting Funding for Urgent Public Housing Repairs and Calling for Commitment to Maintain Public Housing Stock (May 20, 2019).

- The Commission's Housing Justice Committee welcomed presentations from and discussions with the District Alliance for Safe Housing, Inc. (DASH) at the Committee's February 2, 2022, meeting and the Legal Aid Society for the District of Columbia at the Committee's March 2, 2022, meeting regarding budget advocacy. These presentations and discussions informed the Commission's [Letter](#) regarding Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B's Fiscal Year 2023 Budget Priorities, approved at the Commission's April 25, 2022, meeting.
- The Commission was pleased to see the DC Council move forward its recommendation to "ensure fulsome and sustained local funding to end chronic homelessness and expand deeply affordable housing – including by increasing taxes on the District's highest earners, who have been economically stable during the public health emergency, have benefitted from large federal tax cuts, pay lower taxes than middle-income earners, and are best able to shoulder tax increases needed to fund basic human needs – in light of broad support among District residents and uncertain continued federal funding, as well as to ensure an equitable budget that takes every opportunity to correct for racial and other structural disparities and demonstrates a commitment to continuation of these essential programs." [Supplemental Letter](#), Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B's Fiscal Year 2022 Budget Priorities (June 28, 2021). The Commission was discouraged regarding implementation of the housing portions of the additional revenue, however, and the Housing Justice Committee discussed the challenges in implementation with Annemarie Cuccia, a reporter with Streetsense, based on her important [reporting on the issue](#), at the Committee's November 2, 2022, meeting.
- The Commission approved [Resolution 4B-22-1011](#), Supporting & Providing Recommendations on [B24-0802](#), Green New Deal for Housing Amendment Act of 2022, approved at the Commission's October 24, 2022 meeting. The Resolution expressed support for proposed social housing legislation, as well as significant substantive feedback on the legislation based on the expertise of the Commission's Housing Justice Committee. The Resolution also noted Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B was one of the first elected bodies in DC to call for the District to consider and employ social housing. See [Resolution 4B-20-0104](#), Providing Feedback on Proposed Changes to the Comprehensive Plan (Jan. 27, 2020) (calling for the Plan to "include a discussion of social housing as a mechanism to address the affordable housing crisis" and noting "that the affordable housing crisis requires the District to use every tool available to ensure affordable housing," including social housing, and recognizing "the increased supply of housing – while important – will not alone solve the affordable housing crisis, particularly as related to extremely-low and very low-income households, and must be accompanied by active and robust City goals and policies to ensure affordability, including affordability for extremely low- and very low-income households, in relation to increased supply."). The Commission has not yet received a response to or engagement with its feedback, although several other Commissions have used this Resolution as a template for their own Commissions.
- The Commission's [Resolution 4B-22-1011](#), Supporting & Providing Recommendations on [B24-0802](#), Green New Deal for Housing Amendment Act of 2022, approved at the Commission's October 24, 2022 meeting, followed a presentation from and discussion with Zachary Marks, Chief Real Estate Officer, Housing Opportunities Commission, Montgomery County and Rachel M. Cohen, Senior Policy Reporter, Vox Media, at a meeting of the Commission's Housing Justice Committee on September 7, 2022.

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- The Commission approved [Resolution 4B-22-0205](#), Supporting the District Office of the Attorney General's Proposed Text Amendment Governing Zoning Commission Orders to Comply with Inclusionary Zoning and Green Area Ratio Requirements in Effect on Date of Commission Vote at the Commission's February 28, 2022, meeting. The Resolution noted the Commission has seen the potential impacts of projects granted time extensions that fail to meet modern standards for Inclusionary Zoning and Green Area Ratio requirements, including related to a proposed development at 6101 Sligo Mill Road, NE, subject to a previously existing Planned Unit Development. Similar concerns were noted by the Commission in [Resolution 4B-21-1105](#), Providing Feedback on the Request for a Modification of Significance by The Morris and Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation for Block B of the Art Place at Fort Totten (ZC Case 06-10G), which asked for additional affordable units and noted that the original Planned Unit Development for the project was more than a decade old and would not meet modern standards for Inclusionary Zoning if developed today. The Resolution followed a presentation from and discussion with the Land Use Section of the Office of the Attorney General regarding their mission and collaboration with Advisory Neighborhood Commissions regarding supporting more affordable housing and holding developers accountable.
- The Commission approved [Resolution 4B-22-1008](#), Supporting Application for Map Amendment for Berean Baptist Church Development Project, 924 Madison Street, NW, at the Commission's October 24, 2022 meeting, supporting a zoning map amendment to facilitate the construction of high-quality senior affordable housing. The Resolution noted the Commission's strong support of the proposed zoning map amendment in light of the senior affordable housing it would provide, as well as Berean Baptist Church's commitment to and engagement with the local community. The project will help assure the Church's continued presence in the neighborhood. The Resolution followed a presentation from and discussion with the Church and the project's development team at a meeting of the Commission's Housing Justice Committee on October 5, 2022, and the full Commission at the Commission's September 28, 2022, meeting.
- The Commission approved [Resolution 4B-22-1006](#), Supporting Application for Map Amendment for Elm Gardens, 7050 Eastern Avenue, NW, and [Resolution 4B-22-1007](#), Supporting Construction of Apartment Building at 7050 Eastern Avenue, NW (HPA 22-487), at the Commission's October 24, 2022, meeting, supporting a zoning map amendment and the project's proposed design to facilitate the construction of the 110-unit dedicated affordable apartment building. The Resolution noted the apartment building will be 90-95% affordable with an average area Median Family Income of 60% and 11 permanent supportive housing units for neighbors formerly without homes. The proposal also includes an on-site service provider to support those residents living in permanent supportive housing. All nonincome-restricted units will accommodate current over-income tenants and will revert to being income-restricted affordable units if vacated. The Resolution followed a presentation from and discussion with the project's development team at a meeting of the Commission's Housing Justice Committee on October 5, 2022, and the full Commission at the Commission's September 28, 2022, meeting. Representatives from the Elm Gardens tenants association exercising their Tenant Opportunity to Purchase Act rights were also present at the Commission's September 28, 2022, meeting.
- The Commission welcomed a presentation from and approved a [Letter](#) supporting with conditions a Planned Unit Development by EYA Multifamily, LLC at the Takoma Metro Station at the Commission's June 27, 2022, meeting. The Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority selected EYA Multifamily, LLC to develop a new multifamily development on the parking lot of the Takoma Metrorail Station that will include approximately 410 residential units, 10,000-20,000 square feet of ground-floor retail, a new transit zone adjacent to the Metrorail station for buses, and a 1.5-2-acre park. The Commission requested approval with various conditions, including that the project provide at least 15% of the square footage of the residential development as income-restricted affordable housing, including at least 3% affordable at 30% of Median Family Income and 12% affordable at 60% of Median Family Income and continue to seek participation (until granted or no longer applicable) in the Tax Abate-ments for Affordable Housing in High-Needs Areas program offered by the District Department of

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Housing and Community Development that will increase the percentage of square footage dedicated to income-restricted affordable housing to at least 33% of residential square footage. The Commission had previously approved a [Letter](#), Supporting Affordable Housing in High-Needs Areas Tax Abatement for Takoma Metro Station Development at the Commission's May 23, 2022, meeting. As part of their application, the Developer has met with the Commission's Housing Justice Committee (March 2, 2022) and the Commission (April 25, 2022, and June 27, 2022), as well as participated in three (3) joint public Single Member District meetings hosted by Commissioner Yeats (4B01), Commissioner Palmer (4B02), and Commissioner Bromaghim (4B07).

- The Commission approved [Resolution 4B-22-0108](#), Supporting Renovation of 145 Kennedy Street, NW, at the Commission's January 24, 2022, meeting. The project will produce 35 affordable senior residences at 50% Median Family Income and 20% of the units will be permanent supportive housing. The Resolution followed a presentation from Goulston & Storrs and Phi Beta Sigma regarding the proposed development at the Commission's September 27, 2021, meeting.
- The Commission approved [Resolution 4B-21-1105](#), Providing Feedback on the Request for a Modification of Significance by The Morris and Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation for Block B of the Art Place at Fort Totten (ZC Case 06-10G) at the Commission's November 22, 2021, meeting. The Resolution followed a presentation and discussion at the Housing Justice Committee's November 8, 2021, meeting. In part due to efforts by the Commission, the zoning order modifying the Planned Unit Development now requires that 13 percent of the additional units be Inclusionary Zoning affordable units.
- The Commission approved a [Letter of Inquiry](#) regarding Questions for Petra Development regarding Affordable Housing Commitments for Proposed Development at 6928 Maple Street, NW, at the Commission's November 22, 2021, meeting. The Commission had previously provided preliminary support for the 68-unit affordable housing project via [Resolution 4B-20-1107](#), Supporting the Preliminary Design Concept and Providing Initial Community Input for 6928 Maple Street, NW (Nov. 23, 2020), noting "the Commission's expectation that the Developer would permanently maintain all-affordable housing in this development" and that "the Commission [would] continue to work with the Developer to assure fulfillment of its commitment that all 68 units of this project will deliver deeply affordable voucher housing and include appropriate support services for residents." The Commission's November 22, 2021, Letter of Inquiry requested additional information on the enforceability regarding their commitment to 100% affordable units, the length of affordability, and their experience with providing services to tenants. Petra did not respond, and the Commission's Housing Justice Committee discussed the proposal and next steps at its November 2, 2022, meeting. Based on the latest information, it appears this project is not moving forward due to the need for zoning relief with regard to the rear yard setback.
- Commissioner Palmer (4B02) attended a ribbon cutting for the affordable housing preservation project at 410 Cedar Street, NW, on March 29, 2022, a project where tenants exercised their rights under the Tenant Opportunity to Purchase Act to purchase the building for long-term affordability of approximately 30 units. The ribbon cutting followed Commissioner Palmer's letters to the District Department of Housing and Community Development on January 21, 2020, and February 7, 2019, supporting funding for the rehabilitation and preservation of 410 Cedar Street, NW.
- Commissioner Bromaghim (4B07) held a Single Member District meeting on February 3, 2022, regarding a planned development on the 6800 block of Laurel Street, NW, [a 356-unit by-right project](#). There will also be roughly 28 Inclusionary Zoning units affordable to households earning up to 60% and 80% of Median Family Income. This virtual meeting was an opportunity for the developer to share their plans, answer questions, and hear community feedback. Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B strongly opposed a previous proposal for this space to build a detention center for unaccompanied migrant children. See [Letter](#), Planned Detention Center for Unaccompanied Migrant Children at 6896 Laurel St NW (Sept. 23, 2019).

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- Commissioner Tiffani Nichole Johnson (4B06) and Commissioner Yeats (4B01) signed onto a letter from Advisory Neighborhood Commissioners to the DC Council on December 6, 2021, encouraging the Councilmembers to support proposed legislation limiting evictions of unhoused resident encampments during the winter months and instead employ a housing-first approach to securing and sustaining permanent shelter for unhoused residents currently living in encampments on public property. The Council unfortunately [failed to approve this proposed legislation](#).
- The Commission's Housing Justice Committee welcomed presentations from and discussions with a fellow Advisory Neighborhood Commissioner, former staffer to Ward 4 Councilmember Janeese Lewis George; and Annemarie Cuccia, a reporter with Streetsense regarding voucher housing in the District at the Committee's November 2, 2022, meeting.
- The Commission welcomed a presentation from the District's Office of the Tenant Advocate on the work of the Office, including tenant services and eviction protection at the Commission's June 27, 2022, meeting.

Community Safety & Support

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B recognizes the importance of community support and a holistic approach to public safety. Much of the Commission's work in other areas improves public safety within the Commission area and across the District, including affordable housing, strong schools, and recreation and programming opportunities. The Commission has emphasized accountability and transparency in policing and other emergency services, coordination and cooperation in violence interruption services, a community-centered approach to law enforcement that is cognizant of historical and ongoing inequities in policing, and access to justice. The Commission recognizes that without accountability for strong government services, communities are less safe and has therefore emphasized well-functioning government agencies, including emergency communications, camera programs, and more.

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B approved [Resolution 4B-21-0304](#), Establishing Community Safety and Support Committee at the Commission's February 24, 2020, meeting and reauthorized the Committee via [Resolution 4B-22-0106](#) at the Commission's January 24, 2022, meeting. The Community Safety and Support Committee's mandate includes (1) recommending proposed community safety measures within the Commission's boundaries; (2) analyzing and providing feedback, including letters and testimony on proposed legislation and policy affecting community safety; (3) hosting and supporting educational events on topics related community safety.

Commissioner Tiffani Nichole Johnson (4B06) serves as Chair of the Community Safety and Support Committee. The Committee members include the following individuals:

- William (Bill) Combes sits on the National Intelligence Council as the Deputy National Intelligence Officer for Transnational Threats. As an employee of the US Department of State for over 15 years, he often applies a diplomatic approach to community engagement, seeking consensus, advocating transparency, and respecting history. His interests in holistic approaches to public safety derives from his current work as a national security professional, training in history, and background in human services. He has lived in Washington, DC for over 17 years.
- Michael Cohen leads the Takoma Brightwood Dog Park Organization, a 501(c)(3) charitable organization and District Department of Parks and Recreation park partner. He previously chaired Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B's Education and Libraries Committee in the mid 2010s. His goal in joining the Community Safety and Support Committee is to make recommendations and suggestions that will have a positive impact on Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B and Ward 4. He is a native

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Washingtonian and has lived within Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B for 12 years.

- Megan Fitzgerald has focused her field of research as an Assistant Professor of Human Development, Division of Social, and Behavioral Sciences at the University of the District of Columbia. She feels that community safety is an important neighborhood and citywide issue.
- June Daughtry is a retired Department of Justice manager with experience in emergency management, security, and construction management. She has a bachelor's degree from the University of the District of Columbia and has volunteered at the House of Ruth, Bread for the City, Roots Public Charter School, and the Department of Justice adopt a school program. She has resided in Manor Park for over 50 years and feels this Committee is an opportunity to be involved in keeping the community safe, clean, and progressive.
- Akhi Johnson has dedicated his career to public safety, currently working at the Vera Institute for Justice since January 2019, where he helps elected prosecutors better pursue safety by decreasing their reliance on incarceration, reducing disparities, and increasing their accountability to communities. Prior to that, he served 5 years as an Assistant United States Attorney in Washington, DC handling local and federal crimes. He has tried more than 40 cases, focusing on sex and domestic violence involving children and adults. He also teaches a criminal law and mock trial class for individuals detained at DC Jail in partnership with the Georgetown University Law Center Street Law Clinic.

The Committee held seven (7) meetings from March 2022 (when the Committee was established) through November 2022, including discussions regarding Metropolitan Police Department statistics regarding nuisance crimes and crimes of opportunity, a review of the Office of the DC Auditor's audit of the District Office of Unified Communications, "[District's 911 System: Reforms Needed to Meet Safety Needs](#)," published October 19, 2021, and how the District Office of Unified Communication's failures have impacted the Commission area and the District, and proposed police reforms.

In furtherance of Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B's goals of a holistic approach to community safety and accountability of all of the District's public safety agencies, the Commission has acted in the following ways:

- The Commission approved a [Letter](#), Requesting Audit of Office of Unified Communications at the Commission's May 26, 2020, meeting. On September 24, 2020, the Office of the DC Auditor responded to the Commission's request by issuing a [Request for Proposals](#) for an audit of the District Office of Unified Communications. The audit report, "[District's 911 System: Reforms Needed to Meet Safety Needs](#)," published October 19, 2021, largely substantiates concerns about the operations of the 911 system. It provides a comprehensive assessment of the progress and failures in reforming the District Office of Unified Communications, including both technological and operational recommendations. A follow-up report, published September 9, 2022, entitled "[911 Reform Status Report #1: Minimal Progress](#)" confirmed that "very little progress" had been made toward improving performance at this agency.
- The Commission's [Letter](#) regarding Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B's Fiscal Year 2022 Budget Priorities, approved at the Commission's March 22, 2021, meeting, called for "restor[ing] funding for the Department of Aging and Community Living's Safe at Home Private Security Camera Program to continue to enable eligible DC seniors and residents with disabilities to receive a private security camera system without cost."
- The Commission approved a comprehensive [Letter](#) re Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B's Fiscal Year 2023 Budget Priorities at the Commission's April 25, 2022, meeting. The Letter incorporated the Commission's previously stated budget priorities contained in the Commission's March 22, 2021, [Letter](#) to Mayor Muriel Bowser and the Commission's June 28, 2021, [Supplemental Letter](#) to the DC Council regarding the Fiscal Year 2022 Budget, which called for:

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- * “increas[ing] funding for violence interruption initiatives, including via the Office of Neighborhood Safety and Engagement, the Office of the Attorney General’s Cure the Streets program, and the Hospital Based Violence Intervention Program, to expand services to additional areas, including within Ward 4”;
- * “invest[ing] in youth mentorship, violence interruption, and recreational programs, including expanded funding for the District Department of Parks and Recreation’s Roving Leaders Program to expand services to additional areas, including within Ward 4”;
- * “substantially increas[ing] funding for the District Department of Behavioral Health’s Community Response Team to respond humanely and with adequate supports and services to individuals with mental health needs, as well as ensur[ing] adequate training and informational campaigns to assist in diverting mental health issues to the Department of Behavioral Health and other mental health services”;
- * “invest[ing] in community-based trauma support services”;
- * “fund[ing] recurring and expanded trauma-informed training for Metropolitan Police Department officers”;
- * “continu[ing] to fund and expand pilot programs for the District of Columbia Public Schools’ alternative approaches to school safety and security and support[ing] expansion of the program into the public charter school sector.”

These budget priorities built on the Commission’s [Resolution 4B-20-0605](#), Calling for Divestment of Local Police Funding and Reinvestment in Community-Based Supports and Services, approved at the Commission’s June 22, 2020, meeting.

- The Commission approved [Resolution 4B-22-1005](#), Grant Award for South Manor Neighborhood Association, at the Commission’s October 24, 2022, meeting which awarded \$3,000 to the Association for a book drive for incarcerated youth, necessary supplies for its regularly scheduled community cleanups, and materials to clean the recently vandalized “South Manor Neighborhood” sign at North Capitol Street and New Hampshire Avenue, NE.
- Several members of Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B attended Ward 4 Councilmember Janeese Lewis George’s Ward 4 Summer Safety Strategic Planning Meeting with agency partners on June 29, 2022.
- Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B welcomed presentations from representatives of the Metropolitan Police Department’s 4th District at its monthly regular public meetings through April 2022 and at meetings of the Commission’s Community Safety and Support Committee. In August 2022, the Commission was notified that the Department would no longer participate in Advisory Neighborhood Commission meetings. The Commission believes there is a lot to be gained from the Metropolitan Police Department participation and continues to extend an invitation to the virtual meetings in the hope that the Department will return in the future.
- Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B Commissioners attended meetings of the Fourth District of the Metropolitan Police Department through the year.
- Commissioner Tiffani Nichole Johnson (4B06) expressed support for [advancing a legislative proposal](#) that would remove criminal penalties for personal use drug possession and invest in strengthening DC’s harm reduction and public health infrastructure in early 2022.
- Commissioner Tiffani Nichole Johnson (4B06) signed onto a [citywide letter](#) to Mayor Bowser and the DC Council calling for action needed to fix the conditions and culture at the District Department of Corrections on December 13, 2021. The letter noted the history of deplorable conditions and abusive culture at DC Jail.
- Commissioner Jocelynn Johnson (4B03) regularly requested information regarding the number of working crime cameras throughout the District. This follows the Commission’s [Letter](#), Requesting Metropolitan Police Department Camera Maintenance & Assessment, approved at the Commission’s

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September 27, 2021, meeting, requesting information on operable Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) cameras and for copies of all previous CCTV reports, which include a long-term plan for CCTV and its effectiveness in reducing crime.

- Commissioner Brooks (4B08) conducted community safety walks along Kennedy Street, NW, Longfellow Street, NW, and North Capital Street, NW/NE. In addition, Commissioner Brooks and Commissioner Palmer (4B02) participated in a community safety conversation with members of the Metropolitan Police Department and Citizens Aware.

Schools, Libraries & Recreation Centers

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B has worked to support schools, libraries, and recreation centers throughout the Commission area and throughout the city through an equity framework. These facilities are critical foundations for community and too often are distributed and maintained across the city in an inequitable manner. These inequities deepened during the COVID-10 (coronavirus) pandemic, and challenges in healthy and welcoming infrastructure persist. Clean and safe school and recreation center buildings are critical for the support of students, families, and community members. Now, more than ever, our schools and community spaces must have functioning HVAC systems, strong roofs, and plans for maintenance and renovation that do not require community advocacy. To that end, the Commission has engaged in oversight of and advocacy for our community's schools, libraries, and recreation centers, including through advocacy for equity in school funding, funding for local schools through the Commission's own grant program, and healthy and safe public buildings, which have faced persistent problems with leaking roofs, non-functioning HVAC systems, and other issues that have disrupted day-to-day operations and limited fulsome and equitable use of these community resources.

In furtherance of Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B's goals of ensuring safe facilities in the Commission area, increased transparency in facility condition citywide, and oversight for facilities that are most-used by residents in the Commission area, the Commission has acted in the following ways:

Schools

- Commissioners have continued to advocate for safe and healthy school buildings and recreation centers, as well as diligent oversight of the District Department of General Services with regard to work orders, including:
 - * Commissioner Brooks (4B08) advocated for prompt attention to a broken HVAC at Emery Recreation Center throughout the summer of 2022, while children were attending summer camps at the Recreation Center. Commissioner Brooks requested that the campers be moved to another location but the District Department of Parks and Recreation was not able to accommodate the request. Commissioner Yeats (4B01) and Commissioner Palmer (4B02) also highlighted these issues in continuing to advocate for greater accountability from the District Department of General Services with regard to maintenance of public buildings.
 - * Commissioner Jocelynn Johnson (4B03) and Commissioner Palmer (4B02) have continued to advocate for school building repairs and modernization at Whittier Elementary School, including attending protests and testifying before the DC Council and DC Public Schools. See [Letter](#), Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B Fiscal Year 2023 Budget Priorities (Apr. 25, 2022) (calling for funding to "swiftly modernize Whittier Education Campus and LaSalle-Backus Education Campus, including considerations for the safety of students and teachers with regard to leaks and mold, as well as accessibility, without displacing modernizations of other schools"); [Resolution 4B-19-1002](#), Calling for Accelerated Modernization of Whittier Education Campus (Oct. 28, 2019) ("For years,

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the roof has leaked, causing a collapsed ceiling in 2018, pooling water on all floors, peeling and bubbling paint, squishy and stained walls, damaged classroom materials, and displaced students from classrooms to common areas.”).

- * The Commission approved [Resolution 4B-22-0202](#), Calling on DCPS to Allocate FY 2023 Funding to Build Swing Space in Ward 4 at the Commission’s February 28, 2022, meeting, noting the urgent need to secure swing space to allow timely modernization of Truesdell Elementary School, Whittier Elementary School, and LaSalle-Backus Elementary School. This project was funded in the District’s Fiscal Year 2023 Budget, preventing the delay of the modernization projects at these schools and ensuring in-ward swing space.
- * The Commission’s work builds on [Resolution 4B-21-0904](#), Calling for District Department of General Services to Provide Online Dashboard to Track Status of DC School Facilities, approved at the Commission’s September 27, 2021, meeting, which noted a stream of documented facilities issues in school buildings across the District in the weeks before the start of in-person school, including “faulty heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) equipment, missing high efficiency particulate air (HEPA) filters, missing outdoor equipment necessary for social distancing during lunch, and other facilities issues” and that the District government “had 17 months to prepare for the return to in-person learning, fully aware of the importance of proper air filtration and temperature control in schools.”

While the DC Council has taken some action on transparency with regard to District Department of General Services work orders, the problems persist.

- The Commission approved [Resolution 4B-22-0103](#), Requesting the District of Columbia Provide High-Quality Masks to Schools and Other Communities in Need at the Commission’s January 24, 2022, meeting. The Resolution called for the DC government to engage in a program of ubiquitous, free high-quality mask distribution; begin by providing free high-quality masks to students and staff at schools and child care centers before expanding to other distribution points; and prioritize of vulnerable populations such as people without housing, incarcerated persons, persons living in congregate settings, and communities with lower vaccination rates for free high-quality mask distribution.
- The Commission approved [Resolution 4B-22-1001](#), Grant Award for Whittier Elementary School Parent Teacher Organization at the Commission’s October 24, 2022, meeting, awarding \$3,000 for STEMscopes kits (a comprehensive curriculum with hands-on kits) for students in Kindergarten through 5th grade.
- The Commission approved [Resolution 4B-22-1002](#), Grant Award for Takoma Elementary School Parent Teacher Organization at the Commission’s October 24, 2022, meeting, awarding \$3,000 for two school festivals that the Organization puts on each year to build community.
- The Commission approved a comprehensive [Letter](#) re Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B’s Fiscal Year 2023 Budget Priorities at the Commission’s April 25, 2022, meeting. The Letter incorporated the Commission’s previously stated budget priorities contained in the Commission’s March 22, 2021, [Letter](#) to Mayor Muriel Bowser and the Commission’s June 28, 2021, [Supplemental Letter](#) to the DC Council regarding the Fiscal Year 2022 Budget, which called for:
 - * “fully fund[ing] individual District of Columbia Public Schools (DCPS) school budgets and ensur[ing] that no school experiences staff or program cuts of any kind so that federal and local relief funding are in addition to existing staff and resources at schools”;
 - * “includ[ing] adequate resources to plan for the continuation of high-quality virtual learning for every student, including at least \$11 million to ensure one-to-one devices for DCPS students, expanded Internet access (including municipal Internet, as noted above), expanded outreach for existing under-enrolled Internet programs, and at least \$32 million to equip DCPS buildings with adequate infrastructure and bandwidth to support hybrid learning, see [Resolution 4B-20-0502](#), Calling for Assessment and Plan to Broaden Municipal Internet (May 26, 2020)”;
 - * “increas[ing] the Uniform Per Student Funding Formula and the at-risk weights to levels recommended in the 2013 DC Education Adequacy Study from the Office of the Deputy Mayor for

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Education, adjusted for inflation, by approximately \$101 million, and ensur[ing] at-risk funds are used in compliance with the law, are supplemental to school budgets, and are not used to fund any required positions under the Comprehensive Staffing Model”;

- * “restor[ing] librarians as a required position under the Comprehensive Staffing Model and ensur[ing] each DCPS school is funded for at least one librarian without using supplemental at-risk funding”;
 - * “repeal[ing] the budget provision in the Fiscal Year 2021 Budget Support Act that allows for school colocation to ensure adequate social distancing in school buildings until children can receive the COVID-19 (coronavirus) vaccine”;
 - * “adjust[ing] and expand[ing] funding to DCPS budgets mid-year to account for the addition of students from other Local Education Agencies”;
 - * “ensur[ing] federal relief funds for DCPS provide school-level support and flexibility instead of being spent centrally and externally by requiring that DCPS issue guidance to principals stating that funds can be used for staffing, can be spent over time, and do not require immediate obligation”;
 - * “requir[ing] the Office of the State Superintendent of Education to fully spend federal relief funds on existing schools and not hold funds back for schools not yet open, including the \$3 million currently held in reserve for that purpose”;
 - * “provid[ing] \$6.4 million in additional funding for school-based mental health services that will allow expansion of the Department of Behavioral Health’s programs to 80 additional public schools”;
 - * “withhold[ing] funding for additional charter schools until enrollment has stabilized post-pandemic so that the District can focus both federal and local funds on existing schools and students, rather than diverting resources to additional administrative costs”; and
 - * “supplement[ing] the federal Safe Routes to Schools program with local funds to aggressively improve safety in the areas around the District’s schools with a focus on increased automated enforcement of school zones with the proceeds reinvested directly into school safety programs.”
- The Commission appreciates that Ward 4 Councilmember Janeese Lewis George held school readiness tours in August 2022, but urges the office to conduct these tours earlier in the season in the future and to include Commissioners’ feedback as the elected representatives most closely connected to school communities.
 - Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B welcomed presentations from the Ward 4 Representative to the State Board of Education at its monthly regular public meetings.
 - Commissioners regularly share information regarding ways to support schools within the Commission’s boundaries, including fundraising and other drives and volunteer opportunities.

Libraries

- The Commission approved [Resolution 4B-22-0201](#), Calling on the DC Library to Engage in a Community Process for Naming MLK Library Auditorium at the Commission’s February 22, 2022, meeting, after the District of Columbia Public Library Board of Library Trustees voted to name the auditorium of the Martin Luther King, Jr. library after Jeff Bezos with no public engagement. The Resolution called on the Library to engage in a community and public process to name the auditorium of the Martin Luther King, Jr. library and that no special weight be given to the name or preference of Jeff Bezos in that process. On August 3, 2022, the District of Columbia Board of Trustees adopted a new policy for naming internal library spaces, most significantly adopting the Commission’s recommendation to require a transparent process for public feedback prior to naming a space.
- The Commission approved a [Letter](#) of Support to Rename Lamond-Riggs Library in Honor of Lillian Huff Commissioner Huff, presented and read into the record at the Commission’s February 22, 2022 meeting. The Letter followed a presentation from HGA Architects and Engineers and [Resolution 4B-](#)

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[20-1107](#), Supporting Request for Special Exception to Lot Occupancy and Parking Requirements to Allow Construction of New Lamond-Riggs DC Public Library, 5401 South Dakota Avenue, NE (BZA 20392), approved at the Commission's November 23, 2020, meeting. Commissioner Brooks (4B08) and Commissioner Huff (4B09) attended the Grand Opening of the library in support of this widely used community resource.

Recreation Centers

- The Commission's [Letter](#) regarding Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B's Fiscal Year 2023 Budget Priorities, approved at the Commission's April 25, 2022, meeting, called for "ensur[ing] adequate funding for necessary maintenance of and renovations to recreation centers within Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B, as well as improved and expanded programming, see [Resolution 4B-19-1101](#), Supporting Necessary Funding for Lighting and Pathway at Takoma Community Center (Nov. 25, 2019); [Letter of Inquiry](#) Concerning ANC 4B Recreation Centers (June 25, 2019)."
- The Commission approved [Resolution 4B-22-0301](#), Calling on National Park Service & District Department of Transportation to Make Usable Paper Alley Behind 5400 Block of 1st Street, NE, at the Commission's March 28, 2022, meeting, calling on the District Department of Transportation to provide its citywide list of unimproved alleys, including its prioritization and timeline for complete design, paving, and maintenance of these alleys and calling on the District Department of Transportation to consider a cooperative management or other agreement with the National Park Service to properly maintain the space and end the cycle of fingerpointing over National Park Service areas. The Letter is a continuation of efforts to ensure proper maintenance of Park Service land. See [Letter of Inquiry](#) Expressing Concerns About National Park Service Maintenance and Community Coordination (Apr. 26, 2021) ("While the open spaces and recreational opportunities provided by these facilities is a tremendous community asset, we have grown increasingly concerned that the National Park Service's management of these areas is characterized by community disengagement and neglect.").
- The Commission appreciates that Ward 4 Councilmember Janeese Lewis George held recreation center readiness tours in May 2022 and followed up with the relevant government agencies by letter, but urges the office to include Commissioners in these tours and include their feedback given the Commission's lengthy history working on recreation center issues and requests for repairs.
- The Commission welcomed a presentation from the Community Engagement Manager for the District Department of Parks and Recreation at the Commission's February 28, 2022, meeting regarding on the Department's programs and services, including summer camps, other programming, and events.
- The Commission welcomed a presentation from the Associate State Director of Advocacy and Outreach, AARP about the new FitLot at Lamond Recreation Center, approved at at the Commission's November 22, 2021, meeting. Installation of the FitLot followed the Commission's approval of [Resolution 4B-21-0401](#), Supporting AARP Proposal to Install a FitLot at Lamond Recreation Center, approved at the Commission's April 26, 2021, meeting.

Government Services

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B strives at every opportunity to work collaboratively and constructively with DC government agencies and to ensure they are meeting resident needs. The Commission and Commissioners have worked with and called for improvements from the District Department of Public Works regarding timely and comprehensive trash collection – and not removal of public trash cans – and enforcement of commercial vehicle restrictions; the DC Office of Cable Television, Film, Music and Entertainment regarding proactive steps to address downed wires in public space; the District

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Department of Aging and Community Living regarding the delivery of COVID-19 (coronavirus) tests to seniors; DC Water regarding lead service line removal and installation of stormwater infrastructure within the Commission area; and the District Department of Buildings (formerly the Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs) regarding its regulation of vacant and blighted properties and enforcement of violations. Commissioners have had success working with the District Department of Energy and Environment regarding green infrastructure projects and seeks to promote and expand green infrastructure within the Commission's boundaries wherever possible.

As noted above, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B also regularly exercises quasi-oversight with regard to the District Department of General Services regarding challenges with maintenance of the properties it manages and responsiveness to requests and the District Department of Transportation regarding needed traffic safety and infrastructure improvements.

In furtherance of Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B's goals of ensuring responsive government services and government agency accountability, the Commission has acted in the following ways:

- The Commission approved [Resolution 4B-22-0901](#), Providing Feedback on DPW Zero Waste Plan at the Commission's September 28, 2022, meeting. The Resolution recommends the District Department of Public Works consider:
 - * including a goal focused expressly on environmental racism and justice;
 - * reviewing all of the Draft Framework's goals and actions to consider equity;
 - * expanding services to include residential buildings with 4+ units and/or efforts to bring these services to residents at these buildings;
 - * noting the Department's recent practice of removing public trash cans is inconsistent with the goals of the Draft Framework and should be addressed within the Draft Framework;
 - * including mechanisms to encourage use of campaign materials that are more easily recyclable, education about the most zero-waste friendly campaign materials, and programs that might facilitate coordination of recycling of campaign materials among campaigns; and
 - * considering how best to work with Commissioners, as well as Main Street programs and community associations, to further zero waste efforts.

The Resolution specifically notes the Commission has observed government removal of public trash cans based on "misuse," i.e., household trash. Public trash cans and trash collection are a public service: If public trash cans are overburdened, the Commission would like to see additional public trash cans, changes in trash can design, and more frequent collection, and not the removal of public trash cans or reduction in collection. See [Letter of Inquiry](#), Requesting Information regarding the District Department of Public Works' Public Litter Can Collection and Zero Waste Efforts (Apr. 26, 2021). While the Commission appreciates [proposed legislative efforts to provide notice to Commissioners when public trash cans are removed](#), the Commission does not believe this legislation will ultimately prevent the District Department of Public Works's practice of removing public trash cans.

- The Commission continues to advocate for action related to commercial vehicles on residential roads – a persistent problem within the Commission area, particularly along the 6500 block of Piney Branch Road, NW. See [Letter of Inquiry](#), Requesting Additional Information and Action regarding DDOT's June 27, 2022, Presentation to ANC 4B (Sept. 28, 2022); [Supplemental Letter](#), Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B's Fiscal Year 2022 Budget Priorities (June 28, 2021); Follow-Up [Letter of Inquiry](#) Regarding Commercial Vehicles on Residential Roads (Apr. 26, 2021); [Letter of Inquiry](#), Use of Heavy Trucks on Aspen St, NW, and Other Residential Streets (June 25, 2019); [Testimony](#) of Commissioner Palmer (4B02), DC Council Committee on Transportation and the Environment, District Department of Transportation Performance Oversight Hearing (Dec. 26, 2021). Despite promises to install no commercial vehicle parking signs in specific locations, the District Department of Transportation has not

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acted, and enforcement by the District Department of Public Works has been minimal. Commissioners have continued to submit dozens of 311 requests and emails seeking support from the DC Council and DC agencies with this issue.

- The Commission approved [Resolution 4B-22-1010](#), Calling for Coordinated Approach & Action by the District Office of Cable Television, Film, Music and Entertainment to Address Downed Wires in Public Space at the Commission's October 24, 2022, meeting. The Resolution notes concerns about downed wires in public space, where wires become dislodged and dangle from poles and other wires, creating live-wire hazards, tripping hazards, and choking hazards, and calls for action to facilitate resident reporting via 311 of downed wires. The District Office of Cable Television, Film, Music and Entertainment responded substantively on November 2, 2022, committing to "commence engagement with the District Office of Unified Communications, DDOT and other District agencies and authorities, as necessary, to coordinate a response and next steps." The Commission appreciates this response and encourages other agencies to engage in a similar substantive and timely fashion.
- The Commission approved a Letter, Supporting Rapid Tests to be Delivered to Seniors and Homebound Residents, as read into the record at the Commission's January 24, 2022, meeting. The Letter called on the District Department of Aging and Community Living to engage with the local community and neighborhood organizations including Advisory Neighborhood Commissions to identify senior and disabled residents in need of assistance and mail or deliver two COVID-19 kits to every senior and disabled resident in the District of Columbia and continue to do so on a monthly basis, among other requests.
- The Commission welcomed a presentation from DC Water regarding its [Lead Free DC](#) program to replace all lead service lines by 2030 at the Commission's January 24, 2022, meeting. The Commission has continued to support removal of lead service lines, building on its [Letter](#) to Mayor Muriel Bowser, Federal Funding to Remove All Lead Service Lines in the District, sent on May 5, 2021, which "request[ed] use of federal and local funding to ensure swift removal of lead service lines throughout the District" and noted "[r]emoval of lead service lines throughout the District is urgent and a moral imperative."
- The Commission welcomed a presentation from DC Water's DC Clean Rivers Project regarding upcoming construction of the [Rock Creek Green Infrastructure Project B](#) at the Commission's February 22, 2022, meeting. The presentation followed advocacy by Commissioner Palmer (4B02) and Commissioner Yeats (4B01) seeking expansion of green infrastructure projects within Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B and providing a list of suggested project locations within their Single Member Districts. DC Water responded on June 11, 2021, that they would consider those locations for Rock Creek Green Infrastructure Projects C and D.
- Commissioner Palmer (4B02) supported neighbors regarding installation of blockwide stormwater infrastructure following two [Community Stormwater Solutions Grant](#) awards to design and implement a holistic solution to blockwide stormwater challenges. Commissioner Palmer has worked over years to help neighbors secure the grant awards, select a design firm, and engage in community and educational events regarding proposed designs.
- Commissioner Brooks (4B08) testified before the DC Council's Committee of the Whole at a Public Oversight Roundtable on Vacant and Blighted Properties in the District of Columbia on January 25, 2022. Commissioners continually raise issues with several vacant and blighted properties within the Commission boundaries. The Commission continues to advocate that the Department of Buildings (formerly the Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs) maintain a list of such properties and regularly address the needs of each property versus Commissioners completing requests and calling for action throughout the year.
- The Commission welcomed presentations from each of the Main Street programs operating within the Commission area, including Old Takoma Business Association / Main Street Takoma; Upper Georgia Avenue Main Street; Uptown Main Street; and The Parks Main Street at the Commission's Septem-

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ber 28, 2022, meeting. The Commission continues to support Main Street programs operating within the Commission's boundaries, with some Commissioners serving or previously serving on Main Street advisory boards, and through advocacy for additional funding for Main Street programs. For example, Commissioner Palmer (4B01), Commissioner Yeats (4B02), and Commissioner Bromaghim (4B07) successfully advocated for DC Main Streets funding for Old Takoma Business Association/Main Street Takoma.

- The Commission welcomed a presentation from the Director of the Mayor's Office on Latino Affairs at the Commission's February 28, 2022, meeting regarding the Office's programs and services, including the Immigrant Justice Legal Services Grant Program and language access.
- The Commission welcomed a presentation from the Interim Director of the District Department of Public Works at the Commission's March 28, 2022, meeting regarding Mayor Muriel Bowser's proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2023.
- The Commission welcomed a presentation from the Community Engagement Manager for the District Department of Parks and Recreation at the Commission's February 28, 2022, meeting regarding the Department's programs and services, including summer camps, other programming, and events.
- The Commission welcomed a presentation from the District's Office of the Tenant Advocate on the work of the Office, including tenant services and eviction protection at the Commission's June 27, 2022, meeting.
- The Commission welcomed a presentation from the District Department of Transportation regarding the Riggs Road Connector Cycletrack at the Commission's September 28, 2022, meeting.
- The Commission welcomed a presentation from the Deputy Director of the District Department of Transportation regarding the Department's policies and practices at the Commission's June 27, 2022, meeting.
- The Commission welcomed a presentation from the District Department of Transportation on the Department's Georgia Avenue, NW, Livability Study at the Commission's June 27, 2022, meeting.
- The Commission welcomed a presentation from the District Department of Transportation on the Metropolitan Branch Trail Project from Blair Road, NW, to Piney Branch Road, NW, at the Commission's June 27, 2022, meeting.
- The Commission welcomed a presentation from Pipkin Creative and the District Department of Transportation on an Art in the Right of Way installation at 5th Street, NW, Dahlia Street, NW, and Blair Road, NW, at the Commission's June 27, 2022, meeting.
- The Commission welcomed a presentation from the District Department of Motor Vehicles on adjudicating tickets in DC at the Commission's April 25, 2022, meeting.
- The Commission welcomed a presentation from the District Department of Transportation about the Metropolitan Branch Trail from Blair Road to Piney Branch Road, NW, at the Commission's January 24, 2022, meeting.

The Commission's regular public meeting agendas and minutes for November 2021 through October 2022 are attached to this Report as Appendix 1.

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Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B's Operations

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B has significantly improved and expanded its institutional operations since 2019, including efforts to fill Commission vacancies and ensure every resident has Commission representation; re-establishing subject matter committees to provide additional expertise on areas of interest to the Commission; expanding and improving notice of Commission meetings and transparency through the Commission's website; maximizing the use of technology to improve inclusion and accessibility, including through virtual meetings; and advocating for office space for the Commission, as well as other administrative and infrastructure support needed for Commission operations.

The District recently underwent redistricting – a once-in-a-decade redrawing of the city's political boundaries based on the latest census population data. As a result of redistricting, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B and Single Member District boundaries have changed, and the Commission will grow from nine Commissioners to ten. In light of the increased need for institutional knowledge due to redistricting and Commissioner turnover for the 2023 term, along with the continued lack of centralized supports for Commissions, the Commission has continued to focus on improving and expanding its institutional operations. See [Letter of Inquiry](#) regarding Ensuring Adequate Resources for Successful Advisory Neighborhood Commissions (Jan. 25, 2021) (“Any such growth in the number of Single Member Districts and Commissions [from redistricting] will inevitably require significant administrative and other support. Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B recommends consideration of mechanisms to assure sufficient administrative and infrastructure support for any growth in Single Member Districts and Commissions.”).

At the start of 2021, Single Member District 4B05 lacked representation, and the Commission advocated for improved procedures to fill vacancies during the COVID-19 (coronavirus) public health emergency and more broadly. See [Resolution 4B-21-0104](#), Calling for Fair and Equitable Elections Procedures and Improved Mechanisms to Fill Advisory Neighborhood Commission Vacancies (Jan. 25, 2021). Thanks to changed procedures in response to the Commission's efforts, a new Commissioner joined Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B in July 2021 to represent Single Member District 4B05. That Commissioner resigned on March 24, 2022, however, and the seat has been vacant since that time. The Commission's Executive Board – specifically, the Commission's Chair and Secretary – have addressed resident requests and matters related to Single Member District 4B05 from March 2022 until the present.

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B understands the importance of every neighbor having Commission representation and took efforts to ensure every Single Member District will have representation when the new term begins in 2023 (including the new Single Member District created through redistricting). In July 2022, the Commission hosted an Advisory Neighborhood Commission information session to provide the public with detailed information regarding the Commission's new Single Member District boundaries following redistricting; the role and work of the Commission and Commissioners, including officers and committee chairs; and details regarding how to run for Advisory Neighborhood Commissioner. Commissioners were diligent in encouraging residents to run for these seats and answering resident questions about the process, time commitment, and other details regarding serving as Commissioner. The Commission is grateful that as of the time of this Report there will be someone serving in all ten seats on Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B starting in January 2023.

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B approved revised [Rules of Procedure](#) in 2020 to allow for the creation and implementation of committees to assist with the Commission's work and provide valuable

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expertise. Prior to 2019, the Commission used committees, but committee operations were suspended due to ongoing conflict among then-Commissioners over the role and influence of committees on the work of the Commission, as well as overreach by former Commissioners serving as committee members. The revised Rules of Procedure provide safeguards to ensure that committees are supporting and not supplanting the work of the Commission, including providing that sitting Commissioners serve as ex officio members of all committees, requiring periodic renewal of a committee's mandate, and emphasizing that committees are advisory only.

As provided in more detail above, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B has three active committees:

- Housing Justice Committee (see [Resolution 4B-22-0104](#) and [Resolution 4B-20-0205](#)): The Housing Justice Committee's mandate "include[s] (1) considering proposed developments within the Commission's boundaries for purposes of determining how best to maximize affordable housing, including deeply affordable housing; (2) analyzing and providing feedback on proposed legislation and policy affecting affordable housing and homelessness with a goal of increasing and expanding deeply affordable housing; and (3) hosting and supporting educational events on topics related to affordable housing and homelessness." The Committee held seven (7) meetings from November 2021 through November 2022, including discussions regarding five proposed developments within the Commission area; a presentation from and discussion with the Office of the Attorney General's Land Use Section regarding its new mission and collaboration with Advisory Neighborhood Commissions to support more affordable housing and holding developers accountable; presentations from and discussions with the District Alliance for Safe Housing, Inc. (DASH) and the Legal Aid Society for the District of Columbia regarding budget advocacy; and presentations from subject matter experts on social housing and housing vouchers in the District.
- Vision Zero Committee (see [Resolution 4B-22-0105](#) and [Resolution 4B-20-1006](#)): The Vision Zero Committee's mandate "include[s] (1) considering and recommending strategies for increasing community safety in accordance with Vision Zero goals within the Commission area; (2) analyzing and providing feedback on relevant proposed plans and projects, as well as legislation and agency decisions that impact community safety in line with these goals; (3) working with neighborhood groups representing vulnerable road users to receive feedback on Commission efforts toward Vision Zero goals." The Vision Zero Committee held seven (7) meetings from November 2021 through November 2022, working collaboratively to learn about the District's transportation systems and safety measures, as well as pushing for specific improvements in local communities. The Committee welcomed presentations from the District Department of Transportation on several projects within the Commission area.
- Community Safety and Support Committee (see [Resolution 4B-22-0106](#) and [Resolution 4B-21-0304](#)): The Community Safety and Support Committee's mandate "include[s] (1) recommending proposed community safety measures within the Commission's boundaries; (2) analyzing and providing feedback, including letters and testimony on proposed legislation and policy affecting community safety; (3) hosting and supporting educational events on topics related community safety." The Committee held seven (7) meetings from March 2022 (when the Committee was established) through November 2022, including discussions regarding Metropolitan Police Department statistics regarding nuisance crimes and crimes of opportunity, a review of the Office of the DC Auditor's audit of the Office of Unified Communications, "[District's 911 System: Reforms Needed to Meet Safety Needs](#)," published October 19, 2021, and how the District Office of Unified Communication's failures have impacted the Commission area and the District, and proposed police reforms.

The Commission is grateful for the work of its committees and the expertise of its committee members and looks forward to their continued service in 2023.

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Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B continues to notice its regular public meetings in accordance with [DC Code § 1-309.11\(c\)](#) (“Each Commission shall give notice of all meetings or convocations to each Commissioner and residents of the Commission area no less than 7 days prior to the date of such meeting.”). Specifically, the Commission provides notice – as well as the draft meeting agenda – via the [Commission’s website](#), syndicated electronic calendars available for subscription, neighborhood blogs, neighborhood listservs, and via individual Commissioner outreach (by newsletter, social media, etc.). The Commission is transitioning from posting on neighborhood listservs to an email subscription service to provide more direct and convenient notice to residents.

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B has a public website maintained by Commissioner Yeats (4B01). The Commission has expended significant effort enhancing the website’s functionality as a primary method of sharing Commission information. The Commission’s website includes the following:

- a list of Commissioners and their contact information;
- meeting agendas and draft resolutions and official actions (posted prior to the Commission’s regular public meetings to enhance transparency);
- meeting minutes, as approved;
- links to the recordings of Commission meetings (via YouTube);
- a link to the [Advisory Neighborhood Commission Resolution Portal](#) (containing all Commission resolutions and official actions uploaded to the Portal);
- the Commission’s governing documents (including its Bylaws and Rules of Procedure);
- the Commission’s Annual Reports (beginning in 2019, as it appears these reports do not exist prior to 2019);
- the Commission’s financial documents (including Annual Budgets and Quarterly Financial Reports);
- community grant application instructions and a grant application; and
- materials related to meetings of the Commission’s active committees.

These materials significantly improve the Commission’s transparency, including with regard to historical materials and operations, which are piecemeal (where they even exist) prior to 2019. The Resolution Portal also facilitates cross-Commission information and knowledge sharing, as well as collaboration.

Like last year, the Commission continued to meet virtually in response to the COVID-19 (coronavirus) public health emergency and required technical assistance to facilitate virtual meetings. Overall, the Commission saw an increase in the number of meeting attendees and has advocated – along with over 100 Commissioners across the District – for a continued virtual option to attend and participate in Commission meetings, among other measures, to continue to improve the inclusivity and accessibility of Commission meetings. See [Citywide Letter](#) Calling for Hybrid (Virtual and In-Person Meetings for Advisory Neighborhood Commissions (June 10, 2021). The Commission has worked hard to improve the accessibility of Commission meetings and operations through a modern electronic presence. These efforts have not been supported by the District government, however, and have slowed the adoption of fully hybrid meetings as other parts of the District government have moved to in-person operations with a hybrid component. While there have been discussions about the technological support needed for hybrid meetings, including indications that there would be technology kits provided to Commissions for such meetings, there have been no formal communications, advice, or support for hybrid meetings from the Office of Advisory Neighborhood Commissions. The Commission urges prompt action, as well as the necessary centralized support, to successfully offer such meetings. It would be a shame to lose the benefits of a virtual option when Commissions have seen the value of offering that option.

The Commission has not had physical office space since December 2018 given the Commission’s budget constraints and other needs. The District provided allotment is not sufficient to hire administrative staff

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and technical support necessary for virtual or hybrid meetings and rent a private office at market rates. The Commission believes that District-owned or leased office space is essential to further the Commission's work, including for physical recordkeeping, printing, and holding meetings (when possible given the COVID-19 (coronavirus) public health emergency). Currently, the Commission must store previous paper files and equipment in a storage space that is expensive and difficult to access. To that end, the Commission has continued to pursue District-owned office space or the reprogramming of funds as authorized under [Resolution 4B-18-1101](#), Requesting Office Space for Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B (Nov. 13, 2018) and [DC Code § 1 309.13\(q\)](#). Unfortunately, the District government has still not met its obligation under that statutory provision and has not provided the Commission with office space or reprogrammed funds.

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B has repeatedly advocated for administrative support and infrastructure for Advisory Neighborhood Commissions, including the following:

- [Resolution 4B-21-0903](#), Encouraging Enhancements to and Formalized Use of ANC Resolution Portal (Sept. 27, 2021);
- [Resolution 4B-21-0703](#), Requesting Centralized Funding and Support for Advisory Neighborhood Commission Technology and Printing Needs (July 26, 2021);
- [Resolution 4B-21-0601](#), Calling for Virtual Testimony Option for DC Government Hearings (June 28, 2021);
- [Citywide Letter](#) to the DC Council, Calling for Hybrid (Virtual and In-Person) Meetings for Advisory Neighborhood Commissions (June 10, 2021) (signed by all Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B Commissioners);
- [Testimony](#) by Commissioner Erin Palmer (4B02) before the DC Council's Committee on Government Operations and Facilities, Office of Advisory Neighborhood Commission's Budget Oversight Hearing (June 4, 2021);
- [Resolution 4B-21-0509](#), Calling for Legislative Revisions and Supports to Allow Hybrid (Virtual and In-Person) Meetings for Advisory Neighborhood Commissions (May 24, 2021);
- [Letter](#) regarding Ensuring Adequate Resources for Successful Advisory Neighborhood Commissions (Jan. 25, 2021);
- [Resolution 4B-21-0104](#), Calling for Fair and Equitable Elections Procedures and Improved Mechanisms to Fill Advisory Neighborhood Commission Vacancies (Jan. 25, 2021);
- [Resolution 4B-20-1002](#), Encouraging Best Practices to Assure Broad Inclusivity and Robust Participation in DC Government Hearings at the Commission's (Oct. 26, 2020);
- Testimony by Commissioner Alison Brooks (4B08) and [Testimony](#) by Commissioner Erin Palmer (4B02) before the DC Council's Committee on Facilities and Procurement, Advisory Neighborhood Commissions for Wards 3 & 4 Public Oversight Roundtable (Sept. 25, 2019);
- [Letter](#) regarding Administrative Support and Infrastructure for Advisory Neighborhood Commissions (Sept. 24, 2019); and
- [Resolution 4B-19-0403](#), Supporting Implicit and Unconscious Bias Training and Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Initiatives for Advisory Neighborhood Commissions (Apr. 22, 2019).

The lack of funding and centralized administrative support for Advisory Neighborhood Commissions not only presents challenges for Commission operations, but also serves as a barrier to entry for individuals interested in serving on the Commission. As noted by Commissioner Palmer (4B02), [the number of women Commissioners is set to dramatically decline in the 2023 term from approximately 65% to 41%](#) of Commissioners serving. This is just one demographic that is likely experiencing barriers to entry and continued service. Advisory Neighborhood Commissions provide a valuable service and should be supported administratively like other agencies.

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Clockwise, from top left:

Commissioner Geoff Bromaghim (4B07), Commissioner Evan Yeats (4B01), and Commissioner Erin Palmer (4B02) held a community walk with the District Department of Transportation regarding the Metropolitan Branch Trail on February 11, 2022.

Commissioner Evan Yeats (4B01) and Commissioner Erin Palmer (4B02) regularly support local small businesses and traffic safety improvements in Takoma.

Commissioner Alison Brooks (4B08) regularly holds community walk throughs in her Single Member District.

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B's Financial Status

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B continues to be financially healthy and current on its reporting obligations since 2020. [DC Code § 1-309.13\(j\)](#). Prior to 2020, the Commission was insolvent due to poor financial management and recordkeeping. As of its October 2022 bank statement, the Commission's checking account has a balance of \$59,587.00. The Commission's 2022 expenses have included its storage space for files (in light of the Commission's closed out office space), virtual meeting facilitation fees, office supplies, website expenses, bank charges, and the Advisory Neighborhood Commission Security Fund.

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B has filed all Quarterly Financial Reports as required by law and is in compliance with its financial recordkeeping obligations. The Commission approved its [Quarterly Financial Report for the First Quarter of FY2022](#) at the Commission's January 24, 2022, meeting; its [Quarterly Financial Report for the Second Quarter of FY2022](#) at the Commission's April 25, 2022, meeting; its [Quarterly Financial Report for the Third Quarter of FY2022](#) at the Commission's September 28, 2022, meeting; and its [Quarterly Financial Report for Fourth Quarter of FY2022](#) at the Commission's October 24, 2022; meeting.

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B approved its [Fiscal Year 2023 Budget](#) at its September 28, 2022, meeting. The budget includes funding for a Commission employee to provide technological and administrative assistance (\$11,600); office needs, including printing (\$5,500); grants (\$8,000); other items (\$2,000); communications, including website charges (\$200); and bank charges (\$100). The Commission subsequently voted to amend its Fiscal Year 2023 Budget at the Commission's November 28, 2022, meeting in order to increase the total amount authorized for grants (\$12,000).

Now that Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B is financially secure, the Commission is offering grants to support the community and has provided grant application instructions, including a timeline for applications and awards, and a grant application on the Commission's website. The Commission [eliminated a previously existing limitation on grant awards of \\$500](#) and approved several grant awards at the Commission's October 24, 2022, meeting, including:

- [Resolution 4B-22-1001](#), Grant Award for Whittier Elementary School Parent Teacher Organization (Oct. 24, 2022) (awarding \$3,000 for STEMscopes kits (a comprehensive curriculum with hands-on kits) for students in Kindergarten through 5th grade);
- [Resolution 4B-22-1002](#), Grant Award for Takoma Elementary School Parent Teacher Organization (Oct. 24, 2022) (awarding \$3,000 for two school festivals that the Organization puts on each year to build community);
- [Resolution 4B-22-1004](#), Grant Award for Lamond-Riggs Citizens Association (Oct. 24, 2022) (awarding \$3,000 to maintain and advance the Association's communication systems, including its website, database system, email channels, and community correspondence initiatives); and
- [Resolution 4B-22-1005](#), Grant Award for South Manor Neighborhood Association (Oct. 24, 2022) (awarding \$3,000 for a book drive for incarcerated youth, necessary supplies for its regularly scheduled community cleanups, and materials to clean the recently vandalized "South Manor Neighborhood" sign at North Capitol Street and New Hampshire Avenue, NE).

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The Commission looks forward to continuing to award grants in support of the community in the future.

Current formal advice regarding grantmaking is inconsistent and contradictory, requiring that grants must “benefit persons who reside or work within the Commission area” but also not be limited in the number of people they can serve. Compare [Letter](#) from Legal Counsel Division, Office of Attorney General to Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4D (July 19, 2022) (noting a proposed grant for professional development for teachers at a school in Ward 4 would not satisfy the public purpose requirement because “[t]he immediate benefits of this grant ... accrue only to the teachers who participate in the program. Even if we take into account the indirect benefits that this program is expected to bring to the school’s students, that still would not be sufficient.”) with [Letter](#) from Legal Counsel Division, Office of Attorney General to Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4A (May 6, 2011) (concluding that the purchase of boats for a four-person high school crew team in another Ward would “benefit generations of students, as well as their families and the broader community who could attend crew events.”) (cited favorably by the Legal Counsel Division in 2022). The Commission seeks greater education, information sharing, and transparency from the Office of Advisory Neighborhood Commissions regarding best practices for Commissions with regard to community grants, as well as legislative changes (if necessary) to the Commission grantmaking authority to facilitate Commission grantmaking.

Since 2019, as part of its efforts to bring Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B out of insolvency and ensure strong financial practices, the Commission has posted its financial documents on the [Commission’s website](#). Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B’s Fiscal Year 2022 Quarterly Financial Reports are attached to this Report as Appendix 2, and its Fiscal Year 2023 Budget is attached to this Report as Appendix 3.



Commissioner Erin Palmer (4B02) recently gathered outgoing, current, and incoming women and non-binary Advisory Neighborhood Commissioners.