



## Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4C 2023 Annual Report

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### Introduction

This report summarizes activities and accomplishments of the Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) 4C for calendar year 2023. The report covers official business, multi-Single Member District (SMD) projects, and community outreach and engagement. Commissioners also worked on a range of constituent and SMD specific issues that are not captured in this report.

Following the Census every ten years, the District of Columbia redraws political boundaries to balance the number of people across wards. Ward 4 grew from 75,773 to 84,660 between 2010 and 2020. As a result, the number of ANCs and SMDs increased, and the boundaries for existing ANCs changed. The ANC 4C population is 13,962 residents, and the number of SMDs within ANC 4C changed from 10 SMDs to 7 SMDs. On January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023, a new group of first-time Commissioners was sworn in to represent the updated ANC 4C.

### ANC Public Meetings

- By the end of 2023, ANC 4C will have conducted 11 public monthly meetings. ANC 4C meets the second Wednesday of each month at the Petworth Public Library, 4200 Kansas Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20011 with an option to participate remotely via Zoom. ANC 4C did not meet during the month of August.

### ANC 4C Operations

ANC 4C worked through a range of operational challenges tied to transition, turnover, and the hybrid meeting format. The Office of the Advisory Neighborhood Commissions (OANC) provided

critical support and training to ANC 4C throughout the year on a range of topics. ANC 4C Commissioners also benefited from the guidance and advice of former Commissioners. ANC 4C strongly supports continued investments in strengthening and creating efficiencies in ANC operations, which would positively impact the effectiveness of Commissioners and time spent serving their constituents. The following list summarizes significant operational activities in 2023, including lessons learned and recommendations for consideration by the OANC.

- **Hybrid Meeting Format.** ANC 4C promptly opted for a hybrid format for the first meeting in January. The entire Commission convened in person at the Petworth Library for the January meeting. The first couple of meetings involved audio-visual technical difficulties as the group improvised with technology available on-site and contributed by Commissioners. The February meeting was Zoom-bombed, and meetings since required advance registration. The November ANC meeting was enhanced by using the AV kit available through the OANC.
- **Established the ANC 4C Bank Account under New Officers.** ANC 4C opted to continue banking with Industrial Bank. Despite the existing relationship, re-establishing the ANC bank account under the new officers proved time-consuming, complicated, and inefficient. Finding ways to improve this transition process would help ensure Commissioners are able to timely issue payments, expend funds to address immediate needs, and avoid unnecessary delays in those activities.
- **Conducted Special Election for ANC 4C07 Commissioner.** On March 4, 2023, Matthew Bradfield resigned as Commissioner of SMD 4C07 and, by extension, Secretary for ANC 4C. Commissioner Antoine Kirby was elected Secretary at the April 12, ANC meeting. On June 14, ANC 4C held a Special Election with two candidates, Eric Heller and William Barr. The winning candidate, Commissioner Eric Heller, was sworn in on June 20, 2023.
- **Maintained Vacant Administrative Support Position.** The ANC 4C Administrative Assistant, Audrey Schreiber, resigned with no further service after the March meeting. ANC 4C did not opt to hire a replacement. Commissioners may revisit whether to hire at a future date. Commissioners have assumed all tasks associated with the position. ANCs could benefit from having a program where Commissioners could identify and recruit students or volunteers who could support OANC operations or specific projects, depending on their skills and interests.

## Official Business

This section lists ANC 4C actions involving a vote or discussion at an ANC meeting and significant outreach activities within the ANC 4C community. In preparing materials for decisions and discussion, Commissioners conducted a range of outreach activities to gather community input. These included virtual and in-person meetings, door-to-door outreach, distribution of flyers, online surveys, and emails to different groups, including the Petworth and other listservs, impacted constituents, and SMD distribution lists.

**Table 1. ANC 4C 2023 Board of Zoning Adjustment (BZA) Cases**

Case Information	ANC Decision or Action
<p><b>3905 Kansas Avenue NW</b>  <a href="#">BZA Case 20897</a>                      To construct a third story with roof deck, side, and rear additions, and to convert to a 3-unit apartment house, an existing, semi-detached, two-story with cellar, principal dwelling unit in the RF-1 zone.</p>	<p>Commissioner Kirby (SMD 4C02)                       ANC 4C recommended the BZA grant the requested relief to this property with resolution letter based on community input. (Vote: 5-0-0)</p>
<p><b>1005 Quebec Place NW</b>  <a href="#">BZA Case 20919</a>                      To construct a rear deck addition to an existing, attached, two-story with basement, principal dwelling unit in the RF-1 zone.</p>	<p>Commissioner Defranco (4C03)                       ANC 4C recommended the BZA grant the requested relief to this property. (Vote 6-0-0)</p>
<p><b>17 Rock Creek Church Road NW</b>  <a href="#">BZA Case 20890</a>                      To construct an accessory dwelling unit, to an existing, attached, two-story with cellar, principal dwelling unit in the RA-1 zone.</p>	<p>Commissioner Kademian (SMD 4C05)                       ANC 4C recommended the BZA grant the requested relief to this property with resolution letter based on community input. (Vote: 6-0-0)</p>
<p><b>534 Taylor Street NW</b>  <a href="#">BZA Case 20909</a>                      To construct a detached, one-story, accessory garage to an existing, attached, two-story with cellar, flat in the RF-1 zone.</p>	<p>Commissioner Kademian (SMD 4C05)  <i>SMD 4C07 seat vacant during this time.</i>                       ANC 4C recommended the BZA grant the requested reliefs to the property. (Vote: 6-0-0)</p>
<p><b>1221 Taylor Street NW</b>  <b>Service King Collision Repair &amp; Body Shop</b>  <a href="#">BZA Case No. 20988</a>                      To permit an automobile repair use, in an existing, semi-detached, commercial building in the PDR-1 zone.</p>	<p>Commissioner Carter Swegman (SMD 4C01)                      Commissioner Kirby (SMD 4C02)                       ANC 4C recommended the BZA grant the requested reliefs to this property with resolution letter based on community input. (Vote: 7-0-0)</p>
<p><b>518 Taylor Street NW</b>  <a href="#">BZA Case No. 21002</a>                      To construct a detached, two-story, accessory garage to an existing, attached,</p>	<p>Commissioner Heller (SMD 4C07)                       ANC 4C recommended the BZA grant the requested reliefs to this property. (Vote: 7-0-0)</p>

**Table 1. ANC 4C 2023 Board of Zoning Adjustment (BZA) Cases**

Case Information	ANC Decision or Action
two-story with basement principal dwelling unit in the RF-1 zone.	
<p><b>534 Taylor Street NW</b>  <a href="#">BZA Case No. 20909</a>                      To construct a detached, one-story, accessory garage to an existing, attached, two-story with cellar, flat in the RF-1 zone.</p>	<p>Commissioner Heller (SMD 4C07)                       ANC 4C recommended the BZA grant the requested relief to this property. (Vote: 6-0-0)</p>
<p><b>214 Varnum Street NW</b>  <a href="#">BZA Case No. 20899</a>                      To construct a third story and three-story rear addition, with cellar and penthouse, and convert to a five-unit apartment house, an existing, two-story with cellar, principal dwelling unit in the RA-1 zone.</p>	<p>Commissioner Livingston (SMD 4C06)                       ANC 4C recommended the BZA grant the requested reliefs to this property with resolution letter based on community input. (Vote: 6-0-0)</p>
<p><b>310 Varnum Street NW</b>  <a href="#">BZA Case No. 20924</a>                      To construct a third story with roof deck, and a three-story rear addition with cellar, and convert to a 3-unit apartment house, an existing, two-story with cellar, principal dwelling unit in the RF-1 zone.</p>	<p>Commissioner Livingston (SMD 4C06)                       ANC 4C recommended the BZA grant these reliefs to this property with resolution letter based on community input. (Vote: 5-0-0)</p>
<p><b>318 Webster Street NW</b>  <a href="#">BZA Case No. 20966</a>                      To construct a third story with roof deck, and a three-story with basement rear addition, and convert to a three-unit apartment house, an existing, attached, two-story with basement, flat in the RF-1 zone.</p>	<p>Commissioner Kademian (4C05)                       ANC 4C recommended the BZA grant these reliefs to this property with resolution letter based on community input. (Vote: 7-0-0)</p>
<p><b>4402 Georgia Avenue NW</b>  <a href="#">BZA Case No. 20855</a>                      To raze an existing structure and construct a new, attached, four-story, with basement, cellar, and penthouse, 12-unit apartment house in the MU-4 zone.</p>	<p>Commissioner Carter Swegman (4C01)                       ANC 4C recommended the BZA grant these requested relief to this property with resolution letter based on community input. (Vote: 7-0-0)</p>

**District Department of Transportation (DDOT) Projects**

This table summarizes significant DDOT projects in ANC 4C. Where applicable, a Notice of Intent (NOI) is listed with the project.

<b>Table 2. ANC 4C 2023 DDOT Priority Projects and Community Outreach</b>
<p><b>Grant Circle Traffic Safety Proposed Plan</b> Commissioner Livingston (SMD 4C06) and Commissioner Kademian (SMD 4C05)</p> <p>On November 8, ANC 4C facilitated a community outreach meeting where DDOT presented draft plans for improving traffic safety and the flow of traffic around Grant Circle. DDOT was seeking community input on the proposed design. As follow-up, ANC Commissioners Livingston and Kademian are organizing a series of outreach events to collect community input, including an online survey, Zoom meetings, and in-person meetings focused on specific areas and concerns. They are also coordinating with Commissioner Heller to integrate traffic safety concerns in surrounding corridors and intersections that would be impacted by changes to Grant Circle. A resolution letter is planned for early next year summarizing ANC and community concerns, input, and recommendations.</p>
<p><b>5<sup>th</sup> Street Bike Lane and Installation of 3 Speed Tables on 5<sup>th</sup> Street NW</b> Commissioner Heller (SMD 4C05) and Commissioner Livingston (SMD 4C06)</p> <p>On August 2<sup>nd</sup>, DDOT Director Lott visited 5th Street to provide updates from his April 2023 walkthrough. Director Lott shared several ideas currently under consideration with the 75+ attendees to address residents' concerns around vehicular traffic volume and speed. 5th Street residents expressed continued concerns around vehicular speed, street narrowness, limited parking spaces, and continued damage to parked vehicles. Other area residents shared their ongoing use of the protected bike lanes to transport kids to school and travel to work. Participants called for near-term traffic calming measures DDOT can implement. DDOT Director Lott agreed to return in Fall 2023 to share additional plans for 5th Street and the greater neighborhood. In follow-up, DDOT installed three (3) speed table(s) and associated signs in the 4100-3900 blocks of 5th Street NW. Additional steps included restoring parking spaces.</p>
<p><b>Kansas/8th/Allison intersection</b> Commissioner Kademian (SMD 4C05)</p> <p>After a walk-through with DDOT at this intersection, which has five entrances/exits on a hill next to a school and bike lane with serious visibility issues, Commissioner Kademian launched a Traffic Safety Committee to gather community input on this problematic intersection. Findings informed the development of a resolution letter to DDOT seeking specific actions at this intersection to include a median and concrete curb bump-outs. (See Table 4) A complementary letter was coordinated with ANC 4D. These efforts also informed development of a resolution letter to DDOT on prioritization of 4C Traffic Safety Inputs. (See Table 4)</p>

**Table 2. ANC 4C 2023 DDOT Priority Projects and Community Outreach**

**Installation of all-way stop at the Intersection of Rock Creek Church Road and Varnum Street NW, [NOI-23-24-TESD](#)**

Commissioner Livingston (SMD 4C06)

This project carried over from the prior ANC. Attention to traffic safety issues resulted from a sustained, coordinated effort with strong support from neighbors. Commissioner Livingston distributed the NOI to the community listserv and collected input from surrounding neighbors. Speed tables and signage were added to Rock Creek Church Road NW along with the all-way stop signs installed at the intersection. Follow-up actions include eventual expansion of sidewalk along Armed Forces Retirement Home to accommodate installation of accessible cross walk. This would allow the northward bus stop located near the intersection to be moved closer to the entrance of Webster Street NW and an existing southward bus stop.

**Table 3. ANC 4C Alcoholic Beverage and Cannabis Administration (ABCA) Applications**

*Not Representative of All ABCA Applications in ANC 4C*

Application Information	ANC Decision or Action
<p><b>Zemen Market</b> 4418 Georgia Avenue NW</p> <p><b>Town &amp; Country Market</b> 823 Upshur Street NW</p> <p><b>Yes! Organic</b> 4100 Georgia Avenue NW</p> <p>License Renewal Applications</p>	<p>Commissioner Carter Swegman (SMD 4C01)</p> <p>Utilizing Consent Agenda ANC 4C voted not to protest these ABCA Renewal applications.</p>
<p><b>Mary's Bar &amp; Grill</b> 4231 9th St NW</p> <p>Stipulated Liquor License</p>	<p>Commissioner Carter Swegman (SMD 4C01)</p> <p>ANC 4C voted (7-0-0) in favor of supporting the application for a new Retailer's Class "C" Restaurant license. Additionally, the commission also approved a stipulated license for the remainder of the protest period.</p>
<p><b>Wake Me Shake Me</b> 205 Upshur Street NW</p> <p>New License Application</p>	<p>Commissioner Karen Livingston (SMD 4C06)</p> <p>No official ANC action. Commissioner Livingston noted overall community support for this new business based on local outreach at the September ANC meeting. The owners opted not to sign onto a voluntary neighborhood agreement.</p>

<b>Letter</b>	<b>ANC Decision or Action</b>
Approval for ANC 4C to sign onto U.S. Department of Transportation’s National Roadway Safety Strategy’s Call to Action	Approved resolution (Vote: 7-0-0), officially signed on via U.S. DOT’s Call to Action Site
Resolution Honoring the Service of Charlotte Nugent to the Brightwood, 16th Street Heights, and Petworth Communities in Washington, DC	Approved resolution (Vote: 7-0-0)
Resolution to DDOT Requesting Prioritization of ANC 4C TSIs	Approved resolution (Vote: 7-0-0)
Resolution to Support Installation of Additional Toddler-Oriented Playgrounds	Approved resolution (Vote: 6-0-0)

<b>Applicant Information</b>	<b>Amount Awarded</b>
Celebrate Petworth, Uptown Community Initiative	\$2,000
Community Costume Exchange and Outdoor Movie, Petworth Peanuts	\$2,000
Fall Fun Festival, Friends of the Soldier’s Home	\$1,000
Lincoln’s Cottage Family Film Series, Home Rule Music and Film Preservation Foundation	\$1,000
Petworth Community Market	\$2,000
Petworth Blooms	\$2,000

## Community Outreach and Engagement

ANC 4C Commissioners organized and participated in a range of community outreach events. These activities connected residents with DC resources, raised awareness about the ANC, provided a forum for providing input to city-led projects in the community, and provided opportunities for Commissioners to meet residents. Commissioners participated in or organized the following list captures a range of significant or notable outreach activities that Commissioners organized or participated.

**Department of Aging and Community Living (DACL) Door-to-Door Campaign.** Commissioner Antoine Kirby (February 28, SMD 4C02) and Commissioner Karen Livingston (March 30, SMD 4C06) coordinated with DACL to conduct neighborhood walk-throughs connecting seniors with city services. Commissioners walked door-to-door with representatives from DC agencies, non-profit organizations, and higher education sharing information with seniors on resources available to address a range of issues.

**Petworth Clean Up Day.** ANC 4C organized a Petworth Clean Up Day on April 29. Commissioners worked with neighbors to clean-up selected sites in their SMDs. Commissioner Kademian spearheaded the effort.

**Georgia Avenue Open Streets.** On October 7, ANC 4C hosted an informational table. Commissioners Livingston and Alexander responded to constituent questions and provided information about the ANC.

**Celebrate Petworth.** On November 18, Commissioners hosted an informational table. All ANC 4C Commissioners participated in the event.

**Barnard Elementary Black History Month Event.** On February 17, Commissioner Antoine Kirby was the guest speaker at Barnard Elementary for their Black History, the theme of which was, ‘A seat at the table, through education and discipline.

**Mayoral Public Safety Walk.** On March 8, Commissioners Kademian, Livingston, Kirby, and Alexander participated in a Petworth community walk-through organized by the Office of the Mayor. The walk was to talk about the violent crime that has increased rapidly in our Ward 4 community. The event provided an opportunity for residents and business owners to flag issues for a team of high-level representatives from DC government, including the Chief of Police. The event concluded in front of the Petworth Library, the site of a fatal stabbing on March 2<sup>nd</sup>.

## SMD Priorities and Projects

**Grant Circle Playground:** In January, National Park Service (NPS) demolished a frequently visited small toddler playground on the NPS-owned parcel just north of Grant Circle (Commissioner Kademian, SMD 4C05). Commissioner Kademian undertook a range of actions to replace the playground, including advocacy to NPS, submitting a funding application to Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton for consideration (Denied by House Appropriations Committee), and for Congressional earmarks via Eleanor Holmes Norton, and exploring transferring title to the DC Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR). ANC 4C approved a resolution letter recommending installation of additional toddler-oriented playgrounds in Petworth based on the input of the ANC 4C Playground Committee.

**Upshur Park Renovation.** Upshur Recreation Center (aka Upshur Pool and Park) is located at 4300 Arkansas Ave NW is scheduled for a \$19 million renovation, roughly one-quarter will fund administrative and contractor expenses (Commissioner Carter Swegman, SMD 4C01). Commissioners Carter Swegman, Kademian, and Livingstnn attended the preliminary community meeting with DPR and the DC Department of General Services (DGS) on September 18. Commissioner Carter Swegman is spearheading efforts to collect community input from residents, including an online survey and outreach meetings. Commissioner Kademian is providing support through outreach targeted to families with children.