



2020 ANNUAL REPORT

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 7B

Government of the District of Columbia

Prepared by:
ANC Commissioner - Nicole Smith-McDermott

Commissioners

Patricia Howard-Chittams – 7B01 (Interim Secretary)

Tiffany L. Brown – 7B02 (*Vice Chair*)

Benjamin Crane – 7B03 (*Treasurer*)

Nicole Smith-McDermott – 7B04

Villareal Johnson – 7B05 (*Secretary*)

April Pradier – 7B06

Lynell Humphrey – 7B07 (*Chair*)

OVERVIEW

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 7B

Introduction

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 7B herein referred to as ANC 7B or 7B, unanimously voted to file this Annual Report with the Mayor and DC Council and publish the Report on the Commission's website at www.anc7b.com. This Report satisfies the Commission's statutory reporting obligations. For further guidance please 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), (n-1) (providing that each Commission shall publish an annual report summarizing its activities over the preceding 12 months).

Achievements

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 7B (ANC7B or “The Commission”) serving the Randall Highlands, Dupont Park, Hillcrest, Fairfax Village, Naylor Gardens, Park Naylor, Twinning, Penn Branch and Fort Davis communities, holds public meetings which are open to every member of the community to discuss matters impacting the area, share important information, and make policy recommendations to city officials by way of resolutions and letters of support as needed. The Commission is made up of seven (7) members, each representing about 2,000 residents within their community. ANC7B’s executive meetings are held on the first (1st) Thursday of every month. The public community meetings are held on the third (3rd) Thursday of every month at Pennsylvania Ave Baptist Church. Amidst the current COVID-19 pandemic The Commission continues to hold its scheduled meetings virtually and not in person. All public meetings are announced and posted on the official website (www.anc7b.com) and sent out via listservs.

In January 2020, preceding the election of officer positions, ANC 7B continuously ensured that all outstanding financial reports that had not been submitted for several quarters at the beginning of 2019 were finalized and submitted for allotments. The preceding treasurer Commissioner Howard-Chittams, continued to go above and beyond to locate, organize, and submit necessary financial reports to the Office of the ANC in collaboration with the newly elected treasurer Commissioner Crane. The reports are required for the ANC to receive their quarterly allotments from the District of Columbia government. As a result of the hard work and dedication of the commission ANC 7B was able to attain its allotment as determined by the District.

The Commission attended various negotiation meetings to achieve an amicable agreement with Highland Community Entertainment Hall on behalf of those concerns raised within the community.

The Commission awarded one grant in 2020 in the amount of \$1,000.00 to the Penn Branch Community Civic Association on behalf of the Pennsylvania Avenue East Community Coalition. The Coalition is comprised of Community leaders from Civic/Citizens Association (Dupont Park, Hillcrest, Penn Branch, Randle Highlands, and Fairfax Village) whose objective is to obtain a Pennsylvania Avenue Main Street Program and Revitalization Funding to the east corridor of Pennsylvania Avenue.

The Commission oversaw the awarding of funds mandated through the Skyland PUD to six DC Public Schools: Ann Beers Elementary School, Benjamin Boon, Randle Highlands Elementary, Stanton, Kramer Middle School, and Anacostia High School in the amount of \$20,000.00 each. The Developer also awarded \$25,000.00 to the Francis Gregory and Anacostia Public Libraries.

The Commission provided support of a resolution for Ann Beers Elementary School to raise awareness for the school's immediate needs for access to funding for building improvements. ANC7B submitted a resolution in support of Ann Beers Elementary School's Parent Teacher Organization request for Budgeted CIP dollars, starting in the FY21 budget for a reassessment plan for an implementation of Phase 2 and Phase 3 school modernization; Budgeted CIP dollars, in the FY22 thru FY24 budget, for the implementation of Phase 2 and Phase 3 modernization; and immediate addressing of non-functioning school equipment, and other concerns raised by the Beers PTO.

ANC7B submitted to the Mayor, Deputy Mayor for Education, the DC Public Schools Chancellor, the Office of the State Superintendent for Education, and the DC Public Charter School Board a resolution requesting that ALL schools that receive public funding to open schools only when it is SAFE.

The Commission developed a resolution in support of 36th Place request speed bumps to keep the residents safe.

ANC 7B submitted to the Department of Transportation and the Metropolitan Police Department and asked for the support of the Deputy Mayors for Public Safety & Justice and Operations & Infrastructure, a resolution to address the excessive speeding on several main traffic arteries within ANC 7B, Alabama Avenue, Branch Avenue, Fairlawn Avenue, Massachusetts Avenue, Minnesota Avenue, Pennsylvania Avenue, Naylor Road, and Southern Avenue.

The Commission formed an ABRA Taskforce to review upcoming ABRA Licenses within the Commission. The Taskforce looks to address the ABRA requirements for new or renewal applications for liquor licenses within ANC 7B. From that the Commission voted to oppose the following renewals: Patron Convenience Store, Safeway, and Randall Grocery.

The Commission under the leadership of Commissioner Johnson has developed a Good Hope Market Place Taskforce to open communication with the Good Hope Market Place management around advocacy on Safeway's inclusion in B23-0086 Supermarket Tax Incentive Eligibility Area Amendment Act of 2019 and other issues at the shopping center.

Members of the Commission organized and led a series of community conversations for ANC's Citywide called the Criminal Justice Series. This series

included the United States Attorney's Office for the District of Columbia, the Office of the Attorney General for the District of Columbia, the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Metropolitan Police Department. In addition, Commissioners participated in weekly and bi-weekly City-Wide All ANC Commissioner calls that were developed at of a need of sharing information regarding the District's Covid-19 response. Commissioners help develop and participated in a City-Wide "Commissioner Conversations - Reimagining Policing in the District of Columbia"

Within the Commission, there were two community Clean-up's in conjunction with the Pope Branch Park Restoration Alliance, the Sierra Club, and other community partners for the clean-up of Pope Branch Park and the surrounding area on Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. It is the largest volunteer event within the City.

The Commission through the leadership of Commissioner Smith-McDermott provided the entire 7B community with the opportunity to provide public comment or concern regarding the placement of a new Public Charter School. I Dream PCS collaborated with the Commissioner to provide the community with presentations and site visit opportunities.

Commissioners have acted upon many public space applications to include:

343154 - Street Fixture or Furniture (Exception), Paving, Sidewalk (s), Fixture: Playground, Fixture: Bench(es) at 3400 - 3429 Block on Minnesota Avenue, S.E., Washington, D.C.

DDOT Tracking #329587 - Fixture: Small cell installation, 30th ST and P ST, SE P343154 at 3400 - 3429 BLOCK OF MINNESOTA AVENUE SE, WASHINGTON, DC

Public Space Construction Permit application #352915 at 3250 Pennsylvania Avenue SE, WASHINGTON, DC 20020.

Public Space Construction Permit Tracking # 357243 3436 Texas Avenue SE, 20020.

Public Space Construction Permit Tracking # 351063 3017 3017 Park Drive, SE, 20020.

Public Space Construction Permit Tracking # 351001 3019 Nash Place, SE, 20020.

Commissioners have acted upon many Board of Zoning Adjustment and Zoning Commission to include:

Skyland Holding LLC: 09-03-F

BZA Case # 19984 2908 N Street, S.E.

KEY ISSUE

Public Safety

ANC 7B resides with the 6th District which notable has the highest calls for service in the entire city. Some of the calls for service include disorderly and social distancing. Domestic violence and the next is for residential alarms. We are about 20% increase related to the rest of the city. PSA of Concern is PSA 603.

Homicides 17% increase

MV thefts – 22% increase

Theft from Auto 24% increase

1% increase in total crime.

The statistical data mentioned above was provided in the middle of the 2020 calendar year. During such time there has been an increase in carjacking in the 6th District. ANC 7B has consistently attempted to engage law enforcement to decrease crime within our SMD to very little avail from Officers due to several factors including but not limited to a reduction in workforce, transfers etc. The Commission looks to continue engaging the community in partnership with MPD to decrease crime in 7B.

ANC 7B would respectfully recommend **AGAIN** that the Mayor addresses the crime within our Commission by directing that there be an increased in community policing through our Commission to provide the reassurance to the Community that we are not being ignored when it comes to crime. ANC 7B is the most affluent Commission East of the River, yet our needs feel like we are placed on the back burner. We also ask that District agencies are

more responsive to the needs and requests of the Commission. Finally, ask *again* that the Mayor and other Council Members who are elected to serve this Community provide a quarterly report on issues that they have addressed within ANC Commission 7B.