



GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2D

Regular Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, May 13th, 2025; 7:00 p.m.

**In-Person – St. Margaret's Episcopal Church, 1830 Connecticut Avenue NW
Online via Zoom –**

Call to Order and Election of Officers

Chair Feld called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Establishment of Quorum

Commissioners Robyn Lipton (2D01) and Carole Feld (2D02) were present, establishing a quorum.

Approval of Agenda

Chair Feld moved to approve the ANC's meeting agenda. Commissioner Lipton seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 2-0-0).

Approval of March 2025 and April 2025 Meeting Minutes

Chair Feld moved to approve ANC's March 2025 and April 2025 meeting minutes. Commissioner Lipton seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 2-0-0).

Administrative and Financial Matters

Commissioner's Comments

Chair Feld thanked Peter Sacco, St. Margaret's, especially John Bello. She also recognized and thanked community leaders especially for their work on the Residential Tranquility Amendment Act of 2025. Chair Feld also recognized and thanked Commissioner Robyn Lipton for her service.

Treasurer's Report

Commissioner Lipton said that the current balance for the ANC's checking bank account is \$18,073.16. No significant activity except for \$16.33 interest in the month of March.

Holly Sukenik update: There was a delay in the government reports due to various things including weather. Chair Feld asked Holly Sukenik, a member of numerous neighborhood organizations to give an update on several areas: *Spanish Steps*—Repairs being made now to the Spanish steps so it will be running, not leaking and available for weddings and community enjoyment soon. *Mitchell Park*—newsletter coming out soon, will have schedule of summer films in the field and summer and fall family event info. Benches and picnic table conditions are being addressed. ADA construction going on to update bathrooms and other areas. *Restore Mass Ave*—another tree walk planned this summer, check website. *Call Box*—continuing restorations.

Government Reports

Chair Feld thanked our Govt. Liaisons for their time and support.

Councilmember's Office

Brian Romanowski, Constituents Services Director, attended the meeting and gave the following updates.

- *\$1 billion in FY'25 taken incorrectly from our budget by Congress is still going on. Mayor Bowser found a loophole to use part of the budget without Congressional Approval. Now DC has a \$410 Million gap for FY'25. Most of the money will have to come from staff salaries, freezing hiring and overtime pay.*
- *Encourage people to write/email the following to allow a vote to get DC's money back: Speaker Johnson, Rep. Andy Harris, MD and Rep Andrew Clyde, GA, House Freedom Caucus.*
- *FY'26 Budget delayed by FY'25 Budget gap by Congress. Will see proposed budget sometime in May. Vote will occur in August. Delaying any other legislation.*
- *Moody's downgraded DC's credit rating which makes it more expensive to borrow money. We're also monitoring proposed cuts that Congress may make to Medicaid, changes to SNAP etc. will profoundly hurt the District.*
- *Washington Teacher's Union and Committee of the Whole voted to support not using cellphones in schools*
- *Peace DC Plan: Had public and govt. official hearings two weeks ago and heard testimony including ANC2D*
 - *Councilmember Pinto's priorities: Public safety, Downtown and commercial corridors and Investing in our youth. Combo of legislation, funding and strategies. Includes: Residential Tranquility Amendment Act of 2025. Go to Brookepintodc.com to find more about the Peace DC Plan.*
 - *Hope to get it passed before recess in August.*
- *Events: Reviewed different events: Bike to Work Day, Thursday, May 15; World Pride Parade. Saturday, June 7, meeting at 1:00 pm to March at T and 14th Street to Pennsylvania Ave.(talked about working to keep everyone safe)*
- *CM Pinto hosting a Ward 2 Residents Night out at the Nationals. Can request up to 5 tickets if a Ward 2 resident to get free tickets.*
- *Chair Feld thanked Brian Romanowski on behalf of Comm. Lipton and herself for being so helpful to ANC2D. She also mentioned appreciation to Secretary Bassett, Deputy Secretary Candelaria, Cliff Seagroves and Ty Abilla for helping neighbors with the Kalorama property concern. ANC2D looks forward to working with Brian and CM Pinto to pass the Residential Tranquility Amendment Act of 2025.*

Metropolitan Police Department

Lt. Sharmika Gatewood, representative for the Metropolitan Police Department's (MPD) Second District reported on crime and other safety issues.

- *ANC2D Thirty-day Crime report. Two reported crimes/ thefts. First, (April 30-May 5) at the 2100 block of Connecticut Ave. NW; Second, 2000 block of Connecticut Ave. NW (April 16/17). Theft from vehicles. Car Break ins are the largest crime issue in ANC 2D and surrounding neighborhoods.. Lt Gatewood mentioned that MPD will attach something to the windshield giving owners a heads up to if they see anything visible in your vehicle.*
- *May 28 Lt. Sakulich will be hosting a 7:00 pm Community walk. (17th and N. Street NW)*
- *Chair Feld thanked Lt. Gatewood on behalf of Comm. Lipton and herself for her service.*

Mayor's Office

Tadia “Ty” Abilla, ANC2D’s Ward 2 representative (for the Mayor’s Office of Community Relations and Services (MOCRS)) gave an update on various initiatives and the Mayor’s priorities.

- *Mayor’s Economic Growth Agenda part of FY’ 26 Budget.* Investment in downtown, tech, supersizing business investments and removing barriers to growth, support of DC restaurants
- *New record for DC visitors.* More than 27 million people in 2024.
- *Cut ribbon for Mary’s Place.* First Sr. Living Place for LGBTQ community through housing, health and wellness services (15 apt. style units)
- *DPR summer programs-- registrations are open check website*
- *DC 2050 Vision Survey Open* through May 18th share hopes for the future and highest priorities in terms of policy. Help inform DC 2025 vision plan
- *Appreciated everyone’s advocacy and support* around the Kalorama property/Cameroon Embassy
- *Chair Feld thanked Ty Abilla on behalf of Comm. Lipton and herself* for her support and mentioned that we need to schedule the walk around.

Traffic Safety Input (TSI) Updates from the District Department of Transportation

Christophe Wassmer, the Ward 2 Community Engagement Specialist for the District Department of Transportation (DDOT), gave an overview Traffic Safety Input (TSI) Updates and other issues from the District Department of Transportation including:

- *Thanked people for their attendance to Dupont Deckover Public Meeting* at St. Margaret’s Church re: construction schedule and benefits. Construction will start in the late spring/early summer.
- *Traffic Safety Input Phelps and S Street:* A speed hump is scheduled on S. Street
- *Callbox Update:* Approved purchase order and sent to the vendor today. Can get started on the restoration. Holly Sukenik indicated she has the paint color for the callbox.
- *DC Water Project (P Street /Florida and 22nd Street and Florida between Mass and R Street):* Done by July
Are all part of the same project
- *Signage requests:* With sign shop. If see a problem, report it and put in “roadway sign” with a request. DDOT doesn’t remove the signs until they replace them.
- *Sheridan Circle Medians:* Looped in DOE on this. Looking for some guidance on that.
- *Mass Ave: Dead trees:* last summer, scheduled them to be replanted. For new dead trees --Submit an inspection for a tree inspection and then schedule replanting.
- *Chair Feld thanked Christophe Wassmer on behalf of Comm. Lipton and herself* for his support and recognized that DDOT has more ANC 2D projects/issues than any other govt. agency.

New Business/Old Business

The Bobbi: Ronette Slamin gave an update on 2151 California St, NW construction

- *Vision:* Create affordable family housing, substantial rehab building to be energy efficient, and honor historic preservation.
- *Amenities update:* Tours in the Summer and the Spring. 2500 sq. feet of underutilized space to repurpose, create a unit, a library, and a fitness space. Beneficial for residents that will be moving in and returning.
- *Historic Update NPS:* Awning Signage: Replacing with an historic awning which will be more aligned with the street and neighborhood. Will also have an accessible ramp.
- *Timeline:* Permits in process. Relocation has occurred for existing residences.

Construction will begin in July ideally. Will be having conversations with the community when it starts and throughout.

- Comm. Lipton and Chair Feld asked several questions including:
- *Why not getting HPRB approval for awning.* It was confirmed that they are going through NPS to make sure national historic criteria are met. NPS oversees historic tax credit deals for historic designated buildings.
- *Funding:* a combination of tax credits and energy rebates.
- *DC Funding cuts:* Not currently an issue.
- *Residents Mix:* All residents who moved out plan to return; current tenants will make up 25-30% of the building
- Chair Feld and Comm. Lipton thanked Ronette Slamin for the update and wished her good luck. They mentioned that she should talk to the Church across the street to keep them posted.

Updates

Announcements and Open Comment

See Holly Sukenik's comments at top of these minutes

Date of Next Meeting

Chair Feld said that the ANC's next meeting will take place on Monday, June 9th, 2025, at 7:00 pm at St. Margaret's and via zoom.

Adjournment

Chair Feld adjourned the meeting at 7:57 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Carole Feld, ANC 2D Chair and Secretary.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Carole Feld". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.