



# GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

## Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2B

### November Regular Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, November 12th, 2025; 6:30 p.m.

Online via Zoom and In-Person at Stead Park

### Call to Order

The regular November 2025 meeting of the Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission (Commission of ANC 2B) was called to order by Chair Adams at 6:31 pm.

### Introduction of Commissioners

The Commissioners identified their single member districts (SMDs). Present were Andrew DeFrank (2B01), Jeffrey Rueckgauer (2B02), Vincent Slatt (2B03), Lawrence Sprowls, (2B04), Alex Marshall (2B05), Matt Johnson (2B06), and Zach Adams (2B08).

### Adoption of the Agenda

Chair Adams moved to adopt the ANC's meeting agenda. Commissioner Rueckgauer seconded the motion, which passed with unanimous consent (VOTES: 7-0-0).

### Announcements and Public Comments

#### Public announcements and general comments or future agenda items

Bill McLeod thanked the Commission for their support on the Dupont Circle Holiday Market. Eric Steinberg provided an announcement on behalf of Representative Oye Owolewa. Multiple residents stated their support for 17th Street Pedestrianization.

#### Commissioner announcements

Commissioner Rueckgauer, Commissioner Marshall, Commissioner DeFrank, Commissioner Johnson, and Commissioner Franklin provided announcements.

#### Reports from DC Government representatives

Charity Beam, Faith Community Liaison for the Mayor's Office of Community Relations and Services, provided an update. Hannah Ames, from Councilmember Brooke Pinto's Office, provided an update. Lt. Sakulich from the Metropolitan Police Department provided an update. Kalvanetta Peete from the Office of Campaign Finance provided an update.

### Alcoholic Beverage and Cannabis Board Agenda

Streets Market application for a new Retailer's Class "B" Full- Service Grocery Store at 2130 P Street NW (2B02)

*The commission will take no action.*

INspir Embassy Row application for a new Retailer's Class "C" Tavern at 2100 Massachusetts Avenue NW (2B02)

Commissioner Rueckgauer moved to adopt the resolution. Commissioner Adams seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 5-1-1). The resolution reads as follows:

**WHEREAS**, Inspir Embassy Row DC, LLC trading as Inspir Embassy Row has applied for a new Class C Tavern license (ABRA-134378) at 2100 Massachusetts Avenue NW, located in Single Member District 2B02 of ANC 2B.

**WHEREAS**, the premises is an assisted living facility community with a total occupancy of 174, including seating for 92 inside the premises

**WHEREAS**, the application includes Endorsements for a Summer Garden with total occupancy of 82 (seating for 82); and Entertainment to provide live entertainment inside of the premises only.

**WHEREAS**, placarded hours are as follows:

**Operation Inside the Premises:**

Sunday - Saturday 12:00AM to 12:00AM (24-hour operation)

**Alcoholic Beverage Sales, Service, and Consumption Inside the Premises:**

Sunday through Thursday 6:00AM – 2:00AM

Friday and Saturday 6:00AM – 3:00AM

**Hours of Operation, Alcoholic Beverage Sales, Service, and Consumption for the Summer Garden:**

Sunday through Saturday 7:00AM -- 11:00PM

**Hours of Live Entertainment Inside the Premises**

Sunday through Saturday 7:00AM -- 11:00PM

**WHEREAS**, promoting and maintaining good relationships between residents and ABCA licensed establishments is a responsibility and priority of ANC 2B.

**WHEREAS**, it is ANC 2B policy to require a Settlement Agreement for ABC licensees having Summer Garden or Entertainment Endorsements

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that ANC 2B *supports* the application of Inspire Embassy Row for a new Class C Tavern License, ABRA-134378.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that ANC 2B will file a pro forma protest on the basis of Peace, Order, and Quiet, to be withdrawn upon ABC Board Order that the Settlement Agreement has been accepted.

Commissioners Jeff Rueckgauer ([2B02@anc.dc.gov](mailto:2B02@anc.dc.gov)) and Zach Adams ([2B08@anc.dc.gov](mailto:2B08@anc.dc.gov)) are the Commission's representatives for this matter.

Inspir Embassy Row request for a stipulated license at a new Retailer's Class "C" Tavern at 2100 Massachusetts Avenue NW (2B02)

Commissioner Rueckgauer moved to adopt the resolution. Commissioner Adams seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 7-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

**WHEREAS**, Inspir Embassy Row DC, LLC trading as Inspir Embassy Row ("the Applicant") has applied for a new Class C Tavern license (ABRA-134378) at 2100 Massachusetts Avenue NW, located in Single Member District 2B02 of ANC 2B.

**WHEREAS**, the Applicant has requested a Stipulated ABC License allowing them to operate under the terms and conditions of the Class C Tavern license with Endorsements during the 45-day Public Comment period for their application.

**WHEREAS**, ANC 2B supports the application and does not believe granting this Stipulated License will have an adverse impact on the community.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that ANC 2B *supports* Inspir Embassy Row's request for a Stipulated ABC License allowing operation in accordance with their Class C Tavern license application.

Swann House application for the renewal of a Retailer's Class "C" Bed and Breakfast license at 1808 New Hampshire Avenue NW (2B01)

*The commission took no action.*

Gazuza application for the renewal of a Retailer's Class "C" Nightclub license at 1629 Connecticut Avenue NW (2B01)

*The commission took no action.*

Platinum DC Club application for the renewal of a Retailer's Class "C" Nightclub license at 1805 Connecticut Avenue NW (2B01)

*The commission took no action.*

Press Club application for the renewal of a Retailer's Class "C" Tavern license at 1506 19th Street NW (2B02)

*The commission took no action.*

The Fireplace application for the renewal of a Retailer's Class "C" Tavern license at 2161 P Street NW (2B02)

*The commission took no action.*

Bier Baron Hotel & Tavern application for the renewal of a Retailer's Class "C" Tavern license at 1523 22nd Street NW (2B02)

*The commission took no action.*

DCJCC application for the renewal of a Retailer's Class "C" Tavern license at 1529 16th Street NW (2B04)

*The commission took no action.*

MPIRE CLUB application for the renewal of a Retailer's Class "C" Nightclub license at 1819 M Street NW (2B05)

*The commission took no action.*

Saint Yves application for the renewal of a Retailer's Class "C" Tavern license at 1220 Connecticut Avenue NW (2B05)

*The commission took no action.*

Rosebar application for the renewal of a Retailer's Class "C" Tavern license at 1215 Connecticut Avenue NW (2B05)

*The commission took no action.*

Tokyo Pearl application for the renewal of a Retailer's Class "C" Tavern license at 1301 Connecticut Avenue NW (2B05)

*The commission took no action.*

The House at 1229 application for the renewal of a Retailer's Class "C" Club license at 1229 19th Street NW (2B05)

*The commission took no action.*

Sauf House application for the renewal of a Retailer's Class "C" Tavern license at 1216 18th Street NW (2B05)

*The commission took no action.*

Camleot application for the renewal of a Retailer's Class "C" Nightclub license at 1823 M Street NW (2B05)

*The commission took no action.*

Decades application for the renewal of a Retailer's Class "C" Nightclub license at 1219 Connecticut Avenue NW (2B05)

*The commission took no action.*

Rewind application for the renewal of a Retailer's Class "C" Nightclub license at 1219 Connecticut Avenue NW (2B05)

*The commission took no action.*

Cafe Citron application for the renewal of a Retailer's Class "C" Tavern license at 1343 Connecticut Avenue NW (2B05)

*The commission took no action.*

Lucky Bar application for the renewal of a Retailer's Class "C" Tavern license at 1221 Connecticut Avenue NW (2B05)

*The commission took no action.*

Public Bar application for the renewal of a Retailer's Class "C" Tavern license at 1214 18th Street NW (2B05)

*The commission took no action.*

1831 Lounge application for the renewal of a Retailer's Class "C" Tavern license at 1831 M Street NW (2B05)

*The commission took no action.*

Exiles application for the renewal of a Retailer's Class "C" Tavern license at 1610 U Street NW (2B08)

*The commission took no action.*

Larry's Lounge application for the renewal of a Retailer's Class "C" Tavern license at 1840 18th Street NW (2B08)

*The commission took no action.*

Penthouse Pool & Lounge application for the renewal of a Retailer's Class "C" Tavern license at 1612 U Street NW (2B08)

*The commission took no action.*

El Secreto De Rosita application for the renewal of a Retailer's Class "C" Tavern license at 1624 U Street NW (2B08)

*The commission took no action.*

### **Transportation and Public Space Agenda**

#### **Requesting Improvements for DDOT's Streatery Program**

Commissioner Rueckgauer moved to adopt his resolution. The motion did not receive a second. Commissioner Sprowls moved to adopt his resolution. The motion did not receive a second. Commissioner Adams moved to adopt his resolution. Commissioner Marshall seconded the motion. Commissioner Marshall requested that there was an addition to the resolution that requested that DDOT designated pre-approved prefabricated streatery vendors. Commissioner Slatt seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 6-1-0). The resolution reads as follows:

**WHEREAS**, the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) adopted permanent Streatery Program guidelines on December 5, 2024, with a view to “strengthen the safety, accessibility, and aesthetics of outdoor dining in public space”;<sup>1</sup> and

**WHEREAS**, Councilmember Charles Allen convened a roundtable on November 6, 2025, to discuss community concerns about the Streatery Program, with consistent feedback from restaurants that the cumulative guideline changes are untenable; and

**WHEREAS**, the public space rental fee included in the permanent guidelines will render streateries financially infeasible both for restaurants with existing streateries and for those who

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<sup>1</sup> <https://app.box.com/s/a8t90eowqqdigut4tdcm4kcg9zvh7xcu>

want to join the program, and streateries are a desirable activation of public space compared with ; and

**WHEREAS**, numerous restaurants have made significant investments to bring their streateries into compliance with the temporary Streatory Program regulations, and would be forced to do so again under the new guidelines, in some cases necessitating complete reconstructions, at substantial cost; and

**WHEREAS**, some streateries do need safety modification to eliminate physical and visual barriers to travel lanes and sight lines; therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that the Commission finds that the outcomes of the new guidelines will not achieve the stated intentions of the Streatory Program; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the Commission recommends DDOT develop a simplified streatory application process; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the Commission recommends DDOT lower the public space rental fee from \$20/sqft to \$5/sqft; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the Commission recommends DDOT eliminate setback requirements from publicly-owned infrastructure, other than those from travel lanes; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the Commission recommends DDOT to allow existing streateries that are of sound design, in good condition, and compliant with key health, safety, and transportation regulations, which were approved under the temporary program; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the Commission recommends DDOT provide prioritized support consultation for restaurants with structures that need modification to eliminate physical and visual barriers to travel lanes and sight lines so that those modifications can be made expeditiously; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the Commission recommends DDOT analyze prefabricated streatory offerings, pre-approve one or more prefabricated streatory vendors for use by DC restaurants, and eliminate

the need for construction, elevation, and other application data for businesses that apply for a new permit and select a pre-approved streatory option; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the Commission requests that DDOT extend the compliance deadline under the new guidelines from November 30 to March 31 in order to afford small businesses the opportunity to continue operations as initially permitted under the temporary Streatory Program, and to afford the agency time to consult with stakeholders and arrive at a more agreeable set of permanent guidelines; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the Commission calls upon DDOT to engage all affected Commissions to collaboratively develop plans for the disposition of public space formerly occupied by streateries, instead of reverting that space to parking.

Nomination of the 1500-1600 Blocks of 17th St NW for Pedestrian Experience Improvements under the PLAZA Act

Commissioner Rueckgaur moved to adopt the resolution. Commissioner Adams seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 6-0-1). The resolution reads as follows:

**WHEREAS**, DC Law 25-312, the Public Life and Activity Zones Act (“PLAZA Act”), provides for establishing 3 corridors of at least  $\frac{1}{8}$  of a mile (660 feet) in length that are closed to thru personal vehicular traffic for a minimum of 24 hours per week in the District (one of which must be in Ward 5, Ward 7, or Ward 8).

**WHEREAS**, the 1500-1600 blocks of 17th Street NW between P Street NW and R Street NW (“the Corridor”) are regarded by many as the “town square” of the Dupont Circle community, with restaurants and shops among the classic charm of a thriving and vibrant “old DC” neighborhood.

**WHEREAS**, the Corridor is narrow a one-way southbound street, approximately 1,025 feet in length with interior street crossings of Corcoran Street NW, Q Street NW, Church Street NW; several alleys have access points at 17th Street NW.

**WHEREAS**, sidewalks in the Corridor tend to be narrow to very narrow at points, imposing substantial constraints on sidewalk-based activities, impeding ADA clearances.



**WHEREAS**, the Corridor is easily accessed from public transportation (Dupont Circle Red Line and D7x buses at Connecticut Ave & Q St; C91 bus in P Street; D90 bus in Massachusetts Ave at 17th Street; D6x buses in 16th Street at P Street).

**WHEREAS** the Corridor is directly accessible by pedestrians and bicycles; a Capital Bikeshare station and bicycle lanes are provided in the Corridor.

**WHEREAS**, the Corridor hosts several streetery parklets; and an approved “Pride Parklet” that is awaiting funding for construction.

**WHEREAS**, The Corridor, is home to the annual High Heel Race every October for nearly 40 years; the Pride Block Party in June; and the 17th Street Festival (which was suspended during the pandemic and has not yet resumed).

**WHEREAS**, the nature of the major events held in The Corridor have required considerable financial and resource commitments from District as they are large-scale “destination events” and also require special attention to contain possession and consumption of alcoholic beverages within the event footprints.

**WHEREAS**, ANC 2B, residents, and businesses have long sought less complex, less restrictive, less costly, ways to utilize the Corridor for regular, smaller scale neighborhood-centric activities that showcase the restaurants and merchants of the Corridor and the Dupont Circle community, as well providing a space for seasonal festivities and events.

**WHEREAS**, ANC 2B and the community have several times asked DDOT to consider improving the pedestrian experience and safety of the corridor, through either permanent closure to thru traffic or conversion to a woonerf design.

**WHEREAS**, making the Corridor car-free initially for weekends (Friday-Sunday night) would provide an ideal starting point for expanding pedestrian movement, dining, entertainment options and exploring the potential for longer or permanent closure to through traffic.

**WHEREAS**, the PLAZA Act contains requirements for accessibility for multimodal users and persons with disabilities or mobility challenges, maintaining access for emergency vehicles and local deliveries; the Corridor will additionally require resident access to their parking, alleys, and cross streets, all of which can be satisfied through the design and planning processes.

**WHEREAS**, DDOT had previously planned to implement a one-side-only commercial loading zone along the Corridor’s east curb lane, with a 2-way cycletrack along the west curb lane (rather than the split sharrow and protected contraflow lane), which if implemented would greatly

enhance pedestrian-centric uses and satisfy the need for local deliveries and resident parking access.

**WHEREAS**, the Corridor's location in the heart of one of the District's best known destination neighborhoods, easily accessible by transit, walking, cycling, micromobility, assisted mobility, having a consistently low volume of vehicular traffic, filled with popular restaurants, bars, and shops, makes it an ideal candidate for pedestrianization.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that ANC 2B nominates the 1500-1600 blocks of 17th Street NW as a candidate corridor under the PLAZA Act.

### **Land Use Agenda**

#### **HPA 26-54 Conceptual Review of Proposed Rear Addition 1703 Q Street NW (2B07)**

Commissioner Adams moved to adopt the original resolution outlined in the meeting packet. Commissioner Johnson motioned to amend the resolution to support the application. Commissioner Sprowls seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 6-1-0). Commissioner Adams moved to adopt the new resolution of support. Commissioner Marshall seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (6-1-0).

**WHEREAS**, ANC 2B represents the Dupont Circle neighborhood, including the property located at **1703 Q Street NW**, a contributing structure within the Dupont Circle Historic District; and

**WHEREAS**, the applicant has submitted **HPA 26-54** to the District of Columbia Historic Preservation Review Board for the construction of a **rear addition and penthouse** at this property; and

**WHEREAS**, the applicant presented the project to ANC 2B at its duly noticed public Land Use Committee meeting on November 5, 2025, during which community members were provided the opportunity to comment; and

**WHEREAS**, the applicant has **worked in close consultation with HPO** in the development of their plans and has satisfactorily addressed initial concerns about maintaining light into the property at 1705, gaining the support of their immediate neighbors at 1705 Q; and

**WHEREAS**, no concerns or opposition to proposed modifications of the Q Street fronting were expressed.

**WHEREAS**, nearby residents provided written and verbal testimony expressing **concerns** about potential impacts, and opposition to, proposed modifications on the rear (alley) side of 1703 Q Street NW, including:

- The proposed **penthouse** reproducing the visual and scale complaints of a similar addition approved at 1713 Q Street NW, which is clearly visible from the public alley, disrupting the historic roofline and rhythm of the rear façades;
- The **mass, scale, and materials** of the penthouse being **potentially incompatible** with the historic Schneider-designed row
- The proposed **two-story, full-width rear addition** introducing massing, articulation, and fenestration that is inharmonious with the rest of the alley aesthetic
- The potential for **cumulative loss of historic integrity** along the rear façades if 1703 Q's design as presented, without sufficient contextual restraint, were to be approved and establish precedent for future additions along the alley.

**WHEREAS**, ANC 2B appreciates the thoughtful and considered input of residents, as well as the applicant's willingness to engage with the community and HPO staff in refining the design; and

**WHEREAS**, the design of the "penthouse" and 3rd floor is the result of design compromise effected with the Historic Planning Office as a means of retaining the 3-sided bay appearance on the visible portions of the project.

**WHEREAS**, the Historic Planning Office does not believe the addition will be visible from 17th Street and therefore does not require greater focus.

**WHEREAS**, ANC 2B Land Use Committee made these suggestions to the architect to attempt improved alignment with the project's visuals with the surrounding historic properties:

- Use different materials (such as complementing brick) and a color palette that is harmonious with neighboring structures
- Soften the articulation of the 1st and 2nd floors of the addition to be evocative of the original bay's perspectives.
- Change the fenestration of the 2nd floor to 3 windows spaced to give a suggestion or impression of the original bay's appearance, and

**WHEREAS**, the architect has incorporated those suggested into updated plans.

**WHEREAS**, historic protection is not afforded to views from neighbors' homes.

**WHEREAS**, the concerns expressed by neighbors regarding visibility and scale should receive further consideration by HPRB

**WHEREAS**, the alley perspective of the project as proposed remains **generally compatible with neighboring properties, the historic alleyscape, the character of the Dupont Circle Historic District** and is consistent with the purposes of the D.C. Historic Landmark and Historic District Protection Act of 1978;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that ANC 2B **supports Historic Preservation Application (HPA) 26-54** for the proposed **rear addition and penthouse at 1703 Q Street NW**;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that ANC 2B encourages the applicant and the Historic Preservation Office to continue exploring refinements to **minimize the visibility and massing of the penthouse and rear addition** in order to preserve the integrity of the alley view and the historic rhythm of the rear façades.

### **Administrative Matters**

#### **Approval of the ANC 2B's regular October 2025 meeting minutes**

Commissioner Marshall moved to adopt the October 2025 meeting minutes. Commissioner Rueckgauer seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 7-0-0).

#### **Approval of the ANC 2B FY 25 Q4 QFR**

Commissioner Slatt moved to adopt the ANC 2B FY 25 Q4 QFR. Commissioner Rueckgauer seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 7-0-0).

#### **Nomination of 1 new member to the Land Use Committee**

Commissioner Rueckgauer moved to adopt Wilson Shealy as a new member of the Land Use Committee. Commissioner Adams seconded the nomination, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 6-0-1).

#### **Resolution to fund advertising for holiday programming in Dupont Circle**

Commissioner Marshall moved to adopt the resolution. Commissioner Adams seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 7-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

**WHEREAS**, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2B supports community engagement, local businesses, and neighborhood traditions that foster connection among residents and visitors; and

**WHEREAS**, neighborhood holiday events in Dupont Circle are longstanding community traditions that bring together residents, families, and visitors to celebrate the season, strengthen neighborhood ties, and support local businesses; and

**WHEREAS**, those events include the DC Holiday Market, the Heurich House Museum's Christmas market, Ross Elementary School's Tree Sale, a pop-up market by Dupont Circle Main Streets, and programming by Friends of Stead Park;

**WHEREAS**, effective advertising and outreach are essential to ensuring robust participation in these community events, particularly across diverse audiences within and around Dupont Circle; and

**WHEREAS**, ANC 2B has the authority under D.C. Code § 1–309.13(f) to expend funds for public purposes that benefit the neighborhood and its residents;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2B authorizes the expenditure of up to **\$1,300** for the purpose of printing advertising promoting neighborhood holiday events in Dupont Circle, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the funds shall be disbursed from ANC 2B's FY2026 budget and administered by the Chair or their designee in coordination with event organizers to ensure appropriate use and public benefit.

### **Adjournment**

Chair Adams adjourned the meeting at 8:14 pm.

Prepared by: ANC 2B

Approved on: December 10th, 2025

Attested by: Chair Adams

Signature:

  
box SIGN 187YX677-19Z5VPYV