



Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2C

Michael Shankle 2C01, Chair
Jim Swart 2C04, Vice Chair
Thomas Lee 2C03, Treasurer
Nancy Groth 2C02, Secretary
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Government of the District of Columbia

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2C

March 2026 Meeting Minutes

DATE: March 10, 2026

ANC-2C COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Commissioner Michael Shankle, Commissioner Thomas Lee, Commissioner Jim Swart, Commissioner Nancy Groth

ANC-2C COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Commissioner Shankle called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. ([2026 March 10 ANC 2C Community Meeting \(youtube.com\)](#)).

2. ROLL CALL:

Four out of the four commissioners were present when the meeting was called to order.

3. INTRODUCTION OF COMMISSIONERS:

The commissioners introduced themselves.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

MOTION: Groth moved to approve the agenda as amended. Seconded by Swart. Approved unanimously. (Vote 4-0-0)

5. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES:

Commissioner Groth noted that the February meeting minutes were received on March 9.

MOTION: Groth moved to approve tabling the approval of the February 2025 minutes until the next meeting. Seconded by Swart. Approved unanimously. (Vote 4-0-0)

6. TREASURER REPORT:

Commissioner Lee reported on Q1 for FY 2026, covering October through December 2025. An allotment of \$6,553.46 was received from the city, and \$1,875 was spent, largely for minute-taking services and \$180 for Commissioner Groth for software expenses.

Commissioner Lee reported on Q2 for FY 2026, which included January through March 2026. So far, there have been no expenses. Two checks to the minute-taking services were written but not yet cashed. There was also a signed reimbursement check for \$258 to the post office.

Commissioner Shankle noted that an error was detected in Q3 of FY 2025, which pulled forward all subsequent quarterly reports.

MOTION: Shankle moved to approve the quarterly report as presented by Commissioner Lee. Seconded by Groth. Approved unanimously. (Vote 4-0-0)

The complete Q2 FY 2026 report will be presented in April.

7. OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS:

Commissioner Shankle reported that he was ready to publish the announcements for the Executive Assistant position to help with ANC administrative processes. The applications will be reviewed as they come in. Two individuals expressed interest in the position and will also be included in the review. An Administrative Assistant was also being hired for a limited number of hours, and anyone interested was asked to email the ANC.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. MPD 2nd District Crime and Community Awareness, Captain Michael Hamelin, Michael.hamelin@dc.gov, 202.698.1405, or Lieutenant Sylvester Garvin, Sylvester.garvin@dc.gov, 202.774.6866

Lieutenant Garvin reported that property crimes were down 29%, but there were three part one offenses. The first robbery involved a group of juveniles who took headphones and a lime bike. The victim was unharmed, and the crime was under investigation. There was also an ADW weapon with a knife inside the Nordstrom store, in which the perpetrator was shoplifting and showed his knife and threatened to stab someone when stopped trying to exit the store. The last incident was a robbery involving violence, but an arrest was made. MPD was flagged down for a fight in progress, during which the individual had stolen items from another individual's vehicle.

The encampment cleanup at the 1300 block of New York Avenue was conducted on March 10. Observation posts were being done in that area due to it being a known drug area. There were no overdoses in that area as of late, and the focus was on the drug dealers.

Several events are coming up in the District, including the motor car event, the UFC fight at the White House, and Pride. There were some protests, and civil disturbance units were dispatched, which affect the manpower on occasion.

Commissioner Shankle asked whether any more had been heard about the Formula 1 race and the planning. Lieutenant Garvin reported that they had not, but they would notify them once they had more information.

Commissioner Groth asked whether there was any additional information on the major traffic crash investigation or the police pursuit related to the crash on January 7. Lieutenant Garvin reported that the investigation was still open and that he did not yet have any information.

Commissioner Swart commented that they had noted a number of crimes on H Street between 9th and 10th Street, four of which had occurred in the past week. He asked if there was any impression that the store owners did not want information released. Lieutenant Garvin reported that there was only one robbery he was aware of, and they did not want businesses to report any robberies because they tended to travel to different stores.

Commissioner Shankle noted that there was a significant amount of noise complaints at the corner of Connecticut and K Street. He asked whether there was any mitigation and whether the MPD was receiving the necessary guidance from governmental agencies to address those concerns. Most of the playing occurred at 4:00 p.m. or 5:00 p.m. Commissioner Groth added that she had interacted with the Golden Triangle BID Ambassador for that corner, and according to his in-person check-ins with ground floor businesses, they did not have a problem with the noise, but those who were disturbed by it were very vocal. Lieutenant Garvin stated that they would keep an eye on it and ensure the units were made aware of the guitar player and would stop him if it went past 10:00 p.m.

2. MPD 1st District Crime and Community Awareness, Captain Paul Hrebenak, Paul.Hrebenak@dc.gov, 202-729-2179 or Lieutenant Araz Alal, Araz.Alali@dc.gov, 202.698.0066.

Captain Hrebenak reported that one of the biggest issues was with the after-hours juvenile groups showing up at 7th and H Street. Over the past couple of days, large groups of juveniles have been exiting the metro and hanging out from 3:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. The main concern was general safety, and there were many officers present to ensure the spaces remained safe. There was a juvenile curfew zone in the Navy Yard over the weekend, which they were considering expanding into Chinatown. The curfew zone would start at 8:00 p.m. Violent crime and property crime were good overall. There were no robberies over the past 30 days. There was one assault with a dangerous weapon between two individuals who knew each other that was closed with an arrest. There was a small spike in burglaries in the Mount Vernon Triangle Area, with three in one night. All business owners were reminded to ensure that their alarms were active and would alert someone and the police. There was one auto theft in the past 30 days. Thefts were slightly down, with only one motor vehicle theft in the past 30 days.

Commissioner Shankle stated that he was aware of several instances involving drummers near 7th and H during games and asked whether there had been any conversations with them. Captain Hrebenak stated that they had discussions with them regarding the noise past 10:00

p.m. He also had conversations with the legislative affairs individual regarding the noise statute with DLCP, but there were funding challenges, and it was a civil enforcement matter. The challenges were flagged for the legislative affairs individual. After 10:00 p.m., there could be enforcement with a 61D, which was similar to a summons issued on the street. It did count as an arrest, but not a custodial arrest. The person had to be identifiable. Once the summons was provided, the person could have a court date or pay a fine.

Commissioner Lee noted that he passed by Teasism and that the owner was unaware of the arrest. The owner had mentioned that it would have been nice to have a police officer notify her. Captain Hrebenak stated that he would have someone stop by.

Howard Marks stated that he lived at the Residents at Gallery Place, which was above the Chinatown metro station. He discussed the issue of the large number of juveniles each day who were blocking the sidewalk and preventing people from using the escalator, and noted a confrontation between one of the guardsmen and one of the juveniles. He stated that it was chaotic and unacceptable. Captain Hrebenak agreed with Howard Marks and stated that they were trying to put tools in place. He stated that they were in a tough spot with enforcement because there are no loitering laws in DC. He noted that three arrests were made on March 10. The school safety division was engaged. He said it was a side effect of Union Station being closed after school to anyone under 18, which previously absorbed much of the after-school traffic.

Andrew Cohen asked for an update on the effort to coordinate joint enforcement to address the noise issues. Captain Hrebenak reported that they co-responded with multiple agencies, including the Department of Behavioral Health, and licensing DLCP for vending enforcement, so it was something he was happy to work on. Andrew Cohen asked about the noise act and if, under the current issue, there were other enforcement options. Captain Hrebenak reported that there unfortunately was not, because they needed the ordinance authority since it was considered a First Amendment right. He explained that the current plan was to limit loud noises at night or inside a building, using language that could provoke a fight.

Commissioner Shankle encouraged everyone to contact their at-large Councilmembers to ask why the noise act was not funded.

Commissioner Swart noted that they heard two months ago that the noise act was funded, but it was then pulled. The items that were pulled went to the Mayor's office, so he encouraged everyone to reach out to them to emphasize the importance, since there was no other way to address the issue.

Commissioner Shankle stated that as the number of residents living downtown increased, changes were needed to make the area more hospitable.

3. Metro Transit Police Department, Deputy Chief Stephen Boehm, SBoehm@wmata.com, Captain Aaron Donald, Adonald@wmata.com, District 1 Commander, Lieutenant David Barga, dbarga@wmata.com, District One Evenings, 202-306-5783.

Lieutenant Barga reported that they canceled days off for the Indy car race weekend and anticipated heavy metro traffic due to the street closures. He discussed the juvenile disorder, which was a system-wide problem. It occurred at the Navy Yard and Pentagon City as well, and when they were kicked off, they made their way to different areas. Work was ongoing to develop a better solution, but they focused on groups of 10 children at a time. Lieutenant Barga stated that he and Captain Hrebenak would work together on the issue. Involvement from schools would be great, but it was often hard to determine which schools students were coming from.

Lieutenant Barga reported that the crime trend was down from the last year and the year before.

Commissioner Lee asked if the students received free Metro passes. Lieutenant Barga confirmed that they did.

4. Office of Mayor's Office Ward 2 Mayor's Liaisons – Tiffany Wimenta, Ward 2 Community Outreach & Relations Specialist, tiffany.wimenta@dc.gov, 202-297-6566 Mobile; Jimika Williams, jimika.williams@dc.gov, Ward 2 Liaison.

Jimika Williams reported that the Chief Financial Officer reminded local DC taxpayers that local tax returns are due on April 15. The budget season was very challenging, and many residents had concerns about the proposed changes and other budget-related requests. All of the concerns were flagged to the Mayor's executive leadership team, and they informed Jimika Williams that the Mayor planned to release her proposed budget in April. DPW Spring Services were underway, including street sweeping and alley cleaning. She reminded everyone that parking restrictions were in effect from March 3 through October 31, and that vehicles parked in violation of posted signs were subject to ticketing and towing. The Department of Health (DHS) lifted the Potomac River recreation advisory for Washington DC. The final steps were underway to restore full flow to the Potomac interceptor, with a mid-March target for completion of emergency repairs. March is Women's History Month, and the Mayor's office was hosting several events. Ward 2 Residents Roll Off Day will take place on March 28 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., which is an opportunity to dispose of bulk trash. The Mayor's office also supported the 2026 National Cherry Blossom Festival, which ran from March 20 through April 12. The Mayor's Office of Community Relations and Services (MOCRS) Office of Community Relations and Services (MOCRS) will host a Ward 2 Spring Community Cleanup on April 25 at Garrison Elementary. Volunteers and local businesses interested in participating were being sought. The Freedom 250 Grand Prix will be held from August 21 through August 23, and the race route map has been released. The Downtown DC BID was thanked for their support during the HerStory 5K.

Commissioner Shankle stated that he appreciated that DHS continued to monitor the area around the MLK Jr. Memorial Library and do cleanups, but he did not appreciate the cleanup signs that were screwed, bolted, and nailed into the trees around the library. He was drafting a letter to DHS and asked that it also be sent to the Mayor's office. Jimika Williams stated that she would flag the issue on March 11. Commissioner Shankle stated that if the ANC was weighing in on something, they needed more than 72 hours' notice, as was the case with the HerStory 5K, so that it could come to a monthly meeting and create an atmosphere in which each activity was evaluated fairly. He asked for those events to come to an ANC meeting. Commissioner Shankle raised serious concerns about the Freedom 250 race, the Mayor's support for it, and the lack of updates. Jimika Williams noted that the Trump Administration had signed an executive order and stated that she would provide additional information.

Commissioner Swart stated that he had not received a response from the Mayor after sending a letter regarding the Sound Mitigation Act. Jimika Williams confirmed that she flagged the letter he sent.

5. Office of Ward 2 Councilmember Brooke Pinto – Brooke Pinto Councilmember, Ward 2, bpinto@bpinto@dccouncil.us, 202-724-8058; Diya Mehta, Constituent Services, dmehta@dccouncil.us, 202-285-9195.

Diya Mehta reported that DPW's oversight hearing before the Council was held, and Councilmember Pinto asked questions about staffing issues, timely trash and recycling collection, lessons from the January snowstorm, and parking enforcement. Any Christmas trees should be brought as close as possible to a city trash collection point. Leaf collection ended. The winter storm caused many potholes and damaged posts; any issues spotted should be reported to 311. Water main breaks were still ongoing, and any suspicious water should be reported to DC Water.

The Mayor announced that the ban on recreational activity in the Potomac River was lifted, and that E. coli levels were safe for recreational use for a couple of weeks. The last overflow in the river was over a month ago. Swimming was still prohibited. DC Water began remediation work at the spill site, and the damaged section was expected to be completed by mid-March. Drinking water stayed safe throughout the crisis. Councilmember Pinto urged the Department of Energy and the Environment to conduct more frequent water testing, and they increased testing from weekly to daily. The spill was unrelated to the Potomac River Tunnel Project, which was ongoing until 2030 and aimed to capture over 90% of the regular combined sewer overflows that occurred regularly after storms.

The Council was nearing the end of agency oversight hearings. The Mayor's FY 27 budget proposal will be received soon. MPD's 12-hour hearing featured over 100 public witnesses, yet many questions and concerns remained about coordination with immigration enforcement. There were three federal officer-involved shootings in the past six months. Councilmember Pinto and her colleagues continued to explore the best ways to protect the community.

The Council unanimously passed two bills. The first legislation would require an MPD officer be on scene when a federal officer involved use of force and that the footage from the MPD officer bodycam be made public within 5 days with the victim's or victim's family's consent if someone was harmed, require the names of directly involved federal enforcement officers be included in MPD's database after a serious or deadly use of force of incident. The second bill included provisions for collecting information about federal officers.

Congress voted along party lines to pass a disapproval resolution of the DC Council's decision to decouple from the federal tax code. States were able to decide how to apply federal tax changes locally, and the Council preferred to keep locally decided tax deductions in place. The DC Attorney General released an opinion that this disapproval was not passed within the required timeframe and was invalid. The CFO released a letter agreeing and advised residents to file as they normally would.

Commissioner Swart asked when the Mayor's budget would be decided in April. Diya Mehta stated that it was under the purview of the Mayor, but she had stated that it would occur sometime in April.

6. DowntownDC BID, Ellouise Johnson, Deputy Director of Public Space Operations, Lukas Umana, Director of Public Space Operations, lukas@downtowndc.org, 202.270.0366.

Ellouise Johnson presented the Clean and Safe data for January and February 2026, noting that the team was still working to remove stickers and graffiti, some of which were derogatory but were removed quickly. Ellouise Johnson discussed the daily functions of the BID operations team, including green space maintenance, street sweeping, unhoused community support, landscaping, stakeholder engagement, leaf collection, city drain cleaning, weed whacking, public activations, and public/private partnerships.

The upcoming activations included the Cherry Blossom Festival, the Kite Festival, Petalpalooza, a parade on April 11, the Sakura & GoGo Anthem Row activation, Jazz and Blossom Franklin Park, and the DJ Festival on K. Street, featuring Black Coffee. Everyone was encouraged to attend the events. The recent public art activations included the My Ly design Lunar New Year Lantern on Anthem Row and the Lunar New Year Parade.

The Chinatown Safety Team has been operating for 22 months, and the FY2026 Safe Corridor Grants included funding for two safety ambassadors for six hours per day.

Commissioner Shankle asked about the cleanup around the MLK Jr. library and whether DHS had put up the signs. Ellouise Johnson stated that the Mayor's team handled the signage, and the BID's portion included engagement with the unhoused, pressure washing, and mounting the signs. Commissioner Shankle noted that he had never seen the signs indicating that camping or the storage of items was not permitted. Ellouise Johnson stated that there had been similar signs before, and the intent was to notify people about the cleanup. She stated that she would let the other departments in the Mayor's office know about how the signs were

mounted and that it was not acceptable. Commissioner Shankle stated that DDOT installed a number of posts for parking years ago and asked whether those posts would be removed since they were no longer in use. Ellouise Johnson confirmed that she would ask. Commissioner Shankle noted that the posts were not maintained and lacked stickers.

Commissioner Lee suggested including a graph for the statistics to see the work over time. Ellouise Johnson stated that she would look into including that for the future.

Commissioner Swart stated that he had requested intervention for an unhoused individual, which was carried out. He asked about handling cases where someone had an encampment set up and was happy with where they were. Ellouise Johnson stated that they were working with their outreach department to find a solution. Commissioner Swart stated that he appreciated the efforts. Ellouise Johnson stated that she would also schedule a meeting with the new director of the outreach department to work with him.

Commissioner Groth commented that it would be great for the new director of the outreach department to attend one of their meetings.

ANNOUNCEMENTS – None

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE AND CANNABIS LICENSING (ABCA)

1. Jaleo at 470 7th Street, NW, Retailer's Class C Restaurant ABC License (ABRA-121497); Streatory Endorsement(s), request for stipulated endorsement, Daniel Moline, Project Manager, JOSÉ ANDRÉS GROUP, T 202 638 1910, M 703 638 3098, daniel.moline@joseandres.com.

Commissioner Shankle presented the streatory endorsement that Jaleo had. There were 24 seats, and the proposed operating hours were 11:00 a.m. through 11:00 p.m. It was a long-standing streatory.

MOTION: Groth moved to send a letter of support for the stipulated endorsement for ABRA-121497. Seconded by Lee. Approved unanimously. (Vote 4-0-0)

2. Oyamel at 401 7th Street, NW, Retailer's Class C Restaurant ABC License (ABRA-075944); Streatory Endorsement(s), request for stipulated endorsement, Daniel Moline, Project Manager, JOSÉ ANDRÉS GROUP, T 202 638 1910, M 703 638 3098, daniel.moline@joseandres.com.

It was noted that Oyamel was under the same group as Jaleo.

MOTION: Groth moved to send a letter of support for the stipulated endorsement for ABRA-075944. Seconded by Shankle. Approved unanimously. (Vote 4-0-0)

3. Immigrant Food, IFood Franklin Square, LLC, (ABRA-118473, Streatery Endorsement(s), request for stipulated endorsement, Tea Ivanovic, 202.888.0760, weare@immigrantfood.com.

Commissioner Shankle reported that the license was for the streatery endorsement with alcohol service Sunday through Saturday from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. The location was 925 13th Street.

MOTION: Swart moved to send a letter of support for the stipulated endorsement for ABRA-118473. Seconded by Groth. Approved unanimously. (Vote 4-0-0)

COMMUNITY GRANTS

1. World Outreach nonprofit wellness and mobile hygiene initiative for the unhoused community at the MLK Library, funding for rental of a mobile shower unit. Rachel Wright, 202-709-9338, worldoutreach0521@yahoo.com.

No one was present to represent the organization.

Commissioner Groth noted that the amount requested was beyond their scale, given the resources and grants provided to other groups. There were also showers at the Downtown Day Services Center five days per week, with shuttles running to and from the MLK Library. Groth proposed asking them to return with a scaled-down request for something specific that would be a unique value-add to the situation.

Commissioner Shankle agreed that it could be duplicative of other activities in the area. He stated that he appreciated the job training component, but more information was needed.

Commissioner Groth stated that she would send the letter to provide feedback and request more information.

MOTION: Shankle moved to send a letter tabling the request and requesting more information. Seconded by Swart. Approved unanimously. (Vote 4-0-0)

TRANSPORTATION/PUBLIC SPACE

1. DDOT 16th Street Beautification project Aliya Mejias, 202.934.2520, aliya.mejias@dc.gov.

Aliya Mejias, the DDOT project manager for the 16th Street Beautification project, introduced herself and provided information on the project. The project scope included installing raised landscaped medians in the center of the roadway to provide stormwater benefits and add color and interest throughout the year. The existing conditions were reviewed, and it was noted that the vehicle roadway was two-way with one lane in each direction. The median was a bit more

narrow by the Hay-Adams Hotel, and there was 15-minute parking that would remain. Without a median break, illegal U-turns were occurring, so the design would prevent them.

The concept design was reviewed. Within the curb stops, the medians would be installed. The main goals were to increase beauty and safety. Trees would be planted for cooling effects and stormwater management. There was a break for anyone needing to access the St. Regis Hotel or to continue traveling north. Traffic analyses were still underway for the turning analysis, so there could be slight adjustments to the planters or the curb. The sample planting was presented, and Aliya Mejias noted that they were still deciding on all of the plantings.

The project schedule was reviewed, with construction completion anticipated in the winter of 2027.

Commissioner Groth read a statement addressing the removal of the Black Lives Matter Plaza public street mural, research on enslaved residents in the Lafayette Square area, and constituent input on the 16th Street Beautification project. One constituent wrote that making it harder to stand in Lafayette Park added insult to injury after Mayor Bowser removed the letters in 2025. There were 25 responses to Commissioner Groth's poll, and the majority favored leaving the median open until DC had autonomy over its public art. Commissioner Groth read comments from other constituents regarding the project.

Commissioner Groth asked if there would be an NOI and time for public comments. Aliya Mejias reported that there would not be an NOI because the traffic orientation would not change. The loose deadline was the end of April, and the comments would be posted. Commissioner Groth stated that transparency of the comments would be beneficial in restoring trust on a very politically-sensitive area. Commissioner Groth asked for confirmation that there was no DC America 250 Mural project, referring to the Mayor's March 2025 statement that Black Lives Matter Plaza had been planned to 'evolve.' Aliya Mejias reported that she could not confirm or deny it and stated that there would not be a conflict, because the street mural would be temporary. Commissioner Groth commented that the project was effectively filling up the area. She asked whether the landscape design would take into account the First Amendment uses of the space to accommodate the large number of pedestrians. Aliya Mejias reported that the median itself would be 12 feet, and people could protest in the street. She noted that they were accounting for the possibility of the plantings being trampled during maintenance. Commissioner Groth raised concerns about the increased future costs of returning the space to curb-to-curb murals.

Commissioner Shankle asked why there was no mention of Black Lives Matter Plaza and whether there was any intent to recognize the area's significance in the design. Aliya Mejias reported that it was still legally named Black Lives Matter Plaza and that they were operating under caution due to the political sensitivity of the project. Commissioner Shankle asked if the pedestrian areas on the ends of the medians were accessible. Aliya Mejias reported that the crosswalks would be accessible, there would be a 16-inch curb, and people could stand there. There would also be a nose cap at the intersection, hardened to discourage people from driving

over it. Commissioner Shankle stated that he appreciated the design's thoughtfulness, but, from a political standpoint, there were some challenges.

Commissioner Lee asked how long the project was. Aliya Mejias reported that the construction was one year, but the maintenance would continue afterward.

Commissioner Swart asked if the idea was run by the local businesses. Aliya Mejias confirmed that they had a meeting with them, and many questions focused on the impacts of construction. The businesses will be communicated with in advance of any issues.

Commissioner Lee asked about the project's cost. Aliya Mejias reported that the design cost was \$300,000 and the construction cost was \$3 million.

Commissioner Groth asked how the project was being funded. Aliya Mejias reported that it was funded through federal and some local funds for construction under the purview of Mayor Bowser.

Commissioner Swart noted that the design was beautiful.

MOTION: Groth moved that ANC 2C is in favor of DDOT accomplishing only the traffic safety and pedestrian safety portions of the 16th Street project, such as improved signage and measures to prevent illegal U-turns, without installing raised curbs or landscaping. Seconded by Shankle. Approved. (Vote 2-1-1)

Commissioner Shankle consulted the bylaws to confirm that a simple majority was required to affirm the vote.

2. DDOT NOI 26-48-TPA, 19th Street and Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, DDOT will temporarily relocate a diplomatic parking zone for the Embassy of Mexico, to the west side of the 800 block of 19th Street NW during a two-year construction project on Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Shirmeka Hines, Shirmeka.Hines@dc.gov.

Commissioner Shankle reported that the NOI was to move that section of parking to the other side of the street.

Christopher Wassmer provided information on the project. He reported that DDOT was constructing Pennsylvania Avenue NW from 17th Street to Washington Circle. A diplomatic parking zone was moved up to 19th Street on the northern section, near an alleyway. The change would convert 60 feet of metered parking to a diplomatic parking zone.

MOTION: Shankle moved to send a letter of support for DDOT NOI-26-48-TPA. Seconded by Swart. Approved unanimously. (Vote 4-0-0)

3. DDOT NOI 26-02-MSED, M Street and 15th Street, NW, reconfiguration of left lane of M Street to left-turn-only, and addition of six full-time parking spaces on left side of M Street. K. Kelly Jeong-Olson, 202.345.7105, e. kelly.jeong-olson1@dc.gov.

Azadeh Norouzi and Selamawit Bekele provided information on the DDOT project. The project was part of a federally funded, data-driven highway safety improvement project. The crash patterns were reviewed to try to address safety issues. The improvements included lane configuration, a pedestrian refuge island, and changes to the parking restrictions. The proposed improvements were reviewed on a rendering of the street. The goal of the reconfiguration was to improve traffic flow, reduce driver confusion, and reduce the number of lane changes. A left-turn arrow marking and a through-arrow marking will be added. On the southern portion of 15th Street, a concrete island was proposed, with the intent to reduce the distance of the crosswalk and to improve visibility for traffic coming northbound.

Commissioner Shankle asked for clarification on the addition of the right turn and removal of parking and the bike lane. It was clarified that the bike lane was unaffected, but the parking was removed to add a left-turn lane. Only the left-hand parking was being removed.

Commissioner Shankle commented that he liked the addition of the pedestrian island.

Commissioner Lee recommended that the raised median be adequately signed to prevent cars from driving over it.

Commissioner Swart asked if the full-time parking spaces would be modified during rush hour. It was confirmed that all-day parking would be available with the modification.

MOTION: Shankle moved to send a letter of support for DDOT NOI-26-02-MSED. Seconded by Groth. Approved unanimously. (Vote 4-0-0)

4. DDOT NOI 26-13-CPD, L Street NW (between 12th and 11th Streets NW), connecting to existing protected bike lanes on 11th Street NW between Pennsylvania Avenue NW and L Street NW. Christopher Berg, Transportation Planner, Bikeways Branch, 202.671.2800, Christopher.berg@dc.gov.

Christopher Wassmer reported that the NOI was for the project that would connect the existing protected bike lanes on 11th Street NW between Pennsylvania Avenue NW and L Street NW. It would create two miles of protected bike lanes. The existing bike lane on L Street ended at 12th Street, so the project would complete the gap. The change would eliminate six parking spaces. The property owner of the nearby building was being worked with to keep the shuttle for their employees operating. The current configuration and the final design were presented.

Commissioner Shankle asked if it was a protected bike lane. Christopher Wassmer clarified that it was on L Street and semi-protected.

Commissioner Swart asked about eliminating parking. Christopher Wassmer reported that the property owner was okay with it; they just wanted to ensure that their shuttle could operate.

Commissioner Lee asked if there would be curbs on the bike lane, or just markings. Christopher Wassmer confirmed that the block would have concrete curbs between the bike lane and the travel lane. It would not be a continuous concern. Commissioner Lee raised concerns about curbs encroaching on the bike lane, a problem that has occurred in other areas. Christopher Wassmer stated that a 311 could be submitted for those issues. He noted that they could be hit by cars and displaced, but their team would relocate them or install a new one if needed.

MOTION: Groth moved to send a letter of support for DDOT NOI-26-13-CPD. Seconded by Shankle. Approved unanimously. (Vote 4-0-0)

Commissioner Shankle asked about removing the parking posts installed years ago that were no longer in use. Christopher Wassmer stated that he would look into it.

Commissioner Swart asked if the project was run by any of the residents at 1010 Massachusetts Avenue. Christopher Wassmer stated that they did extensive outreach near the changes, but he was unsure.

5. Report on supporting Streateries when they provide ADA access not otherwise readily achievable by a restaurant Commissioner Groth, 771-209-4799, 2C02@anc.dc.gov.

Commissioner Groth stated that she did not yet have a resolution on streateries. She reported that she attended hearings on applications for permanent street closures and learned a lot about the specifications. A virtual meeting for Commissioner Groth with the Board was scheduled for March 16 to amplify the use of streateries to make restaurants ADA-compliant that would otherwise not be.

Commissioner Swart noted that he supports Commissioner Groth's position on streateries and took the time to express in writing the need for restaurants wanting streateries to follow their required rules regarding ADA requirements. He noted that the specifics of those requirements could vary. Commissioner Groth asked him to forward it to her. Commissioner Groth exited the meeting.

PLANNING, ZONING, ENVIRONMENT, and HISTORIC PRESERVATION

1. 503-517 H ST NW, HPA 26-149, revised concept for hotel tower addition. Stephan Rodiger, Managing Partner, Rift Valley Capital, 202.361.0570, stephan@riftvalleycapital.com.

Stephan Rodiger provided an update on the Chinatown Marriott Tribute Hotel. The existing properties were cleaned up over the summer. Work was done with the DC Council to secure a tax abatement for the property, and in October, the entire assembly was closed on. The proposal included a 154 Key Marriott Tribute Hotel, a Neighborhood Asian Market, a restaurant

and bar, and ground-floor retail. The major changes included adding an additional floor to the hotel and redesigning the hotel's exterior architectural elements and building materials. The Asian Market will be operated with input from the Wah Luck House. One space will be leased to a business or non-profit that enhances the cultural heritage of the Chinatown neighborhood. There will be a minimum donation of \$300,000 to the Chinatown long-term lease grant program.

Stephan Rodiger reviewed the timeline, highlighting the ongoing neighborhood outreach and support. The historic public meeting is scheduled for March 26, and the food and beverage operator will be announced in quarter two of 2026. The BZA meetings will resume in April, and permitting is moving forward. The goal was to close in a year, and construction was planned for two years. The opening was estimated to occur in quarter two of 2029.

Renderings of the construction were provided. There were different options for the color palette, and the decision on color had not yet been made. The agreement with the Historic Preservation to return to the original brick remained.

Commissioner Shankle asked about the building's height and whether it was comparable to nearby buildings. Stephan Rodiger reported that another 10 feet were added, bringing the total to 95.92 feet with the mechanical penthouse. The height was within the zoning requirements. Commissioner Shankle asked about concerns to back trucks in or pulling in sideways. Stephan Rodiger reported that the Chinatown East Board had asked the same question and confirmed, based on studies, that there was sufficient space.

June Gao, the president of the Chinatown East Board, shared that residents were very concerned about the building's height due to excessive shadowing on their building. Approximately a third of their units would lose too much sunlight. She requested that another study be conducted on the level of shadowing that would occur and that the building plan be reduced. She noted that she would love to see Chinatown revitalized.

Mike Anderson, another Chinatown East Board member, raised additional concerns about the height. He discussed the installation of rooftop solar panels that was part of responding to DC policy. He discussed the resulting property loss caused by shadowing.

Commissioner Shankle asked if it was a right-to-build permit. Stephan Rodiger stated that it was a right to build and that it was not currently a BZA. He noted that they needed to agree with the condo on a consultant to evaluate the electricity loss caused by shading. The impact on the windows will be included in the model to determine the effect on the shadow study.

MOTION: Shankle moved to send a letter of support for HPA 26-149, in addition to a letter expressing concern about the comments of the Chinatown East Condominiums regarding overshadowing and solar panel issues. Seconded by Lee. (Vote 3-0-0)

OTHER

None.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Shankle moved to Adjourn at 9:10 p.m. Seconded by Lee. (Vote 3-0-0)

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Prepared by: Minutes Services, edited by Commissioner Nancy Groth, Secretary

Approved on: At a regularly scheduled and properly noticed public meeting held on April 14, 2026, with a quorum of 3 of 4 commissioners being present, Advisory Neighborhood Commission (“ANC”) 2C voted to approve these Minutes by a vote of 3-0-0.

Attested by: Commissioner Nancy Groth, Secretary

Signature: *Nancy Groth, electronic signature*

Date: *April 24, 2026*



Nancy Groth (she/her)

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2C
Commissioner, 2C02

2C02@anc.dc.gov

771-209-4799 voicemail and text messages

March 10, 2026: ANC 2C DDOT “16th Street Beautification” Project

Ironically, today is an anniversary: one year ago today, the jackhammers and bulldozers arrived at Black Lives Matter Plaza. Six days earlier, Mayor Bowser had released a Statement that read in part:

We have long considered Black Lives Matter Plaza’s evolution and the plaza will be part of DC’s America 250 mural project, where we will invite students and artists to create new murals across all eight Wards.

A year ago yesterday, I held constituent service open-air-office hours in the pedestrian median area of the Plaza, and we witnessed members of the Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity pray, sing and honor the significance of the mural. I am also reminded of the presentation I heard by DC enslavement historian CR Gibbs at a 2025 Emancipation Day event, elaborating his research into the history of enslaved residents in Lafayette Square and Decatur House, and that enslaved residents’ remains could very well be present under our modern Square and neighborhood.

Since DDOT was gracious in giving me an individual briefing on this Project a few weeks ago, I have been soliciting constituent input focused mostly in my own Single Member District 2C02, as well as other contacts throughout Ward 2, as we are the residents, organizations, and businesses who directly witness and bear the hosting nature of what the 800 and 900 blocks of 16th Street has become. One 2C02 constituent captured many of the comments in one email:

Regarding the plan to fill the median with plants, I have several thoughts. With the East Wing construction possibly ongoing for many years, the White House has basically removed all public access to Lafayette Park. Lafayette Park serves both as a nice green space in the city and as a historical location for protesting. There are endless examples, including the one that led to the creation of Black Lives Matter Plaza. One prominent example of long-term protest in Lafayette Park was the White House Peace Vigil that ran from 1981 when William Thomas started it until it was unceremoniously removed on September 7th this past year. Making it harder to stand in or march through Black Lives Matter Plaza is a further insult after the removal of the letters last year by the Mayor. Our obeying the federal government in advance has only resulted in our city being occupied by troops, and I think we need to stand by the First Amendment for once instead of capitulating and allowing another public space to not be available for First Amendment activity.

I have attempted polling of my constituents, and out of about 25 responses to the following choices, the results were roughly:

- A. A new street mural, with public input and diverse submissions **16%**
- B. Leave the median blank and open until such time as DC has autonomy over our public art **80%**
- C. Install landscaping in the median as proposed by the “16th Street Beautification” Project **4%** (one response which suggested that if we must endure landscaping, that the color palette reflect the red-and-white colors of DC, such as the DC State Tree Scarlet Oak <https://os.dc.gov/page/dc-symbols> and white-blooming magnolias)
- D. Other, please specify **0%** (only one response suggesting specific public art that I counted as consistent with Choice A)

Another comment came from a 2C02 community leader, after I flippantly referred to this Project as ‘lipstick on a pig:’

It’s more than lipstick on a pig, it is “beauty” as a tool of silence.

“Beauty” is in the eye of the beholder. The 16th Street median appears to some of us as a scar or open wound since March 10, 2025, and leaving it blank and open seems authentic to our times. Autonomy is Safe and Beautiful. Self-Determination is Safe and Beautiful. Democracy is Safe and Beautiful.

Indeed, I believe that we in DC have a stewardship responsibility for the 800 and 900 blocks of 16th Street as the physical, visual, and symbolic path of 1st Amendment expression of ‘marching on the White House.’ Leaving the median open and accessible to pedestrians, very large numbers of them at times, is consistent with our Oath to preserve, protect, and defend not only the Constitution, including the 1st Amendment, but also the DC Home Rule Act.

Questions if not answered by DDOT presentation:

1. Is there an NOI for this Project that will be open for public comment?
2. Can you confirm that there is no DC America 250 mural project?
3. Will your landscape design take into account the 1st Amendment uses of this space, both to accommodate very large numbers of pedestrians, and to have a sturdy installation?

Motion: That ANC 2C is on record as in favor of DDOT accomplishing only the traffic safety and pedestrian safety portions of the “16th Street Beautification” Project, such as improved signage and measures to prevent illegal U-turns, without installing raised curbs or new landscaping. At a duly noticed, public, regular meeting of ANC 2C, with a quorum and 4 of 4 Commissioners present, the Motion passed by a vote of 2 Yay, 1 Nay, 1 Abstention.