



GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2B

November 15, 2020

Mr. Keith Anderson
Director
Department of General Services
2000 14th Street NW, 8th Floor
Washington, DC 20009
Keith.Anderson@dc.gov

RE: DC Public Restroom Initiative

Dear Director Anderson:

At its regular meeting on November 12, 2020, the Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission (“ANC 2B” or “Commission”) considered the above-referenced matter. With 8 of 8 Commissioners in attendance, a quorum at a duly-noticed public meeting, the Commission approved the following resolution by a vote of (8-0-0):

WHEREAS, the Department of General Services (DGS) created a survey for Advisory Neighborhood Commissions (ANCs) and business improvement districts (BIDs) to complete in reference to the potential placement of a public restroom in their respective communities,

WHEREAS, ANC 2B will complete the survey created by DGS and has been committed to the placement of public restrooms in the District since 2017 when the DC Public Restroom Initiative began,

WHEREAS, ANC 2B believes that the use of an anonymous survey as a means to collect feedback regarding public restroom locations from ANCS, BIDs, and Clean Teams is misplaced and that surveys should allow for responses from community stakeholders individually rather than from specified pre-selected entities,

WHEREAS, potential placement of a public restroom may benefit multiple populations, including seniors, the unhoused, tourists, and others and is supported by many citizens and community organizations,

WHEREAS, in speaking with community members and business leaders, there is some concern related to who will be responsible for the maintenance, oversight, and upkeep of the restrooms and the costs and labor incurred to do so,

WHEREAS, the Dupont Circle community may have limited capacity to perform the above mentioned functions, needing additional resources to provide the eyes and ears during the day and an additional security presence, similar to what has been coordinated in other American cities which have implemented public restrooms, and

WHEREAS, the Dupont Circle community previously had a public restroom but it was closed because of public health and safety concerns, namely illicit drug use, prostitution, and lack of general upkeep.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2B formally requests that the Department of General Services create a budget line item to ensure proper oversight, monitoring, and maintenance for every public restroom to be piloted in the District of Columbia.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the ANC 2B looks forward to working with community members and the Department of General Services to ensure that seniors, tourists, the unhoused, and others are able to access clean, accessible, and safe public restrooms in the District of Columbia.

Commissioners Kari Cunningham (2B07@anc.dc.gov) and Daniel Warwick (2B02@anc.dc.gov) are the Commission's representatives in this matter.

ON BEHALF OF THE COMMISSION.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Daniel Warwick". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Daniel Warwick
Chair