



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

May 18, 2013

Council of the District of Columbia  
The Wilson Building  
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20004

The Honorable Vincent Gray, Mayor  
District of Columbia  
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Suite 316  
Washington, DC 20004

Re: Consideration of resolution supporting funding for Garrison School project

At its regular meeting on May 8, 2013 the Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission (“ANC 2B” or “Commission”) considered the above-referenced matter. With all of the Commissioners present, a quorum at a duly-noticed public meeting, the Commission approved the following resolution by a vote of (9-0).

WHEREAS, Garrison Elementary school serves residents of ANC 2B, and DCPS designates a number of families in ANC2B to Garrison as their school of right;

WHEREAS, the Dupont Circle Community along with the Logan Circle Community are working together to make our neighborhood a place where families want to stay and raise their children, and having local options for all Dupont residents is essential to that goal;

WHEREAS, over the past three years, parents at Garrison have re-established a Parent-Teacher Association (PTA), developed strong partnerships with local community organizations, reached out to prospective parents, and worked directly with DCPS to improve the school;

WHEREAS, the PTA and community have greatly improved maintenance services at the school and groups through constant vigilance, volunteer efforts, and consistent advocacy;

WHEREAS, DCPS anticipates the neighborhoods served by Garrison will see an increase of 125 elementary students by 2015 and retaining these current and anticipated families is essential to our community;

WHEREAS, Garrison is in desperate need of capital investment as recognized in the 2010 Master Facilities plan including:

“Many interior spaces are in need of renovations”;  
“Ceiling finishes are in poor condition, Asbestos tile is present throughout and needs to be removed”;  
“Public address and fire alarm systems are antiquated and require replacement”;  
[Plumbing] fixtures are outdated and should be replaced;  
“Wooden exterior doors need to be replaced and all exterior windows have deteriorated and need to be replaced”;  
ADA compliance is “unsatisfactory” and the building “needs numerous upgrades in order to accomplish [compliance]”;

WHEREAS, Garrison has not undergone a single renovation since opening in 1964;

WHEREAS, Garrison has an educational facilities effectiveness (EFEI) score of 36 percent according to the 2013 Master Facilities Plan—one of the lowest in the District — and is one of the only public schools in the area (DCPS or charter) that has not been partially or fully modernized;

WHEREAS, the Master Facilities Plan recommends complete, rather than phased-in, school modernizations;

WHEREAS, Professional pro bono services and non-DCPS funds have been secured to defray the costs of modernization, and the PTA and community stand ready to further assist;

WHEREAS, the modernization at Garrison has been delayed three times in the last three years, and the Mayor’s current proposed budget anticipates starting the renovation in 2015, with completion in 2022—9 years away; and

WHEREAS; Capital investment in Garrison has been too often postponed and is long overdue in order to meet population growth in the area and to ensure the diversity, vitality and coherence of the community.

Therefore, be it resolved that ANC 2B recommends that the City Council appropriate \$16 million to fully fund Garrison’s modernization in Fiscal Year 2014 to allow for a complete, one-time modernization.

Commissioners Stephanie Maltz([stephanie.maltz@dupontcircleanc.net](mailto:stephanie.maltz@dupontcircleanc.net)), Will Stephens ([will.stephens@dupontcircleanc.net](mailto:will.stephens@dupontcircleanc.net)), and Mike Feldstein ([mike.feldstein@dupontcircleanc.net](mailto:mike.feldstein@dupontcircleanc.net)) are the Commission’s representatives in this matter.

ON BEHALF OF THE COMMISSION.

Sincerely,



Will Stephens, Chair

cc:  
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