



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

May 21, 2014

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

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

Dear Mayor Gray and Council Members,

At its regular meeting on May 19, 2014, the Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission (“ANC 2B” or “Commission”) discussed the proposed concept to cover the Conn Ave NW underpass north of Dupont Circle. In 2010, we passed a similar resolution requesting the Office of Planning and the District Department of Transportation to study the feasibility of the project. We have had very productive meetings with OP and DDOT, as well as the surrounding business community and other stakeholders.

As described in more detail in our resolution below, we are asking you all to include this project in the capital improvement budget, starting in FY 2015. This project would revitalize the area and create an amazing new piece of public space for vending, programming, and community gathering.

At our ANC meeting, with 6 of 9 Commissioners in attendance, a quorum at a duly-noticed public meeting, the Commission approved the following resolution by a vote of (6-0):

WHEREAS, in June 2010, the Commission passed a resolution asking the District (including the Office of Planning and the Department of Transportation) to study the feasibility of covering the Connecticut Avenue underpass north of Dupont Circle with park space;

WHEREAS, for many years, residents and other stakeholders in Dupont Circle have advocated for such a project, which would have an extremely positive impact on the community and take advantage of an underutilized piece of public space;

WHEREAS, over the past two years, an ad hoc group of Commissioners, business community representatives, and representatives from the Office of Planning, the Department of Transportation, and the Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Engagement have held a series of productive meetings to develop the project more concretely;

WHEREAS, the working group has developed an initial rendering of the park space (designed by a local volunteer architect) and an initial budget estimate for the work (developed by a local construction contracting company);

WHEREAS, the proposed project would cover the 1500 block of Connecticut Ave NW (between the Circle and Q Street NW) and a portion of the 1600 block of Connecticut Ave NW (just north of Q Street NW);

WHEREAS, Ward 2 Council Member Jack Evans has endorsed the project at budget town hall meetings and other public fora and has requested that it be added to the capital improvement budget for FY 2015;

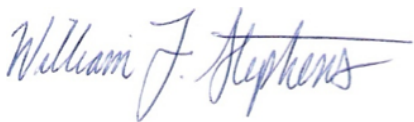
Therefore, be it resolved that ANC 2B continues its support for the Dupont Circle Underpass Project;

Be it further resolved that ANC 2B recommends that the City Council fully fund the project by allocating sufficient funds in Fiscal Year 2015 to allow for the project to move forward;

Be it further resolved that Commissioners Mike Feldstein (Mike.feldstein@dupontcircleanc.net) and Will Stephens (will.stephens@dupontcircleanc.net) be the Commission's designated representatives in this matter, and that the matter be delegated to the Commission's Transportation and Public Infrastructure Committee for further follow-up and development.

ON BEHALF OF THE COMMISSION.

Sincerely,



Will Stephens
Chairman

cc: gottlieb.simon@dc.gov