



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

April 25, 2019

Councilmember Brianne Nadeau  
Chair, Committee on Human Services  
Council of the District of Columbia  
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Suite 102  
Washington, DC 20004  
[bnadeau@dccouncil.us](mailto:bnadeau@dccouncil.us)

Mr. Mathew McCollough  
Director  
Office of Disability Rights  
441 4th Street NW, Suite 729 North  
Washington, DC 20001  
[Mathew.McCollough@dc.gov](mailto:Mathew.McCollough@dc.gov)

RE: Installation of Hearing Loop Technology in Spaces Used for Official DC Government Business, Including Hearing Rooms in the Wilson Building, Judiciary Square, and the Reeves Center

Dear Councilmember Nadeau and Director McCollough:

At its regular meeting on April 10, 2019, the Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission (“ANC 2B” or “Commission”) considered the above-referenced matter. With 9 of 9 Commissioners in attendance, a quorum at a duly-noticed public meeting, the Commission approved the following resolution by a vote of (9-0-0):

WHEREAS, tens of thousands of DC residents are effectively excluded from full participation in public meetings, performances, and events due to hearing loss,

WHEREAS, while the Americans with Disabilities Act requires public venues to be equipped with assisted hearing systems, many such systems currently in use are routinely ineffective, malfunctioning, or non-existent,

WHEREAS, one effective solution is the installation of hearing loops in venues that use public address systems because these loop systems send a clear signal to hearing aids and cochlear implants not unlike a Bluetooth device,

WHEREAS, hearing loops provide a superior quality sound and do not require users to wear special receivers that are too often missing or malfunctioning,

WHEREAS, installation of hearing loop systems during new building construction and renovation is cost effective because they require minimal maintenance and do not require volunteers or staff to operate,

WHEREAS, hearing aid users and people with cochlear implants can simply turn on the telecoil feature of their hearing device to access the hearing loops,

WHEREAS, hearing loops are commonly used in Europe and are increasingly being used in the U.S., and

WHEREAS, the Maryland Senate and House have passed legislation mandating the installation and use of hearing loops in certain government buildings and public venues.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2B urges the DC Council to install hearing loops in room 500 and other hearing rooms in the Wilson Building, as well as in those venues where Alcoholic Beverage Control Board hearings and Historic Preservation Review Board hearings are held, and other venues where the DC Council determines that the installation of such loop systems is warranted.

Commissioners Mike Silverstein ([2B06@anc.dc.gov](mailto:2B06@anc.dc.gov)) and Daniel Warwick ([2B02@anc.dc.gov](mailto: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