



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

August 28, 2019

Mr. Matthew Marcou
Chair, Public Space Committee
District Department of Transportation
1100 4th Street SW, Third Floor
Washington, DC 20004
PublicSpace.Committee@dc.gov

RE: Restore Mass Ave's Proposal for a Dupont Tree Plaza Adjacent to the PNC Bank at 1913 Massachusetts Avenue NW

Dear Chair Marcou:

At its regular meeting on July 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, Restore Mass Ave, a nonprofit working to restore the historic tree canopy and landscape of Embassy Row, is proposing a plan to transform the public space adjacent to 1913 Massachusetts Avenue NW into a shaded, inviting community space known informally as the Dupont Tree Plaza,

WHEREAS, the location of the proposed Dupont Tree Plaza is within ANC 2B,

WHEREAS, ANC 2B recognizes that public space use is a privilege, not a right,

WHEREAS, the proposed site is currently being utilized by the Dupont Circle Farmers Market on Sundays and contains one of DC's largest and most frequently used Capital Bikeshare stations,

WHEREAS, ANC 2B is a long-term proponent of the growth and usage of Capital Bikeshare across the neighborhood and region,

WHEREAS, Restore Mass Ave's proposal is to excavate and replace the current paved area with new native trees and plantings, an integrated stormwater bioretention system, permeable pavers, a pollinator rain garden, and new area lighting,

WHEREAS, Restore Mass Ave has been engaged with community stakeholders including FRESHFARM, the Dupont Circle BID, Historic Dupont Circle Main Streets, the District Department of Transportation, and ANC 2B on the development and design of the project,

WHEREAS, ANC 2B recognizes the importance of trees, plants, and permeable landscaping and rain gardens as important elements in the urban ambiance and charm of the Dupont Circle community, while also promoting safety, economic development, historic importance, and resiliency, and

WHEREAS, ANC 2B believes that the proposal will improve the built environment along Massachusetts Avenue NW.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2B supports the concept of the proposed Dupont Tree Plaza.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2B supports a design of the Dupont Tree Plaza which:

- Will continue to accommodate the significant pedestrian traffic at a prominent intersection in the neighborhood, and
- Ensures the same number or more Capital Bikeshare docks will continue to exist in close proximity to the site if the bikeshare station needs to be reduced or moved.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2B requests and expects that the Restore Mass Ave project team will continue to engage and consult with community stakeholders on the evolution, timeline, and development of the project.

Commissioners Daniel Warwick (2B02@anc.dc.gov) and Randy Downs (2B05@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