



# GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

## Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2B

### Regular Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, October 13th, 2021; 7:00 p.m.  
Online via Zoom

### Call to Order

The regular October 2021 meeting of the Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission (Commission or ANC 2B) was called to order by Chair Matthew Holden at 7:02 pm.

### Introduction of Commissioners

The Commissioners identified their single member districts (SMDs). Present were: Meg Roggensack (2B01), Robin Nunn (2B03), Mo Pasternak (2B04), Mike Silverstein (2B06), Michael Scott McKernan (2B07), Matthew Holden (2B08), and Kyle Mulhall (2B09).

### Announcements and Public Comments

#### Commissioner Announcements

Chair Holden and Commissioners Roggensack, Silverstein, and Mulhall gave commissioner announcements.

#### Committee Updates

Commissioner Pasternak, Chair of the ANC's Mobility Committee (MC), gave committee updates.

#### Other Public Announcements and General Comments or Future Agenda Items

Nick DelleDonne, the President of the Dupont East Civic Action Association (DECAA); Joe Florio, a Ward 2 representative for the Mayor's Office of Community Relations and Services (MOCRS); Brian Romanowski, the Constituent Services Coordinator for Councilmember Brooke Pinto's Office; Japer Bowles, the Director of the Mayor's Office of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Questioning (LGBTQ) Affairs; and Susan Volman, the President of the Dupont Circle Citizens Association (DCCA), gave other public announcements and general comments or future agenda items.

### Alcoholic Beverage Control Board Agenda

Little Chicken / Grazie Nonna – Application for a New Retailer's Class "C" Restaurant License at 1100 15th Street NW

*The Commission did not take any action regarding this matter.*

Akedo – Application for a New Retailer’s Class “C” Tavern License at 1100 15th Street NW

Commissioner Pasternak moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Chair Holden seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 7-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

ANC 2B supports Akedo’s request for a stipulated license as part of the establishment’s application for a new Retailer’s Class “C” Tavern license at 1100 15th Street NW based on the following conditions:

- the interior hours stated in the application be amended to reflect a closing of 3:00 am on Saturdays,
- the hours of operation and sales/service/consumption for the summer garden stated in the application be amended to be Sunday through Thursday from 8:00 am to 12:00 am and Friday through Saturday from 8:00 am to 2:00 am, and
- the hours of live entertainment for the summer garden stated in the application be amended to be Sunday through Thursday from 8:00 am to 10:00 pm and Friday through Saturday from 8:00 am to 12:00 am.

SHOTO – Application for a New Retailer’s Class “C” Restaurant License at 1100 15th Street NW

Commissioner Pasternak moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Chair Holden seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 7-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

ANC 2B supports SHOTO’s request for a stipulated license as part of the establishment’s application for a new Retailer’s Class “C” Restaurant license at 1100 15th Street NW based on the following conditions:

- the interior hours stated in the application be amended to reflect a closing of 3:00 am on Saturdays,
- the hours of operation and sales/service/consumption for the summer garden stated in the application be amended to be Sunday through Thursday from 8:00 am to 12:00 am and Friday through Saturday from 8:00 am to 2:00 am, and
- the hours of live entertainment for the summer garden stated in the application be amended to be Sunday through Thursday from 8:00 am to 10:00 pm and Friday through Saturday from 8:00 am to 12:00 am.

Foxtrot – Application for a New Retailer’s Class “B” Full Service Grocery Store License at 1601 Connecticut Avenue NW

Commissioner Nunn moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Silverstein seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 7-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

ANC 2B supports Foxtrot's request for a stipulated license as part of the establishment's application for a new Retailer's Class "B" Full Service Grocery Store license at 1601 Connecticut Avenue NW.

Foxtrot – Application for a New Retailer's Class "C" Restaurant License at 1601 Connecticut Avenue NW

Commissioner Nunn moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Silverstein seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 7-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

ANC 2B supports Foxtrot's request for a stipulated license as part of the establishment's application for a new Retailer's Class "C" Restaurant license at 1601 Connecticut Avenue NW.

Surfside Taco Stand – Application for a New Retailer's Class "C" Restaurant License at 1800 N Street NW

Commissioner Silverstein moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Chair Holden seconded the motion, which was later withdrawn.

Commissioner Silverstein moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Nunn seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 7-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

ANC 2B supports Surfside Taco Stand's request for a stipulated license as part of the establishment's application for a new Retailer's Class "C" Restaurant license at 1800 N Street NW.

**Land Use Agenda**

1899 Pennsylvania Avenue NW – Application for an Area Variance from the Penthouse Use Restrictions to Allow Habitable Penthouse Space Within the Restricted Security Zone

Commissioner Pasternak moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Silverstein seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 7-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

WHEREAS, 1899 Penn Property LLC, the applicant for Board of Zoning Adjustment (BZA) application #20541, is seeking support for an area variance from the general penthouse regulations to construct a penthouse addition atop 1899 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, located in the D-6 zone and White House security zone,

WHEREAS, the applicant presented a thoughtful and discrete addition to the existing rooftop structure that is not visible from surrounding public rights-of-way,

WHEREAS, the applicants noted that the U.S. Secret Service, via email, expressed no objection to the proposed plans, and

WHEREAS, ANC 2B believes that the concept plans appear to be in harmony with the general purpose and intent of the zoning regulations and zoning maps.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2B supports BZA application #20541 as presented in October of 2021.

Consideration of a Resolution Regarding the Updated Plans for the Stead Park Recreation Center Application Before the Historic Preservation Review Board

and

Consideration of a Resolution Regarding the Updated Plans for the Stead Park Recreation Center Application Before the U.S. Commission of Fine Arts

and

**Public Space Committee Agenda**

Public Space Application by the Department of General Services for Streetscape Improvements, Including New Seating, a New Retaining Wall, a New Trash Receptacle, Paving, and Landscaping, for the Stead Park Recreation Center Project at 1625 P Street NW

Chair Holden moved to adopt three proposed resolutions to the Historic Preservation Review Board, the U.S. Commission of Fine Arts, and the Public Space Committee regarding the matter. Commissioner Mulhall seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 7-0-0). The resolutions read as follows:

WHEREAS, the Department of General Services (DGS) is seeking support for updated plans for the Stead Park Recreation Center and related public space improvements,

WHEREAS, plans previously supported by ANC 2B had to be reconsidered in response to budget overruns and global supply chain challenges,

WHEREAS, the updated project plan largely accommodates all previous programmatic elements, with the exception of a dedicated area for outdoor adult fitness,

WHEREAS, the updated project will continue to be the first net zero building constructed by the Department of General Services and the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR),

WHEREAS, questions were raised regarding the general design of the new building, particularly in regard to the quality of the outdoor space beneath the solar canopy covering the children's play area, the loss of the outdoor programmable area with the proposed entry plaza, and the loss of existing trees and mature tree canopy between the building and P Street NW,

WHEREAS, suggestions were made to explore alternatives to chain link fencing surrounding the basketball court; consider opportunities for an outdoor programmable space at the new entry plaza and seating for companions of children; preserve to the greatest extent possible existing trees since the entry plaza will remain at its existing grade, and examine how to improve the quality and character of the outdoor space below the eastern-most solar canopy,

WHEREAS, ANC 2B's Land Use Committee felt that further design revisions might satisfactorily address the issues raised, and

WHEREAS, the project could benefit from continued community outreach and engagement led by the applicant team.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2B generally supports the revised project plans, with specific considerations listed above herein to be considered and incorporated in further consideration and development, and requests that the Department of Parks and Recreation and the project team continue to engage and consult with the ANC, park users, and community stakeholders on the continued development of the project until completion.

Public Space Application by Embassy of the Arab Republic of Egypt for Streetscape Improvements, Including Fence Repair, Restoration of Entrance Steps, New Walkway and Walkway Lighting, New Parking Lot, and Landscaping, at 1303 New Hampshire Avenue NW

Commissioner Silverstein moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Chair Holden seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 7-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

ANC 2B supports the Embassy of the Arab Republic of Egypt's public space application for streetscape improvements at 1303 New Hampshire Avenue NW.

Public Space Application by Swahili Village / The Consulate for a New, Un-Enclosed Sidewalk Café with 6 Tables and 20 Seats at 1990 M Street NW

Commissioner Silverstein moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Mulhall seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 7-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

ANC 2B supports Swahili Village / The Consulate's public space application for a new, un- enclosed sidewalk café with 6 tables and 20 seats at 1990 M Street NW based on the condition that there will be no increase in the footprint of the establishment's current sidewalk café.

## **General Agenda**

### **Consideration of a Resolution Regarding Pedestrian and Cyclist Safety at the Intersection of New Hampshire Avenue and S Street NW**

Chair Holden moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Pasternak seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 7-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

WHEREAS, on Friday, September 24, four year old Nathan Ballard-Means was struck by a SUV that failed to stop at the intersection of New Hampshire Avenue and S Street NW, while Nathan crossed on his balance bike in the crosswalk with his mother after stopping to check that the intersection was clear,

WHEREAS, while Nathan's injuries were minor, two other children – four year old Zy'aire Joshua and five year old Allison Hart – have lost their lives while crossing streets in their neighborhoods,

WHEREAS, a father and his six and eight year old daughters were struck and suffered serious injuries while crossing Mississippi Avenue and Wheeler Road SE as part of "Walk to School Day" on Wednesday October 6,

WHEREAS, as of October 1, thirty people have died in traffic-related collisions, including bicycle and pedestrian safety advocate Jim Pagels,

WHEREAS, Code for DC estimates that the number of collisions between vehicles and pedestrians or bicyclists is underreported by 30%,

WHEREAS, Vision Zero DC is an action plan to achieve zero traffic fatalities and serious injuries by 2024, including improvements to pedestrian and non-vehicle infrastructure,

WHEREAS, DC Auditor Kathy Patterson is now undertaking a complete audit of how the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) is implementing Vision Zero policies, including questions of equitable allocation of resources,

WHEREAS, the FY 2022 budget approved by the DC Council includes a mechanism to ensure full funding to implement Vision Zero,

WHEREAS, Councilmember Mary Cheh, Chair of the DC Council's Committee on Transportation and the Environment, together with Councilmember Charles Allen, have

urged the Bowser Administration to implement Vision Zero with urgency to ensure pedestrian safety,

WHEREAS, the New Hampshire Avenue and S Street NW intersection has been previously identified as a hazardous intersection meriting immediate safety improvements by an independent consultant assessing Safe Routes to School for Ross Elementary School located in the 1700 block of R Street NW,

WHEREAS, on September 23, 2021, representatives from DDOT and the Mayor's Office of Community Relations and Services met with ANC 2B Commissioner Meg Roggensack, as well as Nathan's parents John Means and Rebecca Ballard, to hear about the accident and to discuss possible responses to make this intersection safer for pedestrians and other non-vehicle users, and

WHEREAS, DDOT pledged to install double-backed stop signs on all approaches to this intersection (service request #21-00430505) and new markings for curb extensions and high visibility crosswalks at this intersection, including adjacent 17th Street NW (service request #21-00430532).

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2B urges DDOT to prioritize these service requests for immediate action in view of the longstanding concerns raised at this intersection and the urgent safety issues presented to residents, including children using this intersection to and from nearby Ross Elementary School.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2B urges DDOT to take immediate action on improving the intersections, crosswalks, and signage identified in the "Ross Elementary School Action Plan" from the DC Safe Routes to School 2020 review.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2B urges DDOT to install curb extensions at the intersection of New Hampshire Avenue and S Street NW, a traffic calming measure that slows traffic by narrowing an intersection and reduces the amount of roadway pedestrians must cross.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2B urges DDOT to consider additional safety measures at this intersection, including but not limited to automatic traffic enforcement, raised crosswalks, additional signage, and/or a fully protected intersection where pedestrians and cyclists are completely separated from vehicles by concrete medians or other hard infrastructure.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2B urges DDOT to identify threats to pedestrians and cyclists along the corridors leading to New Hampshire Avenue and S Street NW as well as the adjacent intersections such as New Hampshire Avenue, 17th Street, and Swann Street NW and 17th Street and S Street NW and implement infrastructure improvements in consultation with the neighborhood. These intersections surround the popular S Street Dog Park, a major pedestrian attractant and neighborhood amenity.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2B urges DDOT to take measures to decrease illegal parking and reduce impacts from temporary use of public space such as construction vehicles and materials around the intersection of New Hampshire Avenue and S Street NW and the S Street Dog Park as illegal parking and construction contribute to dangerous pedestrian conditions such as blocking curb ramps, blocking intersections, and reducing line of sight for pedestrians, cyclists, and drivers.

Consideration of a Resolution Regarding the Proposed Extension of the DC Circulator’s Dupont Circle – Georgetown – Rosslyn Route to U Street NW and Howard University

Commissioner Pasternak moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Silverstein seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 7-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

WHEREAS, ANC 2B has previously passed multiple resolutions (March 2019, October 2017, and November 2014) in support of extending DC Circulator service along U Street NW,

WHEREAS, the District Department of Transportation’s (DDOT) Transit Development Plan (TDP) for the DC Circulator outlines a proposed extension of the Dupont Circle – Georgetown – Rosslyn route with a proposed implementation date in 2023,

WHEREAS, the TDP presented two different alignments for the eastern terminus of the new route, and

WHEREAS, ANC 2B believes that a proposal that best serves communities throughout the route is the best option.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2B echoes ANC 1B’s resolution that expressed a “preference towards Alignment 2 because the proposed stops serve essential infrastructure in the neighborhood: Howard University Hospital and Shaw Howard University Metro Station” along with “an additional stop at the Whole Foods Market on Florida Avenue NW.”

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2B calls for a speedy implementation of this extension as more must be done to reduce the number of automobile trips taken in DC and this long-planned route enjoys broad community support.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2B suggests that DDOT considers adjusting the route to avoid Dupont Circle itself and instead use 20th Street NW and Q Street NW to better connect bus service to Metrorail and avoid congestion.

Consideration of a Resolution in Support of Solutions to Illegally Parked Scooters Blocking Sidewalks

Commissioner Pasternak moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Silverstein seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 7-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

WHEREAS, scooters and other dockless micromobility options provide an important transportation option and can help reduce reliance on taxis or other automobile trips,

WHEREAS, the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) has issued nearly 14,000 permits for these vehicles and the number of permits has increased,

WHEREAS, DDOT guidance requires at least five feet of clearance space on the sidewalk when parking a scooter or dockless bike,

WHEREAS, improperly parked vehicles present a serious safety hazard for people using the sidewalk, especially for individuals with vision impairment or other disability,

WHEREAS, providing access to allow people with visual impairment and other disabilities the ability to safely and fully live their lives is both a civil right and a human right, and is guaranteed by the Americans with Disabilities Act,

WHEREAS, the ubiquity of improperly parked vehicles suggests that the current regulatory framework is insufficient to mitigate the risk presented by improperly parked vehicles as even after the lock-to requirement was implemented problems persisted,

WHEREAS, micromobility corrals offer a dedicated space to store vehicles without impeding on the sidewalk space,

WHEREAS, more precise geofencing than what is currently deployed to prohibit parking in certain areas is commercially available, and

WHEREAS, users who improperly park are at risk of being fined but the commercial operators are subject to no financial risk for the danger created on sidewalks.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2B requests that the DC Council and DDOT consider additional approaches to address this issue including some of the solutions described in this resolution.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2B requests that DDOT shares data on compliance with the new lock-to requirement to evaluate if it becomes more successful over time and if additional facilities are needed to ensure its success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2B supports identifying a clear point of contact for overall issues with the micromobility program.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2B supports using information on where vehicles within a specific fleet are parked as a factor in issuing future permits to

commercial operators and would urge DDOT and the DC Council to consider placing a moratorium on additional scooters and renewals, especially if operators fail to take steps to mitigate this issue.

### **Administrative Matters**

#### **Approval of the ANC's Regular September 2021 Meeting Minutes**

Commissioner Pasternak moved to approve the ANC's regular September 2021 meeting minutes. Commissioner Silverstein seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 7-0-0).

#### **Approval of the ANC's FY 2021 Quarter 4 Financial Report**

Commissioner Mulhall moved to approve the ANC's FY 2021 Quarter 4 financial report. Chair Holden seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 7-0-0).

#### **Approval of the ANC's FY 2022 Budget**

*The Commission delayed consideration of this matter until the ANC's regular November 2021 meeting.*

### **Adjournment**

Chair Holden adjourned the meeting at 9:57 pm.