



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

September 24, 2023

Mr. Brian Hanlon
Acting Director
Department of Buildings
1100 4th Street SW
Washington, DC 20024
brian.hanlon@dc.gov

RE: Emergency Response to Buildings with Differing Mailing Addresses and Physical Locations

Dear Director Hanlon,

At its regular meeting on September 13, 2023, the Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission (“ANC 2B” or “Commission”) considered the above-referenced matter. With 8 of 9 Commissioners in attendance, a quorum at a duly-noticed public meeting, the Commission approved the following resolution by a vote of (8-0-0):

WHEREAS, in the District of Columbia, some buildings front on more than one, and in some cases more than two, streets,

WHEREAS, these buildings may have street-level retail that uses the address of the main building while being on a different street,

WHEREAS, in an emergency, every second can be critical to the survival of people who may have been injured inside these storefronts or on the street in front of these locations, and use of the building’s address on a different street is likely to delay first responders,

WHEREAS, the Office of Unified Communications (OUC) relies upon the Master Address Repository (MAR) database, maintained by the Office of the Chief Technology Officer (OCTO), which does not contain every alternate address or alias, resulting in “not found” results and delaying response to a service call, and

WHEREAS, on August 15th, 2023, Commissioner Matt Johnson (2B06) observed a person receive a severe injury at approximately 2050 L Street NW, but a 9-1-1 caller reported the posted address of the adjacent storefront, which was 2001 K Street NW, Suite 103, despite being on L Street NW, and Commissioner Johnson witnessed first responders turn away from the injured person as they responded to 20th Street and K Street NW, nearly two blocks away from the actual location of the storefront and injury, and this delayed care of the patient.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2B requests that the Department of Buildings (DOB) immediately implements a policy that all building entrances, including those of street-level commercial tenants, must be assigned an address matching the location on the street it faces.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2B requests that DOB immediately convenes a working group with OUC, the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD), the District of Columbia Fire and EMS Department (FEMS), the District Department of Transportation (DDOT), and any other relevant agencies to find solutions for existing mis-matched addresses and the way dispatch to these locations is handled, and to develop recommended policies for the way addresses are assigned to large buildings going forward.

Commissioners Matt Johnson (2B06@anc.dc.gov) and Meg Roggensack (2B01@anc.dc.gov) are the Commission's representatives in this matter.

ON BEHALF OF THE COMMISSION.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Meg Roggensack". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Meg Roggensack
Chair