



# GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

## Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2B

### Regular Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, December 13th, 2023; 7:00 p.m.  
Online via Zoom

#### Call to Order

The regular December 2023 meeting of the Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission (Commission or ANC 2B) was called to order by Chair Meg Roggensack at 7:02 pm.

#### Introduction of Commissioners

The Commissioners identified their single member districts (SMDs). Present were: Meg Roggensack (2B01), Jeffrey Rueckgauer (2B02), Vincent Slatt (2B03), Z Stein (2B05), Matt Johnson (2B06), Zach Adams (2B08), and Christopher Davis (2B09).

#### Adoption of the Agenda

Chair Roggensack adopted the ANC's meeting agenda by unanimous consent.

#### Announcement of Special Election for Single Member District 2B07 Vacancy

Chair Roggensack said that a special election for the single member district 2B07 vacancy will take place on Thursday, January 4th, 2024 from 3:00 pm until 7:00 pm in the vestibule of St. Thomas' Parish at 1517 18th Street NW.

#### Announcements and Public Comments

##### Reports from DC Government Representatives

Grace Reeder, a Ward 2 representative for the Mayor's Office of Community Relations and Services (MOCRS); Pablo Velasco Rodriguez, the Constituent Services Coordinator for Councilmember Brooke Pinto's Office; and Harold Davis, a Solid Waste Inspector for the Department of Public Works (DPW), gave DC Government reports.

##### Commissioner Announcements

Commissioner Johnson gave commissioner announcements.

##### Committee Updates

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

Other Public Announcements and General Comments or Future Agenda Items

Bill McLeod, the Executive Director of the Dupont Circle Business Improvement District (BID); Susan Volman, the President of the Dupont Circle Citizens Association (DCCA); Max Broad, a board member for DC Voters for Animals; a local business owner; and three local residents gave other public announcements and general comments or future agenda items.

Alcoholic Beverage and Cannabis Board Agenda

Sampannee Thai Food – Application for a New Retailer’s Class “C” Tavern License at 2122 P Street NW

Commissioner Rueckgauer moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Stein seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 6-0-1). The resolution reads as follows:

WHEREAS, Sampannee Thai Food (“Sampannee”) has applied for a new Retailer’s Class “C” Tavern license at 2122 P Street NW, which is located in single member district 2B02 of ANC 2B,

WHEREAS, Sampannee’s application states that the establishment has a seating capacity of 75 persons and total occupancy of 98 persons,

WHEREAS, Sampannee’s application requests a carry-out and delivery endorsement,

WHEREAS, Sampannee’s application requests the following hours:

- Hours of operation and alcoholic beverage sales/service/consumption: Sunday through Thursday, 6:00 am to 2:00 am; Friday through Saturday, 6:00 am to 3:00 am
- Hours of carry-out and delivery: Sunday through Saturday, 6:00 am to 1:00 am

WHEREAS, Sampannee has requested a stipulated license to commence sales and service of alcoholic beverages as soon as possible, and

WHEREAS, Sampannee began food service in July 2023 and ANC 2B is unaware of any disturbance or other incident involving the establishment.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2B supports Sampannee Thai Food’s application for a new Retailer’s Class “C” Tavern license.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2B supports Sampannee Thai Food’s request for a stipulated license.

Dupont Market – Application for Renewal of the Establishment’s Retailer’s Class “B” Grocery License at 1807 18th Street NW

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

**Land Use Agenda**

1529 S Street NW – Application for a Special Exception from the Lot Occupancy Requirements to Construct a Two-Story with Basement, Rear Addition to an Existing, Attached, Two-Story with Basement, Flat

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

WHEREAS, Kevin Jones has filed Board of Zoning Adjustment (BZA) application #21053 to allow for special exception relief at 1529 S Street NW,

WHEREAS, 1529 S Street NW is located in single member district 2B09 within ANC 2B, upon Square 191, Lot 15 in an RF-1/DC zone,

WHEREAS, the current use of the property is residential and the project includes constructing a two-story with basement addition to the back of the property while maintaining residential use,

WHEREAS, ANC 2B’s Land Use Committee (LUC) reviewed the submitted concept plans at its duly noticed monthly meeting on December 6, 2023 and heard testimony from the project architect, and

WHEREAS, the LUC found the plans 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 #21053 as presented.

**General Agenda**

Consideration of a Resolution Requesting that a Study to Upgrade the Q Street NW and R Street NW Bike Lanes to Protected Low-Stress Bike Lanes is Included in FY 2025

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

WHEREAS, the painted bike lanes on Q Street NW and R Street NW are among the oldest in the District's bike lane network, dating back 20 years,

WHEREAS, the painted Q Street NW and R Street NW bike lanes are frequently ignored by drivers, prone to frequent vehicular conflicts, discourage users of all confidence levels from using them, and do not conform to the District Department of Transportation's (DDOT) current design and safety standards that require fully protected lanes on minor arterial streets,

WHEREAS, DDOT has no standing policies or practices to review existing bike lanes to ensure that they continue to be safe and consistent with current practices, nor to schedule necessary design upgrades or replacements, placing the burden for identifying and advocating for correction of deficiencies and failings of outdated bicycle infrastructure on residents and ANCs,

WHEREAS, in 2016 resident Michael Forster petitioned DDOT and Mayor Bowser to convert the Q Street NW and R Street NW bike lanes to a two-way protected facility connecting to the then-under construction Metropolitan Branch Trail,

WHEREAS, in 2022 a coalition of Ward 2 residents initiated a campaign asking DDOT to study the conditions of the Q Street NW and R Street NW bike lanes and propose solutions for upgrading them to a low-stress, protected facility,

WHEREAS, the Eckington Civic Association wrote a letter to then DDOT Director Everett Lott in May 2022, asking DDOT to improve the safety of the east-west Q Street NW and R Street NW bike lanes between the Metropolitan Branch Trail in Eckington and points to their neighborhood's west,

WHEREAS, in August 2022 ANC 2B passed a resolution supporting the low-stress campaign and requesting that DDOT conducts a timely study of, and present options for, upgrading the Q Street NW and R Street NW bike lanes to protected, low-stress lanes with a connection for the upgraded facility to the Metropolitan Branch Trail,

WHEREAS, ANC 2F and ANC 6E (now ANC 2G) subsequently passed resolutions supporting the study request,

WHEREAS, these votes underscore the need for prompt, dramatically improved safety for cyclists and other personal mobility users on the Q Street NW and R Street NW corridor,

WHEREAS, on December 14, 2022, members of the low-stress campaign and ANC 2B Mobility Committee (MC) Chair Jeffrey Rueckgauer met with Sandra Marks and her team at DDOT to discuss the request; the benefits to cyclists, pedestrians, and drivers; the contributions to Vision Zero; and the car trip reduction goals,

WHEREAS, the outcome of the December 14, 2022 meeting was positive and DDOT indicated that the study would likely be treated as a priority project,

WHEREAS, at the December 4, 2023 ANC 2B Mobility Committee (MC) meeting, after nearly a year of infrequent and non-committal responses regarding the status of the study, Michael Alvino, the Manager of DDOT's Active Transportation Branch, advised that DDOT was in the process of developing a new strategic plan for bicycle facilities around the District and that there are no resources provided in the current budget for this study, effectively canceling the request, and

WHEREAS, DDOT's response fits a long-established pattern of seemingly reaching agreement with stakeholders and ANCs regarding a request or plan, followed by "radio silence" for months or even years, then ultimately coming back with excuses for why it will not be done or a Notice of Intent (NOI) for a plan that is not what was asked for or agreed to and cannot be changed.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2B does not accept or excuse DDOT for once again failing to provide timely and forthright communication regarding this request.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2B requests that DDOT acknowledges the urgency and need to redesign and replace the Q Street NW and R Street NW bike lanes with a facility that meets the latest safety and design standards.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2B requests that DDOT takes appropriate actions for the study to commence in FY 2025.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2B requests that Councilmember Brooke Pinto, Councilmember Charles Allen, and the DC Council's Committee on Transportation and the Environment prioritizes the requested study and recommendations for a protected low-stress replacement for the Q Street and R Street NW bike lanes with connection to the Metropolitan Branch Trail as part of DDOT's FY 2025 budget oversight.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2B requests that Councilmember Brooke Pinto, Councilmember Charles Allen, and the DC Council's Committee on Transportation and the Environment, through the oversight process, assigns responsibility to DDOT and its eventual new Director to improve organizational practices and embrace full-circle/full-lifespan project planning that accounts for support after delivery and timely, responsive communication with stakeholders and the public regarding the status of requests and projects.

## **Administrative Matters**

### **Approval of the ANC's Regular November 2023 Meeting Minutes**

Commissioner Rueckgauer moved to approve the ANC's regular November 2023 meeting minutes. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 7-0-0).

#### Approval of the ANC's Regular January 2024 Meeting Date

Commissioner Johnson moved to approve January 10th, 2024 as the ANC's regular January 2024 meeting date. Commissioner Rueckgauer seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 7-0-0)

#### Discussion of In-Person and Hybrid Meetings

The commissioners discussed in-person and hybrid meetings.

#### Scheduling an Administrative Meeting

The commissioners discussed scheduling an administrative meeting.

#### **Adjournment**

Chair Roggensack adjourned the meeting at 8:58 pm.