



GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2E

Representing the communities of Burleith, Georgetown, and Hillandale

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October 30, 2018

Mr. H. Alan Brangman, Chairman, and Members of the Board
Old Georgetown Board
401 F Street NW, Suite 312
Washington, DC 20001

Dear Chairman Brangman and Members of the Board:

On October 29, 2018 ANC 2E held its regularly scheduled public meeting, which was properly noticed and attended by five commissioners, constituting a quorum. At this meeting the Commission adopted the following positions on matters scheduled for consideration by the Old Georgetown Board on November 1, 2018:

With regard to SMD 2E07 - US Department of Interior, National Park Service - National Capital Region (HPA TBD) Rock Creek Park / Montrose Park:

ANC 2E understands the need for water runoff management but the siting of bioretention facility BMP 1 creates a major alteration to the character of the historic Montrose Park landscape. The facility introduces new and different kinds of plant material into this primary historic viewshed. While the facility's proposed meadow plants are perfectly appropriate in a woodland setting such as the nearby Dumbarton Oaks Park, they are foreign to the Montrose Park landscape that has been identified in the Cultural Landscape Report as evoking the character of a 19th century estate garden.

Furthermore, there were previously two large trees at the location of BMP 1 which the ANC would like to see replaced. The siting of BMP 1 will thus prohibit the replacement of the trees, further altering the historic landscape. Additionally, the siting of BMP 1 will reduce circulation on one of the main pathways between the east and west sides of the park.

Finally, BMP 1 as proposed will create a significant maintenance burden due to the need to control weeds and to make sure that some of the plant materials proposed do not spread to other areas of the historic landscape. Ideally, BMP 1 would be sited elsewhere, perhaps adjacent to the tennis court; would be smaller in size, such as the size proposed for BMP 2; and would contain plant material more appropriate to the historic landscape. The ANC recommends that the National Park Service consult with DC Water and the Department of Energy and Environment regarding a waiver or reduced requirements in order to lessen the impact of the proposed bioretention facilities.

COMMISSIONERS:

Ed Solomon, District 1 Joe Gibbons, District 2 Rick Murphy, District 3
Lisa Palmer, District 5 Jim Wilcox, District 6
Monica Roaché, District 7 Zac Schroepfer, District 8

Otherwise, ANC 2E is very supportive of this plan and thanks the National Park Service for the agency's tremendous efforts in moving the tennis court renovation project along.

With regard to SMD 2E03 - OG 19-010 (HPA 19-025) 1524 31st Street, NW:

ANC 2E applauds the applicants for their diligent efforts to inform the neighbors about the proposed project, making full disclosure of all of the impacts that the project will have on the neighbors. The ANC is concerned that the mass of the proposed second floor addition may negatively affect the light and air available to the abutting neighbor at 1528 31st Street NW. However, concerns about light and air are not historic preservation concerns. Therefore, ANC 2E does not object to this application.

With regard to SMD 2E03 - OG 19-007 (HPA 19-022) 3122 P Street, NW:

ANC 2E has reviewed the plans for the proposed project and has no objection to the application.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joe Gibbons", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Joe Gibbons
Chair, ANC 2E