



GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2E

Representing the communities of Burleith, Georgetown, and Hillandale

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July 6, 2022

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 July 5, 2022 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 July 7, 2022:

With regard to SMD 2E03 - OG 22-182 (HPA 22-313) 1524 33rd Street, NW:

ANC 2E remains concerned about the scale of the proposed structures in the context of the existing residences on Volta Place NW. The ANC is even more concerned about the negative impact that the proposed project may have on the existing easement that forms the western boundary of the lot to be subdivided because, in the opinion of the ANC, the project, if constructed, would render the easement virtually useless.

With regard to SMD 2E05 - OG 22-200 (HPA 22-349) 2800 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW:

ANC 2E is generally supportive of the proposed roof decks in this application. However, the ANC also shares concerns about sound traveling from roof decks in the Georgetown Historic District to residents' homes. While there are not residents adjacent to this building, the ANC notes that virtual sound tunnels carry noise from other roof decks near this proposed deck up to N Street NW and north, creating disturbances for residents at night.

ANC 2E supports the inclusion of a retractable roof deck but asks the applicant to consider ensuring that it is covering the space at night and that the applicant also considers additional noise mitigation measures so that the areas can be enjoyed by guests but do not create overnight noise disturbances for residents on N Street NW and north. Such mitigation measures could include, but are not limited to, inclusion of additional softscapes to buffer sound, no use of speakers after 10:00 pm, having installed speakers face downwards, etc. Additionally, the ANC notes that other hotels in the area have, to great success, hired sound consultants to make recommendations for creative ways to tamp down traveling sound and then implemented such

COMMISSIONERS:

Kishan Putta, District 1 Jenny Mitchell, District 2 Rick Murphy, District 3
Cimrun Srivastava, District 4 Lisa Palmer, District 5 Gwendolyn Lohse, District 6
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recommendations. The ANC recommends that the applicant does the same and returns to the Old Georgetown Board with such recommendations incorporated into the concept design.

With regard to SMD 2E05 - TBD (HPA TBD) 3500 Water Street, NW:

ANC 2E continues to express concerns about public safety in this area of Water Street NW. At the ANC's last meeting, a Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) Commander specifically noted a number of gun recoveries in this area, in addition to other illegal behavior. In partnership with a variety of agencies who take ownership of this corridor, including MPD, Councilmember Pinto's office and, before, Councilmember Evans' office, the District Department of Transportation (DDOT), the Georgetown BID, and the National Park Service (NPS), we have implemented a number of changes which improve the safety in this area.

ANC 2E is happy to see NPS continuing to consider how to make safety a priority with this application. With that said, the ANC believes that the proposed chain link fence is not reflective of the work that has been done in this area. The ANC notes that DDOT has improved circulation, parking, public space, and traffic issues by implementing new traffic patterns, striping the roadway for greater clarity on what is and is not allowed, removing overnight parking, which was strongly recommended by MPD, and improving conditions at the trailhead. However, contrary to DDOT's removal of parking and the posting of "No Parking" signs, which was strongly supported by Councilmember Pinto and all others on the team, NPS has posted signs for staff parking in the areas where DDOT posted "No Parking" signs, including in the areas that were hashed out by DDOT. As part of our collective work to make this area safer, the ANC asks that NPS removes the staff parking signs and makes clear to employees that this is a "No Parking" area immediately.

Furthermore, ANC 2E asks the Old Georgetown Board to consider that a chain link fence, while providing important security functions, is not appropriate from an aesthetic standpoint in the historic district. The ANC continues to believe that if we build structures in the area that look like a militarized zone, it will continue to be treated as an afterthought, despite the fact that the waterfront area is and should continue to be treated as a crown jewel in our community. As such, the ANC seeks a more aesthetically appropriate solution to the significant security issues at hand and hopes that we can move such a solution forward in an expedient manner so as to stem any additional security issues.

With regard to SMD 2E05 - OG 22-186 (HPA 22-317) 1023 31st Street, NW:

While ANC 2E does not typically review projects like this one in consecutive months, the ANC is pleased to note that the Old Georgetown Board took considerable pains to incorporate our feedback into the board's feedback last month and that the applicant has also taken our traffic, loading, and unloading concerns seriously. The ANC understands that the overall number of users may be lighter with a hotel over an office building on per day basis, but the ANC remains concerned about the traffic implications for loading and unloading of guests. The proposed loading zones in the front of the building will be key to preserving traffic circulation on 31st Street NW and the ANC supports the use of the alley for loading and unloading of supplies. The ANC does note that in order for the loading zones to serve their purpose, they need to not only be

incorporated into the overall design of this project but will also need to be actively managed to ensure that rideshare drivers do not double park on this narrow roadway.

ANC 2E leaves recommendations for the overall design of the project to the Old Georgetown Board but wants to be sure that the alley will be large enough for trucks to enter and exit without needing to back into 31st Street NW and that appropriate loading and unloading spaces for guests are incorporated into any approved plan moving forward.

With regard to SMD 2E07 - OG 22-204 (HPA 22-353) 3023 Q Street, NW:

ANC 2E is concerned about the second entrance that the applicant proposes to construct at the southwest corner of the house in very close proximity to the front door of the house. As currently proposed, the door of the second entrance would face Q Street NW only a few feet west and north of the main entrance. The appearance that would result would be, in the opinion of the ANC, awkward at best. More importantly, the steps from the proposed second entrance would deposit pedestrians into what is a very narrow and effectively shared driveway, creating a safety hazard. The ANC supports all aspects of the revised concept design except the proposed second entrance. If the proposed second entrance were removed, the ANC would have no objection to the approval of the proposed concept design.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Richard G. Murphy, Jr." The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Rick Murphy
Chair, ANC 2E