



GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
**Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2E**

**Regular Meeting Minutes**

Monday, March 2nd, 2020; 6:30 p.m.  
Georgetown Visitation School, Heritage Room – 1524 35th Street NW

**Call to Order**

Commissioner Rick Murphy called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm. Commissioners Kishan Putta (2E01), Joe Gibbons (2E02), Rick Murphy (2E03), Anna Landre (2E04), Lisa Palmer (2E05), Gwendolyn Lohse (2E06), and Matias Burdman (2E08) were present.

**Approval of the Agenda**

Approval of the ANC's March 2nd, 2020 Meeting Agenda

Commissioner Palmer moved to approve the ANC's March 2nd, 2020 meeting agenda. Commissioner Burdman seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 7-0-0).

Approval of the ANC's February 3rd, 2020 Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Palmer moved to approve the ANC's February 3rd, 2020 meeting minutes. Commissioner Burdman seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 7-0-0).

**Administrative**

Public Safety and Police Report

Captain Brian Bray, Sergeant John Loveday, and Sergeant Adam Bray, representatives for the Metropolitan Police Department's (MPD) Second District, gave an overview of the recent crime statistics for the neighborhood.

**Community Comment**

Update from the Mayor's Office

Nicole Goines, a Ward 2 representative for the Mayor's Office of Community Relations and Services (MOCRS), gave an update from the Mayor's Office.

Update Regarding the 31st Street NW Bridge Project

Adil Rizvi, a representative for Volkert, gave an update regarding the 31st Street NW Bridge Project.

Update from Georgetown Heritage

Jeffrey Nichols, the Executive Director of Georgetown Heritage, gave an update regarding the organization's Georgetown Canal Plan.

#### Presentation of the ANC's Monthly Small Business Recognition – Café Georgetown

Chair Murphy recognized Cafe Georgetown at 3141 N Street NW for the ANC's Monthly Small Business Recognition.

Emel Bayrak, the owner of Cafe Georgetown, accepted the recognition and provided an overview of the establishment.

#### Announcement Regarding the Georgetown Main Street's 2020 Small Business Assistance Grants

Commissioner Gibbons gave an announcement regarding Georgetown Main Street's 2020 small business assistance grants.

#### **New Business**

#### Consideration of a Resolution Regarding the Proposed Metrobus Route Changes in the Neighborhood

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

The undersigned are the members of Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2E. We represent the residents of Georgetown, Burleith and Hillandale. While we applaud several of the initiatives contained in the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority's (WMATA) proposed budget, including, in particular, elimination of transfer fees between bus and rail and restoration of extended Metrorail service hours, we are writing to express our dismay at proposed Metrobus service changes that would dramatically reduce transit accessibility for the residents we represent by eliminating (1) the G2 line in Georgetown, a bus that has served the Georgetown community for more than 50 years; and (2) the rush hour service provided to Burleith and the northern areas of Georgetown by the D1 line.

Georgetown is the only neighborhood in the District of Columbia's inner core that does not have direct access to the Metrorail system. As a result, Georgetown's residents, not to mention visitors and employees of businesses along Georgetown's commercial corridors, as well as students and employees at Georgetown University and MedStar Georgetown University Hospital, rely heavily on Metrobus to connect the neighborhood to the rest of the city and the larger region. The changes proposed by WMATA would turn much of the neighborhood into a transit desert.

First, we urge that the existing G2 and D2 lines be maintained. The proposed consolidation of the D2 and G2 lines would eliminate the entirety of the existing G2 line west of Rock Creek Park and with it the only convenient connection many members of our community have to Metrorail. If the proposal were to be adopted, the Georgetown community and Georgetown University would lose their access to the Red Line at Dupont Circle as well as their connection to neighborhoods farther east. Riders who currently board the G2 bus at

Dumbarton Street and Wisconsin Avenue NW (one of the busiest stops in Georgetown) would have to walk more than a third of a mile uphill to catch the consolidated D2/G2. The impact on Georgetown University, the largest private employer in the city, would be even more significant. On average, almost 400 students, employees and visitors currently board the G2 at the University's front gates every day. If the G2 in Georgetown were eliminated, they would be forced to walk a half mile, also uphill, to reach the nearest stop on the consolidated D2/G2 line. The alternatives identified by WMATA (Routes 31 and 33 on Wisconsin Avenue) are not practical replacements because buses on those routes go to an entirely different part of the city. Consolidating the D2 and G2 as WMATA has proposed would increase motor vehicle traffic in Georgetown substantially, if only because the vast majority of the students, residents, employees, and visitors stranded by the change would resort to Uber or Lyft. Such would not be a desirable outcome for either the Georgetown community or the city as a whole. The G2 and D2 lines should be maintained as they exist today.

We also urge that the existing D1 line be maintained. This line is vital for many daily commuters, including students at Duke Ellington School of the Arts and Hardy Middle School. The suggestion that the combined D2/G2 line would provide adequate alternative service is simply not credible. The rush hour D1 as it currently exists is consistently very crowded. Moving those riders to the proposed D2/G2 combination would inevitably result in extremely overcrowded buses. While ANC 2E would welcome the connection Burleith and Hillandale would gain to neighborhoods east of Dupont Circle from the proposed D2/G2 combination route, this should not come at the cost of reducing vital rush hour service that currently connects these neighborhoods as well as Glover Park, to Metrorail at Dupont Circle.

Residents of Georgetown, Burleith, and Hillandale (including students at Georgetown University), as well as visitors to our community and employees of the university, MedStar Georgetown University Hospital and the businesses in our neighborhood are uniquely dependent on the bus lines that currently exist. Therefore, we reiterate our belief that the elimination of the existing D1 line and the G2 line in Georgetown by combining it with the D2 line west of Rock Creek would be both unfair and inequitable. All three lines should be maintained as they currently exist.

#### Consideration of a Resolution Regarding a Medicaid Buy-In Program in DC

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

WHEREAS, 13% of the population of the District of Columbia has some sort of disability, and this group often has low access to appropriate healthcare and low levels of employment,

WHEREAS, DC Medicaid currently serves about 49,000 people as part of its "Aged, Blind, Disabled" and "Long-Term Care" Programs,

WHEREAS, these programs do not allow beneficiaries to make more than \$12,489.96 per year in income or ever hold more than \$4,000 in savings at any given time, thereby disincentivizing employment and preventing disabled people from pursuing gainful careers,

WHEREAS, current regulations force beneficiaries with disabilities that require high-cost medical intervention to choose between keeping their healthcare and having a job,

WHEREAS, at least 44 U.S. states have implemented Medicaid Buy-In Programs over the last several decades to solve this issue of economic discrimination and ableism, allowing beneficiaries to contribute more to their care as their income increases, and

WHEREAS, this would eliminate the current “benefits cliff” and empower thousands of disabled DC residents the freedom to seek employment.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2E recommends the implementation of a Medicaid Buy-In Program for the benefit of people with disabilities in pursuing employment in the District of Columbia.

#### Consideration of a Resolution Regarding the 2020 Census

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

WHEREAS, as required by the U.S. Constitution, the U.S. Census Bureau is conducting a count of all residents of the United States as of April 1, 2020,

WHEREAS, a complete and accurate count ensures accurate census data, which provides critical information that is used for government programs, policies, and decision making that affect residents of ANC 2E, including programs related to healthcare, transportation, education, housing, and childcare,

WHEREAS, census data is used in the District of Columbia to update ward, Advisory Neighborhood Commission, and single member district boundaries; to determine funding for schools; and to plan for resources such as new playgrounds, recreation centers, senior wellness centers, and programming to serve specific populations,

WHEREAS, in 2010 the District of Columbia was the second-most undercounted city in the nation,

WHEREAS, ANC 2E is committed to raising awareness of the importance of the 2020 census by reaching out to all residents of our community and encouraging them to participate in the census, and

WHEREAS, the period between now and May 12, 2020 is the critical time to engage with residents to ensure that they are informed about why the census matters to ANC 2E, our ward, and our city, as well as how to participate.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2E will work to support activities designed to ensure that every resident of the ANC is counted in the 2020 census, regardless of age, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, language spoken, or citizenship or immigration status. ANC 2E commissioners will:

1. Encourage residents to complete census forms by posting on neighborhood listservs, blogs, and social media,
2. Encourage neighborhood volunteers to post and engage about the census on electronic media, and
3. Encourage neighborhood volunteers to organize and participate in single member district outreach using door hangers provided by the DC Census 2020 team.

Consideration of a Resolution Regarding a Request from the Citizens Association of Georgetown to Hold a Concert in Volta Park on Sunday, May 17th, 2020

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

ANC 2E proudly, completely, and without any reservations supports the request from the Citizens Association of Georgetown to hold a concert in Volta Park on Sunday, May 17th, 2020.

Consideration of a Resolution Regarding MedStar Georgetown University Hospital's After-Hours Permit Request for the Delivery and Construction of a Crane at 3800 Reservoir Road NW

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

WHEREAS, ANC 2E has received a request from MedStar Georgetown University Hospital for the delivery of oversized items, related construction activity, and the erection of a crane to the construction site of the MedStar Georgetown University Hospital Surgical Pavilion,

WHEREAS, the ANC has been advised by the hospital that this request needs the flexibility of after-hours and Sunday construction work scheduling,

WHEREAS, the ANC understands that the oversize deliveries will be subject to the authorities having jurisdiction, including the Georgetown Community Partnership (GCP), the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD), the District Department of Transportation (DDOT), the Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT), the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT), and the Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs (DCRA),

WHEREAS, the ANC understands that this hospital request has been supported by ANC 3D, which is the other contiguous ANC, and ANC 3D's resolution is attached,

WHEREAS, the ANC understands that the oversize deliveries for the tower crane need to be conducted during daylight hours to facilitate safe delivery, erection of the equipment, and related construction activity, and

WHEREAS, the ANC understands the hospital's request will improve safety and increase the traffic flows on Reservoir Road during weekday hours.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2E supports MedStar Georgetown University Hospital's request for an after-hours construction permit at 3800 Reservoir Road NW.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2E believes that the hospital's request will achieve the most efficient construction of the MedStar Georgetown University Hospital Surgical Pavilion and will ensure the safety of the surrounding neighborhoods.

This resolution is co-sponsored by the affected single member district Commissioners: Kishan Putta (2E01), Joe Gibbons (2E02), Anna Landre (2E04), and Matias Burdman (2E08).

### **Alcoholic Beverage Control Board**

#### **Application by Sticx for a New Retailer's Class "C" Restaurant License at 1728 Wisconsin Avenue NW**

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

ANC 2E has no comment regarding Sticx's application for a new Retailer's Class "C" Restaurant license at 1728 Wisconsin Avenue NW.

### **Public Space Committee**

#### **Public Space Committee Application for the Construction of a 42-Inch Tall Fence Along the Property Line at 1225 37th Street NW**

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

WHEREAS, ANC 2E believes that the fence and/or trash receptacles proposed in the public space application for 1225 37th Street NW would significantly restrict pedestrian mobility in a corner with significant pedestrian traffic,

WHEREAS, the ANC believes that the distance between the proposed fence on 37th Street NW and the light post on the corner, as well as the distance between the proposed fence/trash receptacle on Prospect Street NW and the electricity pole on the corner, would significantly restrict wheelchair access, potentially violating the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), and

WHEREAS, the ANC believes that allowing public space to be used for trash receptacles and/or a fence would set a negative precedent for the neighborhood and the city, allowing for others to use public space in the same way.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2E opposes the public space application for 1225 37th Street NW under the grounds that such modifications would have a significant and detrimental impact on the community.

## **Zoning**

Board of Zoning Adjustment Application by IDI Water Street, L.C. for a Special Exception from the Parking Lot Location Requirements and for Variances from the Driveway Width Requirement, from the Minimum Dimensions for Full-Sized Parking Spaces and Aisles, and from the Minimum Dimensions for Compact Parking Spaces and Aisles to Construct a 7-Story Residential Building at 3401-3403 Water Street NW

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

ANC 2E supports the request for a special exception from the parking lot location requirements and for variances from the driveway width requirement, from the minimum dimensions for full-sized parking spaces and aisles, and from the minimum dimensions for compact parking spaces and aisles at 3401-3403 Water Street NW.

## **Old Georgetown Board**

SMD 2E03 - OG 20-016 (HPA 20-024) 3255 O Street, NW

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

SMD 2E06 - CFA 20/MAR/-- P Street and Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway, NW

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

## **Adjournment**

Chair Murphy adjourned the meeting at 8:11 pm.