



GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

## Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2E

Representing the communities of Burleith, Georgetown, and Hillandale

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May 3, 2022

Mr. Keith Anderson  
Director  
Department of General Services  
2000 14th Street NW, 8th Floor  
Washington, DC 20009  
[Keith.Anderson@dc.gov](mailto:Keith.Anderson@dc.gov)

Mr. Delano Hunter  
Director  
Department of Parks and Recreation  
1275 First Street NE, 8th Floor  
Washington, DC 20002  
[delano.hunter@dc.gov](mailto:delano.hunter@dc.gov)

### RE: Request for Proposal for the Jelleff Recreation Center Renovation Project

Dear Director Anderson and Director Hunter,

On May 2, 2022 ANC 2E held its regularly scheduled public meeting, which was properly noticed and attended by eight commissioners, constituting a quorum. At this meeting the Commission adopted the following resolution by a vote of (8-0-0) with regard to the above-referenced matter:

ANC 2E is following up on a letter sent by the Citizens Association of Georgetown, the Burleith Citizens Association, Georgetown Village, and ANC 2E Commissioners Elizabeth Miller and Kishan Putta. The requests in the letter concern the \$28.8 million renovation of the Jelleff Recreation Center. The Department of General Services (DGS) released the Request for Proposal (RFP) for the Jelleff Recreation Center Renovation Project on April 6, 2022. The deadline for proposals is May 6, 2022.

First, ANC 2E asks that you meet with members of the ANC, the Citizens Association of Georgetown, the Burleith Citizens Association, and Georgetown Village at the earliest possible opportunity to discuss our specific concerns about the RFP and Scope of Work.

Second, ANC 2E asks DGS to clarify important aspects of the RFP as soon as possible, but before the May 6, 2022 deadline for design submissions:

- The RFP could be read as limiting design firms to the “concept study” in the Perkins Eastman feasibility study, which was intended only as a starting point for further design. DGS must make clear that submitting design firms are not so limited but may – and ANC 2E believes should – submit proposals that rethink the current footprint of the building, the current location of above-ground parking, and the pros and cons from a design and cost perspective of retaining any of the

#### 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  
Elizabeth Miller, District 7    Arnav Kumar, District 8

Jelleff Recreation Center's existing unattractive, dilapidated brick structures. The ANC believes it is particularly important that DGS explicitly states that the RFP allows for the possibility of a completely new building.

- Although the RFP concerns renovation of the Jelleff Recreation Center's heavily used outdoor public spaces, as well as its indoor public spaces, it does not explicitly require the inclusion in the winning design team of an experienced landscape architect.
- The RFP needs much more explicit language on sustainable design features, especially water retention and recycling, solar power, and electric charging stations. While the RFP includes a handful of references to "LEED Workshops...to identify sustainable design features" and "LEED Certification work," it does not include sustainable design features in the Scope of Work (B.1.1-10). Sustainable design features, however, are essential to good design, not just "nice to have." Also, importantly, there may well be federal funds, including in the recently passed infrastructure bill, for design features that advance climate, electrification, and other environmental objectives. The RFP should explicitly require design firms to investigate additional sources of funds.
- The RFP needs to be much clearer on how and when ANC 2E, the Citizens Association of Georgetown, the Burleith Citizens Association, Georgetown Village, and other interested community groups can offer meaningful input before and during the design and proposal selection phases of the project.

The city and the DC Council's generous, substantial commitment of funds to renovate the Jelleff Recreation Center gives us a once-in-a-century opportunity to create a community center that meets the needs of the community, provides safe and inviting space for children, accomplishes the Mayor's sustainability objectives, and has architecture and design appropriate to its location and uses. ANC 2E urges the DC Council, DGS, and DPR to not limit the design options for the Jelleff Recreation Center to "good enough" and to allow the community to be heard on this very important project.

Commissioners Elizabeth Miller ([2E07@anc.dc.gov](mailto:2E07@anc.dc.gov)) and Rick Murphy ([2E03@anc.dc.gov](mailto:2E03@anc.dc.gov)) are the Commission's representatives in this matter.

Respectfully submitted,



Rick Murphy  
Chair, ANC 2E

CC: Councilmember Brooke Pinto, Ward 2  
Councilmember Trayon White, Ward 8