



GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

## Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2E

Representing the communities of Burleith, Georgetown, and Hillandale

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August 1, 2020

Ms. Alice Miller  
Executive Director  
DC Board of Elections  
1015 Half Street SE, Suite 750  
Washington, DC 20003  
[APMiller@dcboc.org](mailto:APMiller@dcboc.org)

Councilmember Charles Allen  
Chair, Committee on the Judiciary and Public Safety  
Council of the District of Columbia  
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Suite 110  
Washington, DC 20004  
[callen@dccouncil.us](mailto:callen@dccouncil.us)

### RE: Issues with DC's June 2nd, 2020 Primary Election

Dear Ms. Miller and Councilmember Allen,

On June 29, 2020 ANC 2E held its regularly scheduled public meeting, which was properly noticed and attended by seven commissioners, constituting a quorum. At this meeting the Commission adopted the following resolution by a vote of (7-0-0) with regard to the above-referenced matter:

ANC 2E Commissioners fielded dozens of complaints regarding both the in-person and mail-in absentee voting operational processes for the recent DC primary election.

The June 2nd primary election had massive organizational and structural problems. While ANC 2E is thankful that the DC Board of Elections has taken stock of all that went wrong and suggested a thoughtful list of "Next Steps", including mailing all voters in DC a ballot for the November election, we are deeply concerned that confidence in the system is tarnished so seriously that a massive public service campaign must be undertaken to restore the trust of DC voters.

ANC 2E strongly supports:

- An electronic timestamped tracking of responses to requested absentee ballots,
- Mailing ballots to every registered voter in DC,
- Improving and streamlining the ballot tracking system (including a standard letter that would be sent to voters who request a ballot for a party primary that is not their own or if they are not registered to vote),
- Opening more voting centers for early voting and voting on Election Day,
- Overhauling and redesigning the materials sent out by the DC Board of Elections to make them more readable and compelling,

#### COMMISSIONERS:

Kishan Putta, District 1    Joe Gibbons, District 2    Rick Murphy, District 3  
Anna Landre, District 4    Lisa Palmer, District 5    Gwendolyn Lohse, District 6  
Elizabeth Miller, District 7    Matias Burdman, District 8

- Having a respected and notable public figure be the face of a TV/radio ad and social media campaign to educate DC voters on how voting will be conducted this November, and
- Utilizing neighborhood blogs, listservs, NextDoor, community newspapers, ANCs, and other hyper-local ways of communicating with voters to distribute information.

We urge the DC Board of Elections and the DC Council to work to make these changes and to implement awareness and education campaigns immediately so that we can give voters plenty of time to become educated and restore their faith in the election process. The ultimate goal is to restore confidence and ultimately increase the number of people who vote.

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,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Richard G. Murphy, Jr." in a cursive script.

Rick Murphy  
Chair, ANC 2E