



GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2E

Representing the communities of Burleith, Georgetown, and Hillandale
3265 S Street, NW • Washington, DC 20007
(202) 724-7098 • anc2e@dc.gov

September 2, 2021

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 August 30, 2021 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 September 2, 2021:

With regard to SMD 2E03 - OG 21-271 (HPA 21-475) 3208 Rear Volta Place, NW:

ANC 2E has reviewed the concept design proposal for 3208 Rear Volta Place NW. The ANC encourages the Old Georgetown Board to play close attention to the amount of mass that is being added to the structure and the implications that it will have for the historic character of the surrounding residences.

With regard to SMD 2E05 - OG 21-270 (HPA 21-474) 3000 M Street, NW:

ANC 2E is pleased to see that there is new work on this currently derelict and empty site and appreciates the episodic design of this project. While the ANC quite likes many of the elements of the plan, the ANC does ask the Old Georgetown Board to consider the following:

- ANC 2E believes that it is important to respect the scale of the buildings on M Street NW and asks the Old Georgetown Board to consider whether or not the height of the various elements of this application which are visible from M Street NW are appropriate in the historic district.
- ANC 2E would like to better understand the built environment for picking up and dropping off guests, noting that the block will likely become more congested as 30th Street NW is also slated as the location for a new visitor center supporting the historic neighborhood.

COMMISSIONERS:

Kishan Putta, District 1 Jenny Mitchell, 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

- ANC 2E is particularly concerned with queuing for pick up and drop off as that will entirely occur on the street where there is also expected to be the visitor center and its associated buses and other related traffic.
- ANC 2E has spoken to Georgetown Heritage and has reviewed the National Park Service's comments shared with the Old Georgetown Board which indicate that there is a difference of opinion on how the Mule Yard should be treated. This asset, though, belongs to the National Park Service. As such, the ANC requests that the Old Georgetown Board works with the applicant to ensure that their plans for this space are feasible.
- ANC 2E would like to move forward with plans for a roof deck carefully and strategically so as to not serve as a disruption to the neighborhood, appreciating that this level of design may come later.

ANC 2E hopes that these comments will help the applicant as it moves its plans forward; our neighborhood is eager to see a permanent solution for this important space, which has been a desolate and unused construction site for too many years already.

With regard to SMD 2E05 - OG 21-248 (HPA 21-452) 3223 M Street, NW:

ANC 2E again notes its interest in protecting the scale of the buildings along M Street NW. The ANC asks the Old Georgetown Board to consider how visible the additional floor will be from M Street NW and if this addition is appropriate in the historic district.

With regard to SMD 2E05 - OG 21-275 (HPA 21-479) 3270 M Street, NW:

ANC 2E generally supports adding windows to the back of the building overlooking the canal as it currently looks like a foreboding block on top of the historic canal. Furthermore, the faux windows appear generally odd. However, the ANC also asks the Old Georgetown Board to consider that these windows will overlook the historic canal and to contemplate the precise design that will be most appropriate in that location.

In addition, ANC 2E notes that the Georgetown Park Condominium Association's board, which essentially shares this building with the applicant, has many important questions about elements that are not currently included in the plans. While many of these questions are outside of the scope of the Old Georgetown Board review, the ANC does ask the Board to consider the following:

- Where will residents enter the building? Can the applicant please clarify how this will occur relative to the existing condo association documentation?

ANC 2E also highly recommends that the applicant and the condominium association work together to address the important questions asked by the Georgetown Park Condominium Association's board in a memo shared with the Old Georgetown Board dated August 21, 2021.

With regard to SMD 2E05 - OG 21-285 (HPA 21-489) 3416 Prospect Street, NW:

ANC 2E supports the amended plans which take neighbor feedback into consideration. Specifically, the ANC supports the design which adjusts the south elevation façade such that it will be pulled back four feet to align with the adjacent existing third floor façade at 3414 Prospect Street NW.

With regard to SMD 2E06 - OG 21-272 (HPA 21-476) 1511 30th Street, NW:

This applicant is proposing to add significant mass to an already large historic home. ANC 2E understands that the applicant has not met with the immediate neighbors, although the neighbors have asked for a meeting given the impact of this project to their home. Plans were just viewed by the neighbors within the last several days. The ANC also understands that the applicant sent the neighbors a requested light study just a few hours before this ANC meeting.

ANC 2E asks the applicant to resubmit a proposal to the ANC that has been discussed in good faith with the immediate neighbors. The ANC urges the Old Georgetown Board to consider the mass of this project, which will change the historic character of the neighbors' homes by greatly reducing the space between these historic homes.

With regard to SMD 2E07 - OG 21-278 (HPA 21-482) 1688 31st Street, NW:

ANC 2E has no comment on the architectural plans related to 1688 31st Street NW. The ANC is quite thankful that this important historic property will finally be restored and occupied by a family. The ANC would like to thank owners Ian Myers and Azali Kassum for their herculean efforts to reach out to neighbors and walk them through their project. The late August timing of the Old Georgetown Board meeting has made it hard for neighbors to review plans and ask questions. The ANC encourages Mr. Myers and Ms. Kassum to continue to be in contact with neighbors and to be available to answer questions and review plans.

With regard to SMD 2E07 - OG 21-281 (HPA 21-485) 3300 Whitehaven Street, NW:

ANC 2E would like to thank the developers of 3300 Whitehaven Street NW for their collaboration with neighboring properties, including the British International School of Washington and the Dumbarton Oaks Park Conservancy, and for their willingness to change and adapt their design to feedback. While the ANC has no feedback on the overall design, the ANC would like to note the proximity to Dumbarton Oaks Park Conservancy and impress upon all the importance of that magnificent green space and urge all to make sure light and air are maintained close to the adjoining properties.

Respectfully submitted,



Rick Murphy
Chair, ANC 2E