



GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

## Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2E

Representing the communities of Burleith, Georgetown, and Hillandale

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October 2, 2020

Ms. Jessica Unger  
Community Outreach and Grants Manager  
DC Preservation League  
1221 Connecticut Avenue NW, Suite 5A  
Washington, DC 20036  
[jessica@dcpreservation.org](mailto:jessica@dcpreservation.org)

### **RE: Georgetown Lutheran Church's Grant Application to the DC Preservation League**

Dear Ms. Unger,

On September 29, 2020 ANC 2E held its regularly scheduled public meeting, which was properly noticed and attended by six commissioners, constituting a quorum. At this meeting the Commission adopted the following resolution by a vote of (6-0-0) with regard to the above-referenced matter:

ANC 2E applauds the Georgetown Lutheran Church's historic preservation efforts as it focuses on restoring the church's 1914 bell tower, addressing moisture issues and dilapidated structures, and improving the site's accessibility to Georgetown neighbors and visitors.

ANC 2E understands the Georgetown Lutheran Church's urgency to complete the renovations in order to mitigate the hazards posed by the current structures. The two concrete staircases that the church is seeking to replace are access points to the church and both serve as fire exits. Both staircases show significant deterioration due to freezing, moisture, and erosion damage, and must be fully replaced. A second hazard results from the crumbling remnants of the 1943 stone bell structure in the garden in front of the church's bell tower. This structure is at risk of collapsing due to deterioration and freeze-thaw moisture effects.

ANC 2E applauds the Georgetown Lutheran Church's sense of urgency in improving the accessibility of the church building for greater access by individuals who rely on mobility devices or strollers. The church will be able to welcome all visitors and those who join for worship by integrating the future bell tower area with a flat pathway that can be used to reach the church's front door.

#### 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

ANC 2E understands that, due to the church's location in a high-traffic pedestrian area, the Georgetown Lutheran Church regularly participates in a number of public outreach events sponsored by the Georgetown Business Improvement District (BID), including hosting works from the annual Georgetown GLOW art exhibition in the church's historic garden site. Additionally, the church provides displays and refreshments and opens its doors for public tours during the Book Hill French Market, a festival held each spring along Wisconsin Avenue NW. In 2019, the church increased its involvement in the neighborhood and with the Georgetown BID by hosting a booth for the first-ever Georgetown Fall Market. The church has also hosted a Saint Lucia choir as part of the Book Hill Holiday Festival.

Therefore, ANC 2E strongly supports the Georgetown Lutheran Church's DC Preservation League grant application. The ANC requests that the DC Preservation League awards grant funding to the church.

Commissioners Joe Gibbons ([2E02@anc.dc.gov](mailto:2E02@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