



# Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2A

*“Serving the Foggy Bottom and West End communities of Washington, D.C.”*

December 6, 2018

Mr. Brian Kenner  
Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development  
Government of the District of Columbia  
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Suite 317  
Washington, DC 20004  
[brian.kenner@dc.gov](mailto:brian.kenner@dc.gov)

Mr. Jeff Marootian  
Director  
District Department of Transportation  
55 M Street SE, Suite 400  
Washington, DC 20003  
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## **RE: The Stevens School Development Project**

Dear Deputy Mayor Kenner and Director Marootian,

At its regular meeting on September 20, 2018, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2A (“ANC 2A” or “Commission”) considered the above-referenced matter. With seven of seven commissioners present, a quorum at a duly-noticed public meeting, the Commission voted unanimously (7-0-0), after a motion made by Commissioner Harmon and seconded by Commissioner Kennedy, to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, on November 29, 2011, the Office of the Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development (DMPED), in conjunction with the Office of the Deputy Mayor for Education (DME), solicited two requests for expressions of interest (RFEI) from private developers and educational users to (1) redevelop the land adjacent to the historic Stevens School and (2) rehabilitate the existing historic Stevens School building for an educational user,

WHEREAS, DMPED selected Akridge-Argos as the development finalist, and on December 2, 2014 the DC Council passed the “Stevens School Disposition Emergency Declaration Resolution of 2014” (R20-0722) and the “Stevens School Surplus Declaration and Approval Resolution of 2014” (R20-0708) and the Mayor signed this legislation that provided for the disposition of the Stevens School, and on May 25, 2017, the District of Columbia and Stevens School Holdings, LLC (an affiliate of Akridge-Argos) entered into a ground lease (the “Ground Lease”) for the redevelopment of the land adjacent to the Stevens School,

WHEREAS, the above RFEIs and Ground Lease contemplated certain amenities that promoted the historic nature of the Stevens School to be provided by the developer, Akridge-Argos, to the community, specifically including, among other items, a wall running the length of the public lobby of the Akridge office building commemorating the history of the Stevens School and a scholarship fund of



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\$10,000 per year for five years to be provided by Akridge-Argos to a DC resident who exemplifies the values of Thaddeus Stevens,

WHEREAS, Akridge-Argos would like to, in lieu of installing a static display wall in the office building lobby, provide an interactive, 2D and 3D augmented reality historical digital display and exhibit within the public office building lobby to fulfill the RFEI and Ground Lease requirements and clarify, per the request of ANC 2A Commissioner Florence Harmon, that the scholarship can be awarded to any qualifying resident of DC so that no preference exists for ANC 2A residents, and

WHEREAS, construction has started on the Akridge-Argos office building and the Stevens School that necessitates the closing of the far western traffic lane moving south on 21<sup>st</sup> Street NW in front of the office building site and school, resulting in only one lane of traffic flow, reduced from the original three lanes in this downtown block, which causes significant traffic congestion since parking seems to still be available on the eastern side of 21<sup>st</sup> Street on this block. Similar traffic challenges exist further north on 21<sup>st</sup> Street NW in this same area due to the construction of the nearby CBS News building.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2A urges the Office of the Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development to amend the necessary land documents and agreements with Akridge-Argos to permit an interactive, 2D and 3D historic digital display to commemorate and celebrate the history of the Stevens School and to reflect that there is no ANC 2A residency preference for the scholarship as part of these community amenities.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2A urges the District Department of Transportation to eliminate parking on the eastern side of 21<sup>st</sup> Street NW on this block (the 1000 block of 21<sup>st</sup> Street NW), and in addition, on the eastern side of the 1100 block of 21<sup>st</sup> Street NW at the CBS News construction site, on weekdays for the duration of these construction projects and to restore such parking as currently permitted at the end of these projects .

Commissioners Florence Harmon ([2A06@anc.dc.gov](mailto:2A06@anc.dc.gov)) and William Kennedy Smith ([2A04@anc.dc.gov](mailto:2A04@anc.dc.gov)) are the Commission’s representatives in this matter.

ON BEHALF OF THE COMMISSION.

Sincerely,

William Kennedy Smith, MD  
Chairperson



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CC: Councilmember Jack Evans, Ward 2  
Sarina Loy, Councilmember Jack Evans’ Office  
Megan Huynh, Mayor’s Office of Community Relations and Services  
David Toney, Vice President of Development, Akridge