



Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2A

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

September 29, 2015

Earl Eutsler
Supervisory Forester, Urban Forestry Administration
District Department of Transportation
55 M Street, SE, Suite 400
Washington, DC 20003
earl.eutsler@dc.gov

RE: Maintenance of landscaping on two center islands in the median of New Hampshire Avenue NW between H and I Streets

Dear Mr. Eutsler,

At its regular meeting on September 16, 2015, 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 to adopt the following resolution, which was introduced by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Coder, by a vote of **(6-0-0*)**:

WHEREAS, the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) completed work on the New Hampshire Avenue Reconstruction and Resurfacing Project in May of 2014;

WHEREAS, over the summer of 2012, Foggy Bottom residents requested that DDOT remove several old cherry trees, plant new crepe myrtle trees, and plant grass on the two center islands located in the median of New Hampshire Avenue NW between H and I Streets as part of the New Hampshire Avenue Reconstruction and Resurfacing Project;

WHEREAS, DDOT agreed to the community requests in September of 2012;

WHEREAS, there are currently fourteen crepe myrtle trees located on the two center islands, three of which appear to be dead, and several others of which appear to be close to death;

WHEREAS, ANC 2A has made repeated requests to DDOT, National Park Service, and Department of Public Works (DPW) officials since the trees and grass were first planted by DDOT to ensure the continual maintenance of the landscaping on the two center islands;

WHEREAS, the arborist for the Urban Forestry Administration at DDOT, Simoun Banua, previously wrote to former ANC 2A commissioner Armando Irizarry that DDOT was working to finalize an agreement with DPW to have DPW continually maintain the two center islands, but such an agreement has yet to be transmitted to the ANC;



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WHEREAS, Simoun Banua also previously wrote that DDOT would be replacing the dead trees located on the two center islands since they were still under warranty from the planting company that first planted the trees as part of the New Hampshire Avenue Reconstruction and Resurfacing Project, but the dead trees have yet to be replaced;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that ANC 2A requests that DDOT finalize an agreement with DPW to continuously maintain the landscaping on the two center islands on the block of New Hampshire Avenue NW between H and I Streets, which would include an agreement to cut the grass on the two islands at least once per month, and to transmit that agreement to the ANC;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that ANC requests that DDOT promptly work to replace the dead crepe myrtle trees and the old cherry trees located on the two center islands on the block of New Hampshire Avenue NW between H and I Streets, and to improve the health of the trees that appear to be close to death.

Commissioners William Kennedy Smith (2A04@anc.dc.gov) and Patrick Kennedy (Patrick.Kennedy@anc.dc.gov) are the Commission’s representatives in this matter.

ON BEHALF OF THE COMMISSION.

Sincerely,

Patrick Kennedy
Chairperson

CC: Simoun Banua, Arborist, DDOT
Leif Dormsjo, Director, DDOT
Christopher Shorter, Interim Director, DPW
Armando Irizarry, Former ANC 2A Commissioner
Thomas Harvey, Uptown Grounds Supervisor, National Park Service
ANC 2A Commissioners

* Commissioner Harmon recused herself from voting on this matter.