



Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2A

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

Special Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, February 12th, 2020; 7:00 p.m.
GW's School of Media and Public Affairs (SMPA) Building
805 21st Street NW, Room B07

Call to Order

Chair Patrick Kennedy (01) called the meeting to order at 7:06 pm. Commissioners Nicole Goldin (02), Trupti Patel (03), William Kennedy Smith (04), Evelyn Hudson (05), Detrick Campbell (07), and James Harnett (08) were present.

Matters Before the Office of Planning

Consideration of a Resolution Regarding the Proposed Changes to DC's Comprehensive Plan Regarding Strengthening Inclusive Reporting and Embracing and Localizing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Commissioner Goldin made a motion to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Campbell seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 7-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

WHEREAS, the Comprehensive Plan seeks to promote a more equitable and inclusive city as stated in 100.12 “In 2004, the District completed a vision for the city, called “Vision for Growing an Inclusive City.” This document established a new philosophy about planning in the city, which has been carried forward into the Comprehensive Plan. The plan’s overriding emphasis is on improving the quality of life for current and future District residents,”

WHEREAS, the Comprehensive Plan further defines in 2501.1 that “An equitable city is one is where all residents have equal opportunity to thrive and prosper, where health outcomes are improved for all racial and ethnic groups, and environmental benefits are shared by everyone. Equity is critically important to achieving different outcomes within our communities. The goal of equity must go beyond closing the gap between different populations to establish conditions of well-being for all groups of people. The Comprehensive Plan addresses the topic of equity through the development of implementation strategies that are targeted based on the needs of a particular group.”

WHEREAS, the Comprehensive Plan acknowledges in 2505.1 that “Good plans must be based on good data; their success should be measurable through quantifiable benchmarks;” and thus the Comprehensive Plan commits in 2505.6 to “Use data collection and progress monitoring to actively review and formulate new policies that respond to the changes affecting Washington, DC in order to further the goal of an inclusive city.”

WHEREAS, in September 2015, the United Nations adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development comprising 17 global goals (SDGs) (see Appendix Figure 1)

with 169 targets and 232 indicators; and numerous U.S. cities are localizing, aligning to, and incorporating SDGs into their urban plans, policies, strategies, and commitments.^[1]

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2A suggests the following additions to the Comprehensive Plan to better ensure its implementation is inclusive, accountable, and more robustly evaluated; and to encourage DC to demonstrate leadership among national and global cities in sustainable urban planning by embracing and localizing the SDG 2030 Agenda.

➤ to the Introduction

Add to section 100.13 - “Also since the last 2006 plan, the global community adopted and embraced the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in September 2015. These 17 global goals and associated 169 targets, 232 indicators comprise a 15-year agenda and roadmap for inclusive and sustainable progress and prosperity for people and planet on a broad range of issues including poverty, health, education, jobs, climate, energy and the environment, transport and housing infrastructure, safety and security and inequality. The SDGs are increasingly informing and being incorporated into city-level planning and localized benchmarks across the U.S. (and around the world): including in Honolulu, HI, to Orlando, FL, Pittsburgh, PA and San Jose, CA as well as Chicago, IL, New York City, NY and Los Angeles, CA.”

➤ to the Implementation Framework Element

Add to section 2512.1 Monitoring and Evaluating Comprehensive Plan Implementation – “In the interests of transparency with the public on how the Plan is differentially affecting residents and to help ensure the Plan is meeting its goals around inclusivity and fulfilling commitments in the Equity Crosswalk Element, the progress report will include monitoring data, activity and impact information that is disaggregated by age, gender, race, and income level.

To further accountability and In the spirit of being an international city, the Office of Planning will also explore development of a Sustainable Development Goals ‘Voluntary Local Review’^[2] (VLR) that sets localized indicators, collects data and tracks DC progress against the SDGs; VLRs were first pioneered by New York City^[3] and are now also being conducted by Pittsburgh, PA,^[4] Orlando, FL, Los Angeles, CA and nearly 20 other small-medium-large size cities worldwide.”

Appendix Figure 1 – Sustainable Development Goals



Consideration of a Resolution Regarding the Proposed Changes to DC's Comprehensive Plan Regarding West End / Foggy Bottom Parkland

Commissioner Smith made a motion to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Patel seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 7-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

WHEREAS, in 2003 the Federal Highway Administration (FHA) completed an environmental impact study that included the creation of a connection between Rock Creek Parkway and the Potomac River Freeway in the same area,

WHEREAS, ANC 2A and ANC 2E have passed resolutions strongly supporting the creation of a bypass linking Rock Creek Parkway with the Potomac River Freeway so as to improve traffic flow between Rock Creek Parkway and the Potomac River Freeway, decrease traffic on 27th Street between K Street and Virginia Avenue NW, and provide for more flexible use of the riverfront green space along Rock Creek Parkway between Virginia Avenue NW and the Roosevelt Bridge,

WHEREAS, the potential benefits of this project include: improved traffic flow between Rock Creek Parkway and Route 66; decreased traffic at the intersections of Rock Creek Parkway & Virginia Avenue NW and 27th Street & K Street NW; and more flexible use of the riverfront green space between Virginia Avenue NW and the Roosevelt Bridge, so as to enhance pedestrian and bicycle access to the continuous riverfront park from Georgetown to the National Mall,

WHEREAS, the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) budget for FY 2019 contained \$500,000 of funding for a study of the feasibility of such a project,

WHEREAS, the budget for the roadway work proposed in 2003 was \$11 million; about \$32 million today. That budget seems well justified by the potential benefits of the project in addressing longstanding roadway congestion and freeing up strategically placed riverfront land for public use,

WHEREAS, the project would be an excellent candidate for national infrastructure investment given that its benefits would accrue not only to the District but also regionally and nationally through improved roadway efficiencies impacting commuters in all of the surrounding jurisdictions who use this busy and congested route on a daily basis, as well as through the addition of a riverfront green space suitable for new national memorials, and

WHEREAS, relevant planners at the National Park Service (NPS) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) recently reviewed the 2003 materials and indicated that the project has significant merit and the cross-jurisdictional nature of the project, involving DC, FHWA, and NPS land, make it highly appropriate for the DC Office of Planning to coordinate such a study.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that, with regards to 2115.10 *Policy NNW-2.5.4: West End/Foggy Bottom Parkland*, ANC 2A strongly supports the inclusion of the following into the Comprehensive Plan:

2115.10 Policy NNW-2.5.4: West End/Foggy Bottom Parkland

Protect and improve, program activities and maximize the benefits of all parks and open spaces in this area, including Francis Field, George Washington Circle, Juarez Circle and adjacent open space “islands,” Rock Creek Park, Rock Creek Parkway, and Potomac Parkway. The publicly-owned land between M Street, Virginia Avenue, and 26th Street, and 29th Street NW, which includes both federally-owned and District-owned land, shall be retained as parkland and shall not be used for development or highways. 2115.10

NEW ACTION: West End/Foggy Bottom River, Park and Cultural Access Study

Study the feasibility of reconfiguring existing transportation infrastructure in the Virginia Avenue Rock Creek corridor so as to create a pedestrian and bicycle mall / park along the Potomac River between K Street NW and the Roosevelt Bridge. The study should examine the possibilities for the creation of new memorials in the resulting park as well as for improved pedestrian and bicycle access to the Kennedy Center, National Mall, Georgetown, Rock Creek Park, and contiguous parkland and green space, while facilitating improved traffic flow and appropriate community development in the area.

Consideration of a Resolution Regarding the Proposed Changes to DC's Comprehensive Plan Regarding Supporting LGBTQ+ Housing

Commissioner Harnett made a motion to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Campbell seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 7-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

WHEREAS, supporting the LGBTQ+ Community in the Housing Element and the Community Services and Facilities Element is important to ANC 2A, and the Commission believes members of the LGBTQ+ community can have needs different than non-LGBTQ+ members, and that the Comprehensive Plan should plan for these needs moving forward.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2A supports modifying Housing Element H-4.3 to meet the needs of persons in the LGBTQ+ community with specific requirements that benefit from specific supportive services as profiled in that section.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2A supports Policy H-4.3.x including language for the housing of LGBTQ+ older adults. DC has the highest percentage of LGBTQ adults in the country, but critically insufficient LGBTQ-affirming older adult housing compared to other comparable cities.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2A supports language in the Community Services and Facilities section in the Housing Element, to indicate better support for youth experiencing homelessness who self-identify as LGBTQ+, which constitutes nearly half of DC's youth experiencing homelessness, including healthcare and services for LGBTQ+ patients, a group that faces disparities similarly to other populations identified as at-risk or disadvantaged.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2A supports language in Action CSF-2.3.D, for improving coordination and service delivery among District agencies to include the LGBTQ+ community, as there are specific healthcare and services that the LGBTQ+ community requires and can benefit from.

Consideration of a Resolution Regarding the Proposed Changes to DC's Comprehensive Plan Regarding the Transportation Element

Commissioner Harnett made a motion to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Goldin seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 7-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

WHEREAS, ANC 2A supports the Office of Planning's (OP) inclusion of language in the Transportation Element that commits the District to equity in transportation policy planning and implementation. We appreciate amendments to the 2006 plan that acknowledge the imbalanced allocation of physical space and transportation resources, which disproportionately favors personal cars over all other modes.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2A supports integrating OP's language from its analysis of equity into the Transportation Element, which would adopt a uniform

definition of equity, and adding an explanation of why it is important to transportation planning.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2A supports, in Section 400.2, adding “reduce vehicle miles traveled” as a measure of success as this is a critical transportation issue that the District must address in its planning and funding mechanisms, and, in Policy T-1.1.A, “Transportation Measures of Effectiveness,” adding language that incentivizes the District to conduct an analysis of potential impacts on underserved and low-income communities. Further, following Policy T-1.1.A, a section that defines measures of equity in transportation would be appropriate.

Consideration of a Resolution Regarding the Proposed Changes to DC's Comprehensive Plan Regarding a Second Foggy Bottom Metrorail Station Entrance

Chair Kennedy made a motion to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Harnett seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 6-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

WHEREAS, the Foggy Bottom-GWU Metro station is the biggest single-entry facility in the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) rail system, and one of the ten busiest stations overall,

WHEREAS, securing a second entrance to this station has long been a top priority of community groups including ANC 2A and the West End Citizens Association,

WHEREAS, WMATA has previously conducted a study to identify a preferred site for a second entrance and estimate potential construction costs, and

WHEREAS, The George Washington University (GWU) has agreed to reserve space at the southeast corner of 22nd Street and I Street NW for the study’s preferred second entrance location, thereby ensuring that future campus development would not preclude the installation of a station portal on university property.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that, in recognition of the importance of this future infrastructure investment to both the Foggy Bottom neighborhood and the District of Columbia as a whole – as well as the large amount of due diligence that has gone into laying the groundwork for the project to-date – ANC 2A strongly encourages the Office of Planning to make the following language revisions as part of its proposed amendments to the Near Northwest Element of the Comprehensive Plan (changes bold and underlined):

- **2115.6:** “The area includes the Foggy Bottom/GWU Metro Station, the busiest station in the Metrorail system with only one entrance/exit and one of the busiest stations ~~in the system~~ overall. ~~This station has only one entrance and elevator.~~ A second entrance has been studied, a preferred site has been identified (at the southeast corner of 22nd Street and I Street NW), and provisions have been made with The George Washington University (the

site's landowner) to ensure that future campus development would not preclude an entrance at this location. Therefore, construction of a second entrance is ~~would be desirable and is encouraged in the future.~~

- **Restore language that is struck through at 2115.14:**

“Action NNW-2.5.D: Metro Station Access

Support the development of an additional entry portal to the Foggy Bottom Metro station.”

Consideration of a Resolution Regarding the Proposed Changes to DC's Comprehensive Plan Regarding Campus Plan Student Enrollment Caps

Commissioner Smith made a motion to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Kennedy seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 4-0-2). The resolution reads as follows:

WHEREAS, Comprehensive Plan Text Amendment #2479 is listed as accepted for referral to the DC Council, although it is not included in the currently published full text of the plan,

WHEREAS, Text Amendment #2479 details a rationale for the elimination of the student enrollment caps incorporated into the District's various university campus plans, and

WHEREAS, ANC 2A finds student enrollment caps to be a central and valued element of the George Washington University campus plan that it regularly relies upon to balance various and competing interests in our community.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2A opposes the elimination of campus plan enrollment caps at this time.

Consideration of a Resolution Regarding the Proposed Changes to DC's Comprehensive Plan Regarding an Expanded Downtown

Commissioner Smith made a motion to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Harnett seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 6-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

WHEREAS, the Mayor and DC Council have made increasing the availability of affordable housing a policy priority and Inclusionary Zoning (IZ) provides an important mechanism for advancing that goal, and

WHEREAS, the District has an ongoing commitment to sustainable development and environmental protection and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process plays an important role in fulfilling that commitment.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2A requests that any expansion of the “downtown” area, such as the one detailed in the current Comprehensive Plan, should not come at the expense of Inclusionary Zoning, NEPA regulations, or other affordable housing and environmental protections.

Consideration of a Resolution Regarding the Proposed Changes to DC's Comprehensive Plan Regarding the Enforcement of Housing Production Incentives

Commissioner Harnett made a motion to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Kennedy seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 6-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2A supports modifying Housing Element 8112 to include the following language, in the appropriate location in that paragraph, to ensure the proper enforcement and adherence of developers to housing production incentives: “effective regulatory oversight and enforcement is crucial to the full efficacy of this provision.”

Consideration of a Resolution Regarding the Proposed Changes to DC's Comprehensive Plan Regarding Sustainability

Commissioner Campbell made a motion to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Hudson seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 6-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

WHEREAS, the District of Columbia has a resiliency strategy to thrive in the face of change, shocks (sudden, acute disasters), and stresses (slow-burning disasters),

WHEREAS, the District of Columbia is a part of the 100 Resilient Cities network and signed on to the spirit of the Paris Climate Accords,

WHEREAS, climate change is a clear and present danger with rising sea levels, drastic temperatures, extreme weather events, and acidification, and

WHEREAS, the Comprehensive Plan should reflect environmental and climate changes in urban and city planning elements.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2A recommends that the Office of Planning adopting the following edits to the Comprehensive Plan:

- In 100.4 replace “reach all of our residents” with “accessible” because the Comprehensive Plan is not only for the residents of the District of Columbia but the visitors as well.
- Add 106.2 “Track existing conditions and planning issues and changes on Open Data DC” so that the implementation and changes are accessible, public, and allow for accountability to the general public.

- Under Policy: Resilience and Land Use, add “Incorporate climate projections in Land Use” to include maps of flooding and heat maps for exposure and vulnerability.

Add under 600.2 under the critical environmental issues facing Washington, DC: “Increasing resilience to urban heat island effect.”

Add under 900.2 under the critical urban design issues facing the District of Columbia: “Ensuring that designs and plans are climate ready accessible.”

- Under create tailored streetscapes guidelines for new neighborhoods or large sites undergoing redevelopment to promote interesting pedestrian experiences and a unique and consistent design for the public realm:

Add new action: Streetscape and Standards: Investigate opportunities for allowing permeable and light-colored pavement to combat climate change.

- Add 915, Add new policy: Resilience Hub: Help prepare for shocks and build a more connected community.
- Keep 2109.10 Policy NNW 1.2.10. Sustainable Development: Encourage the use of green building practices within Near Northwest with an emphasis on green roofs. Rooftop gardens should be encouraged in new construction and major rehabilitation projects as a way to create additional green space, reduce, stormwater runoff, and provide an amenity for residents

Add to 2109.10 “and/or LEED certification” after with an emphasis on green roofs.

Adjournment

Chair Kennedy adjourned the meeting at 8:51 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Detrick Campbell". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "D" and "C".

Detrick Campbell
Secretary, ANC 2A07