



Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2A

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

October 31, 2015

Barry Wolfman
Chief Executive Officer
The George Washington University Hospital
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Barry.Wolfman@gwu-hospital.com

Dr. Steven Knapp
President
The George Washington University
2121 I Street NW, Suite 801
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Ann Chisholm
Government Relations Officer – DC
Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority
600 5th Street NW
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RE: Installing Additional Lighting and Video Surveillance in the I Street Mall on I Street between 23rd Street and 24th Street NW in Order to Deter Crime

Dear Mr. Wolfman, Dr. Knapp, and Ms. Chisholm,

At its regular meeting on October 21, 2015, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2A (“ANC 2A” or “Commission”) considered the above-referenced matter. With six 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 Zhurbinskiy and seconded by Commissioner Coder, by a vote of **(6-0-0)**:

WHEREAS, the Foggy Bottom and West End Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC 2A) seeks to protect the quality of life in Foggy Bottom and the West End;

WHEREAS, on the night of Friday, October 9, 2015, a student at the George Washington University (“GW”) reported that she was sexually fondled at the corner of 24th & I Streets NW, at the I Street Mall adjacent to the GW Hospital, Foggy Bottom-GWU Metro stop, and GW School of Medicine and Health Sciences, shortly before 3 a.m.;

WHEREAS, on November 24, 2014, shortly before 2 a.m., a GW student reported that she was gang raped by three males in an alleyway on New Hampshire Ave NW near the I Street Mall;

WHEREAS, early in the morning of Sunday, October 19, 2014, a woman reported to the police that a man tried to pull her into the bushes in the I Street Mall at about 3:20 a.m. and she was able to escape;



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WHEREAS, shortly thereafter the same man attempted to sexually assault another woman nearby;

WHEREAS, in a GW campus climate survey conducted in 2014 regarding unwanted sexual behavior, 21 percent of freshman women and graduate students said they felt unsafe on campus at night;

WHEREAS, many GW students avoid walking in or near the I Street Mall for fear of being assaulted;

WHEREAS, the plaza is poorly lit, providing cover for potential perpetrators of violent crime as it is isolated from the street;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that ANC 2A requests that GW, GW Hospital, and the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority install brighter lighting and increased video surveillance in the area of the I Street Mall in order to provide for public safety, create a safer environment for both the campus and community, deter crime, and increase the possibility of bystander intervention in the case of crime.

Commissioners Eve Zhurbinskiy (2A08@anc.dc.gov) and Patrick Kennedy (2A01@anc.dc.gov) are the Commission’s representatives in this matter.

ON BEHALF OF THE COMMISSION.

Sincerely,

Patrick Kennedy
Chairperson

CC: Alicia Knight, Senior Associate Vice President of Operations, GW
Britany Waddell, Director of Community Relations, GW
Richard Livingstone, Assistant Director of Community Relations, GW
RaShall Brackney, Chief of Police, GW
Melvin Gresham, Second District Commander, Metropolitan Police Department