



Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2A

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

December 3, 2018

Chairman Phil Mendelson
Chairman
Council of the District of Columbia
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Suite 504
Washington, DC 20004
pmendelson@dccouncil.us

RE: Proposed Honorary Designation of “Jamal Khashoggi Way” for the Section of New Hampshire Avenue NW in Front of the Embassy of Saudi Arabia at 601 New Hampshire Avenue NW

Dear Chairman Mendelson,

At its regular meeting on November 28, 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 (6-0-0*), after a motion made by Commissioner Smith and seconded by Commissioner Harnett, to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, Washington Post contributing columnist and Virginia resident Jamal Khashoggi was murdered by agents of the Government of Saudi Arabia on October 2, 2018 in the Saudi Consulate in Istanbul, Turkey, which he visited in order to obtain documents necessary for his impending marriage,

WHEREAS, the Central Intelligence Agency has concluded with high confidence that his murder was the result of pre-planned, deliberate action, authorized and directed by Saudi Arabia’s Crown Prince Mohammed Bin Salman,

WHEREAS, the Saudi Government has tried to posthumously smear the memory of Jamal Khashoggi by justifying his murder as a necessary component of the war on terror, as opposed to a vengeful act against a journalist who had been critical of the Saudi regime and called for political reforms in the Arab world,

WHEREAS, state-sponsored murder of journalists represents an imminent, global threat to free speech,

WHEREAS, state-sponsored murder of a dissident violates the norms of the international law,

WHEREAS, over 7,500 people have signed an online petition to honorarily designate the street in front of the Saudi Arabian Embassy in Washington as Jamal Khashoggi Way, and

WHEREAS, the Saudi Embassy is located within the boundaries of ANC 2A, there is broad community support for the initiative, and there is ample precedent



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for such a naming, since the streets fronting the Russian and Chinese embassies have been named for Boris Nemtsov and Liu Xiaobo respectively, two martyred dissident leaders from those respective countries.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2A requests that the east side of New Hampshire Avenue NW, between F Street and Juarez Circle, be honorarily designated as “Jamal Khashoggi Way” and calls upon the DC Council and the Administration of Mayor Muriel Bowser to take any and all steps to immediately enact this necessary and meaningful action, as a tribute to a fallen neighbor and an expression of support by the residents of the District of Columbia for the indispensable values of free speech and a free and independent press.

Commissioners William Kennedy Smith (2A04@anc.dc.gov) and James Harnett (2A08@anc.dc.gov) are the Commission’s representatives in this matter.

ON BEHALF OF THE COMMISSION.

Sincerely,

William Kennedy Smith, MD
Chairperson

CC: Councilmember David Grosso, At-Large
Councilmember Elissa Silverman, At-Large
Councilmember Robert White, At-Large
Councilmember Anita Bonds, At-Large
Councilmember Brianne Nadeau, Ward 1
Councilmember Jack Evans, Ward 2
Councilmember Mary Cheh, Ward 3
Councilmember Brandon Todd, Ward 4
Councilmember Kenyan McDuffie, Ward 5
Councilmember Charles Allen, Ward 6
Councilmember Vince Gray, Ward 7
Councilmember Trayon White, Ward 8
Mayor Muriel Bowser, Mayor, DC Government
Alana Intrieri, Director, Mayor’s Office of Policy and Legislative Affairs
Michael De Dora, Committee to Protect Journalists

* Commissioner Harmon recused herself from voting on this matter.