## Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6D Minutes of Business Meeting – May 9, 2016 Held at 1000 4<sup>th</sup> St. SW, Washington DC 20024 Andy Litsky, Chair

\*Minute approved at June 13<sup>h</sup> meeting; correspondence produced from this meeting also attached

The Commission convened at 7:07 p.m. The following commissioners were in attendance at the beginning of the meeting: Roger Moffatt, Stacy Cloyd, Meredith Fascett, Marjorie Lightman (chairing), and Rhonda Hamilton

### **Approval of Agenda**

CM Moffat moved to approve the agenda, and CM Hamilton seconded. CM Fascett noted that 10a (alley closure), 10d (Van Ness), and 10h (DCRA after hours) have been tabled. She also asked to add 7e (maintenance funding for the ADRC). With those changes, the agenda was approved 5-0-0.

#### **Introduction of Commissioners**

#### **Meeting Announcements**

- The next ANC 6D meeting will be Monday, June 13 at 7pm, 1100 4<sup>th</sup> St. SW, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor.
- CM Fascett: Tomorrow at 6:30 at Van Ness Elementary is a meeting about renovation of Joy Evans Park.
- Andrea Collins: The DC Council has recommended \$250,000 for programming Randall Community Center in Fiscal Year 2017. Ms. Collins is the chair of the new Friends of Randall group and they are always looking for new members.
- Naomi Mitchell: Councilmember Allen is holding office hours Friday 8-9:30am at the Starbucks in the SW Safeway.
- Georgine Wallace: On 5/11 at 1pm there will be a garden party for adults outside the SW library. Also, on 5/12 at 7pm the director of DC Public Library will be at the SW Library for a community meeting about the renovation of a new library on the same site. The budget is \$18 million.
- CM Hamilton: Mayor's office is hosting a community cleanup Saturday at 10am. Meet at King-Greenleaf Rec center.

#### **Public Safety Report**

Sgt. Architzel, PSA 105

- Past 30 days vs. last years—no homicides or arsons in PSA 105 either year. Robberies down from 6 to 4. Property crimes are the same or equal. Two robberies in the past month have involved juveniles. A child stole another kid's bicycle outside of the library but it was closed. Another alleged robbery was in fact an excuse made up by a kid who didn't want to tell his parents why he was late coming home.
- The building at 1543-1547 1<sup>st</sup> Street is a former day care center, now abandoned. It needs to be boarded up. MPD is working with various agencies to get that dealt with.
- There is a new "crime suppression" team. This is similar to the vice squads that have been disbanded. It will focus on serious violent crimes, weapons cases. They are not a jumpout squad. Sgt. Architzel will be leading the First District team so will not be PSA 105's Sgt. anymore. Sgt. Joshua Straussman will be the replacement on the evening shift; Sgt. Richie will be handling midnights.

- Community member: how does MPD deal with the minor crime so people who commit them also get dealt with? Sgt. Architzel said the patrol officers will still handle this.
   Gambling is one example of a small crime that can lead to bigger ones.
- MPD has started ticketing government vehicles parked in the median of the 1100 block of 4<sup>th</sup>
   Street SW. They have not yet started ticketing such vehicles parked illegally on Wesley Place but
   are talking with the agencies to hopefully avoid the need to ticket.
- PSA 106 stats: Past 30 days vs. last years—no homicides or sex assaults. ADWs are down.
   Robberies are equal. Burglaries and motor vehicle thefts and thefts from auto are up.
- Gene Solon: someone entered the Harbor Square laundry room and damaged property and made threats. Sgt. Architzel: if that was reported, it will be addressed, but it won't be on the report that the Sgt. reads out each month.
- Community member: there were shots fired at Delaware and M two weeks ago; what happened? Sgt. Architzel will check into that.
- CM Hamilton and Irv Gamza thanked Sgt. Architzel for his service.

#### **Approval of Prior Month's Minutes**

CM Cloyd moved to approve April minutes and CM Moffat seconded. The minutes were approved 5-0-0.

#### **Other Presentations and Resolutions**

Presentation by Deputy Mayor for Health and Human Services Brenda Donald

- The mayor's budget makes a major investment in schools and UDC.
- The proposed budget also includes \$18 million for the SW library renovation and money to improve the SE library too.
- There is a \$100 million investment in affordable housing production.
- The Mayor is trying to raise the minimum wage to \$15/hr and \$7.50/hr for tipped workers.
- CM Cloyd: why did the mayor delay Jefferson's renovation for two years? DMHHS Donald: there were competing priorities.
- CM Lightman: what about new Circulators? Ms. Donald said that is not in her budget but she will look into that.
- CM Cloyd: what is going on with the DC Trust? Why is it going defunct and will there be a criminal investigation into where all the money went? Ms. Donald said the Trust was not successful in raising private funds, especially after former Councilmember Harry Thomas stole from it. The board was reconstituted in 2010 and over 90% of funds in the trust are city dollars. The trust didn't cut their expenses when private donations dropped, and they used money that should have been used for programs for administrative expenses. There is an investigation by the Inspector General to see if it was simple mismanagement or a crime. The Mayor's office is trying to figure out the best way to fund programs.
- CM Hamilton: the GED program in our neighborhood shut its doors. It used to get DC Trust money. Ms. Donald: We can talk off-line, but all current grantees will be getting something from the Trust in 2016 and the Mayor is working on FY17 funding.
- CM Lightman: We feel that our ANC is growing in population faster than it is growing infrastructure. The Mayor needs to pay attention to this part of the city. Ms. Donald: you should invite DMPED to come talk with you about that.

- CM Hamilton: the Department of Health should be doing a health assessment at Buzzard Point. Ms. Donald: there's no money to implement any recommendations at this point but maybe in the future there will be.
- CM Fascett: has the Summer Youth Employment Program been able to hire all applicants? Ms.
  Donald: I'm not sure, but we've hired 10,000. We also have a program called Career
  Connections for year-round training and employment subsidies for 20-24 year olds and that
  does have space.
- Community member: what health services are available for children? Ms. Donald: school health, parks and rec, CFSA (case management and mental health), Medicaid/DC Alliance, and others.
- CM Cloyd: what is the District doing to maintain and improve the Unity clinic? Ms. Donald: There is no money to renovate, but DGS should be able to maintain it to the point that all the outlets work, and she will follow up with that.
- Andy Lightman: what's the status on the proposed family shelter? Ms. Donald: It will have to go
  through PUD and HPRB process. Public notices are coming out next week, and a public hearing
  will be in October. That is the goal for finishing the PUD. "We know this probably won't be a
  straight path."

### Resolution about Proposed Family Shelter at 700 Delaware Ave. SW

CM Cloyd moved to sign ANC 6D on to a petition about shelters: this is a citywide resolution asking for a different Ward 5 shelter location, private bathrooms for each family, and increased focus on publiclyowned sites. CM Fascett seconded. Passed 4-0-0 (Hamilton absent).

#### CareFirst Excess Surplus Presentation

CM Cloyd moved to send a letter to the Department of Insurance, Securities, and Banking encouraging them to come up with a plan for CareFirst's DC subsidiary to spend its excess surplus, and recommending the Buzzard Point health assessment, Unity's Southwest Clinic, and Waterfront Village as possible recipients. CM Fascett seconded. Passed 4-0-0 (Hamilton absent).

#### Buses on Buzzard Point

CM Hamilton moved to send a letter to DDOT asking for signage and enforcement to keep tour buses from going onto residential streets. CM Cloyd seconded. Andrew Lightman suggested people call Carrier Services (part of MPD) to ticket them. Passed 4-0-0 (Moffatt absent).

#### ADRC Funding

Mary Bloodworth of Seaberry Services for Aging explained that her organization runs nutrition sites at Arthur Capper and Greenleaf Senior buildings as part of the Aging and Disability Resource Centers. They are facing a budget cut for Fiscal Year 2017 which means they can't run as many wellness services. CM Hamilton moved to send a letter to the mayor and Councilmembers Allen and Bonds in support of the program's continued funding. CM Cloyd seconded. Passed 5-0-0.

### **Alcoholic Beverages (ABC Committee Chair Coralie Farlee)**

#### Community Agreement for II Parco

The community agreement for the previous operator was cleaned up and a sentence was added about not carrying alcohol off the premises. The ABC committee voted 4-0-1 in favor of the new CA. CM Cloyd moved to support the community agreement and CM Fascett seconded. The motion passed 5-0-0. CM Cloyd then moved to support the renewal of the establishment's license. and CM Fascett seconded. The motion passed 5-0-0.

#### License Renewals with No Action

The ABC committee recommended that the ANC take no action on the renewals of 46 licenses. The ANC did not vote on any of those renewals, in effect agreeing to take no action on the renewals. CM Lightman commended Dr. Farlee for her work on this issue. Dr. Farlee noted that the ABC committee members helped her with the process.

#### **Temporary Traffic Interruptions**

Cancer Foundation 5k Walk

Jeffery Day, Event Manager for Prevent Cancer 5k. The event on Sept. 25 is a non-competitive walk/run, fully on sidewalks. It will begin and end at Nationals Stadium. Participants will only cross at walk signals, and there will be MPD and course marshals to enforce this. CM Cloyd encouraged them to walk the course a few days before the event in case of construction. Mr. Day said they would and they are working with the Capitol Riverfront BID. CM Cloyd moved to send a letter to the mayor's task force in support of the event. CM Fascett seconded and the motion passed 4-0-0 (Hamilton absent).

#### **Development, Planning, and Transportation**

ZC 16-06, CG Overlay Review, 1900 Half St. SE

CM Moffatt described the building, which is a conversion of a Coast Guard office building into a residential apartment building. A team from Douglas Development showed renderings of the building. The pictures are also available on the Zoning Commission's website.

CM Fascett noted that the ANC is trying to be more proactive about planning for dogs. Douglas has added a dog run in response to ANC's requests. They have a pet waste management plan. CM Moffatt expressed concern about pet waste runoff into the river. The developers said it would be collected in the sanitation system rather than the stormwater system or river.

The building will not offer any affordable units and is not required to do so. They are improving the land surrounding the building, as DDOT is requiring, with park space, sidewalks, and a landscaped river walk area—some of the areas are owned by DDOT or the federal government. CM Lightman noted that while the riverwalk looks very nice and is welcome, there is a real need for affordable housing and this sets a bad example for the rest of the neighborhood.

There are currently 690 parking spaces in the building, but several hundred will be removed. There is no surface parking in front of any units. CM Moffatt indicated he feels it is still too much parking because this neighborhood cannot be auto-dependent.

This will be a rental development. The plan is 444 units. There is no plan to have water access. The Earth Conservation Corps building will remain.

Andrew Lightman asked how people will get to shopping and transit. Douglas Development said they are working with DDOT on bike lanes, sidewalks, and street design. They are advocating for more public transit there too. There will be 24,000 square feet ground floor retail along one side of the building—the exact vendors are unknown. It will not all be restaurants, but also some service-oriented businesses. 2 to 4 total businesses.

Rikki Kramer asked why they aren't required to do inclusionary zoning: the answer given was because they are not a new development and they are not adding floor space or FAR. She asked what the price

of the units will be and was told that it will depend what the market will bear. The smallest units are 450sf efficiencies and the largest are 1200sf 3 brs. 50% of units are 1br, 15% are 2-3 brs, and the rest is studios.

CM Moffatt moved to send a letter to the Zoning Commission in support of the requested relief, landscaping, and the dog plan. The letter will include a passage requesting the applicant consider adding some affordable housing units even though they are not required. The letter also expresses concern about the amount of parking and feels it may be too much. It is acceptable because the spaces already exist, but should not set a precedent for future development at Buzzard Point. The letter requests that DDOT develop a construction management plan with the developer and opposes after hours permits. CM Fascett seconded. Passed 5-0-0.

CM Moffatt moved to allow CM Hamilton to testify on the topic. CM Cloyd seconded. Passed 6-0-0.

ZC 13-05, PUD modification (Forest City, Squares 744S and 744SS, F1 block Cinema). The developers propose minor modifications to the façade, reducing parking spaces from 331 to 323, omitting showers for employees, instead providing bikeshare memberships for staff. Green roof percentage decreases from 74% to 69% because of the need to provide an enclosed stairwell. CM Fascett moved to send a letter to the Zoning Commission in support of the modifications. CM Moffatt seconded. Passed 5-0-0 (Hamilton absent, Carroll entered).

#### DDOT public space permit #124280, 1111 New Jersey Ave. SE

CM Fascett moved to send a letter in support of the applicant's request to provide a larger sign than usual. The building is set back 60 feet from the road so the usual 42" sign will not be visible from the road through parked cars and trees and setback. The applicant is requesting a 10-foot sign. CM Fascett's letter does not support a specific size sign, but says that if it is going to be larger than usual, it must include the street number as well as the name of the building (the Insignia). In addition, the letter to DDOT requests that "no parking" signs be placed so that people can be dropped off in front of the building without double parking. CM Carroll seconded, and asked if DDOT allows the sign to be illuminated and CM Fascett said yes. CM Carroll said she supported the sign for wayfinding but would oppose signs for marketing. CM Fascett agreed and said that it is important to reduce congestion. CM Hamilton suggested room for maps or other messages. Passed 6-0-0.

CM Fascett moved to testify at the public space commission. CM Lightman seconded. Passed 6-0-0.

#### DDOT public space permit #136337, Parc Riverside Phase II

Erin Reisinger of Toll Brothers appeared for the developers. She said that all tree boxes on the site will be the same, addressing DDOT's concern.

- CM Carroll: who's liable if someone's hurt in the area that projects into public space?
- CM Fascett: we'd like a rooftop dog run. Ms. Reisinger: we haven't figured that out yet but will keep it in mind.
- CM Hamilton: is there space in courtyard for dog park? Erin, yes, but very small.
- CM Cloyd: thank you for coming; please keep the community apprised of your work and keep meeting with them.
- CM Moffatt: how much square footage would the projections into public space allow the development? Ms. Reisinger did not know. CM Carroll: where else can you add square footage without going into public space? Ms. Reisinger you can't do the height limit and have a

courtyard and hit the maximum FAR. CM Carroll: this is public space, but it's not used by the public.

CM Cloyd moved to send a letter to DDOT supporting a curb cut but requesting it occur on K instead of L St., and noting the conflict between the Velocity and Toll Brothers on whether the new building was allowed to share the Velocity's parking lot ramp. Fascett seconded. CM Moffatt asked that the letter include the ANC's general concern about projections into public space and CM Cloyd agreed to include that as a friendly amendment.

Velocity resident asked if any projections into public space are on the SE face of the proposed building, which is closest to the Velocity. Ms. Reisinger: the bay windows face K, L, and Half.

The motion passed 6-0-0. CMs Lightman and Carroll encouraged Toll Bros. to work with Velocity to work out difficulties.

### 4<sup>th</sup> and M St. SE Intersection

CM Fascett moved to send a letter to DDOT requesting that they study the intersection, which is difficult based on the traffic, large senior population nearby, and other factors. The letter will be accompanied by letters from constituents. CM Moffatt seconded. Motion passed 6-0-0.

### **Commission Updates and Administrative Matters**

- Chair's report: none
- Treasurer's report: Quarterly report is done and we have spent less than our allocation, with biggest expense being administrative staff. CM Fascett moved to approve it, CM Hamilton seconded, and it passed 6-0-0.

### **Community Concerns**

None

The commission adjourned at approximately 9:42 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Stacy Cloyd



Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6D

May 23, 2016

1101 Fourth Street, SW Suite W 130 Washington, DC 20024 202.554.1795

Email: office@anc6d.org Website: www.anc6d.org

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Vice Chairperson Rachel Reilly Carroll

Secretary Stacy Cloyd

Treasurer
Meredith Fascett

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SMD 5 Roger Moffatt

SMD 6 Rhonda Hamilton

SMD 7 Meredith Fascett

Mayor Muriel Bowser,
DISB Commissioner Stephen C. Taylor,
DOH Director LaQuandra S. Nesbitt,
Councilmember Charles Allen

VIA E-MAIL: eom@dc.gov, disb@dc.gov, doh@dc.gov, callen@dccouncil.us

RE: Group Hospitalization and Medical Services Inc. (GHMSI) Surplus

At a regularly scheduled and properly noticed public meeting on May 9, 2016, with a quorum present, a quorum being four Commissioners, Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) 6D voted 4-0-0 to submit the following resolution:

Whereas, GHMSI is a subsidiary of CareFirst located in DC, and

Whereas, DISB is responsible for determining the amount of any excessive surplus held by GHMSI and overseeing its distribution plan, and

Whereas, the DC Council passed a unanimous sense of the council resolution on April 5, 2016 requesting that DISB "develop a community reinvestment plan for \$56 million in excess GHMSI 2011 surplus" then allow public comment on it, approve it, and order GHMSI to implement the plan within 30 days, and

<u>Whereas</u>, GHMSI's surplus from years after 2011 also appears to be excessive by tens of millions of dollars,

<u>Be it resolved that ANC 6D supports the "Sense of the Council Regarding the 2011 Surplus Review of 31 Groups Hospitalization and Medical Services, Inc. Emergency Resolution of 2016" and</u>

ANC 6D requests that the community reinvestment plan for the GHMSI excessive surplus include improvements to the Unity Southwest clinic (in coordination with the DC Housing Authority should the District include the site in DCHA's redevelopment plans for the Greenleaf complex) and



The community reinvestment plan should also include funds for a community health assessment in the Buzzard Point area of the District of Columbia and

Waterfront Village, an effort currently in the planning stages to bring the "village" model of aging support to Southwest, would also be a worthy recipient of community reinvestment funds.

Sincerely,

Andy Litsky

Chairperson, ANC 6D

Southwest, Navy Yard, and Buzzard Point

An Jersley



Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6D

May 23, 2016

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- SMD 5 Roger Moffatt
- SMD 6 Rhonda Hamilton
- SMD 7 Meredith Fascett

Mayor Muriel Bowser, DDOT Director Leif A. Dormso, Councilmember Charles Allen

VIA E-MAIL: eom@dc.gov; callen@dccouncil.us; Leif.Dormsjo@dc.gov

#### **RE: Tour Buses Short Cutting through the Neighborhood**

At a regularly scheduled and properly noticed public meeting on May 9, 2016, with a quorum present, a quorum being four Commissioners, Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) 6D voted 4-0-0 to send the following letter:

Dear Director Dormsjo,

We are experiencing an increase in huge charter buses short cutting through the neighborhood in Southwest particularly near the National's Stadium. These buses are parking down Buzzard's Point and short cutting through the neighborhood to get to and from the stadium to drop off and pick up fans and visitors. They are jeopardizing pedestrians as they are driving in and out of the community. Our streets are really narrow. They are going right past our recreation center and coming in the community as the children are getting out of school and continuing to after school activities. We do not have the proper signs to keep the buses off of the residential streets. They should stay on the wider streets which are South Capitol, M and Potomac Avenue.

We are really afraid that these buses are going to harm one of the children as they are crossing the streets to go home from school and other activities at the King Greenleaf Recreation Center. It is difficult for these drivers to see the small children who live along these streets as they are driving. School will be out next month for summer and we do not want any of the children or adults in the community hurt or injured from these big buses cutting through the neighborhood. We also need warning signs to let drivers know that children are present while they are driving through the community.

Any assistance that you can provide to make this area safer for the pedestrians would be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Andy Listky

Chairperson, ANC 6D

Southwest, Navy Yard, and Buzzard Point

And Jetsley



Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6D

May 23, 2016

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SMD 5 Roger Moffatt

SMD 6 Rhonda Hamilton

SMD 7 Meredith Fascett

Jessie Eddington Special Event Manager Prevent Cancer Foundation

VIA E-MAIL: Jessie.Edington@preventcancer.org

RE: Prevent Cancer 5k Walk/Run (Sunday, September 25th at Nationals Park)

At a regularly scheduled and properly noticed public meeting on May 9th, 2016, with a quorum present, a quorum being four Commissioners, Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) 6D voted 4-0-0 to send a letter in support of the Prevent Cancer 5k Walk/Run scheduled to be held on Sunday, September 25th at Nationals Park.

We appreciate your outreach to inform us of the details for this event which passes through our community, and we wish you a successful race!

Sincerely,

Andy Litsky

Chairperson, ANC 6D

Southwest, Navy Yard, and Buzzard Point

And Jetsley

Cc: melissa.farnum@preventcancer.org



Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6D

May 23, 2016

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SMD 5 Roger Moffatt

SMD 6 Rhonda Hamilton SMD 7 Meredith Fascett Board of Zoning 441 4th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20001

Anthony Hood, Chairman

VIA E-MAIL: zcsubmissions@dc.gov

RE: ZC 16-06, 1900 Half Street SW, Sq 666, Lot 15, CG/W-2 Zoning, Douglas

Development

Dear Chairman Hood & Distinguished Members of the DC Zoning Commission:

At a regularly scheduled and properly noticed public business meeting on May 9, 2016, with a quorum being present (a quorum being 4), Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) 6D voted 5-0-0 to support the requested variances and special exception to setbacks at courtyard walls with the following concern and suggestions.

ANC 6D is diverse and economics plays a huge part in that diversity. We want to maintain that diversity. Consequently, we want to make sure the stock of housing is diverse as well. However, if all new housing units are priced at market, we will lose that diversity. With that in mind, we asked the applicant to consider including low income or affordable units in the mix. Even a minimalist inclusion would demonstrate an effort is being made by them. The response is we don't have to.

Relative to landscaping and addressing pet comfort, we are extremely concerned that while the Buzzard Point *vision* calls for more than 6,000 new housing units, there has been *no plan* whatsoever put forth to say how this is going to be managed. One of the items that need to be addressed is containment of pet excrement that will directly affect the Anacostia and the Potomac. We requested that the developer work alone or with other developers to create dog comfort areas that provide places where animals can run without destroying public green space, to provide dog bag dispensers where supplies are maintained & readily available, while at the same time ensuring waste containment. They are amenable to this idea.

While we realize that this is for design review, the fact that it is a retrofit of a building constructed before the January 7, 2005 date allowing many exemptions from the W-2 Zoning prompting us to ask the Commission whether, with exemptions applying causes the applicant to be subject to adhering to previous Zoning in place when the building was constructed or does it have afford them "a free hand"?

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Parking and driveways facing the water come to mind as an example. Quite frankly there is already too much parking inside this building. As a rule we do not discourage extra parking. However, we believe that with the lack of ingress and egress to Buzzard Point, it is not prudent to encourage building additional parking on Buzzard Park. The applicant has assured us that the design will not be changed to allow access from the front not withstanding their application having the statement that requirement does not apply to them. Having said that and considering the fact that this is somewhat of a retrofit where the building has the parking, we do not want this to be precedent setting and we ask the Commission to make that clear.

Future development on Buzzard Point should be minimalist where parking is concerned, emphasizing public transport and developer/owner provided shuttle service for residents. The southern portion of Buzzard Point should be slated to be an area where vehicular access is limited to certain times of day with access for residents only during those hours.

In addition, ANC6D requests DDOT to require and carefully review a construction management plan for this building that is located close to other major construction sites and an already existing residential community nearby. Further, ANC 6D expects that all work required to fulfill this building will be done during normal construction hours and the ANC will be notified at office@anc6d.org and 6d05@anc.dc.gov if an after-hours permit is requested. ANC 6D also expects that all DDOT rules requiring pedestrian and bicycle access around construction sites will be followed.

In closing, we heartily applaud the developer's plans for including much needed three bedroom units in the planned development.

Respectfully submitted,

Andy Litsky

Chairperson, ANC 6D

Southwest, Navy Yard & Buzzard Point

da Jetsley



Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6D

May 23, 2016

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SMD 7 Meredith Fascett

Anthony J. Hood, Chairman Zoning Commission 441 4th Street, NW, Suite 210S Washington, DC 20001

# RE: ZC 13-05B - PUD Modifications for F1 Block Cinema Submitted by Forest City Washington

Dear Chairman Hood:

At a regularly scheduled and properly noticed public meeting on May 9, 2016 with a quorum being present, a quorum being 4 Commissioners, Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) 6D voted 5-0-0 for the motion to support the PUD modifications for ZC 13-05B F1 Block Cinema as outlined in PUD Modification Package, dated April 7, 2016 submitted by Forest City Washington.

Accordingly, ANC 6D recommends that the Zoning Commission approve the PUD modifications and requests that this recommendation be accorded great weight.

Should you have any questions, please let me know.

Sincerely,

Andy Litsky

Chairperson, ANC 6D

Southwest, Navy Yard & Buzzard Point

da Jetsley



**Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6D** 

June 13, 2016

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SMD 6 Rhonda Hamilton

SMD 7 Meredith Fascett

Marnique Heath, Chairperson Board of Zoning Adjustment 441 4<sup>th</sup> St. NW, Suite 200/210-S Washington, DC 20001

Transmitted VIA E-mail: dcoz@dc.gov

RE: BZA #19281, 1150 5<sup>th</sup> St. SE

Dear Chairperson Heath:

At a regularly scheduled and properly noticed public meeting on June 13, 2016 with a quorum being present, a quorum being four Commissioners, Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) 6D voted 6-0-0 for the motion to support BZA Application #19281 submitted by the Department of General Services ("DGS") regarding a special exception and variance for Van Ness Elementary School, located at 1150 5<sup>th</sup> St. SE.

ANC 6D does not have any objections to the special exception from the rooftop-mounted mechanical equipment requirements under §§ 411.6, 411.7, and 411.18, to permit the installation of new rooftop-mounted mechanical equipment.

ANC 6D strongly supports a variance from the parking requirements under § 2100. The ANC believes that 21 parking spaces, as proposed by DGS, is sufficient to accommodate the needs of the faculty and staff of Van Ness Elementary School. The ANC notes that the school is located .3 miles from Navy Yard Metro station and close to a Capitol Bike Share location, a Circulator stop, bus lines, and private parking lots. In addition, the ANC believes that the requirement that DGS provide 31 spaces on the site pursuant to § 2100, ten more spaces than needed by Van Ness Elementary School, is an inefficient use of space. The ANC would much rather see this additional space be allocated to recreation and outdoor learning areas for students and community members.

Should you have any questions, please let me know.

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Sincerely,

Andy Litsky

Chairman, ANC 6D

Southwest, Navy Yard & Buzzard Point



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SMD 5 Roger Moffatt

SMD 6 Rhonda Hamilton

SMD 7 Meredith Fascett

District Department of Transportation Public Space Permit Office Attn: Public Space Committee Coordinator 1100 4th St. SW, 3rd Floor

VIA E-MAIL: Catrina.felder@dc.gov

Washington, DC 20024

RE: Public Space Occupancy Permit Request, DDOT Tracking #124280

Dear Public Space Committee Coordinator:

At a regularly scheduled and properly noticed public meeting on May 9, 2016 with a quorum being present, a quorum being 4 Commissioners, Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) 6D voted 6-0-0 for the motion to send the following comments regarding Public Space Occupancy Permit Request (DDOT Tracking #124280, postmarked April 8, 2016) for the Insignia on M Residential Building located at 1111 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20003.

ANC 6D does not have any objections to the permit application for Excavation: Electric Connection (Trench).

ANC 6D does have comments regarding the permit application for Fixture: Sign (w/footings) (Exception).

The ANC's primary concern is that vehicles picking up/dropping off passengers or making deliveries, e.g. food deliveries, at the Insignia on M Building will create congestion and safety hazards along New Jersey Avenue if drivers are not able to identify and access the building's entrance safely, quickly, and easily.

The ANC notes that the signage on the front face of the Insignia on M Building may not be easily visible to drivers because the building is set back 60 feet from New Jersey Avenue and a double row of street trees is planned between the building and New Jersey Avenue.



The ANC also notes that the Insignia on M Building is located at a busy intersection (New Jersey Ave. SE and M Street) in the Navy Yard neighborhood. New Jersey Avenue is one of three north/south entry points to the neighborhood. M Street serves as the neighborhood's main east/west thoroughfare. The intersection also includes the Navy Yard Metro Station and a Circulator bus stop.

Accordingly, the ANC requests that the proposed signage:

- 1) includes the numeric address of the building, i.e. 1111, in sufficiently large font and
- 2) is sized to be easily visible by vehicles driving along New Jersey Avenue. The ANC is not opposed to signage that exceeds 42 inches in height if that is what is required to ensure visibility.

In addition, the ANC requests that DDOT install two "No Parking Entrance" signs in front of the building with sufficient distance between the signs so that a vehicle can <u>drive</u> (rather than parallel park) into the space in order to drop off/pick up passengers without obstructing traffic on New Jersey Ave.

Should you have any questions, please let me know.

Sincerely,

Andy Litsky

Chairperson, ANC 6D

Southwest, Navy Yard & Buzzard Point

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Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6D

May 23, 2016

1101 Fourth Street, SW Suite W 130 Washington, DC 20024 202.554.1795

Email: office@anc6d.org Website: www.anc6d.org

#### **OFFICERS**

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Vice Chairperson
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Meredith Fascett

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SMD 3 Rachel Reilly Carroll SMD 4 Andy Litsky

SMD 5 Roger Moffatt

SMD 6 Rhonda Hamilton

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SMD 7 Meredith Fascett

District Department of Transportation Public Space Permit Office Attn: Public Space Committee Coordinator 1100 4th St. SW, 3rd Floor Washington, DC 20024

VIA E-MAIL: Catrina.felder@dc.gov

Cc: EREISINGER@tollbrothersinc.com

RE: Public Space Permit, 1010 Half St. SE, Tracking # 136337

Dear Ms. Felder,

At a regularly scheduled and properly noticed public meeting on May 9, 2016 with a quorum present, a quorum being four Commissioners, Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) 6D voted 6-0-0 to send this letter with the following objections and comments to the application to occupy public space at 1010 Half St. SE.

- The application indicates that entry to the parking lot will be through 1025 First St. SE (Velocity condominiums). There appears to be a difference of opinion between the applicants and Velocity about whether Parc Riverside Phase II is permitted this access. ANC 6D recommends that DDOT review all necessary documents to determine whether the applicant will be able to access its parking garage in this manner. If it is, DDOT should still consider the traffic impact of allowing a large number of additional cars to use this garage entrance. If using the 1025 First St. SE entrance will cause backups onto the street at peak times, ANC 6D would recommend that 1010 Half St. SE have a separate entrance to its garage and not share the one at 1025 First St. SE.
- ANC 6D supports the applicant's request for a curb cut for a loading dock. It
  is imperative for the building to have a loading dock because a 308-unit
  apartment building will generate a large number of deliveries, moving
  trucks, and trash collections. These should happen away from the street.
  However, ANC6D believes that K St. SE is a better location for a curb cut and
  loading dock because L St. SE already has numerous curb cuts.



Additional curb cuts would harm the pedestrian experience along L Street. In contrast, the block of K Street adjacent to the building's north side does not currently have any curb cuts. Furthermore, a loading dock on the north side of the building could be used for both phases of Parc Riverside: the planned one and the one that already exists. ANC 6D realizes that the building would require substantial redesign to accommodate a loading dock accessed through a K Street curb cut but believes this is a far superior outcome.

- ANC 6D expects that the approved permit will have at least the required number of exterior bicycle parking spaces.
- ANC 6D expects that streetlights allowed by this public space permit will meet DDOT guidelines
  and will match the lights on the opposite side of each street, to provide visual continuity. The ANC
  understands that there will be Washington Globes on streets and teardrops on the corners.
- ANC6D is not opposed to the rendering we have viewed of the building façade but has a general philosophical concern with projections into public space for bay windows.

ANC 6D expects that all work required to fulfill this permit will be done during normal construction hours and the ANC will be notified at <a href="mailto:office@anc6d.org">office@anc6d.org</a> and <a href="mailto:6d02@anc.dc.gov">6d02@anc.dc.gov</a> if an after-hours permit is requested. ANC 6D also expects that all DDOT rules requiring pedestrian and bicycle access around construction sites will be followed. ANC6D suggests that DDOT require and carefully review a construction management plan for this building, which is located close to other major construction sites, Nationals Stadium, and numerous residential buildings.

Respectfully submitted,

Andy Litsky

Chairperson, ANC 6D

Southwest, Navy Yard & Buzzard Point



**Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6D** 

May 16, 2016

1101 Fourth Street, SW Suite W 130 Washington, DC 20024 202.554.1795

Email: office@anc6d.org Website: www.anc6d.org

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SMD 6 Rhonda Hamilton

SMD 7 Meredith Fascett

Leif Dormsjo, Director
District Department of Transportation
55 M St. SE
Washington, DC 20003

Transmitted via Email: Leif.Dormsjo@c.gov

RE: Request for DDOT Review of the Intersection of 4th Street and M Street SE

Dear Director Dormsjo:

At a regularly scheduled and properly noticed public meeting on May 9, 2016 with a quorum being present, a quorum being 4 Commissioners, Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) 6D voted 6-0-0 for the motion to request that DDOT conduct a review and traffic study of the intersection of 4<sup>th</sup> Street SE and M Street SE.

<u>Whereas</u>, the intersection of 4<sup>th</sup> Street SE and M Street SE is an important pedestrian and vehicular intersection for the Navy Yard neighborhood, as it is the primary access route to the Harris Teeter grocery store, Yards Park, and the restaurants, apartment buildings, and retail destinations in The Yards;

<u>Whereas</u>, M Street SE is the major east/west thoroughfare for the neighborhood and handles significant vehicular traffic;

<u>Whereas</u>, twenty-seven seconds is insufficient time for residents, especially seniors and individuals in wheelchairs to cross a six lane road, while avoiding east- and west-bound traffic from the northern and southern points of  $4^{th}$  Street;

<u>Whereas</u>, the historic structure at the southeast corner of the intersection limits pedestrian and vehicular visibility;

<u>Whereas</u>, constituents routinely report to the ANC that they do not feel safe crossing at this intersection;

# Let it be resolved that ANC 6D requests that DDOT conduct a review and traffic study of this intersection in order to determine changes that would improve public safety.

Attached also please find letters from neighborhood stakeholders requesting your attention to this issue.

Should you have any questions, please let me know.

Sincerely,

Andy Litsky

Chairman, ANC 6D

Southwest, Navy Yard & Buzzard Point

Ander Jetsley

CC: Adrea Turner, Deputy Chief of Staff, DDOT, adrea.turner@dc.gov Charles Allen, Ward 6 Councilmember, callen@dccouncil.us

# Lisa Benton-Short and John Rennie Short 1019 4<sup>th</sup> Street, SE Washington, DC 20003

February 10, 2106

To:

Mr. Leif Dormsjo, Director of DDOT ddot@dc.gov

Mr. Aaron Rhones, DDOT Program Manager for Traffic Safety (aaron.rhones@dc.gov)

Mr. George Branyan, Pedestrian Program Coordinator for the DDOT (george.branyan@dc.gov)

Meredith Fascett, ANC 6D07 Commissioner (meredith.fascett@gmail.com)

Dear Mr. Dormsjo, Mr. Rhones, Mr. Branyan and Ms. Fascett--

This letter is in regards to the concerns many Capitol Quarter/Navy Yard neighbors share about the increasingly dangerous intersection of Fourth Street and M Street, SE. As Director of DC Department of Transportation, I hope you can help resolve these issues. I have already submitted these issues on the interactive Vision Zero Safety map, but I also want to raise them more directly with you all. The problems and proposed solutions make strong and effective connections to the DC Vision Zero program. I have met with several neighbors to collect their experiences and have included their input in this letter.

It is my understanding that these some of the safety issues were raised a few years ago, but our neighborhood was still under construction. In the past two years, however, there have been big changes in this neighborhood. The recent dynamic growth in Capitol Quarter/Navy Yard has created a vibrant, walkable neighborhood of some 5,000 residents. Just in the last three years the neighborhood composition has shifted (from commercial/ vacant land to residential and retail), and the recent opening of amenities such as the Harris Teeter grocery, VIDA gym, Yards Park and the many new restaurants on Tingey and the Water streets has brought a significant increase in both pedestrian and automobile traffic along M street, 4<sup>th</sup> Street and 3<sup>rd</sup> Streets. Both residents and visitors are increasingly active in this neighborhood. Pedestrian and car traffic will only continue increase with the construction of new residences including the Lofts at Capitol Quarter, Agora, Park Chelsea and the Arris (all opening in the next 6-18 months). These will add several thousand new residents to Capitol Quarter. In short, I ask that you revisit these pedestrian safety issues because this is an area that has seen significant increase in residents and visitors!

During home Nationals games, the city provides crossing guards at this intersection, an acknowledgement that this area needs special attention for pedestrian crossing. I've spoken with many guards during the games and they often report that cars coming down 4<sup>th</sup> Street, or driving M street seem unaware of pedestrians or bicyclists.

We request that DC DOT act quickly to address the following dangerous situations:

### Issue #1: there is no pedestrian only crossing.

Pedestrians must cross M street along with automobiles. Neighbors have noticed that many cars "creep" into the cross walk, or are impatient for pedestrians to cross safely. This is especially true of residents who may be elderly or those pushing strollers/walking dogs, or walking with young children, all of whom may cross more slowly. In fact, our neighborhood is home to housing for seniors and disabled, so we have a good number of these residents in our neighborhood. This situation is compounded in the winter by less daylight when the visibility of pedestrians is made more difficult by poor light.

#### Testimonials:

"I have almost been hit twice by drivers who attempted to drive north on 4th--the wrong way. Instead of turning onto M from in from of Harris Teeter they tried to continue north on 4th. One particularly arrogant Jaguar driver got a dent in is quarter panel for his transgression." Dave, resident of Capitol Quarter

"I almost got hit last week by a driver making a right turn from Tingey onto M. He didn't see me at all. I yelled at him, but he seemed not to notice." Casper, resident of Capper Homes

"I think it is a potentially very dangerous intersection. Part of the problem is if you stand & wait to cross the street next the traffic light pole that has the Pedestrian Crossing Button & the cross walk, the cars that are heading north from Harris Teeter cannot see you standing there around the corner. You are blocked by the wall. I always go around the corner to push the Pedestrian Walk Button & then go back to wait where the cars can see me, so we don't get hit by someone speeding around the curve once we start to cross the street. As the older elementary children start to attend Van Ness, they may not have parents & adults with them to help guide them safely through the intersection & the problem will be even worse." ---Susan O'Neill resident on 4<sup>th</sup> Street.

"While walking the baby and our dogs, we've nearly been hit a few times now by cars taking an illegal left hand turn coming out of the parking garage of the 300 M Street building...driving over the sidewalk while taking the U Turn into the alley behind our homes. Additionally, they drive quite fast thru the alley behind our homes in order to rush to 3rd Street to get on the highway." --- Derek Robinson, resident on 3<sup>rd</sup> Street.

"I've seen many cars ignore the one way signs on 4th between L & M and go the wrong way just to turn on L Street. That's not including the considerate folks leaving the parking garage and making U-Turns to speed through the alley towards 3rd... Danielle Davidowitz, resident of Capitol Quarter

Solution: time the intersection traffic lights to provide a 45 second pedestrian only crossing (allow no right turns or cross traffic during this time)

Solution: Prohibit RIGHT turns on RED at this intersection in all directions.

Solution: Install more or better lighting at this corner; design a way to better highlight the

pedestrian use of this area

Solution: make pedestrian crosswalks more visible with more rumble strips, reflective paint.

### Issue #2: cars are speeding down 4th street to make it through the light at 4th/M.

This is actually noticeable throughout the day. 4<sup>th</sup> street has become a key access for employees at the Navy Yard, Department of Transportation, and for those driving to the Harris Teeter grocery. Traffic on 4<sup>th</sup> street tends to start early in the morning, with commutes to the Navy Yard, but continues into the evening with cars accessing the waterfront amenities. Cars tend to speed on 3<sup>rd</sup> street particularly in the afternoon (reversing the commute from Navy Yard or DOT). Many fail to stop at the stop signs at 4<sup>th</sup>/K or 4<sup>th</sup>/L and speed to get through the traffic light at 4<sup>th</sup>/M.

Capitol Quarter neighborhood has many young children, who ride bikes, walk, rollerblade on the sidewalks and streets. We have many disabled adults crossing streets slowly, in wheelchairs or using canes and walkers. Drivers seem unaware of pedestrian crossings when they speed through the neighborhood.

#### Testimonials:

"As Virginia Avenue is no longer open, and I street (which connects SE with SW) is getting ready to open, I worry about the already speeding cars multiplying. It would be a good idea to add speed bumps between 3rd and 4th street as there are many kids playing in the street and many cars not stopping at the stop sign on 3rd and 4th." --- Norma Verona, resident on I street.

"Myself and others have noticed that vehicles speed through the block and even run the stop sign when the light at 4Th and M street is green. They do this so they don't get stopped at the red light." ---Larry, resident of 4<sup>th</sup> street, and DC Police.

"We find cars speeding down L and 3rd Streets as well...I think this is a concern for the entire neighborhood. Especially since we have the nearby highway access. This isn't good since children play in the L Street Courtyard and Van Ness has now reopened."—Derek Robinson, resident on 3<sup>rd</sup> street

Solution: install speed bumps on 4<sup>th</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> streets to slow traffic.

<u>Issue #3: pedestrian crossing on the east side of 4<sup>th</sup>/M is obscured by the historic tower in</u> front of the Harris Teeter.

Cars that turn RIGHT from 4<sup>th</sup> on to M street going east often fail to see pedestrians in the cross walk. Neighbors report numerous incidents of near collisions, being "bumped" by a car, etc.

Solution: Prohibit RIGHT turns on RED at this intersection in all directions.

Solution: Install better lighting at this corner; or design a way to better highlight the

pedestrian use of this area

Solution: make pedestrian crosswalks more visible with more rumble strips, reflective paint.

I hope we can work together to make these changes and to improve the safety and quality of walkability in this neighborhood!

Sincerely,

Lisa Benton-Short 1019 4<sup>th</sup> Street, SE Washington DC 20003 Armanda Taylor, President Arthur Capper Riverfront Tenant Association May 16, 2016

Traffic Signal Services
Department of Transportation
55 M Street, SE
Washington, DC 20003

Subject: Request for your consideration

A number of senior citizens and wheel chair residents have shared stories of scary encounters with cars turning when they are crossing the intersection of M and 4th Streets, SE.

The traffic light does not allow adequate time for pedestrians to cross, i.e. when going to the Harris Teeter at the corner of M and 4th Streets, SE. Experience shows that cars wanting to turn are impatient and there have been too many close calls where someone could have been hurt! There needs to be a turn signal or a longer timed light so pedestrians have adequate time to get across. Also the corner of 4th and M where the Harris Teeter is, has a wall there that often blocks the drivers' view as they attempt to turn right onto M Street from 4th Street.

These situations occur throughout the day but especially during the weekday morning and evening rush hours and whenever there is a Nationals game or events at the Yards Park. As of now, there has not been an accident but why wait when this could be prevented!

I look forward to a response at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely yours,

Armanda Laylor Armanda Taylor