



GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2E

Representing the communities of Burleith, Georgetown, and Hillandale

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September 21, 2023

Ms. Thennie Freeman
Acting Director
Department of Parks and Recreation
1275 First Street NE, 8th Floor
Washington, DC 20002
thennie.freeman@dc.gov

Mr. Delano Hunter
Acting Director
Department of General Services
2000 14th Street NW, 8th Floor
Washington, DC 20009
delano.hunter@dc.gov

RE: Jelleff Recreation Center Project

Dear Director Freeman and Director Hunter,

On September 5, 2023 ANC 2E held its regularly scheduled public meeting, which was properly noticed and attended by eight commissioners, constituting a quorum. At this meeting the Commission adopted the following resolution by a vote of (8-0-0) with regard to the above-referenced matter:

ANC 2E thanks the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) for making the July meeting regarding the Jelleff Recreation Center Project a hybrid meeting and asks that the agency continues to do so in order to maximize community participation.

DPR's timeline presented at the last meeting stated that the "Design Phase" would finish by summer 2023 and that the "Permit Drawings and Permit Review Phase" would start in summer 2023. However, the promised follow-up meeting must be scheduled first, so ANC 2E requests that the meeting is scheduled as soon as possible.

Per the timeline provided, and to prevent further delay, ANC 2E requests that DPR holds the next public meeting before November and announces it by mid-October. In addition:

- ANC 2E appreciates having more than one design option presented.
- While ANC 2E appreciates that the two design options presented include a second gym, that gym is much smaller. The ANC therefore appreciates that DPR has agreed to present at least one more option, one with two full size gyms.
- ANC 2E requests more data on overall and per-room square footage; only a few dimensions were available for only a few rooms.

COMMISSIONERS:

Kishan Putta, District 1 Topher Mathews, District 2 Paul Maysak, District 3
Joe Massaua, District 4 Mimsy Lindner, District 5 Gwendolyn Lohse, District 6
Daniel Chao, District 7 John DiPierri, District 8

One of ANC 2E's concerns is that it appears that the usable indoor square footage in the two options is significantly less than the proposed square footage in the feasibility study, due in part to all the usable space being moved from the basement to above ground, the second gym, and the proposed two-floor lobby. Thus,

- ANC 2E requests that DPR confirms the current usable square footage (the ANC believes that it is 21,000 square feet), the usable square footage in the feasibility study options, and the usable square footage of DPR's two new options and all options going forward.
- ANC 2E requests that DPR proposes options with more usable square footage, perhaps by adding a few basement rooms. There are currently many basement rooms and the ANC appreciates that DPR has moved them up for more natural light. However, the many users of the recreation center, including the large and growing afterschool program (run for decades by the Boys & Girls Club), will need more usable square footage.
- ANC 2E requests that DPR proposes options that would best facilitate a swift, efficient, and safe expansion project should additional funds be secured in the future.
- DPR's proposals do not include any significant improvements to the swimming pool. In the results of a recent survey conducted by ANC 2E, it was shown that the swimming pool is the most popular amenity. The ANC requests that DPR's proposals allow for future improvements to the swimming pool, including the possibility to enclose it for year-round use.

Commissioners Daniel Chao (2E07@anc.dc.gov), Kishan Putta (2E01@anc.dc.gov), and Gwendolyn Lohse (2E06@anc.dc.gov) are the Commission's representatives in this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Gwendolyn Lohse" in a cursive script. The signature is followed by a long horizontal line that extends to the right.

Gwendolyn Lohse
Chair, ANC 2E