

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2E

Regular Meeting Minutes

Monday, February 3rd, 2025; 6:30 p.m.
In-Person: Georgetown Visitation Preparatory School, Second Floor Heritage Room
Online via Zoom

Call to Order- 6:35 pm

Chair Lohse called the meeting to order at 6:35 pm. Commissioners Kishan Putta (2E01), Topher Mathews (2E02), Paul Maysak (2E03), Peter Sloniewsky (2E04), Mimsy Lindner (2E05), Gwendolyn Lohse (2E06), Daniel Chao (2E07), and Knox Graham (2E08) were present.

Approval of the Agenda - 6:35 pm

Approval of the ANC's February 3rd, 2025 Meeting Agenda - 6:36 pm

Chair Lohse to approve the ANC's February 3rd, 2025 meeting agenda. Commissioner Maysak seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 8-0-0).

Approval of the ANC's January 6th, 2025 Meeting Minutes - 6:36 pm

Chair Lohse moved to approve the ANC's January 6th, 2025 meeting minutes. Commissioner Lindner seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 8-0-0).

Community Comment – 6:37 pm

Update from Councilmember Brooke Pinto- 6:37 pm

Councilmember Brooke Pinto provided an update.

Administrative- 7:08 pm

Public Safety and Police Report- 7:08 pm

Captain Darren Haskis provided an update from the Metropolitan Police Department.

Update from the BID Safety Liaison- 7:11 pm

Charles Young, Georgetown Business Improvement District Safety Liaison, provided an update.

Approval of the ANC 2E Q1 2025 Financial Report- 7:23 pm

Chair Lohse moved to approve the ANC's Q1 2025 Financial Report. Commissioner Lindner seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 8-0-0).

Community Comment - 7:23 pm

Update from the Mayor's Office- 7:23 pm

Adriana Macedonio, the Ward 2 Liaison from the Mayor's Office of Community Relations and Services, provided an update.

Department of Parks and Recreation update on Jelleff design- 7:32 pm

Update from Tommy Jones from the Department of Parks and Recreation on the update on the Jelleff design process. Tommy answered questions from Commissioners.

Update on Citizens Association of Georgetown's Concerts in the Park- 7:53 pm

Brittany Sawyer from the Citizens Association of Georgetown's provided an update.

<u>Update on NPS Rock Creek Parkway Environmental Assessment - 7:53 pm</u>

Commissioner Lohse provided an update on NPS Rock Creek Parkway Environmental Assessment.

Community Days of Service Saturday, Feb 8th and Sunday, Feb 9th, 1pm, Mt Zion Female Union Band Society Cemeteries, 2501 Mill Road, NW- 7:55 pm

Commissioner Lohse provided an update concerning the Community Days of Service Saturday, Feb 8th and Sunday, Feb 9th, 1pm, Mt Zion Female Union Band Society Cemeteries, 2501 Mill Road, NW.

Notice of Intent for DDOT Curbside Reprogramming of M Street and Wisconsin Avenue NW in Georgetown (NOI # 25-56-TPA)- 7:56 pm

Commissioner Lohse provided an update on the NOI for DDOT Curbside Reprogramming of M Street and Wisconsin Avenue NW in Georgetown.

<u>Update from Georgetown University Students- 7:57 pm</u>

Commissioners Knox and Sloniewsky provided an update on Georgetown University.

Open Comment Period- 7:58 pm

Community members Eric Langenbacher and J.P. Szymkowicz provided comments.

New Business- 8:05 pm

Resolution regarding AT&T's OP #11105030 application along Wisconsin Ave to install fiber-8:05 pm

Commissioner Chao moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Lohse seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 8-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

Whereas: ANC 2E requested and received confirmation that the applicant will present at our February 3rd Monthly Meeting. The ANC and residents were to receive a brief presentation of the applicant's work along Wisconsin Avenue NW between S Street and Reservoir Rd NW (1600 and 1700 blocks), pose questions and receive a point of contact for the project should any developments occur during the project.

Whereas: No representative attended our February 3rd meeting, and our ANC2E residents still have questions about the scope of work and the need to receive a point of contact to address issues as they could arise.

Therefore be resolved: ANC 2E strongly requests that DDOT not issue a permit to this applicant until after the applicant has presented and answered fundamental questions about their scope of work, and announces a point of contact in front of our community at our next monthly meeting (March 3, 2025) or of any other future monthly meeting scheduled in 2025.

Resolution regarding community engagement process for the Jelleff Recreation Center design-8:10 pm

Commissioner Chao moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Putta seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 8-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

For the past year, in the spirit of continued engagement and partnership with DC Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR), ANC 2E Commissioners repeatedly requested updated renderings from DPR for the new Jelleff Recreation Center. ANC 2E requested such as DPR was, to our understanding, preparing to engage in the concept review phase with the Old Georgetown Board (OGB) and DPR would want community input.

Prior to this detailed design phase, ANC 2E and our community worked with DPR to outline the key activities, resources, and design attributes that were wanted for the new Jelleff Center based on community input. ANC 2E appreciates the intended functions of

the building and the direction of the design, however, transparency and collaboration has been a challenge.

Experience: Recent Community Engagement and Transparency Regarding Design

In the last six months ANC 2E and community stakeholders requested further information on the design stage in writing to DPR. They were acknowledged by DPR to have been received, but otherwise no further responses were given. The only OGB notices that ANC 2E received regarding Jelleff over the past six months were labelled as "demolition" meaning "demolition" of the building, not the proposed next step of the design for the new building.

Then, in January 2025, the ANC and community stakeholders learned that DPR's design team and the OGB met three times since May 2024 to finalize a concept review. It should be noted that:

- The updated design plans were not shared (with ANC or CAG) on the public OGB /HPO website.
- The updated plans were not shared on the public calls DPR began having in 2024 to provide status by Ward on DPR "Capital Construction" projects, including Jelleff; these calls are one-hour and review the status of up 15+ projects.
- The updated plans were not posted on the DGS /DPR website devoted solely to updating the public on the status of the new Jelleff Center; the most recent updates are from May 2024.

Thus, ANC 2E or other community organizations did not get the opportunity to comment on the recent design step as we typically would have because renderings were not made available via the DC Historic Preservation Office (HPO) portal by this applicant, which is required by ALL applicants, or other avenues.

Request #1: More Accountability on Community Engagement and Transparency

Based on our experience over the last six months, ANC 2E asks that moving forward, all updated designs be publicly posted within a reasonable timeframe of more than two weeks and notifications are issued. As of today, for example, the last update on the website DGS/DPR devoted to Jelleff is May 2024. ANC 2E wishes to extend our appreciation to the staff of the OGB for sharing the most recent renderings dated (October 17, 2024) and information of the discussions to date for the new Jelleff center. ANC 2E has requested that DPR present at an ANC 2E meeting on the progress they are making on the Jelleff design thus far. Jelleff is a \$28 million dollar capital project and ANC 2E strongly believes community engagement is critical to a successful end product. This said, if DPR/DGS no longer has the ability to receive public input on design, ANC

2E asks to be informed of such, and no matter what, all design updates should be made publicly available.

Request #2: Specifics Related to the Proposed Jelleff Design

As DPR moves forward on the concept review phase with OGB, ANC 2E wishes to encourage a thoughtful discussion on the S Street entrance as it pertains to not only those who arrive in automobiles but also those who arrive on foot. Please do not overlook signage options at the S Street entrance to alert and inform visitors of this structure that is recessed over hundreds of feet back from its S street entrance. We also welcome a robust discussion on how pedestrian users would have a pleasant and welcoming walk path from S Street to the main entrance and where plants, shrubs and trees can be incorporated as well as where shade from extreme weather elements can be provided.

Although the north side of the building functions as the rear of the community center, we urge DPR and OGB to consider that this façade facing the Safeway building should be treated as visually significant as the building's main entrance because it is viewed by thousands of visitors who walk and drive to the grocery store weekly. We also wish to flag that the aerial view in the renderings does not show the planned residences at the corner of S and Wisconsin (1805 Wisconsin NW) but the existing footprint and massing of a soon to be razed building. And we encourage that a new rendering that incorporates the new development's footprint be used in future discussions.

ANC 2E wishes to share additional comments from the Citizens Association of Georgetown (CAG) on the concept designs that are enclosed. ANC 2E respectfully requests DPR and OGB consider these comments as you move forward with your engagement to finalize the concept designs.

We thank you for your work thus far on this critical community center, which will be treasured by many for decades to come.

Resolution regarding ANC 2E FY26 requested funding to Ward 2 Councilmember Brooke Pinto-8:17 pm

Commissioner Lohse moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Graham seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 8-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

District preparations for the fiscal year (FY) 2026 budget have begun with the Mayor expected to propose a budget no later than April 2, 2026. As part of each FY budget development cycle, Councilmembers shared their requested FY priorities with the Mayor in preparation for the development of the proposed FY budget. FY 26 budget allocations will be challenging given revenue shortfalls. ANC 2E has discussed and identified a number of budget priorities within our ANC including:

- **Public Safety:** Appropriate staffing levels, retention, training, recruitment and use of technology to enhance public safety and community policing including resources needed for Commercial area.
- WMATA: Ensuring ample/accessible bus routes to given Circulator cuts as well as WMATA cuts and route changes in Georgetown (with Georgetown Business Improvement District GBID)
- **Education:** Funding needs as being outlined by the leadership of Hyde-Addison Elementary, Hardy Middle School and the new MacArthur High School.
- Alcoholic Beverage and Cannabis Administration: Increased levels of timely enforcement.
- **Department of Public Works:** Increased rodent control, piloting of new trash cans, and more parking enforcement (with GBID).
- Other:
 - Ongoing funding for Georgetown Village and Georgetown Main Streets.
 - Securing designated and revenue-generated motor coach parking (with GBID).
 - Funding of pedestrian /cycle bridges that encourage connectivity with existing trails.

As importantly, other ANC 2E priorities relate to already funded Capital Projects and better oversight and accountability of key agencies to ensure that tax dollars are well spent and transparency occurs.

- Existing/funded Capital Projects of high priority to ANC 2E: Jelleff Recreation Center; Ellington Field renovations; Volta Park renovations; Book Hill renovations and Trolley Tressle planning analysis.
- Improved Oversight and Accountability (Oversight testimony addressed under separate resolution)
 - Department of Parks and Recreation/Department of General Services: See Capital Projects. Additionally, improvement of tracking and timely completion of ongoing park maintenance needs and collaboration with the US National Park Service.
 - Department of Transportation: Timely and active management of traffic calming needs in the residential area; proactive oversight of dockless shared fleet contractors <u>as requested including Geofencing</u>; improvement of brick maintenance timeframes <u>as requested</u> and other efforts as highlighted throughout 2024.

ANC 2E designates Commissioner Gwendolyn Lohse, Chair; Christopher Matthews, Vice Chair; and Commissioners Chao and Maysak to document and share ANC 2E's priorities

with Councilmembers Pinto and Frumin. Documentation will be shared with all ANC 2E Commissioners for comment before submission. ANC 2E welcomes input from its constituents and other community partners throughout the FY budget cycle. ANC 2E will follow and publicly comment on the FY budget process throughout the development cycle.

Resolution regarding DC Council's Oversight Committees- 8:23 pm

Commissioner Lohse moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Lindner seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 8-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

TBD

Special Event Application for the Marine Corps Marathon on Sunday, October 26th, 2025- 8:27 pm

Commissioner Lindner moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Lohse seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 8-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

There are many events that happen in and around Georgetown and some are well received and well organized. The Marine Corps Marathon is one of those events and we are delighted to have them return to Georgetown. As the Marine Corps Marathon celebrates its 50th year ANC 2E welcomes the race on Sunday, October 26, 2025. The Marine Corps Marathon is expecting 35,000 attendees on race day.

As in years past it is expected that appropriate coordination will be detailed and agreed upon between Marine Corps Marathon Organization and the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) and the National Park Service (NPS). The race will enter Georgetown from Key Bridge (at approximately mile 4.75), travel down M Street to Wisconsin, down to K Street and then exit onto Rock Creek Park. Georgetown will see participants/runners between 7:30- 10:30 am. It is expected that the streets will reopen by 11:00 am.

ANC expects that no amplified music/announcements begin more than 30 minutes prior to the first participants and that while roads are closed first responders will be given access as needed in the case of emergency. ANC 2E supports this very popular and spirited event. We look forward to assisting as needed.

Notice of Intent installation of Diplomatic Parking Zone along the 1600 Wisconsin Avenue NW (NOI# 25-02-TOA)- 8:34 pm

Commissioner Matthews moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Chao seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 8-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

ANC 2E objects to the request contained in DDOT Notice of Intent # 25-02-TOA. This request includes a request to convert portions of the 1600 block of Wisconsin Avenue NW to embassy parking in connection with the diplomatic use of 1600 Wisconsin Avenue NW. The subject property has off-street parking that should be sufficient for its needs and removing street parking from public use is not acceptable in this case. ANC 2E requests that you specifically inform us if you disagree with ANC 2E and your rationale for why given the available private parking.

Old Georgetown Board-8:37 pm

Single Member District Projects

OG 25-111 (HPA 25-129) Prospect Street between Potomac and 33rd streets, NW- 8:38 pm

Commissioner Lindner moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Lohse seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 8-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

This open lot on the south side of Prospect Street is most likely one of the last open lots in Georgetown. Building a home on this lot is one option for this open area. While ANC 2E supports the idea of building a free-standing single-family home on this site, we ask that the next iteration of this proposal be more inspiring. ANC 2E looks for you to work with the Commision of Fine Arts and the Old Georgetown Board for a style, a detailed public facing design, and massing that will enhance the streetscape of this area and complement the small lot size.

ANC 2E is aware that once the Applicant has proposed a concept, any building on the lot will require the applicant to seek and receive a Zoning Exception prior to having a final set of building permits.

OG 25-112 (HPA 25-130) 2915 Dumbarton Street, NW (Square 1241, Lot 139)- 9:02 pm

Commissioner Lohse moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Chao seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 8-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

This is a first-time design concept. This said, the previous design submitted by the Developer to OGB two months ago for this lot/house provided a range of options, including a concept for merging this home with the lot/house next door. The Developer has now decided to keep the two lots/houses they purchased on Dumbarton Street

separate, and a design proposal has been submitted for each of the two existing houses. Interior demolition has already begun. Prior to the purchase of the homes by the Developer, a resident/neighbor had an OGB-approved concept proposal for the two homes that was agreeable to all neighbors and the ANC.

The home was built in the 1800s. The back of the home shares a green space with many other homes along 29th, 30th, and Dumbarton Streets; a traditional approach in historic Georgetown. Currently, there is symmetry in the massing and length of the homes that share the green space, thus allowing for light to flow to the various homes and privacy for all. (Any significant difference in length is only on the bottom floor). The Developer/Applicant has proposed that the length of the addition to 2915 go beyond the wall of the immediate neighbor at 2913 Dumbarton by seven plus feet on all three floors.

ANC requests OGB to carefully consider if the proposed addition to 2915 Dumbarton is visible from public view, including from the alley next to Mt Zion Church, which is the oldest African American church in the city, and/or from 29th Street. If the addition is visible, OGB should consider the impact on the streetscape and historic fabric, plus the neighboring homes and the church windows. The proposal will impact the view and light of neighbors, thus we encourage the consideration of a proposal with reduced mass and height.

Additionally, we ask that it is ensured the light studies are accurate given the proposal to build up/out on all three floors, and that any potential safety issues caused by damage to the tree root system of the Heritage tree in the shared green space be taken very seriously. No balconies that compromise neighbor privacy should be supported.

ANC 2E appreciates that the Developer has met with neighbors to review this new proposal. At this time, ANC 2E cannot support the proposed concept.

OG 25-113 (HPA 25-131) 2917 Dumbarton Street, NW (Square 1241, Lot 139)- 9:34 pm

Commissioner Lohse moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Lindner proposed that "several feet" be changed to "seven feet." Commissioner Linder seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 8-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

This is a first-time design concept. This said, the previous design submitted by the Developer to OGB two months ago for this lot/house provided a range of options, including a concept for merging this home with the lot/house next door. The Developer has now decided to keep the two lots/houses they purchased on Dumbarton Street separate, and a design proposal has been submitted for each of the two existing houses. Interior demolition has already begun. Prior to the purchase of the homes by the Developer, a resident/neighbor had an OGB-approved concept proposal for the two homes that was agreeable to all neighbors and the ANC.

The home was built in the 1800s. The back of the home shares a green space with many other homes along 29th, 30th, and Dumbarton Streets, a traditional approach in historic Georgetown. Currently, there is symmetry in the massing and length of the homes that share the green space, thus allowing for light to flow to the various homes and privacy for all. (Any significant difference in length is only on the bottom floor).

ANC 2E appreciates that the Developer met with the most potentially impacted immediate neighbor. This said, the Developer/Applicant has proposed that the length of the addition to 2917 go beyond the length of the immediate neighbors' home at 2919 Dumbarton on all three floors. ANC requests OGB carefully consider if the proposed addition to 2917 Dumbarton is visible from public view, including from the alley next to Mt Zion Church, which is the oldest African American church in the city, and/or from 30th Street. If the addition is visible, OGB should consider the impact on the historic streetscape and fabric, plus the immediate neighboring home given its unique nature. We encourage the consideration of a proposal with reduced mass.

Additionally, we ask that the light studies be reviewed to ensure accuracy, and that any potential safety issues caused by damage to the root system of the Heritage tree located in the shared green space be taken seriously. No second-floor balconies that compromise neighbor privacy should be supported. Finally, the proposed concept is within feet of the neighboring home to the West, 2919 Dumbarton St. All exterior materials should be outlined in detail. At this time, ANC 2E cannot support the proposed concept.

Adjournment- 10:00 pm

Chair Lohse adjourned the meeting at 10:00 pm.