



GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2E

Representing the communities of Burleith, Georgetown, and Hillandale

3265 S Street, NW • Washington, DC 20007
(484) 885-8814 • 2E@anc.dc.gov

November 5, 2025

Brian Joyner
Superintendent of Rock Creek Park
National Park Service
5200 Glover Rd, NW
Washington, DC 20015
Brian_Joyner@nps.gov

Anthony Crispino
Director
Department of Public Works
899 North Capitol Street, NE
Washington, DC 20002
anthony.crispino2@dc.gov

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

Councilmember Lewis George
Chair, Committee on Facilities
Council of the District of Columbia
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20004
jlewisgeorge@dccouncil.gov

RE: Trash collection and management in and around Rose Park and Volta Park

Dear Superintendent Joyner, Director Crispino, Director Freeman, and Councilmember Lewis George,

On November 3, 2025 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 is urging you to help prioritize the trash management in and around Rose Park, and thus rodent control. The current situation is a concern for all those who use and live near Rose Park. Rose Park was established around 1922 and is one of the first integrated parks in the District. It is a critical part of our community.

Issue: For over a year, Rose Park has experienced significant problems with overflowing trash cans, mainly filled with restaurant carry-out containers, pizza boxes, plastic drinking cups, and aluminum cans from nearby restaurants, along with other litter. The Park stretches from M Street NW to P Street NW and borders Georgetown -- one of DC's busiest commercial and social districts. Our constituents are asking that prompt action be taken to address immediate

COMMISSIONERS:

Kishan Putta, District 1	Topher Mathews, District 2	Paul Maysak, District 3
Peter Sloniewsky, District 4	Mimsy Lindner, District 5	Gwendolyn Lohse, District 6
Daniel Chao, District 7	Knox Graham, District 8	

public health and safety concerns resulting from overflowing, poorly designed trash cans and to restore Rose Park as a beautiful green space and source of community pride. Help is needed on both city and National Park Service (NPS) land in Rose Park.

Please see Attachment A for a letter the Friends of Rose Park (FRP) issued on October 20th, 2025 outlining their view that record-breaking tourism in Georgetown means that in and around Rose Park must have an increase in trash collection and removal, including on Saturdays and Sundays. FRP is 501c (3) dedicated to Rose Park and has active participation from residents of Georgetown. FRP has been supporting the park for decades. FRP is willing to spend private dollars it has raised to help with addressing this trash issue given it is a very real public health issue. Based on collaboration with FRP, dialog with residents adjacent to the park, discussions with the Georgetown Business Improvement District (GBID) and multiple requests over the last 12+ months to DPW/DPR/DGS/NPS to address trash issues, we are requesting the below.

REQUESTS

- 1) Immediately allow FRP to pilot new double bucket, secure, metal cans in Rose Park that work with the use of a foot; these will be funded by private funds raised by FRP. See Attachment A for pictures.
 - a) These same types of cans are being used by Georgetown University, embassies on Georgetown waterfront and GBID among others. They are more rat proof, promote recycling and have a secure closing unlike the current trash cans that have open lids, thus not rodent deterrent.
 - b) FPR has identified where in the park these cans will have the most impact based on trash patterns and nearest to the commercial district.
- 2) Have DPW immediately adopt a more frequent trash collection schedule for Rose Park with additional collections on weekends and holidays, and an ability (resources) to ensure missed collections are immediately addressed.
- 3) Have the city - and NPS - develop a contract with experienced and available local help to increase timely collection from April–October. Specifically, the city and NPS or its ‘friends group’ for Rock Creek Park can contract with the GBID to help with collections given: a) GBID area is adjacent to Rose Park, b) GBID has an existing, competent ‘clean team’ that collects trash immediately adjacent to Rose Park, and c) the reality is many visitors in Rose Park come from commercial area. (We understand that as of FY26 the city may already be paying for the GBID ‘clean team’, and GBID also receives revenue from commercial taxes.) FPR or other private funds should not need to pay for a basic, daily service like very needed trash collection (except for large events) at our local parks.
 - a) Federal /NPS land: There is an existing and established route that can be applied so that GBID can help with needed trash collection. Specifically, NPS holds a Friends agreement with the Rock Creek Conservancy (RCC) for all of Rock Creek Park, including the parts of Rose Park that are NPS land. GBID and RCC partnership can be established around trash collection with NPS encouragement.

VOLTA PARK

We request that once the renovations in Volta Park are completed, Volta also receive increased trash collection during peak periods, perhaps by local GBID staff if the Rose Park contracting

with GBID works. Moreover, should the secure cans piloted in Rose Park reduce the rodent population, we ask that the city consider using the same types of cans in Volta Park.

Commissioner Gwendolyn Lohse (2E06@anc.dc.gov) is the Commission's representative in this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Gwendolyn Lohse", followed by a horizontal line extending to the right.

Gwendolyn Lohse
Chair, ANC 2E

CC: Brooke Pinto, Ward 2 Councilmember

Deborah Kerson Bilek, Chief Executive Officer, Georgetown Business Improvement District

Amy Titus, President, Citizens Association of Georgetown

Brittany Sawyer, Executive Director, Citizens Association of Georgetown

Brian Romanowski, Director of Constituent Services, Councilmember Brooke Pinto

Ty Abilla, Ward 2 Liaison, Mayor's Office of Community Relations and Services

Randi Thorpe, Community Relations Specialist, DPW

Chris Dyer, Community Relations Specialist, DPR

Gail Daubert, President, Friends of Rose Park

Attachment A

October 20, 2025
Advisory Neighborhood Commissioners
Attn: Gwen Lohse
via email 2E06@anc.dc.gov
Washington, DC

Dear Commissioner Lohse,

The Friends of Rose Park are writing to request that the ANC urgently address the inadequate trash management in Rose Park by supporting specific measures related to the 1. Improve quality and increase quantity of trash cans, 2. location of trash cans, and 3. frequency of trash collection in Rose Park.

As concerned community members, taxpayers, and frequent visitors to this beloved public space, we have firsthand experience with the significant problems caused by the inadequate trash pickup and the broken, disintegrating trash cans throughout the park.

Tourists love DC. In 2024, 25 million visitors traveled to DC¹ with 12 million visitors in Georgetown. These Visitors spent \$11.4 billion.² However, it appears that the Department of Public Works (DPW), DPR, and the City Council have failed to consider that with booming foot traffic comes a not-so-glamorous side effect – overflowing trash cans filled with containers from nearby restaurants and other litter that strain our Park spaces. This is especially problematic in Rose Park, which extends from M Street NW up to P Street NW and is next to one of DC's most active commercial districts. Prompt action is needed to address immediate public health and safety concerns as explained below and to restore Rose Park as a source of community pride and enjoyment.

MORE TRASH CANS ARE NEEDED ON M ST ALONG ROSE PARK

There are only 14 trash cans throughout Rose Park, evenly divided between the Federal and District portions.³ Fourteen trash cans do not meet demand. Several new businesses and restaurants have opened on 28th Street NW and P St. NW in the past five years. In addition, we have seen a dramatic increase in visitors (see DC Visitor Stats) and new construction of residential development on M Street.

We request the placement of several additional trash cans along the perimeter of Rose Park along M Street, 27th Street, and P Street.

MORE FREQUENT TRASH COLLECTION IS NEEDED TO ADDRESS PUBLIC HEALTH CONCERNS - TRASH COLLECTION SHOULD ALIGN WITH PARK USE

Parks are meant to be safe, clean, and inviting spaces, but the current inadequate waste management infrastructure undermines this fundamental purpose. Rose Park is busiest on weekends and Holidays. However, trash is not routinely emptied on weekends or holidays. Trash piles up most during long weekends with Monday holidays.

If the Trash situation is not corrected and improved, the natural beauty of Rose Park will be destroyed and continue to attract rats and other pests. Rats poses a serious public health concern, as they are known carriers of disease and create unsightly and unsanitary conditions for families, children, and all park visitors.

NEW AND REDESIGNED TRASH CANS ARE NEEDED

We interviewed residents and visitors to Rose Park who frequently cited overflowing trash cans as an issue. Many also expressed public health concerns about cans with lids that require contact, saying they avoid using them. This is an extreme problem in the tot playground on Dumbarton. We determined, consistent with the BID's assessment, that closed trash cans that users can open with a foot pedal are needed.

OUR REQUEST: Friends of Rose Park is committed to raising funds to address part of the problem (acquisition of new trash cans) and asks the city to do their part (more frequent pick up on weekends and holidays). Trash collection is a key city government service for taxpayers. Businesses in Georgetown are benefiting from an increase in visitors and an increase in sales revenue, which increases tax revenue for the city and supports more frequent pick up on weekends and holidays.

- We are fundraising and intend to donate new trash cans of a type that keep rats out and facilitate hand-free trash disposal. These cans have a wide receptacle and use a foot pedal to open -- when the foot pedal is released, the lid closes. These sealed, contained trash cans eliminate the need to push open a panel with your hand and keep all trash in Rose Park safely contained with secure lids.
- These trash cans will make the area more welcoming for people and less attractive to rats.
- The Georgetown BID has been testing these cans for over a year and recommends them as a replacement option. The challenge is that if new cans are donated, the trash needs to be collected.

Therefore, on behalf of Friends of Rose Park, I respectfully request that the ANC support the following measures:

1. Request - DPW increases the frequency of trash collection for Rose Park, with additional pickups on the weekends and holidays.
2. Recommend that DPW / DPR increase the number of trash cans for Rose Park as follows:
 - Two new cans along M Street in front of Rose Park,
 - One new trash can near the intersection of Olive and 27th Street,
 - One new trash can near the tennis courts/ 27th Street and O Street,
 - One new trash can near 26th Street and P street
3. Recommend that the DPR and NPS approve the use of sealed trash cans that operate by foot pedal to deter rat population and increase cleanliness
4. Support piloting new sealed trash cans that will be donated by Friends of Rose Park.
Drawing of new sealed trash cans attached.

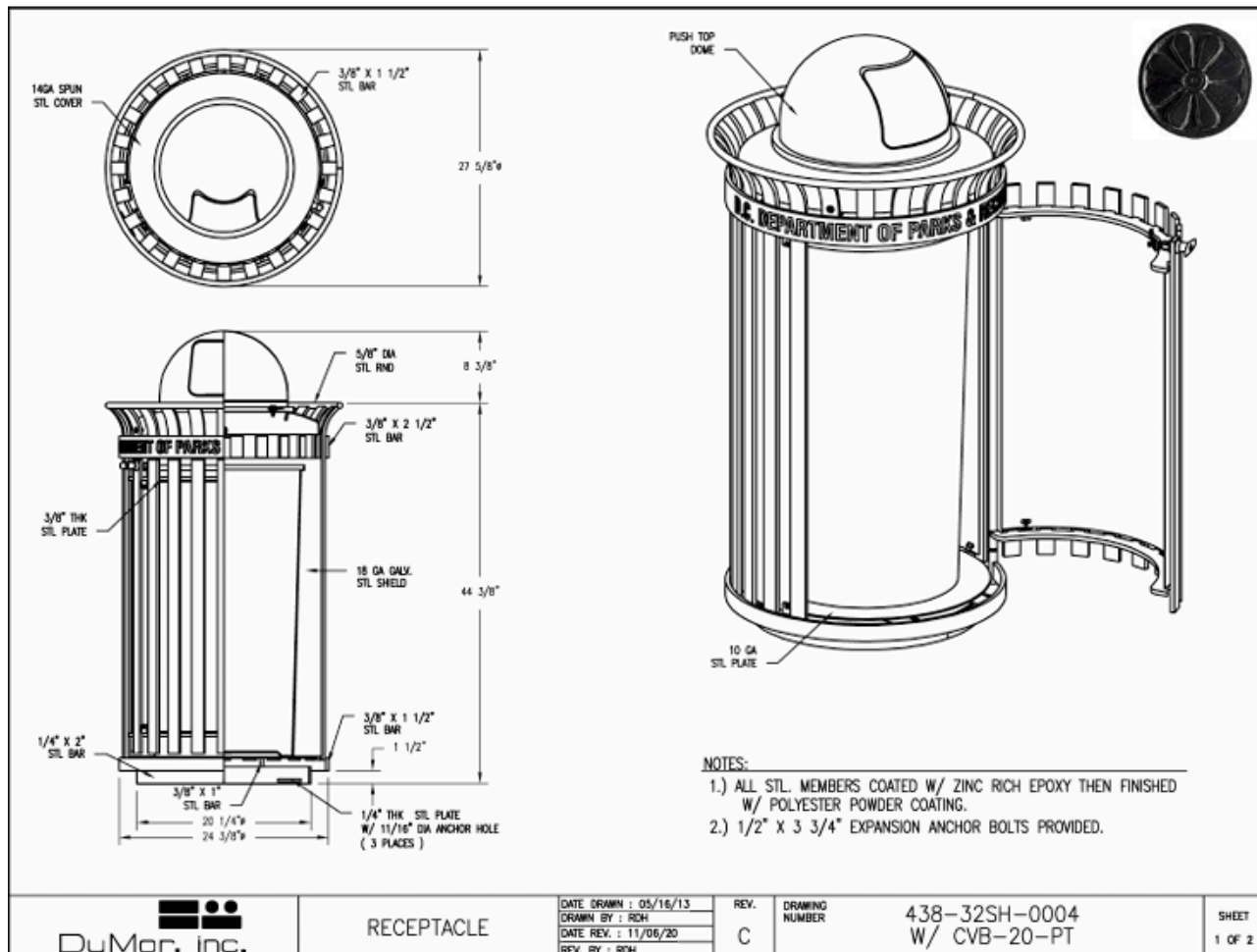
Friends of Rose Park are raising funds, and ready to begin procurement, and donate these improved trash receptacles to DPR and NPS.

Timely action on this matter will enhance public health and safety and restore Rose Park as a beautiful site of recreation for all. We appreciate your attention.

Sincerely,
Gail Daubert, President of Friends of Rose Park

gail@gaildaubert.com

One type of existing DPR Trash Cans – others do not have lids



Date drawn 05/16/2013

Revised 11/06/20



Reinforced Steel Roof
Internally fitted steel profiles



Cleaner Recycling
Add waste stream apertures to help separate recycling at-source



Touch Free Use
Foot Pedal Opening Hopper for touch-free deposit of recycling or trash



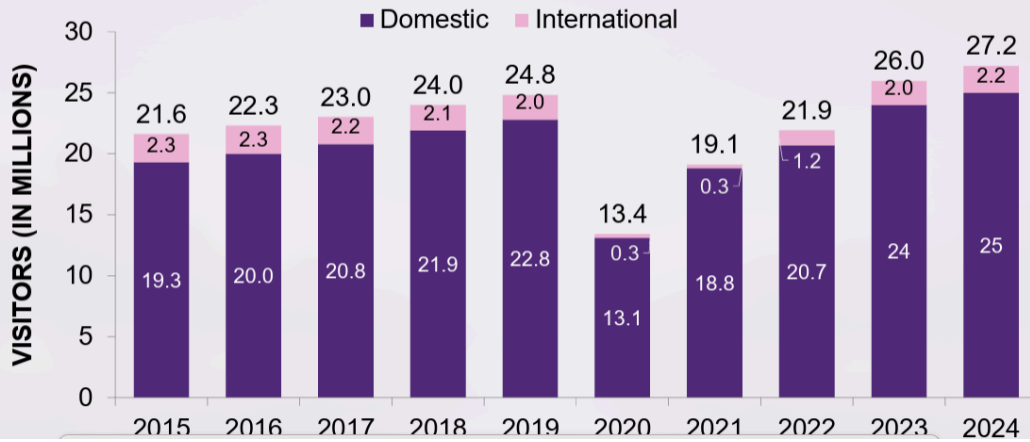
Easier for Bin Crews
Cart or pull-out container models all use wide front access doors

Product Specification & Options

Build Components	Build Specification	Standard Specification	Options
A) Unit Frames	Mild Steel Welded Assemblies	HD Galvanized	A1) Anthracite Grey PPC Finish A2) Unit Floor / Frame Panel Option
B) Unit Shell Panels	Mild Steel Assembly	Zinc Coat / Anthracite Grey Painted Finish	B1) Color PPC Finish Options
C) Unit Cover	Mild Steel Welded Assembly	Zinc Coat / Anthracite Grey Painted Finish	C1) Color PPC Finish Options C2) All Panels Graphic Wrap Option
D) Container Access	Mild Steel Assembly / Zinc Coated Mild Steel Bezel	Zinc Coated / Anthracite Grey Painted Finish Rectangular Front Aperture / No Insert	D1) Mixed Recycling Aperture Insert Option D2) Bottles & Cans Recycling Aperture Insert Option D4) Foot Pedal Operated Access Hopper Option
E) Service Doors	Mild Steel Welded Assembly / Stainless Steel Hinges	Zinc Coat / Anthracite Grey Painted Finish	E1) Color PPC Finish Options E2) Recycle Stream Graphics Option
F) Service Door Access	Insert Self-Latching Bolt / Key Operated Hook Deadlock	Stainless Steel / Aluminum Self Latching Bolt / Key Operated Deadlock	F1) Mechanical Keypad Latch / Lock
G) Bin Container			G1) Galvanized Steel UH Out Bin Container Option

TOTAL VISITATION TO WASHINGTON, DC

Washington, DC (CBD)



TOTAL VISITOR SPENDING



2024 VISITOR IMPACT



RECORD VISITOR SPENDING

**\$11.4
BILLION**

▲ 12% OVER 2023



RECORD DC TAX REVENUE

**\$2.3
BILLION**

▲ 11% OVER 2023



RECORD FOR DC

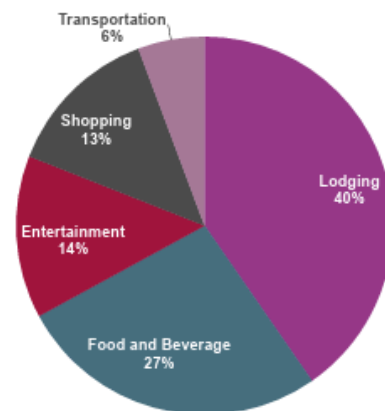
**111,500
JOBS**

▲ 8% OVER 2023

Sources: MMGY Travel Intelligence, Tourism Economics, S&P Global Market Intelligence, US Department of Commerce

VISITOR SPENDING WASHINGTON, DC (CBD)

Expenditure Category	2024	% Change
Lodging	\$4.6 billion	12% ▲
Food and Beverage	\$3.1 billion	13% ▲
Entertainment	\$1.6 billion	12% ▲
Shopping	\$1.5 billion	9% ▲
Transportation	\$656 million	2% ▲
Total	\$11.4 billion	11% ▲



Source: S&P Global Market Intelligence