



**Government of the District of Columbia
ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 3/4G**

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**ANC3/4G Resolution Regarding
Lafayette Recreation Center Modernization**

1. The District has budgeted \$4.6 million to modernize the Lafayette Recreation Center (<https://dgs.dc.gov/page/lafayette-recreation-center-modernization>). The Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) and the Department of General Services (DGS) held their first community meeting to introduce this project on October 26, 2017.
2. In late 2017, DPR conducted a survey “to ensure that we are enlisting feedback from residents.” DPR received 228 responses to the survey and reported the results to the community at a meeting on January 17, 2018 (<http://bit.ly/2O8WR3a>). Based on input from the survey and at community meetings, the Recreation Center design contractor presented initial concepts for the modernization at a community meeting on July 11, 2018 (<http://bit.ly/2O6RYb3>). Stormwater management for Lafayette Park was also added to the project at this meeting.
3. DPR and DGS held subsequent community meetings to review design concepts for the modernization on September 12, 2018 (<http://bit.ly/2O4ttv5>), November 29 2018 (<http://bit.ly/2O8Ym1i>), and April 9, 2019 (<http://bit.ly/2O6StBX>). Stormwater management was expressly discussed at the November 29, 2018 and April 9, 2019 meetings, and a separate stormwater management “charrette” was held on May 14, 2019, to gather further community input. DPR and DGS held a “Final Recreation Center Design Review” on July 10, 2019, that also included discussion of stormwater management (<http://bit.ly/32FibAq>). ANC commissioners attended all eight of these DPR/DGS meetings.

4. DPR, DGS, and the design contractor considered comments by the community at these meetings. As would be expected, not all of the comments were consistent and community members sometimes differed in their views about what should be done in the modernization.
5. Over the course of these meetings, DPR, DGS, and the design contractor made a number of changes to the design to address community comments or concerns, including the following:
 - The original 3,500 square-foot building with fragmented geometry was replaced with a smaller, regularly-shaped building;
 - The scale and architectural expression/language was changed from commercial to residential;
 - Porches/ pergolas were added to reinforce the residential feel of the structure;
 - The volume of the roof of multipurpose/flex space building was revised to provide more open space;
 - Vertical windows on the shorter building volume were increased in width, first to 2 feet 6 inches wide, and subsequently to 3 feet wide;
 - The light fixtures at doors and large windows were replaced with different types so that the light will be directed down rather than out;
 - The temperature of the exterior lighting was reduced to 2700 Kelvin;
 - The pergola for the north porch was replaced with a covered design;
 - A large area of contrasting stone was added to the north side of the multipurpose space volume above the windows to provide more interest to the area and to break up the expanse of stone;
 - The driveway from 33rd Street was removed to completely close off vehicular traffic;

- The green roof was removed due to community concerns over maintenance;
 - Some landscaping was removed because the community indicated that it would be difficult to maintain; and
 - An additional \$450,000 in capital funding was included to address Phase 1 of the stormwater issues that the community raised.
6. At the July 10, 2019 meeting, DPR and DGS also agreed to consider the some other community suggestions, including (1) expanding the porch on the south side to the extent possible without impacting the existing trees; (2) adding doors to the southern area to mirror the doors on the northern section; (3) expanding the size of the existing windows consistent with the energy efficiency needs of the building.
 7. The Commission is aware that delays in construction increase costs and can strain the available budget for this project. In 2018 alone, construction costs in Washington increased by 6.5% (<http://bit.ly/32tqGP8>). Thus, the value of the \$4.6 million modernization budget and the \$450,000 stormwater management budget decreased by about 6.5% during that time. Similar cost increases in 2019 will further impact the available funds for this project and may require reductions in the scope of the work.
 8. DPR and DGS have conducted extensive community outreach through surveys and meetings. They have made changes to the design to accommodate the community's comments and suggestions. The Commission supports and strongly agrees that DPR and DGS continue to move forward and complete the planned scope of work for the Recreation Center project in a timely manner, within the authorized budget, and without waiting for the funding and future Phases of the Stormwater remediation in the remaining areas of the Park.

Approved by ANC3/4G after a discussion at its regularly scheduled and noticed July 22, 2019 meeting by a vote of 6 to 0 (a quorum being 4).

Randy Speck, Chair

Abraham Clayman, Secretary