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## September 2019 Newsletter



### **COMMUNITY CENTER CONSTRUCTION LOGISTICS TASK FORCE HOLDS ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING**

The ANC's Community Center Construction Logistics task force met for the first time on September 5, 2019, to begin discussing steps to minimize the impact of the upcoming construction on the surrounding neighborhood. The task force includes Dave Engel (former ANC 3/4G05 commissioner and a resident within a half block of the Community Center), Mike Osborne (veteran of the Ingleside task force, which addressed many similar issues), Martha Saccocio (Director of Community Engagement at the Library, which will be affected by construction), Robert Gordon (co-owner of Little Beast, former ANC commissioner, and representative of the businesses on Connecticut Avenue), Mark Bacus (the Department of General Services's project manager or his supervisor, Cassidy Mullen), Jerry Malitz (the commissioner whose district includes the Community Center), and Randy Speck (ANC chair and chair of the task force). This task force



### **ANC 3/4G MEETING VIDEOS OF SEPTEMBER 9TH AVAILABLE ON YOUTUBE**

Videos of ANC 3/4G regular meetings are available to view on our [YouTube Channel](#). Major meeting items on the September 9th video include:

- The Commission voted to not object to the public space permit for a retaining wall at 6431 Western Avenue NW.
- The Commission voted to write a letter supporting the Lafayette Home School Association's permit application for the Lafayette Fall Festival.
- The Commission provided a number of updates on the planned modernization of the Chevy Chase Community Center.

Fromboluti.

The Construction Logistics task force will tentatively address four primary topics: (1) parking during construction, including both restrictions on where construction workers can park and provisions for library parking, especially for handicapped patrons; (2) limitations on where construction truck traffic will be permitted; (3) work hours for the project; and (4) steps to limit or contain noise, dust, contamination, and rats during construction. The group expects to develop criteria that would be included in construction contracts so that contractors will be aware of the restrictions from the beginning — an approach that was used successfully on the Ingleside project.

The group also discussed the need for outreach to the community to get further input and participation. We concluded that it would be best to have a single community meeting to kick off the project where we could invite comments on both the design and construction logistics. All task force meetings will be open to the public.

The task force sketched out a possible project timeline, though it is very much subject to change. DGS' Cassidy Mullen said that the design contract has been held up by insurance issues, but those should be resolved soon, and he expects that contract to be signed imminently. He said that design process would take ten to twelve months. He hoped to issue the request for construction contract proposals about two-thirds of the way through the design, i.e., in about eight months. Construction could start in about a year and would take up to 18 months, with construction completion expected in the spring of 2022.

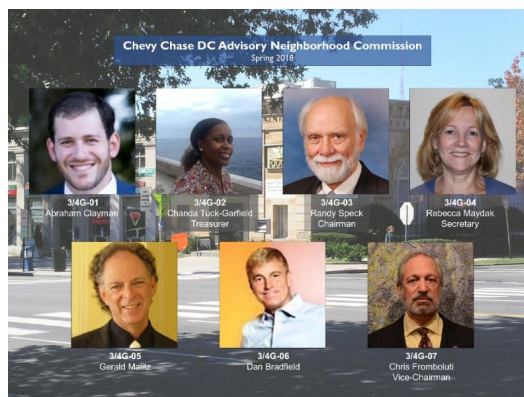


### ROAD CONSTRUCTION UPDATES!

A number of transportation projects are currently underway or will begin soon in our neighborhood. Here are updates on the major projects.

- **Beach Drive** is closed from Joyce Road NW to the MD border. Work is expected to finish during Fall 2019.
- **Wise Road** is open after being resurfaced!
- **Bingham Drive** remains closed and is expected to be repaved before its expected reopening in Fall 2019.
- **Oregon Avenue** from Military Road to Western Avenue will undergo a complete renovation over three years beginning this fall.

Want more information about road construction in our neighborhood? Contact your ANC Commissioner!



contractor has been able to come up with some tentative concepts based on the ANC's January 2018 report (<http://bit.ly/2Lydz7C>). (Mr. Mullen said that the report has given the designer a significant head start on the process and should help expedite that work.) All task force meetings will video recorded and available on both the ANC's website and on the project's webpage.



### WHAT IS ANC 3/4G?

ANC stands for Advisory Neighborhood Commission. A few facts about our ANC and others in the District:

- Congress created DC's ANCs in 1976.
- Non-partisan, voluntary, and no compensation.
- Commissioners represent approximately 2000 residents.
- Our views are entitled to "great weight" but we have no authority to order, require, or legislate.
- We can advise on virtually anything that affects the neighborhood - traffic, use of public space, zoning variances, liquor licenses, sidewalks, historic preservation, transportation projects, and testimony before the DC Council

What is it that ANC commissioners actually do?

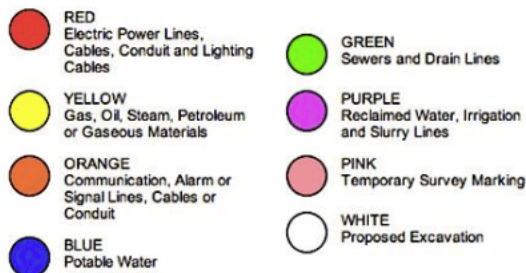
Sure, there are the two-hour meetings twice a month that the community can attend or view on YouTube, but what goes on outside the public arena? How do commissioners work to address constituents' day-to-day concerns?

One commissioner's day — Commissioner Randy Speck's September 6, 2019 — provides a glimpse of what this job entails and what commissioners do outside of their public meetings.

- Responded to a constituent's concern about a dead tree that had not been removed by taking a photo of the tree, forwarding it to the Deputy Director of the Urban Forestry Administration, and sending the response to the constituent;
- Inspected a house that been partially demolished, spoke with the developer/owner about the need to secure the property after a fence was removed, reported the apparent code violation to the Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs, and advised nearby neighbors of the situation;
- Wrote to Councilmember Cheh about a constituent's unusual public space permit application and the need for special attention;
- Checked out the staging area for a Washington Gas pipeline replacement project and possible ways to reduce or move the site, and corresponded with the project manager about ways to reduce the inconvenience to residents;

it the best it can be for our neighbors!

- We meet on the 2nd and 4th Mondays monthly at 7:00pm at the Chevy Chase Community Center.
- Read biographies of Commissioners [here](#).



### STREET & SIDEWALK COLORED SPRAY MARKS: WHAT DO THEY MEAN?

Utility and construction crews often mark the ground or pavement with brightly colored lines. Sometimes they might only have a single color, other times there are several colors present. They also might appear on sidewalks, streets, alleys or on dirt and grass. In any case all the colors represent something that is part of an international standard. It's important to homeowners and crews to know the meanings of the colors before any underground digging begins. [The meanings, represented above](#), are:

White = excavation

Pink = temporary survey marking

Red = electrical equipment

Yellow = natural gas, petroleum, or steam

Orange = communication

Blue = potable water

Purple = reclaimed water like from sand blasting or power washing

Green = sewer & storm drain

budget appropriation to acquire software that will improve commissioners' ability to communicate with constituents; and

- Summarized the ANC's Community Center Construction Logistics task force's organizational meeting in an email to other commissioners; and
- Prepared for the upcoming ANC meeting by gathering announcements of upcoming community events.

Many commissioners' days are like this one.

There are always issues that concern our constituents, and, although commissioners' can only advise the government, they do their best to solve problems. Let your commissioner know if there's a way they can help.



### JOHN BURWELL, THANK YOU!

One of our neighbors, John Burwell, is a very helpful individual. In addition to organizing regular clean-ups of Pinehurst Tributary and Rock Creek Park, he also helps out around the community center. Recently, a large branch of Buddleia had fallen down and was blocking the path of people trying to enter the Community Center. He not only supplied the saw but also removed the branch. Thank you John!

Also, Casey Trees explains color codes for trees. If you see a tree trunk with an orange

mark, it indicates it has been slated for removal by the Urban Forestry Division (UFD). If a tree has a yellow dot it is a fruit producing female ginkgo tree tagged for spraying by UFD.



### UPDATE ON 5303 CONNECTICUT AVE NW

The derelict townhomes at 5303 Connecticut were pulled down with a bulldozer and the resultant cloud of dust forced the closure of the daycare center two doors north. After protest from the neighbors and letters from Commissioner Fromboluti, the Department of Energy and Environment (DOEE) sent inspectors to the site and issued the following statement:

DOEE's has completed its investigation of the 5303 Connecticut Avenue, NW property. Based on our investigation, including site inspections, it was determined that the property was razed without a Building Permit or a Lead Abatement Permit. Additionally, DOEE does not have any record that all lead-based paint was removed from the interior and exterior of 5303 Connecticut Avenue, NW prior to razing the building. As a result, DOEE has taken the following enforcement actions against Foundry Construction LLC to date:

- Issued a Cease and Desist Order for non-compliance with the District's asbestos regulations; and
- Issued Civil Infractions totaling \$3,000 for undertaking the raze or demolition of a pre-1978 building without a lead



generate a lead-based paint hazard; and failure to prevent the dispersal of paint dust, chips, debris, or residue, or increasing the risk of public exposure to lead-based paint.

- DOEE also notified OSSE about the potential lead/asbestos exposure and the close proximity to two (2) child development facilities located at 5307 and 5312 Connecticut Avenue, NW. Our inspectors will continue to monitor the raze activity until the site is properly cleaned up come into full compliance.



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