

July Newsletter

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DC WATER WILL CHANGE ITS CLEAN RIVERS CHARGE

Since 2008, DC Water customers have paid a surcharge on their water bills to cover the projected \$2.7 billion costs required to clean the District's stormwater that pollutes the Potomac and Anacostia Rivers. The amount of that surcharge — called the Clean Rivers Impervious Area Charge or CRIAC — is set annually in DC Water's rates and has been steadily increasing. For Fiscal Year 2020 beginning on October 1, 2019, however, DC Water will change the way the it collects funds for the Clean Rivers project, and it may mean a change in what individual residents pay.



JUNE 24TH and JULY 8th ANC 3/4G MEETINGS ON YOUTUBE

Video of ANC 3/4G's [June 24th](#) and [July 8th](#) meetings are available on YouTube. Minutes from both meetings can be accessed [here](#).

Summary of June 24th meeting:

- The Commission voted 7-0 to not object to a request for a public space permit at 6661 Barnaby St. NW.
- Representatives from DDOT provided updates about the planned reconstruction of Oregon Avenue and sidewalks on

Currently, the Clean Rivers program is funded entirely with through CRIAC. The rationale for CRIAC is that customers with more impervious area — e.g., roofs, driveways, parking lots — contribute more to stormwater runoff and should pay a greater share of the Clean Rivers' project costs. (The ANC has urged the District to pay its fair share as well for streets, sidewalks, and alleys, which are current exempt. The ANC's testimony is available at <http://bit.ly/2UhOdO2> and <http://bit.ly/2U65Unm>.) That method of spreading the costs is not completely equitable, however, because some of the Clean Rivers costs are also due to sanitary sewer discharges, which combine with the stormwater system in parts of the District. As a result, large water users like apartment buildings and office buildings may pay less than their actual contribution to the problem.

To correct this inequity, beginning on October 1, 2019, DC Water will collect money for 18% of the Clean Rivers project based on customers' water usage, which approximates their contribution to sanitary sewage. That means that the CRIAC fee is projected to drop from an average of \$23 per residential home to \$20.94 per home. On the other hand, renters and businesses may see their rates increase because they will be paying more for the Clean Rivers project based on their water usage.

The law and good policy require cleaning up our rivers, but the ANC continues to advocate for more equitable ways to pay for it. In addition to proposing that the District pay its share of these costs, the ANC supports relief from onerous charges that had been assessed against

Chestnut Street.

- The Commission voted 7-0 to support Washington Gas's request to extend work hours for its project on 30th Street between Military Road and Nebraska Avenue.
- The Commission voted 7-0 to [support Oxford House's request](#) for a reasonable accommodation from DCRA with regard to the limit on the number of unrelated persons allowed to reside in one home.
- The Commission voted 7-0 to adopt the recommendations of its task force on communication strategy.
- Commissioner Fromboluti provided an update about the Community Center modernization.

Summary of July 8th meeting:

- The Commission took no action on the Class C liquor license renewal for Arucola as no representative was present. The Commission will address the issue at its July 22, 2019 meeting.
- The Office of Campaign Finance presented on its new public funding program for qualified candidates.
- The Commission voted 4-0 to [support the re-naming](#) of Lafayette Park and Lafayette Recreation Center to be Lafayette-Pointer Park and Lafayette-Pointer Recreation Center.
- Representatives from Pepco and The Office of the People's Counsel presented on Pepco's proposed multi-year rate increase.
- The Commission voted 4-0 to [support the](#)

retirement communities like Ingleside and Knollwood. The latest DC Water rate change will help to make the cost allocation more just.



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 closed for resurfacing and to allow work on the last portion of Beach. Work is expected to finish during Fall 2019.
- **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 beginning this fall. Once construction begins, portions of the road will be closed during the three year project.

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

[Mayor's statement](#) regarding upcoming proposed raids on undocumented immigrants in 10 American cities.

United States®
Census
2020

PLANNING NOW FOR THE 2020 CENSUS

The 2020 Census kickoff is still eight months away, but the District and ANC 3/4G are planning now to ensure that every person who resides in the District gets counted. The census questionnaire has already sparked controversy about whether it will ask residents about their citizenship. Regardless of how that question gets resolved, concerns remain about whether everyone will be counted, and any significant undercount will harm the District for the next decade.

While our neighborhood is relatively better at responding to the census, people can slip through the cracks. According to Census Bureau data compiled by DC Census 2020, some residents in our ANC don't speak English "very well" and may need assistance in completing the form. Young children are often missed in the census — an estimated 5% of children under age 5 were not counted in the 2010 census (<http://bit.ly/2YBKSVG>).

This year, the census will be conducted primarily



IMPROVEMENTS MADE AT ABANDONED BUILDING ON CONNECTICUT AVENUE NW

As a direct result of the efforts by ANC 3/4G and particularly [Commissioner Chris Fromboluti](#) the debris-filled lot at 5301 Connecticut Avenue NW and the partly demolished and abandoned building at 5303 Connecticut Avenue have undergone some marked improvements in the past couple of weeks. The developer has seen to it that debris and garbage have been removed and he has installed a fence around the properties and has painted it white. While this doesn't address the abandoned nature of the properties, it does address concerns about garbage and easy access to the abandoned buildings. Hopefully more progress will be made in the near future.



WHAT IS ANC 3/4G?

ANC stands for Advisory Neighborhood

online, which may leave some residents out or make it more difficult for them to respond. Questions will arise about where residents live for census purposes or when temporary residents — like college students — should be counted. Although Chevy Chase DC has a higher response rate than some other areas of the District, Census Bureau data compiled by DC Census 2020 showed that our neighborhood's initial non-response rate in the 2010 census was between 8% and 20%. We need to make sure that those residents who don't respond initially are not overlooked.

Beginning in March 2020, the Census Bureau will begin sending residents a postcard with instructions to go online to complete the census form. Some of those postcards will likely be mistaken for junk mail and thrown out. While there are plans to follow up if no one responds for an address, there is no assurance that everyone will be reached.

A complete count is important because the District receives over \$3 billion annually through large Federal spending programs that are allocated based on census data. A complete and accurate count means the District receives the funding and services it is entitled to. Census data is also used for planning, policy, and budgeting decisions across the City, and boundaries for wards and ANCs will be adjusted based on the census.

As we get closer to "Census Day," April 1, 2020, the ANC will provide additional information to make sure that everyone is counted. The latest updates will also be available from DC Census

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
- We are unified by a love for the community and a commitment to making 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](#).



LAFAYETTE RECREATION CENTER IN FINAL STAGES OF DESIGN

The design for the new Lafayette Park Recreation Center is in the final stages and construction is

updates will also be available from DC Census 2020 at <https://dccensus2020.dc.gov>.



LATEST COMMUNITY CENTER UPDATE - CONTRACTOR SELECTED

According to the Chief of Contracts and Procurement in DC's Department of General Services, a design contractor has been selected for the work on the renovation of the Chevy Chase Community Center. Negotiations are scheduled to be completed in 2 weeks when the announcement will be made public. A six-week notice will then be given before work can begin. A kick-off meeting will take place early in September through a Design Committee that Commissioner Fromboluti (3G-07) will chair. The task force also includes Commissioners Abe Clayman and Jerry Malitz, and residents and business representatives Connie Chang, Bill Oberdorfer and Patrick Williams. All meetings of this task force and the Construction Logistics task force, being chaired by ANC Commissioner Randy Speck, will be publicized and open to the public.

set to begin soon. The current Recreation Center/Field House in Lafayette Park is closed with the exception of the restrooms. It is anticipated that within the next week the entire building will be closed and "taken off-line" for the upcoming construction project. Portable toilets will be provided for community use during the construction. In addition, the playgrounds in the park will remain open. Construction on the new Recreation Center is due to begin this summer with a completion date of Spring 2020.

The Department of General Services and the Department of Parks and Recreation presented on this project at a community meeting on July 10th. You can read their materials [here](#).



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