



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

CHEVY CHASE, BARNABY WOODS, HAWTHORNE

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**ANC 3/4G Resolution Requesting
Additional Time for Comments on Amendments to
The Comprehensive Plan Citywide and Area Elements**

1. The Comprehensive Plan is a 20-year framework that guides the District's future growth and development. Originally adopted in 2006 and amended in 2011, it addresses a wide range of topics, including land use, economic development, housing, environmental protection, historic preservation, and transportation.
2. The District is in the midst of considering another amendment to the Plan. The DC Office of Planning (OP) has developed proposed amendments based on comments from residents, developers, and its staff. Once those recommendations are finalized, they will go to the Council for its consideration. The Council may hold hearings and make changes to OP's proposed amendments.
3. The Comprehensive Plan consists of four major components: (a) the Framework Element provides the context for the rest of the Plan by describing changes in demographics, economics, technology, and finances and includes growth forecasts and projections to show how and where the District expects to add households, people, and jobs through 2045; (b) the City-wide Elements describe the vision for the District's future in terms of land use, economic development, housing, arts and culture, environmental protection, transportation, community services and facilities, educational facilities, urban design, historic preservation, infrastructure (e.g., utilities), and parks, recreation, and open space; (c) on an aggregate level, the Plan includes a Future Land Use Map (FLUM) and a Generalized Policy Map (GPM) that are to be used as "a generalized guide for development and conservation decisions"; and (d) the Area Elements focus on planning for particular parts of the city, e.g., the Rock Creek West Area for ANC 3/4G.

4. The Office of Planning submitted the Framework Element to the Council in January 2018. The Council held a marathon hearing on this Element on March 20, 2018, and the Commission submitted testimony (<http://bit.ly/2MSuCD8>) urging the Council to address two concerns (1) by modifying OP's population growth projections to account for factors that will diminish unbridled growth and to preserve neighborhoods and communities, and (2) by eliminating OP's unnecessary and counterproductive attempts to dilute the Comprehensive Plan with so-called "flexibility."
5. On July 2, 2019, the Council released a number of changes to OPs proposed Framework Element and passed it on first reading on July 9, 2019. On July 22, 2019, the Commission adopted a resolution (<http://bit.ly/2pkWKGe>) acknowledging some appropriate revisions and significant improvements in the Council's changes over OP's proposal. The Commission reiterated its concern, however, about OP's population growth methodology and projections and its failure to consider the impact that such a population expansion would have on the District's infrastructure and livability. The Commission also objected to the short time between the Council's changes and its adoption on first reading. On October 8, 2019, the Council passed the Framework Element (<http://bit.ly/2pb6LWB>).
6. On October 15, 2019, OP released its proposed amendments to the remaining elements of the Comprehensive Plan. The full draft Comprehensive Plan is available at <https://plandc.dc.gov>, and the summary of the plan for Rock Creek West is at <http://bit.ly/36gFgLM>. OP is holding public meetings in each ward to discuss its proposal and answer questions. Director Donaldson from the Department of Housing and Community Development and Director Trueblood from OP have also agreed to attend the ANC's December 9, 2019 meeting to answer the community's questions.
7. The 13 Citywide Elements and ten Area Elements total more than 1500 pages of proposed changes as well as nearly 200 proposed changes to the FLUM and GPM maps. The proposed amendments make major changes to the existing elements, striking out large portions of text and adding large sections of new text.
8. OP requires any individual comments on the proposed amendments to be submitted by December 20, 2019. It suggests, however, that individuals or groups submit comments to their ANC by December 20, 2019, for incorporation into the ANCs' resolutions that must be submitted by January 31, 2020.
9. On October 28, 2019, the Commission created a Comprehensive Plan Task Force that includes commissioners, residents, and local business representatives. The Task Force has begun working through the Comprehensive Plan as it affects our ANC and has held two public meetings. It has two more public meetings scheduled for December. The Task Force also plans to conduct a survey of

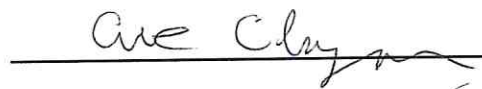
residents to gather data about what the community wants in the Comprehensive Plan.

10. Council Chairman Mendelson has stated that Council will not consider these proposed amendments until after passage of the District's FY 2021 budget in June, 2020. The Council is expected to hold public hearings on the OP's proposed changes to the Comprehensive Plan and, if its actions on the Framework Element are indicative, it may take several months to pass a final version of the amended Plan.
11. Given the importance of the Comprehensive Plan for the District and individual communities and the volume and complexity of OP's proposed changes, residents and ANCs should be given more time to analyze the impact of the changes and to propose modifications. There is no urgency that compels the schedule that OP has set.
12. The Commission urges Mayor Bowser, Council Chair Mendelson, and Office of Planning Director Trueblood to provide at least another 60 days for submission of comments on the proposed Comprehensive Plan amendments — i.e., for comments from individuals to be submitted by February 20, 2020, and for resolutions from ANCs to be submitted by March 31, 2020. OP can then submit its final proposed Comprehensive Plan amendments to the Council by the end of May 2020. This schedule should not materially delay the Council's consideration and action on the Plan since it will be occupied with the FY 2021 budget until early June.

Approved by ANC 3/4G after a discussion at its regularly scheduled and noticed November 25, 2019 meeting by a vote of 5 to 0 (a quorum being 4).



Randy Speck, Chair



Abe Clayman, Secretary

for RL

cc: Mayor Muriel Bowser
Council Chair Mendelson
Office of Planning Director Andrew Trueblood