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## February 2020 Newsletter



### OREGON AVENUE RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT CONTINUES

The Oregon Avenue Reconstruction project began in December. You can read more information about the project at [www.oregonavenueproject.com](http://www.oregonavenueproject.com).

The project is divided into three phases:

- Phase 1: Oregon Avenue between Beech Street and Western Avenue – December 2019 – July 2020
- Phase 2: Oregon Avenue between Military Road and Rittenhouse Street – July 2020 – December 2020
- Phase 3: Oregon Avenue between Rittenhouse Street and Beech Street – December 2020 – September 2021

During each phase of the project, one lane in the project area will be closed to traffic. The full schedule for lane closures can be found on page 7 of the full presentation at <http://bit.ly/2EiNHJL>.

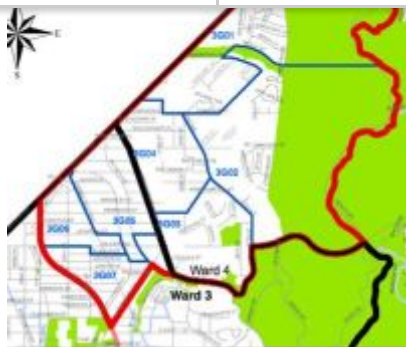


### VIDEO NOW ON YOUTUBE FOR ANC 3/4G JANUARY 27 AND FEBRUARY 10 PUBLIC MEETINGS

The January 27th and February 10th meetings of ANC3/4G are now available to view through ANC3/4G's [YouTube Channel](#).

A summary of the February 10th meeting is below:

- MPD Captain Edward Bernat discussed crime protection measures.
- Representatives of DDOT and WMATA presented on the Oregon Avenue Reconstruction Project.
- The Commission approved a resolution providing comments on the Office of Planning's proposed amendments to the Comprehensive Plan.
- Commissioner Fromboluti provided an update on the design process for the modernization of the Chevy Chase Community Center.

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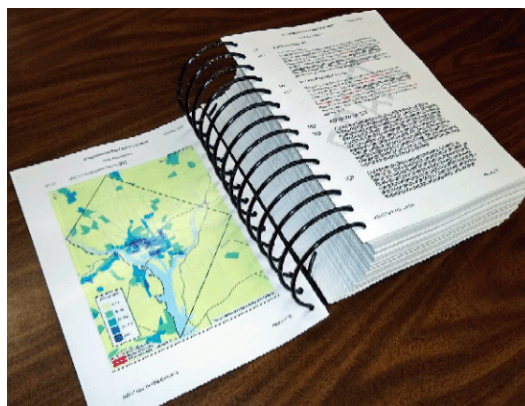
### WHAT IS ANC 3/4G?

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
- 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](#).

oversight hearings for WMATA and the Department of Parks and Recreation.

The next ANC meeting will be on Monday, February 24, 2020.



### ANC 3/4G PROVIDES COMMENTS TO OFFICE OF PLANNING REGARDING COMPREHENSIVE PLAN, CALLS FOR "CHEVY CHASE GATEWAY" AND SMALL AREA PLAN

ANC 3/4G's February 10, 2020 resolution (<http://bit.ly/323XwpQ>) asks the District's Office of Planning (OP) to designate the stretch of Connecticut Avenue from Chevy Chase Circle to Livingston Street the "Chevy Chase Gateway." The Commission also asks OP to prepare a "Small Area Plan" before any new development begins so that the community can help to shape an iconic vision for the future for this entrance into the City. But what does it mean to be a Gateway, and what is a Small Area Plan?

First, the Chevy Chase DC neighborhood has a distinct, valued character. It's been described as a "small town within the city" with unique, locally-owned businesses whose customers live nearby. The Community Center, the Public Library, the Avalon Theater, and the Chevy Chase Arcade

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## KEEPING SERVICE ON THE E6 AND M4 BUS ROUTES

Beginning on July 1, 2020, the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) proposes to combine the E6 and M4 bus routes, which will terminate current E6 bus service to Lafayette Elementary School, the Chevy Chase Community Center, the Chevy Chase Library, the Avalon Theater, the US Post Office, Safeway, and Friendship Heights. This proposal will also drop all of the M4 bus stops on 30th Place and Military Road (including stops near Ingleside and Temple Sinai). ANC 3/4G opposes this reduction in service and urges E6 and M4 riders to let WMATA know that they need these bus routes.

WMATA made this same proposal to eliminate the E6 in 2011. The ANC, the Chevy Chase Citizens Association, Councilmember Mary Cheh, and then-Councilmember Muriel Bowser all strongly objected to this change. In the face of that opposition, WMATA relented. Now it has revived an almost identical proposal to reduce service as part of an overall cost-cutting effort that focuses on consolidating and eliminating “overlapping and less productive” bus routes. WMATA’s plan overlooks the value this bus service provides to the community and the impact if it is discontinued.

The ANC will testify at WMATA’s performance oversight hearing before the District Counsel on February 19, 2020, urging the Council’s

cross section of residents for daily activities and for special events. The Gateway should highlight these qualities.

Second, as visitors round Chevy Chase Circle, they go from the large houses and country clubs of the suburbs to a distinctly different, more urban environment. This is an opportunity to make a strong first impression of DC. This Gateway should convey the increased vibrancy of the City but with the unique flavor of this neighborhood.

Third, creating a Small Area Plan for this Gateway gives the community a way to influence how development happens over the next 20 years. The District’s Comprehensive Plan and zoning regulations provide only the most general guidance about what new building is permitted. They don’t help to define the look and feel of new buildings, how any new buildings fit into the existing structures or the broader neighborhood, how small businesses are encouraged and retained, or what kind of new residences might address the need for more affordable and workforce housing. The Small Area Plan can fill in the blanks and provide binding guidance for what will be built in the Chevy Chase Gateway.

ANC 3/4G is now working with OP and the District Council to make sure that nothing new gets built in the Chevy Chase Gateway until a Small Area Plan is in place. Developing that Plan will include extensive community input, as well as consultation with planning professionals, established businesses, historical preservationists, affordable housing experts, and property owners. We expect that process to begin later this year, and the ANC hopes to draw

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inconsistent with the District's emphasis on providing multiple modes of transportation for everyone. Any resident may testify at this hearing or submit a statement to the Council by emailing [facilities@dccouncil.gov](mailto:facilities@dccouncil.gov).

Until March 2, 2020, WMATA is also taking comments on its proposed changes through an on-line survey that is available at <https://www.wmata.com/initiatives/budget/>. Click on "Provide your feedback online" to take the survey and to explain your reasons for retaining the E6 and M4 bus service. You may also write to your councilmembers — Brandon Todd in Ward 4 ([btodd@dccouncil.us](mailto:btodd@dccouncil.us)), Mary Cheh in Ward 3 ([mcheh@dccouncil.us](mailto:mcheh@dccouncil.us)), and At-large Councilmember Robert White, Chair of the Committee on Facilities and Procurement ([rwhite@dccouncil.us](mailto:rwhite@dccouncil.us)). Finally, you may testify orally at WMATA's public hearing on February 26, 2020, at the Metro Headquarters Building, 600 5th Street, NW. An open house begins at 4:00 pm, and the public hearing will be from 4:30 pm until 9:00 pm, with speaker registration on-site only.

Many residents rely on the bus to get to work, school, vital services, doctors' appointments, and to the Metro. If the reductions in service on the E6 or M4 bus will affect you, please let WMATA know, and copy the ANC at [3G.anc.dc.gov](https://3g.anc.dc.gov).



## FROM WHERE DOES THE TERM CHEVY CHASE ORIGINATE?

Originally published by the [Etymology Nerd](#) is this look at how neighborhoods in DC got their name. It appears that Chevy Chase comes from a poem about a 1388 battle, "The Ballad of Chevy Chase." Chevy is from the French word chevauchee, meaning "horseback raid" as used in medieval Scotland and England to describe raids made into the borderlands between the two countries. By 1725 a tract of land in British America was named "Cheivy Chace" and was eventually developed into Chevy Chase DC.



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