



**Government of the District of Columbia**  
**ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 3/4G**  
CHEVY CHASE, BARNABY WOODS, HAWTHORNE

**COMMISSIONERS**

3/4 G-01 - Abraham Clayman, Secretary	5601 Connecticut Avenue N.W.
3/4 G-02 - Chanda Tuck-Garfield, Treasurer	P.O. Box 6252 Washington, D.C. 20015
3/4 G-03 - Randy Speck, Chair	<a href="mailto:3G@anc.dc.gov">3G@anc.dc.gov</a>
3/4 G-04 - Rebecca Maydak	<a href="http://www.anc3g.org">http://www.anc3g.org</a>
3/4 G-05 - Gerald Malitz	YouTube: ANC3G
3/4 G-06 - Dan Bradfield	202.363.5803
3/4 G-07 - Christopher Fromboluti, Vice-Chair	

Minutes  
ANC 3/4G Public Meeting  
May 19, 2020

**Introductions, description of virtual meeting procedures, and adoption of agenda (00:00:00)**

Commissioner Speck called the meeting to order at approximately 7:00 pm. Commissioners introduced themselves. Commissioners Bradfield, Clayman, Fromboluti, Malitz, Maydak, and Speck were present. Commissioner Tuck-Garfield was absent. Commissioners adopted the agenda 6-0. Commissioner Speck reviewed meeting procedures.

**Commissioner Announcements (00:04:15)**

Commissioner Speck announced that Diane Werneke, an office manager for the ANC and a long-time resident of Chevy Chase, recently died. Commissioner Speck expressed the Commission's condolences and said that she will be missed.

Commissioner Speck announced that <https://coronavirus.dc.gov> and [www.jerrymalitz.com](http://www.jerrymalitz.com) are both good sources of information related to COVID-19.

Commissioner Speck encouraged residents to vote by mail. You may request a mail-in ballot online at <https://www.vote4dc.com/ApplyInstructions/Absentee>. The 2020 Primary Voter Guide, available online at: <https://www.dcboe.org/dcboe/media/PDFFiles/Voter-Guide-4-16-2020-Final-4.pdf>. The last day to request a ballot is May 26<sup>th</sup>. All ballots must be postmarked by June 2<sup>nd</sup>. Additionally, 20 polling locations around the District will be open beginning on May 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Commissioner Speck announced that well over 70% of residents within the ANC have responded on-line to the Census. Residents can respond to the Census at [my2020census.gov](http://my2020census.gov).

Commissioner Clayman announced that the Mayor's draft budget released this week contained funds to complete the Chestnut Street sidewalk project. Commissioner Speck and Commissioner Clayman are confirming with District employees that the project will proceed as scheduled.

### **Community Announcements (Provided to ANC 3/4G in writing)**

Jessica Green from the Mayor's Office of Community Relations and Service provided the following announcements:

#### *FY21 Budget and Wednesday's Teletownhall*

On May 18, 2020, Mayor Bowser introduced her FY 2021 Budget and Financial Plan to the Council of the District of Columbia as part of the District's annual budget process. Despite facing the unprecedented financial challenges posed by the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, the Mayor's budget makes significant new investments in education, healthcare, housing, jobs and economic opportunity, public safety, transportation, and more.

On May 20, 2020, Mayor Bowser will host a teletownhall with Budget Director Jenny Reed to discuss FY 2021 Proposed Budget. . RSVP and dial-in

information: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/fy2021-proposed-budget-community-teletownhall-tickets-105698809986?ref=estw>. A summary of Ward 3 highlights from the proposed budget may be found

here: [https://mayor.dc.gov/sites/default/files/dc/sites/mayormb/page\\_content/attachments/FY21%20Budget\\_Ward%20Sheets\\_Ward3.pdf](https://mayor.dc.gov/sites/default/files/dc/sites/mayormb/page_content/attachments/FY21%20Budget_Ward%20Sheets_Ward3.pdf). A summary of Ward 4 highlights may be found here: [https://mayor.dc.gov/sites/default/files/dc/sites/mayormb/page\\_content/attachments/FY21%20Budget\\_Ward%20Sheets\\_Ward4.pdf](https://mayor.dc.gov/sites/default/files/dc/sites/mayormb/page_content/attachments/FY21%20Budget_Ward%20Sheets_Ward4.pdf).

#### *Government Operations*

While the District of Columbia Government began modifying its operations starting Monday, March 16, in order to mitigate the spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19), the District government wants residents to know that it will continue to deliver essential services and keep the majority of its systems and services operating. This modified schedule and service adjustments below are now in effect through June 8, 2020. Read more.

#### *Extension of Stay at Home Order*

On May 13, 2020, the Mayor issued an order extending the District's public emergency and public health emergency and continue to require individuals to stay home through June 8th. There are currently four major factors that the District is monitoring for a phased reopening:

- How the virus is spreading through our communities (ie community transmission);
- Testing Capacity;
- Capacity of our healthcare system; and
- Capacity of our public health system to trace new cases.

The District continues to watch trends in new cases as well as looking at rate of transmission which tells us how many new cases come from each positive case. As of May 18, 2020, we are at day eight of a decrease in community spread. For more information on ReOpen DC, please visit [coronavirus.dc.gov/reopendc](https://coronavirus.dc.gov/reopendc).

#### *Food/Resource Help Line*

There is a hotline for residents homebound because of COVID-19 to request food and other essential items. Please call: [1-888-349-8323](tel:1-888-349-8323) or visit online at [coronavirus.dc.gov/gethelp](https://coronavirus.dc.gov/gethelp).

#### *Educational and Academic Retail Shops (EARS) Pilot*

The EARS pilot will grant waivers to local educational and academic retail shops to do curbside and front door pickup. All sales are advance purchases (pre-ordered online or by phone) only. The stores will need to agree to share data and information with the District about their operations. The goal with this pilot is to learn important lessons about reopening while ensuring safe operations.

Card shops, florists, and sundries are now invited to apply for the EARS waiver.

The District Government will only allow certain non-essential businesses to operate if operators submit and get approved a COVID-19 EARS Waiver request to operate during the COVID-19 public health emergency. In the application process, you will be expected to provide information about an operations plan that includes curbside and pick operations place with safe social distancing or contactless exchange, enforcement plan, shutdown plan, and sanitization plan. You may apply for EARS waivers at <https://forms.dc.gov/f/EARS>. Following your application submission, you will be contacted about your waiver status via email within 24 hours.

Dee Smith from Councilmember Cheh's office provided the following announcements:

*Budget Hearing Schedule (available at <https://bit.ly/2ydaq8T8>) and guidelines*

Due to the public health emergency, the Council has altered this year's budget process:

- Conduct hearings remotely over teleconference platforms.
- A unique voicemail number ((202) 350-1344) to accept verbal public testimony has been set up. Just as with in-person hearings, voicemail testimony will be limited to three minutes.
- Submit written testimony to committees.
- Your voicemail testimony will be transcribed, so be sure to speak slowly and clearly, note the agency that you are submitting testimony for, and note your full name and the organization you represent, if any. You do *not* need to leave your e-mail, phone number, or other contact information.
- Submit written testimony to committees.
- Voicemail messages, as well as written transcripts, will be provided to committees for the official hearing record.

- Testimony will be accepted through the close of the hearing record, which will be one week after the hearing date.
- Hearings will be broadcast live on DC Council Channel 13 as well as streamed live online on the Council's [website](#) and on [entertainment.dc.gov](https://entertainment.dc.gov).

### *Educational and Academic Retail Pilot*

Applications went live on May 15, 2020 at 1:00pm <https://coronavirus.dc.gov/ears>.

Sam Stephens from Councilmember Todd's office provided the following announcements:

- If there are any Seniors who need meals, the Office on Aging is providing signing seniors up to receive meals - 7 meals delivered once per week - at 202-882-1160.
- The Committee on Government Operations will hold our budget oversight hearing on the following dates:
  - June 10th - Office on African Affairs, Office in African American Affairs, Office on Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs, Office on Latino Affairs, Office on Latino Affairs, Office of LGBTQ Affairs, Office on Nightlife and Culture, and Office on Veterans Affairs
  - June 11th - Executive Office of the Mayor, Office of the City Administrator, Office of the Senior Advisor, and Office of the Secretary
  - June 12th - Office of the Inspector General, Office of Cable Television, Film, Music & Entertainment, Office of the Chief Technology Officer, Office of Risk Management, Office of Administrative Hearings, and Office of Human Rights
- To submit testimony witnesses can email a word document/pdf to [governmentoperations@dccouncil.us](mailto:governmentoperations@dccouncil.us) or leave a 3 minute voicemail at 202-430-6322 that will be transcribed for the record. Hearing can be viewed at [dccouncil.us](http://dccouncil.us) or on DCC (Channel 13 for most).

### **Discussion and possible vote on public space application at 6431 Western Avenue, NW (Tracking No. 335595) for a curb cut and parking pad (00:09:05)**

William Williams, Britt Williams, and Eric DeBear presented on a public space application for a curb cut and parking pad. The Commission had previously approved two curb cuts for a circular driveway at the property but they revised the application based on comments from the Public Space Committee staff to ask for a single curb cut.

Commissioners asked questions about using the alley behind the property and why the application required an application to the Board of Zoning Adjustment (BZA) for a special exception because the home is not currently zoned for parking in the front yard. The Williams family did not pursue the use of the alley behind the home because of nearby trees that would be

damaged or need to be removed. The Commission will review the application to the BZA for a special exception after it receives notice.

The Commission voted 6-0 to not object to the application.

**Discussion and possible vote on public space application at 3815 Kanawha Street, NW (Tracking No. 350999) for a new residential driveway (00:24:55)**

Commissioner Fromboluti explained that this is an improvement to an existing driveway with the installation of pavers. He indicated that this would enhance the driveway. The Commission voted 6-0 to not object to the application.

**Discussion and possible vote on public space application at 5553 30th Place, NW (Tracking No. 351915) for installation of a fence taller than 42 inches (00:26:30)**

Robert Vest presented his application for a six-foot fence between the property line and the sidewalk. He explained that the fence was needed on this high-traffic corner of 30th Place and Nebraska Avenue to protect his family from potential coronavirus infection.

Commissioner Fromboluti asked about potentially moving the fence back from the sidewalk line. Mr. Vest stated that this would remove play space for his son.

Commissioner Malitz raised a concern about setting a precedent for future requests. Commissioners Clayman and Bradfield also expressed concerns about a privacy fence so close to the sidewalk.

Commissioner Speck stated that he would look into a way for the residents to apply for a permit for a temporary fence. The applicants will explore the possibility of placing the fence further from the sidewalk.

The Commission deferred consideration of the application pending further information.

**Update on coronavirus emergency impacts and available resources (00:43:25)**

Commissioner Malitz stated that local businesses are applying for local microgrants. He also stated that Child's Play on Connecticut Avenue would be open for "grab and go" and limited shopping under the District's Educational and Academic Retail Shops (EARS) Pilot. He indicated that the Parthenon has closed for at least a few weeks, but Blue 44 has re-opened.

Commissioner Speck stated that he is encouraging the Department of Health to analyze why our neighborhoods have a low incidence of infection relative to other nearby neighborhoods.

**Discussion and possible vote on testimony at the DC Council’s budget hearings for the following agencies: Department of Small and Local Business Development; Department of Aging and Community Living; Department of Public Works; Department of Energy and the Environment; Office of Advisory Neighborhood Commissions; Department of General Services; Office of Planning; Housing Production Trust Fund; Department of Parks and Recreation; Department of Transportation; DC Public Library; and Department of Health (00:51:50)**

Commissioner Speck reported that the Mayor presented her FY 2021 proposed budget to the Council on May 18, 2020. The local funds portion of the budget — the part that we can control — is \$8.69 billion. The full budget document is available at <https://bit.ly/3g5wSni>.

The challenge for this budget was to fill the gap caused by a \$774 million projected drop in revenue for FY 2021 on top of a drop of \$722 million in FY 2020. The proposed budget closes that gap by using surplus revenue carried over from FY 2019, drawing on the fiscal stabilization reserve (the rainy day fund), not paying the Ballpark Stadium bonds early, bond refinancing savings, and no cost of living pay increases for District employees. There were also various other agency budget cuts.

Commissioner Speck highlighted items in the detailed budget that affect our area particularly.

- The proposed capital budget includes new funding for the Chevy Chase Community Library in FY 2024 — \$20.753 million (Volume 5 at page 43). It includes the same funding for the Community Center through FY 2021 (Volume 5 at page 202) — \$19 million.
- Office of Planning (Volume 2, page B-69) — Proposed 23% reduction in FY 2021, largely in cutting back contracting for the Design and Neighborhood Planning program.
- The Housing Production Trust Fund budget includes the previously approved \$100 million for FY 2020 and \$100 million for FY 2021.
- Department of Small and Local Businesses (Volume 2, page B-35) — Proposed 4% reduction in spending for FY 2021.
- Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development (Volume 2, page B-83) — The proposed budget is \$13.496 million less than FY 2020 — a 31.3% reduction — but the budget documentation does not explain where those cuts will occur. DMPED administers the grants to small businesses during the coronavirus emergency, but its not clear where those funds are reflected in the budget.
- Department of Energy and Environment (Volume 4, page F-23) — DOEE’s overall budget cut is 22%. Two programs the ANC has supported with testimony in the past are proposed to be cut: (1) the lead pipe replacement program would be cut by \$261,740, and (2) the Clean Rivers Impervious Area (CRIAC) relief program would be cut by \$3,870,831, essentially eliminating the program that has benefitted Knollwood, Ingleside, Temple Sinai and other non-profits by reducing their CRIAC charges.

- Department of Transportation (Volume 4, page F-85) — DDOT’s budget is reduced by a modest 1%, and it’s not possible to tell based on the amount of detail provided whether there are any programs in our area that would be affected. The major construction projects on Oregon Avenue and the Chestnut Street sidewalks (both funded in the capital budget) presumably will not be affected, though it’s not possible from the budget documents to determine that with certainty. I’ve asked Councilmember Todd if he can find out.
- Department of Aging and Community Living (Volume 4, page E-13) — The overall budget is reduced by 4.7%, and the contracted services budget is reduced by 7.0%. It is not clear what is proposed for the Around Town DC program run by Iona Senior Services — the substitute for the lack of a brick-and-mortar Senior Center in Ward 3.
- DC Public Schools (Volume 5, page 148) — The capital budget proposes \$56.354 million in FY 2023-FY 2025 for a new Foxhall Elementary School to be located at the site of the Old Hardy School. This is intended to relieve the crowding at elementary schools in the Wilson Feeder System.
- Board of Elections (Volume 2, page A-1) — There’s no acknowledgment of the change in voting for the November election. Presumably, it will again rely heavily on mail-in voting and less on 144 precinct voting sites. It is not clear what the impact is on the budget, but there’s nothing in the budget to address the question.
- Office of Advisory Neighborhood Commissions (Volume 2, page A-103) — The ANC budget was reduced by only 0.5%, and there is no change in the District’s allotments to ANCs — about \$4700 a quarter for our ANC.

The Council’s budget hearings begin this week and continue through mid-June. Because of the coronavirus emergency, all the hearings are being held virtually, and each committee sets its own rules. The opportunity for live public testimony on video is very limited — some committees have no live testimony from public witnesses and others allot only a minute or two for each witness. The alternative to live testimony is either written testimony — which the committees request be submitted in advance but may be accepted for the record after the hearing date — or call and record a three-minute testimony that will be transcribed for the record.

The ANC’s testimony will probably have the most impact if we focus on the issues that are most important to our community. They fall into four categories.

1. **The future of the Chevy Chase Gateway** — With the addition of \$20 million for the Library’s modernization and the funding of the Community Center at the same \$19 million level, there is an opportunity to merge these two projects. This will facilitate designing the entire, unified campus and could result in cost savings over doing them separately. We might also urge the Council to move up the Library project until 2023 since the Community Center will necessarily be delayed.

The Library/Community Center project should not be considered in isolation from the rest of the Chevy Chase Gateway. Regardless of the status of the proposed

Comp Plan revisions, there should be a Small Area Plan for this important entrance to the city. The Office of Planning doesn't have budget to contract to conduct a Small Area Plan, but the Director has indicated that they could use internal resources, coupled with help from universities and housing experts in the community to prepare a plan.

The Mayor proposes to provide \$100 million to the Housing Production Trust Fund to support affordable housing. This subsidy could be used as part of the funding for the Library/Community Center project if, as proposed in our Comp Plan resolution, the Library and possibly the Community Center includes affordable housing, depending on the product of the Small Area Plan.

Our proposed testimony would be submitted to the Committee of the Whole and the Committees on Recreation and Youth Affairs, Education, and Housing. It would propose a consolidation of the Community Center and Library capital projects to be spent in FY 2023. That would give time to work with the Office of Planning on a Small Area Plan that would guide the Community Center/Library modernization. The testimony will rely on the ANC's Comp Plan resolution.

The Commission approved the proposed testimony on the future of the Chevy Chase Gateway by a vote of 6 to 0, subject to Commissioners' review of the final testimony.

2. **Support for Small Businesses** — Our small businesses have been hit particularly hard by the pandemic. The District has provided \$33 million in microgrants. It's not clear in the budget documents what additional funding, if any, will be available to small businesses. The Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development has taken the lead in the grant programs, but its 31% budget cut suggests that there may not be sufficient support for small businesses. Our testimony can raise this question and urge support for small businesses in our area.

The Commission approved the proposed testimony on support for Small Businesses by a vote of 6 to 0, subject to Commissioners' review of the final testimony.

3. **CRIAC and Lead Pipe Replacement** — DOEE's proposed budget strips funding for these two important programs. The pandemic has hit non-profits — particularly Knollwood and Ingleside — very hard, and the ending the CRIAC relief fund will severely impact them. The lead pipe replacement program is a small step to addressing a significant public health problem. Funding for both of these programs should be restored.

The Commission approved the proposed testimony supporting continued funding of the CRIAC Relief program and the lead pipe replacement program by a vote of 6 to 0, subject to Commissioners' review of the final testimony.



4. **Support for continuing seniors programs** — It appears that funding to Iona Senior Services for Around Town DC as a virtual senior center for residents west of Rock Creek Park will continue. Commissioner Speck moved that the Commission submit testimony before the Committee on Housing supporting this program.

The Commission approved the proposed testimony supporting budget funding for Around Town DC by a vote of 6 to 0, subject to Commissioners' review of the final testimony.

**Commission Business (00:00:00)**

The Commission voted to approve the minutes from the April 27<sup>th</sup> meeting 6-0.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:25 pm.