



District Bridges Mission

To enrich neighborhood vitality by bridging community engagement and economic development opportunities so residents, businesses and organizations can thrive together.

Our Programs

District Bridges invests in communities and supports local businesses. Specifically, we manage the Columbia Heights|Mount Pleasant, Lower Georgia Avenue, U Street, Logan Circle, Cleveland Park, and Chevy Chase Main Street programs funded in part by the DC Department of Small and Local Business Development (DSLBD). Additionally, District Bridges develops and spearheads initiatives that offer a comprehensive approach to small business technical assistance such as the Business Preservation Assistance Program (BPAP), Access to Capital, workshops and seminars, and more. Through these programs, we support community-based economic development across eight neighborhoods in Northwest DC.

ANC 3/4G Report - October 2022

Chevy Chase Main Street

Recent Activities

1. First Fridays

▪ CCMS hosted a community engagement event on October 7th that included a live puppet show from Beech Tree Puppets, cookies from Captain Cookie & The Milkman, Pumpkin Painting sponsored by Safeway, games, balloons, and DJ Farrah Flosscet, as well as promotions from local businesses. We will continue the event the First Friday of every month, excluding December and January. Our next FF event will be November 4th with a magic show, funnel cakes, live jazz trio, and martial arts demonstration.

2. Art Walk

▪ Chevy Chase Main Street was a sponsor of ChArt's Art Walk and CCMS provided informational materials to artists and studios participating in an effort to increase visibility and awareness of Main Street and District Bridges. Information regarding CCMS and District Bridges membership was available at select studios and informational booths.

3. Spooktacular

▪ Chevy Chase Main Street supported local business, Child's Play, in coordinating with the commercial corridor for an organized trick-or-treating effort on Halloween, Monday October 31st. CCMS provided business outreach, marketing, and organizational support while Child's Play provided balloon distribution to participating businesses.

Recent Technical Assistance

- CCMS served as a liaison between Salon Familia and Comcast/Xfinity in a conflict regarding hazardous powerline obstructing the door of their salon resulting in the line finally being repaired. (Issue was first brought to CCMS's attention in September after the business owner had struggled to find the company responsible for the cable.)
- CCMS is currently supporting Harmonic Studios in an online recruitment strategy to attract more applicants to their open positions.

- CCMS is providing assistance to Lee's Laundry regarding a broken door at the back of the property.

Current Issues

- CCMS is currently seeking to add new NSC members and increase NSC and volunteer engagement. CCMS is particularly interested in increasing NSC membership across socioeconomic, gender, race, and age spectrums. Anyone interested should reach out at ccms@districtbridges.org
- Businesses across the corridor are struggling with staffing shortages. CCMS will be adding a new column to our community newsletter and a highlight on our Instagram with job openings in the hopes to spread the word to a wider audience about openings and positions available throughout the neighborhood.
- CCMS would like to coordinate a community effort to garden in our local tree boxes. Any community group or organization that has an interest in contributing to the health, ecology, and beauty of our commercial corridor, please contact ccms@districtbridges.org

Announcements

***Holiday Lights** - Kicking off November 18th, Holiday Lights DC returns this year for another engaging display of lights and holiday decorations around the corridor to encourage shopping local around the holidays. CCMS is still looking for volunteers as well as sponsors for the event, with marketing opportunities that have up to 1.2 million online impressions. Find out more here: <https://dcholidaylights.org/>

December 3rd, there will be a community event to highlight the Holiday Lights Festival and promote small businesses in the corridor. CCMS will partner with Ch/Art to host an art market along Connecticut Ave. All businesses along Connecticut Ave and side streets are encouraged to host an activity or have a promotion to attract customers.

***Call Box Restoration Project** - The Call Box Restoration Project has completed the Call Box at Connecticut and Oliver Street. Babe King's proposal was selected, and she designed a green and gold exterior with a photo of an early Chevy Chase Railroad trolley car and the history of the trolley's importance in the development of Chevy Chase. The photo and history are on a metal plate to withstand the weather. Babe has a personal interest in the Call Boxes as her grandparents lived on Connecticut Ave, in one of the first houses, where the Exxon station is now. Congratulations to Maise Derlega and the team of Sarah Joyce-McCarron, Laura McCarron, and Danielle Benaka. The committee has selected these two proposals to honor Vera Ruben, the astronomer who discovered the phenomenon of "Dark Matter" in 1978, while working at the Carnegie Institute on Broad Branch Road. Maise is 15 years old and a student at Jackson-Reed High School. The art will be installed at the Call Box at 32nd and Jocelyn Streets.

There are several more Call Boxes which have been restored and are ready to be painted and finished.

The committee is looking for historical input for the two remaining boxes on Connecticut Ave. The neighborhood survey, conducted last spring, showed that there was interest in historical information for the boxes on Connecticut Ave. Suggestions have been offered for images of the Avalon Theater, The Arcade Building, and the Streetcar building. A map of the development of the area also would be of interest. Historical figures who have lived in the neighborhood would be suitable such as the 3 civil rights workers, Julian Bond, James Reeb & James Farmer, two

Tuskegee Airmen and others. There is excellent information and photographs on the Historic Chevy Chase DC website: <https://www.historicchevychasedc.org>

Two other call boxes under consideration are at McKinley and Chevy Chase Parkway and Rittenhouse at 33rd St. The survey suggestions for these neighborhood boxes were; art work, famous people who lived in the area, Sears/Kit homes, artists such as Morris Louis and Kenneth Noland, Rock Creek Park, Fort DeRussy, etc.

As funds are available more Call Boxes will be added to the list. All donations are welcome but Donors who give \$1,000 will have their names added to the call boxes with a plate on the box. There are approximately 8 – 10 boxes that could be refurbished and add to the charm of our neighborhood.

Donations for the Call Boxes should be sent to Edward Hayes, 3206 Morrison St, NW, Washington DC 20015 or contact ehayes1635@gmail.com

Proposals for the Call Boxes: Submit jpgs of drawings, sketches, photographs of design, along with a short paragraph describing the proposed Call Box Transformation.

Send proposals to: ccms@districtbridges.org

Learn more: Anna Claire Walker, 202-929-8121, annaclaire@districtbridges.org, [IG/Facebook/Twitter](#)