



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

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ANC 3/4G Resolution On
Proposal to Surplus a Portion of the
Community Center-Library Site
January 23, 2023

BACKGROUND & RATIONALE

- 1) ANC 3/4G has played a crucial role over many years in seeking positive change in Chevy Chase DC that would help fulfill the community's role as a full partner with the District and protect and enhance the qualities that attract people here.
- 2) The Commission and a task force of residents carefully analyzed city-drafted amendments to the Comprehensive Plan, sought changes to better pursue District goals for a diverse and inclusive community and made specific recommendations for change.
- 3) The Commission lobbied to have funded a small area planning process that identified the Community Center-Library as a primary locus for change, a place to revitalize crucial public institutions and provide mixed-income and affordable housing.
- 4) The Commission adopted goals for the share of affordable housing at this site, the depth of affordability and the possibility of homeownership that exceeded the city's own goals. ADD CITE TO THIS
- 5) Since the Council adopted the Chevy Chase Small Area Plan on July 12, 2022, ANC 3/4G commissioners have continued to work with District agencies to prepare budgets for the Community

Center-Library project and offer proposals on how new zoning could open the way for responsible change.

- 6) On November 15, 2022, the office of the Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development (DMPED), notified the ANC that it would conduct a “Public Surplus” hearing on Dec. 15, 2023, to “obtain community input...to inform the Mayor’s determination whether a portion of the [Community Center-Library site] is no longer required for public purposes...”
- 7) The DMPED notice was the first time in its years of involvement with the city about the future of the site that commissioners had heard about public surplus. The notification met only the bare minimum legal requirement for public notice. The hearing was scheduled for the midst of the holiday season.
- 8) Only after intensive work by the Commission, including meetings with members of the Council, did DMPED agree to delay the hearing until January 12, 2023, and extend the comment until February 9, 2023. The Commission has prepared this resolution to meet the February deadline.

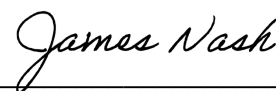
RESOLVED

- 9) ANC 3/4G believes that surplussing of any sort at this time is *not appropriate*, in part, because the Commission and the community lack the details necessary to make an informed choice.
- 10) Whether the ANC would ever be in a position to support surplussing remains to be seen, but support of surplussing cannot even be considered unless and until DMPED works with the Commission to develop and execute a substantial community engagement process that gives residents the opportunity to offer suggestions and site priorities *prior to* a surplussing decision and issuance of a Request for Proposal (RFP).
- 11) The ANC calls on DMPED to *extend its timeline* for the Community Center-Library project and *work jointly and closely with the Commission* to develop and execute a comprehensive planning process. The process must include a series of public charrettes using Arc/GIS software to provide visual material and factual details residents need in order to usefully participate. The process also must include independent, disinterested experts chosen by the ANC with community input who look at the Community Center-Library complex to determine whether surplussing is warranted and, if so, under what conditions with particular attention to the feasibility of including affordable, social, and/or workforce housing in the complex.

APPROVED at a regular public meeting, notice of which was properly given and at which a quorum of four (4) or seven (7) members was present on January 23, 2023 by a vote of **6** yes, **0** no, **0** abstentions.



Lisa R Gore, Chair



James L Nash, Secretary

