



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

Chevy Chase, Barnaby Woods, Hawthorne

5601 Connecticut Avenue N.W. P.O. Box 6252 Washington, D.C. 20015
3G@anc.dc.gov | <http://www.anc3g.org> | YouTube: ANC3G | Office: 202.363.5803

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March 27, 2023

Matthew Frumin
Ward 3 Councilmember
John A. Wilson Building
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C., 20004

Janeese Lewis George
Ward 4 Councilmember
John A. Wilson Building
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20004

Dear Councilmember's Frumin and Lewis George:

I am writing to you to provide ANC 3/4G's FY 2024 budget priorities. I request that you consider and include the ANC's recommendations when the Council is considering the Mayor's proposed budget and when it completes its budget mark-up process.

ANC 3/4G's budget priorities are a result of listening to constituent's concerns over the course of many years. This includes resident and community testimony at ANC meetings, agency presentations, separate neighborhood meetings, and community walk throughs. While ANC 3/4G has been fortunate in respect to the delivery of many District services, we, like other communities, have long-standing issues that have remained unaddressed across the years.

As you will see, the major touch points in this years recommendations are agencies that fall under Operations and Infrastructure. We also ask that your offices prioritize our requests for the Chevy Chase Civic Core and our requests for Public Education Systems.

Budgets are moral documents. We request your consideration of our requests to ensure the broader Chevy Chase community receives the level of service it deserves. We look forward to working with your offices in this matter.

Sincerely,

Lisa R. Gore,
Chair, ANC 3/4G

ANC 3/4G FY2024 Budget Requests

Economic Development and Regulation

Chevy Chase Civic Core (DMPED)

The ANC urges the Council to fully fund the public facilities in a reimagined Chevy Chase Civic Core that will include a new Community Center, Library, open/recreation space, and parking along with mixed-income, dedicated affordable housing.¹ Although the scope of this project cannot be fully defined now, the funding in the Mayor's proposed FY 2024 capital budget is not sufficient and must be increased for FY 2025 and FY 2026 in order to meet the community's requirements.

Fund Home buying Opportunities for DC Government Employees (DHCD)

ANC 3/4G has been a strong advocate for homeownership opportunities in our ANC area and throughout the District. In December 2022, the ANC passed the Task Force on Racism's Housing working group recommendations² that set out ways to explore reversing the exclusionary housing practices of the past by encouraging a variety of housing options that will be attainable for residents with a wider range of incomes and backgrounds. In this spirit, the ANC would like to see the District increase its investments in grant funding for programs, specifically the Employer Assisted Housing

¹ The Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development (DMPED) held a "surplus" hearing on January 12, 2023, to consider whether a portion of the Civic Core site is no longer needed for public purposes. Memorandum from Gilles Stucker, Director of Strategic Initiatives, to ANC 3/4G Commissioners, re "Chevy Chase Civic Site — Public Surplus Hearing (revised)," December 9, 2022. On January 23, 2023, ANC 3/4G adopted a resolution indicating 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." ANC 3/4G Resolution On Proposal to Surplus a Portion of the Community Center-Library Site, January 23, 2023, paragraph 9. Capital funding for the new Community Center and Library is necessary, however, regardless of whether the site can or should be used for any other purpose, e.g., for dedicated affordable housing.

² The Housing Working Group produced seven (7) recommendations that can be found in the summary resolution, Resolution Reporting the Action of the 2021-2022 Commission on the 2020 Task Force on Racism's Community, Education and Mental Health, and Housing Work Group Recommendations, December 12, 2022, pages 4-7.

Program and programs serving middle income workers, that provide homeownership opportunities for DC government employees.

Operations and Infrastructure

Invest in Traffic Safety and Calming (DDOT)

Traffic infrastructure and safety has been a long-standing concern in our ANC area and we encourage the District to continue to make robust investments in comprehensive traffic safety measures and provide appropriate solutions to communities timely.

DDOT's budget should include funding for infrastructure improvements and traffic safety measures relating to the following:

- Connecticut Avenue: Excess speeding;
- Western Avenue: Paving up to Broad Branch Road; excess speeding;
- Pinehurst Circle: Additional crosswalk installation; better directional signage; sidewalks around the entire circle;
- Utah Avenue: Excess speeding;
- Oregon Avenue: Crosswalks to enter Rock Creek Park;
- Lafayette Elementary School: Additional crossing guards; and
- Chevy Chase Circle: New crosswalk installation.

Restore the E6 Bus Route (WMATA)

The ANC has provided WMATA's General Manager and CEO and its Board of Directors our input into the agency's FY24 budget³. Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, our community enjoyed the use of the E6 bus route which provided essential bus service for seniors, school-aged children, and all our residents, but most significantly those living in the Chevy Chase, Barnaby Woods, and Hawthorne neighborhoods that relied on it to get to work. WMATA has not restored this route post pandemic leaving those most in need without a viable mass transportation option. As such, the ANC wants funding for this route to be restored in the agency's FY24 budget.

Fund Stormwater Management Efforts in Barnaby Woods (Multi-agency effort)

\$250,000 to pay or reimburse costs of conducting an as-built survey of one or more privately constructed stormwater conveyance networks in Barnaby Woods, repairing or replacing the conveyances and other network components, and connecting or reconnecting the networks to the District's stormwater system.

Lead Service Line Replacement (DC Water)

The Council established by law The Lead Service Line Planning Task Force to develop an interagency plan for the removal and replacement of all lead water service lines by

³ <https://anc3g.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/2023-03-15-WMATA-FY24-Budget-Comments.pdf>

2030.⁴ Include provisions in the budget to ensure DC meets its 2030 goal of replacing all lead service lines that are in line with the Task Force recommendations, including fully funding a block-by-block replacement strategy, developing a complete inventory of remaining lead service lines, and funding the purchases of water filters for households that have lead service lines or service lines of unknown materials.

Improve the Districts Home Composting Program (DPW)

DC's 2013⁵ Sustainable DC Plan cites an ambitious Zero Waste goal for the District to divert 80 percent of solid waste away from landfill and waste-to-energy by 2032. This goal was codified into law through the enactment of the Sustainable Solid Waste Amendment Act of 2014.⁶ The ANC requests investments to raise the homeowner composting maximum rebate from \$75 to \$100 to encourage broader program participation and continued program investments to meet its 2032 goal.

Public Education System

Lafayette Elementary School Budget Shortfall (DCPS)

Lafayette Elementary School's (LES) initial FY24 budget is \$10.5M which represents a \$554.9K (5.26%) decrease from the FY23 submitted budget⁷. This budget decrease comes in the midst of the FY23-24 enrollment projection of 901 students which represents an increase from the previous fiscal year. Most schools across the District received this same 5% cut, which makes a case that the decrease in funding is arbitrary. LES' funding should at the very minimum be maintained at FY23 budget levels.

Lafayette-Pointer Recreation Center Field Repairs and Lighting (DPR)

The District's failure to address deteriorating conditions at the Lafayette-Pointer field and poor lighting have occurred over the span of nearly 10 years. The field's deteriorated condition is a direct result of improper construction and field neglect, all resulting in major stormwater management issues. The lights in the park's upper field have been off for 8 years. The community was promised that funding would be allocated to DPR to correct the stormwater management issues prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, however, as of this date the repairs have not been funded. DPR's Ready2Play Parks and Recreation Master Plan 2022⁸ indicates budget investments for

⁴ <https://code.dccouncil.gov/us/dc/council/code/sections/34-2162>

⁵ <https://sustainable.dc.gov/sdc2>

⁶ <https://code.dccouncil.gov/us/dc/council/laws/20-154#%25C2%25A7102>

⁷ https://dcpsbudget.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/Lafayette-ES_FY24_Initial_Budget-1.pdf

⁸ DPR's Read2Play Master plan indicates budget investments for Lafayette-Pointer Recreation Center in FY31 <https://ready2playdc.com/> (page 149).

Lafayette-Pointer Recreation Center are scheduled for FY31 - eight years away. The community would have waited nearly 20 years for improvements at this site by that time. The ANC strongly and urgently demands funding in DPR's FY23 budget to repair the field and correct the lighting on the upper field.

Human Support Services

Fund a Senior Wellness Center in Ward 3 (DACL)

ANC 3/4G has long advocated for a brick-and-mortar senior wellness center in Ward 3. The Commission's June 27, 2016, resolution⁹ called on the Mayor, the DC Office on Aging, the Department of Parks and Recreation, and the Councilmembers representing Wards 3 and 4 "to establish a fully-funded senior wellness center for Wards 3 and 4 West of Rock Creek Park by 2017." Ward 3 seniors continue to be underserved without a physical senior wellness center that is reasonably accessible to them. The Department of Aging and Community Living (DACL) operates six physical senior wellness centers located in Wards 1, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8. DACL also supports a "virtual" senior wellness center — AroundTownDC¹⁰ — for Wards 2 and 3. AroundTownDC provides a valuable service by sponsoring activities and connecting seniors to these and other available activities, however, it does not address seniors' critical need for a physical place to gather and to receive wellness services. Senior wellness centers are a significant element in the District's strategy for addressing social isolation among older adults. A brick-and-mortar center will also provide the opportunity to co-locate other needed senior services. DACL's FY23 budget allocated \$500,000 to support a feasibility study, planning, and design process for a senior wellness center in Wards 2 and 3. The full allocation was included in the Capital budget.¹¹ The ANC supports Ward 3 Councilmember Matthew Frumin's FY23 budget request that, per DACL's request, "\$300,000 of those funds be transferred to the Operating budget for the completion of the study and planning process and that \$200,000 be retained in the CIP budget for a subsequent initial project design phase."¹²

Public Safety and Justice

Safety Patrols on Connecticut Avenue (MPD)

⁹ <https://anc3g.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/09/Senior-Wellness-Center-resolution-2016.pdf>

¹⁰ <https://www.aroundtowndc.org/>

¹¹ Table BY0-1, FY23 Approved: https://cfo.dc.gov/sites/default/files/dc/sites/ocfo/publication/attachments/by_dacl_chapter_2023j.pdf

¹² See Councilmember Frumin's DACL budget request, page 9, at <https://mattfruminward3.com/councilmember-frumins-fy2024-budget-priorities/>

The ANC previously had a patrol officer that was frequently posted along the Connecticut Avenue coordinator in our ANC area. We request funding for one (1) MPD patrol officer along this important business and residential corridor.

Governmental Direction and Support

Address Lafayette Elementary School's Work Order Backlog (DGS)

The District has sought to improve its delivery of quality service improvements to school work orders but this remains problematic to many schools across the District, including Lafayette Elementary School (LES). According to DGS' Public Work Order Dashboard¹³, as of this March 12, 2023, LES had 25 outstanding work orders. The dashboard also indicates many of the work orders have an estimated completion date in 2022. The timely completion of school related repairs is critical to the safe learning environments of students and enjoyable working environments of school staff. We strongly urge sufficient funding in DGS' FY24 budget to immediately repair LES' outstanding work orders. It is also recommended that improvements to the DGS dashboard are fully funded to show costs to the entire cycle of the work order management process, including initiation, in progress, estimated completion dates, work team assignment status, and priority levels. If completion dates are not met, the system should indicate that lag time in work order completion by days.

Strengthen the Office of Advisory Neighborhood Commissions (OANC)

The ANC is pleased that the FY23 budget for the OANC¹⁴ was enhanced to improve the agency's operational functions, including additional Full Time Equivalents (FTE's) and one-time funding to procure critically needed hybrid meeting technology. The ANC strongly recommends that the Mayor continues her investments in the ANC program and would request additional investment in hybrid meeting technology for ANCs in the upcoming FY24 budget. Many ANCs are struggling with understanding the correct technology that is needed to make hybrid meetings successful, and the costs of this equipment is an additional burden to the ANC community. Additionally, the ANC advocates to include salaries/stipends for Commissioners.

¹³ https://dataviz1.dc.gov/t/OCTO/views/DGSPublicWorkOrderData/OpenWorkOrders?iframeSizedToWindow=true&%3Aembed=y&%3Atoolbar=no&%3AshowAppBanner=false&%3Adisplay_count=n&%3AshowVizHome=n&%3Aorigin=viz_share_link

¹⁴ https://cfo.dc.gov/sites/default/files/dc/sites/ocfo/publication/attachments/dx_anc_chapter_2023j.pdf