



VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

March 15, 2023

Councilmember Matthew Frumin, Ward 3
Council of the District of Columbia
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20004
E: mfrumin@dccouncil.gov

Re: Chevy Chase Civic Site

Dear Councilmember Frumin,

Thank you for your letter dated February 9th, 2023 related to the future of the the Chevy Chase Civic Site, which is located at 5601 and 5625 Connecticut Avenue NW (the “Civic Site”) and home to the Chevy Chase Community Center and Chevy Chase Neighborhood Library.

The future of the Civic Site will be guided by the Comprehensive Plan and recently completed Chevy Chase Small Area Plan, as well as the need for a new District-owned library and community center and affordable housing. Further, the Administration’s goal is to deliver an additional 36,000 new units of housing and to increase the supply of dedicated affordable housing by 12,000 units by 2025. The Rock Creek West Planning Area has the fewest dedicated affordable units, with less than 1% of the District’s total dedicated affordable units. The Housing Equity Report and the District’s Comprehensive Plan set a goal for a minimum of 15% of each planning area’s housing units to be affordable by 2050. To chart a path toward a more equitable and inclusive future, Rock Creek West has the highest goal of 1,990 dedicated affordable housing units by 2025. Maximizing housing and the percentage of affordable housing on the Civic Site is an important element to building a more inclusive Rock Creek West.

DMPED has met extensively with the ANC and Councilmember Frumin’s office to share our vision for the ongoing community engagement to inform the Civic Site’s future. We are currently undertaking the legislatively mandated surplus and disposition processes outlined in D.C. Code 10-801. The January 12, 2023 public surplus hearing was widely attended in person and online, and many written comments were received through the extended comment period. We agree that the surplus resolution for the Civic Site should be transmitted to Council only after a Request for Proposals (RFP) for the development of the Civic Site has be issued.

John Falcicchio
Deputy Mayor



The ANC requested that the District conduct a community survey related to the library and community center. We look forward to providing the Council and ANC with the community survey results, which will assist the agencies in the development of the new library and community center. We were pleased to provide the ANC with 3,500 5"x7" community survey cards and posters so that the SMDs may fully canvass their constituents. The agencies' community survey canvassing efforts included sending emails to 20,000 residents who use the community center and 11,000 library cardholders, canvassing local businesses, social media postings, and promoting the community survey in the library and community center.

In order to ensure that all stakeholders have continued meaningful input into the RFP, DMPED has determined to use the OurRFP process for the Civic Site. This reflects our commitment to an inclusive process that provides structured avenues for meaningful community input, as well as provides maximum transparency and public education about the surplus and disposition processes. The OurRFP will provide DMPED with a further understanding of the community's major goals for the redevelopment of the Civic Site, as well as provide the community with an understanding of how the future of the Civic Site will contribute to the District's planning goals. Details of the OurRFP process will be provided in the coming weeks.

My staff looks forward to maintaining regular communications with the Civic Site community. Should you have any questions or concerns about the Civic Site going forward, continue to contact Gilles Stucker, Director of Strategic Initiatives, at 202.285.2148 or gilles.stucker@dc.gov.

Sincerely,



Sarosh Olpadwala
Director of Real Estate

Enclosure(s)

Cc: Janeese Lewis George, Ward 4 Councilmember
Lisa Gore, ANC 3/4G Chairperson
Gilles Stucker, Director of Strategic Initiatives

