

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

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COMMISSIONERS

3/4G-01 - Lisa R. Gore, Chair 3/4G-02 - Bruce Sherman 3/4G-03 - James Nash, Secretary 3/4G-04 - Michael Zeldin 3/4G-05 - Peter Lynch 3/4G-06 - Peter Gosselin, Vice Chair 3/4G-07 - Zachary Ferguson, Treasurer

ANC 3/4G Resolution Assessing the Community Center-Library Survey With Recommendations December 11, 2023

SUMMARY

The ANC has conveyed to the Office of the Mayor, the Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development (DMPED), the Office of Planning (OP) and members of the Council the results of its recent survey of residents about the future of the Chevy Chase Community Center-Library. This resolution assesses the project in light of those results and recommends next steps and reaffirms the Commission's position in support of affordable housing at the Civic Core site.

BACKGROUND:

- 1) The District's proposals for the Community Center-Library site include three elements:
 - Redevelop the site to build new or renovate the existing Community Center and Library and, in addition, incorporate housing, including affordable housing;

- Declare a portion of the site as no longer needed for public purpose thereby making it available for sale or lease to support affordable housing through a process known as "surplussing."
- Recommend new zoning for the site to permit the new development.
- 2) Since at least 2019, the District <u>has framed its proposals</u> for the Community Center-Library site as part of a broader plan to increase density along upper Connecticut Avenue NW and elsewhere to alleviate a citywide shortage of affordable housing. Its goal is to encourage development of 12,000 new, affordable units by 2025, including 1,990 in Rock Creek West, a Districtdesignated planning zone that encompasses much of Ward 3 and parts of Ward 4, and includes Chevy Chase DC.
- 3) DC data shows that since 2019, Rock Creek West has produced 93 units of affordable housing, or 4.7% of its 2025 target. Data on the District's effort to produce new affordable housing is available here: <u>https://open.dc.gov/36000by2025/</u>
- 4) The Commission has consistently supported the idea that the Chevy Chase community should contribute to solving the District's affordable housing problem, including by developing affordable units as part of the redevelopment of the Community Center-Library and/or adjacent sites. The Commission equally supports redevelopment or renovation of the Community Center and Library. Among examples of support by the ANC majority:
 - A <u>July 24 2023 vote</u> "strongly" supporting the need for affordable housing and committing to work with the District to help produce it;
 - A <u>May 8, 2023 vote</u> calling for removal of a century-old deed restriction on the Community Center-Library property to allow affordable housing at the location;
 - A <u>May 9, 2022 vote</u> calling for affordable housing at the Community Center-Library as part of the Chevy Chase Small Area Plan.
 - A <u>March 22, 2021 vote</u> on a series of proposals by its Task Force on Racism that, among other things, called for at least half of housing at the Community Center-Library site to be affordable, with an emphasis on affordability for households making 50 percent or less of median family income;
 - A <u>February 10, 2020 vote</u> calling for changes in amendments to the District's Comprehensive Plan to, among other things, require a Chevy Chase small planning process to work through density and affordable housing issues with residents and to ensure "affordable housing (in Chevy Chase) that will promote income diversity and enrich our civic life."
- 5) While the ANC has supported the community helping to solve the affordable housing problem in the District, it has repeatedly defended the right of residents

to have a strong voice in shaping the future of their community, including at the Community Center-Library site. Among examples:

- A <u>July 24, 2023 vote</u> to, among other things, urge DMPED and OP to delay pursuing zoning changes for upper Connecticut Avenue until the agencies receive results of an ANC survey that was being developed;
- A January 23, 2023 resolution opposing for the time being "surplussing" or transferring a portion of the Community Center-Library site to private ownership in return for affordable housing and saying that 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)."
- A <u>May 9. 2022 resolution</u> that makes the Commission approval of the Chevy Chase Small Area Plan (CCSAP) contingent on, among other things, the ANC and community having "a seat at the table" as the plan for upper Connecticut Avenue, including the Community Center-Library site is implemented.
- <u>April 26, 2021</u> and <u>February 22, 2021</u> resolutions expressing frustration with OP's management of the small area planning process for the Connecticut Avenue corridor and the Community Center-Library site and calling on the District to adopt a "more engaged and collaborative process" with the community in planning for its future.

ANC CIVIC CORE SURVEY

- 6) The survey is the latest effort by the ANC to gauge community views and convey those views to the District. A survey committee composed of ANC Chair Lisa Gore and Commissioners Bruce Sherman, James Nash and Peter Gosselin set itself two goals: to ensure "the community is heard on key issues of concern" and to provide data "to make actionable recommendations (to the District) that reflect key community development preferences" for the Community Center-Library site. The committee met weekly for four months to draft the survey instrument (June 13, 20, <u>27</u>; July <u>6</u>, <u>11</u>, <u>18</u>, <u>25</u>; Aug. <u>1</u>, <u>8</u>, <u>22</u>, <u>29</u>; Sept. <u>5</u>, <u>12</u>, <u>19</u>, <u>26</u>; Oct. 3 and <u>13</u>
- 7) The survey had respondents provide multiple types of demographic data to allow the ANC and DC decision makers understand which groups of residents are under-represented, over-represented, or equitably represented in the survey responses.

8) The resulting online survey was fielded from October 13 to November 12, 2023. Full results are available on the ANC website here. The Commission conveyed the results to the District in a December 6, 2023 resolution in which it said it would make the raw data, minus any personal identifiers available to District officials for review and analysis

ASSESSMENTS & RECOMMENDATIONS

- 9) The Commission's assessment is that the survey represents an important step in the community's engagement concerning the future of the Community Center-Library site, housing and affordable housing.
- 10) Further, the Commission's assessment is that the District is intent on redeveloping the Community Center-Library site with the addition of housing and affordable housing. Most immediately, DMPED is expected to issue a Request for Proposal (RFP) calling for development proposals for the site.
- 11) In such circumstances, the Commission concludes:
 - The right course for the Commission and the Chevy Chase community is to continue seeking to contribute to solving the District's affordable housing problem, including at the site.
 - The most productive use of the survey results is in pursuing the Survey Committee's second goal -- to make actionable recommendations to the District for inclusion in its pending RFP for the site that "reflect key community development preferences."
- 12) The Commission begins its recommendations by urging any potential developer of the Community Center-Library site to maintain the current amount of building square footage devoted to the public purposes of a Community Center and Library or to provide additional square footage for these purposes.
- 13) The Commission <u>reaffirms its position</u> that some housing should be built at the site in addition to the redevelopment of the Community Center and Library.
- 14) The Commission believes that housing at the site ought to be affordable by virtue of being on public property and in keeping with the purpose and intent of the Community Center-Library site. Understanding the financial constraints, if there must be some market-rate housing, it urges DMPED and the Mayor to work with a developer to ensure that the substantial majority of units at the site be affordable and that market-rate units be minimal.

- 15) The Commission asks that there be a mix of affordable and workforce housing at a variety of affordability levels with a focus on families and on affordability for households making 30 percent to 80 percent of area median income; that to the extent units are rental the District commit that those units will be kept permanently affordable, and that the District explore the possibility of including affordable homeownership opportunities at the site.
- 16) With the expectation that families are likely to move in, the Commission urges D.C. Public Schools (DCPS), the Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE) and other District agencies to plan for increases in school enrollment that may result from the new housing at the Community Center-Library site and elsewhere in Ward 3.
- 17) The Commission asks DMPED to incorporate into the RFP the full results of the ANC survey, including extensive written comments, as well as on community preferences that came to light in past ANC meetings and in the DMPED-sponsored OurRFP process that focus on:
 - Outdoor amenities;
 - Indoor amenities;
 - Design features;
 - Maximum building height;
 - Site density;
 - Level of affordability;
 - Types of affordable units;
 - Primary populations served, including seniors;
 - Use of space;
 - Underground parking.
- 18) The Commission asks DMPED to include in the RFP a special focus on three community development preferences highlighted by the survey results:
 - Open green space with recreational facilities:
 - Residents, including affordable housing advocates, have consistently told the ANC they want to see in any redevelopment of the site open green spaces with recreational facilities similar to the non-parking outdoor facilities that currently exist. The ANC has conveyed these views and OP has responded by reducing the proposed maximum permitted share of the site that buildings can occupy from 80 percent to 60 percent, a change that, if adopted, would leave more space for green and recreational facilities. This action by OP is a move in the right direction and an important one given the strong support for green space. Two survey questions highlight this point:

- Asked to allocate 15 points among five likely primary elements of a redeveloped site, respondents <u>allocated a</u> <u>cumulative 7,475 points</u> to this category behind only the top two point-getters, a "new or renovated library" and "...Community Center."
- <u>Asked to choose</u> seven outdoor amenities they would like at the site from among 16, nearly 80 percent chose "benches/outdoor seating," 78 percent chose "outdoor green space/gardens" and 66 percent chose "mature trees."
- Building height:

Residents in large numbers have warned against over-large buildings being erected at a redeveloped Community Center-Library site and expressed a strong preference for structures with a consistent scale and style to those in the immediate surrounding neighborhood. As with green space, many rersidents have told the ANC that they favor lower building heights and OP has responded by reducing an originally proposed maximum possible height for buildings at the site from 93.5 feet to 80 feet. Again, the reduction is an adjustment in the right direction.

- Among all respondents, only 393 of 2,564, or slightly more than 15 percent, <u>said they would support</u> a maximum building height of 80 feet (6-7 stories). Among ANC respondents, the share <u>saying they would support</u> 80 feet was only 13 percent.
- <u>Public land:</u> Since DMPED first publicly raised the possibility the District might "surplus" or transfer a portion of the Community Center-Library site to private ownership in return for affordable housing a year ago, the idea has galvanized opposition. Among all respondents, <u>more than 59 percent answered "no"</u> when asked whether they support such a transfer. Among ANC residents, <u>the "no's" accounted for 62 percent</u>. The Commission has discussed the issue of surplussing with DMPED and the Office of the Attorney General (OAG). DMPED has specifically opined that any development in which the District contributes public land for a low price or long-term lease in return for the production of affordable housing would require the property to be surplussed.
- 19) Given the community's strong desire for open green space with recreational facilities, the Commission asks DMPED to include in the RFP a preference for development proposals that include as much or more open space as the non-parking portions of the exterior space currently at the site and existing mature trees.

- 20) Given the concern about building heights, the Commission asks that DMPED include an RFP recomendation that no new building at the site be over 60 feet and a preference for proposals that concentrate height along the Connecticut Avenue side of the site to respect the scale of adjacent single-family homes.
- 21) Given the depth of opposition to surplussing shown in the survey, the Commission urges the Council, DMPED and OAG to immediately explore alternative legal options to convey public land for the production of affordable housing that allow for greater public control.
- 22) The Commission hopes and expects that any commercial uses of space such as for a café be modest and that non-profit providers be favored.
- 23) The Commission asks DMPED to provide any potential bidder responding to the RFP with the results of the survey as well as the ANC's resolutions related to the results. It asks all bidders to present their proposals to the community with a full range of visual representations including through the use of ArcGIS.
- 24) The Commission urges OP, DMPED and any future developer of the Community Center-Library site to work with and receive input from the ANC and the Chevy Chase community. The Commission reserves the right to request new site options and oppose proposals if they do not align with the ANC's and community's priorities.

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 December 11, 2023 by a vote of **4** yes (Gore, Nash, Lynch, Gosselin), **2** no (Sherman, Ferguson), **0** abstentions. Attached are dissenting opinions by Sherman and Ferguson and a concurring opinion by Lynch. Commissioner Zeldin was absent.

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Peter Gosselin, Vice Chair

James L. Nash, Secretary

Concurring Opinion of Peter Lynch Advisory Neighborhood Commissioner, ANC 3/4G-05 Re; ANC 3/4G's December 11 Resolution On the Chevy Chase Community Center and Library Site

I am the ANC 3/4G-O5 commissioner which includes the Civic Core. This resolution has valuable recommendations and these are still more to help achieve the best possible project:

- Nearly every community member would like to see a vibrant community center, library, and outdoor space that meets or exceeds the current level of programming and usage.. Five floors are currently used at the two civic buildings. This DPR <u>schedule</u> and <u>flier</u> highlight this usage. The library has computer work space, teen space, a children's rooms, a used book store, and a reading section on two floors. These should remain or be improved.
- Retail space does not align with the vision for a vibrant civic core. This could deplete the limited space for the many Civic Core purposes. The Friends of the Library operate a beloved used book shop. A cafe staffed by workers similar to DC's summer jobs program staff might help young people experience their first job. This is compatible with the public nature of the site but a for profit store is not.
- Adjacent neighbors on Northampton and McKinley streets are concerned about buildings overwhelming their homes. On behalf of my constituents, I strongly recommend any developer take the concerns of these residents seriously. Building height should be concentrated on Connecticut Avenue and away from their homes.
- Attaining the Wells Fargo and Safeway site may be difficult, but ANC 3/4G, Councilmember Frumin, and the Office of Planning have expressed a willingness to do this. I urge continued exploration of this option.

Many neighbors are concerned about diminished community space. The Small Area Plan opened up the idea for affordable housing as an acceptable and necessary addition. Market rate housing, for profit stores, and buildings that diminish the civic uses of these sites should not be proposed or developed and were never favored by the community. In an age of increased loneliness and division, the space we all share in our community centers, libraries, and outdoor spaces is all the more vital for us, the city, and its future generations.

Sincerely,

Peter Lynch

Dissenting Opinion of Bruce Sherman Advisory Neighborhood Commissioner, ANC 3/4G-02 Re; ANC 3/4G's December 11 Resolution On the Chevy Chase Community Center and Library Site

This dissenting opinion takes strong issue with ANC 3/4G's December 11 resolution on the District's proposed redevelopment of the Chevy Chase Community Center and Library site. The grounds are two-fold: the resolution fails (a) to uphold the expressed sentiment of ANC 3/4G constituents on the District's proposal and (b) to manifest this sentiment in full to the DC government. On both counts, the ANC fails in its most elemental mission.

As the Office of the Advisory Neighborhood Commissions makes clear, "The ANCs' main job is to be their neighborhood's official voice in advising the District government (and Federal agencies) on matters that affect their neighborhoods." How is ANC 3/4G to be Chevy Chase's neighborhood voice if it does not fully represent the voice of the neighborhood? And if ANC 3/4G does not do so, how are the neighbors to see the Commission as a credible, even legitimate institution?

ANCs are unique within the structure of DC government and indeed among cities across the US. Creatures of the legislature branch (the DC Council), not the executive branch (the Mayor's Office), ANCs are independent bodies operating at the hyperlocal level to bring government closer to the people. They are the closest local government comes to participatory democracy.

DC residents already have representation by their elected Councilmembers, who run and are elected with political party affiliations and established policy agendas. In contrast, Advisory Neighborhood Commissioners run with no party affiliations and no policy agendas. They are not meant to be activists; they're meant to be advocates for their constituents.

By law, ANCs are restricted in function and geographic scope. DC Code (1–309.10) establishes that "Each Advisory Neighborhood Commission ... may advise the Council of the District of Columbia, the Mayor and each executive agency ... with respect to all proposed matters of District government policy ... which affect that Commission area." Each of the 46 ANCs in the District exercises its advisory function by providing feedback to the District regarding its policies.

It is the DC government that in turn adjudicates policy, giving "great weight" to official ANC resolutions on pending matters before it. It does not fall to the ANCs to do this. Adjudicating, mediating, facilitating, arbitrating — any of these — expressly lies outside the ANCs' advisory-only remit. Rather, the role of the ANCs is to feed citizen views into

the decision-making calculus of the Mayor's Office and the Council. It is up to those bodies to do with this feedback what they will.

This is how DC government is designed and structured to work. Thus, when the District proposed to redevelop the Community Center and Library site to incorporate housing, including affordable housing, it was ANC 3/4G's job to solicit and communicate to the government the views of Chevy Chase residents on the proposal.

With initial delay and indecision but ultimately requisite resolve, ANC 3/4G conducted a survey of Chevy Chase residents, allowing non-residents to participate as well, to capture their views and preferences regarding the District's redevelopment plans. The response to the survey was unprecedented. In total, 2836 people participated, including 2297 in ANC 3/4G.

Overwhelmingly, by 60% to 37%, survey respondents opposed the District's plans. A majority of residents in every one of ANC 3/4G's seven single member districts was opposed to the proposed redevelopment. More women than men participated in the survey, but majorities of both were opposed. More Whites than Blacks participated in the survey, but majorities of both were opposed. More families without children under 18 than families with children under 18 participated in the survey, but majorities of both were opposed. More families without children under 18 than families with children under 18 participated in the survey, but majorities of both were opposed. More families without children under 18 than families with children under 18 participated in the survey, but majorities of both were opposed. More homeowners than renters participated in the survey, and while homeowners were significantly opposed, renters were evenly split even though they might have been expected to favor additional rental housing.

There is thus no case for an alternative outcome by, for example, weighting the data, as survey critics have proposed. Although weighting non-representative data is fraught with methodological challenges, it would not have mattered, in any event. The margins in opposition across broad neighborhood demographic cohorts were simply too wide.

There is also no arguing away the opposition to DC's redevelopment proposals by claiming only 20% of residents responded. The response rate was extraordinary, exceeding every past ANC 3/4G survey and even DC's District-wide survey in 2019 in support of the Housing Equity Report.

As with every community engagement since ANC 3/4G's inception, the survey was based on voluntary participation. If its outcomes are to be gainsaid because of some hypothetical desired response, by the same logic every decision ANC 3/4G has ever made would be reversed. None has been based on anything close to the broad resident feedback provided by the survey. To the contrary, scores of Commission decisions over the years have resulted from just a few dozen people attending a meeting or even fewer participating in task force and committee deliberations. There is thus no basis for rejecting the results of the survey on any question it posed. And, in fact, ANC 3/4G's resolution does not reject the results. Rather, it selectively applies them.

The resolution draws on the survey with respect to key elements of the proposed Community Center and Library site redevelopment to urge the District to provide adequate open/green space, to accommodate residents' concerns about excessive building heights, and to safeguard public stewardship of the property by avoiding surplussing. The resolution also references the survey as to myriad features and functions of new or renovated Community Center and Library facilities, and further credits it with providing key constituent criteria regarding affordable housing at the site.

Strikingly, what the resolution does not do is to honor the community's input on the key question of whether to proceed with the District's proposal at all. The public owns the Community Center and Library site. The public is supposedly guaranteed a voice through the ANC as to what happens at that site. But the public now sees its voice is silenced on the most salient point. Understandably, many of our Chevy Chase neighbors feel betrayed and see as little consolation that they can now attempt to shape an outcome they never wanted in the first place.

Why has the ANC chosen not to heed community sentiment on the District's proposed redevelopment? According to the resolution, "the Commission's assessment is that the District is intent on redeveloping the Community Center-Library site with the addition of housing and affordable housing. Most immediately, DMPED is expected to issue a Request for Proposal (RFP) calling for development proposals for the site." Therefore, the resolution continues, "The right course for the Commission and the Chevy Chase community is to continue seeking to contribute to a solution to the District's affordable housing problem, including at the site."

This central reasoning of the resolution amounts to abdication of the Commission's core responsibility to convey the community's position to DC government irrespective of anticipated outcome. Per the above explanation of the role of District ANCs, it is not the Commission's job to read the mind of DC government officials or game out scenarios. The Commission's job is to tell the District what our community thinks about its proposals.

Nor is it the Commission's job only to advise the District on how it can best accomplish its objectives. This opinion thus rejects that "the most productive use of the survey results is in pursuit of the survey committee's second goal -- to make actionable recommendations to the District for inclusion in its pending Request for Proposals (RFP) for the site that "reflect key community development preferences."

To the contrary, the ANC should voice with conviction and force the views of the community as expressed in the survey on the threshold issue of whether our residents

endorse what the District is offering, and let the chips fall where they may. To do otherwise is to deny our residents the voice in local governance they rightly deserve.

There was an alternative. The Commission could have heeded the majority view expressed in the survey and pushed back on District proposals as being at sharp variance with prevailing community sentiment. At the same time, it could have acknowledged significant minority support for housing at the Community Center and Library site and redoubled efforts to find compromise solutions that worked for the community as a whole. This would have served to diminish the divisions and discord in the community occasioned by the District's proposed redevelopment.

Next year, 2024, will usher in a host of new issues on which ANC 3/4G might well need to take a position, possibly on a revised Connecticut Avenue bike lane plan and new boundaries for DC public schools, including Lafayette Elementary. These issues, like the Community Center and Library site, merit strong community involvement. Our neighbors will again demand their voices be heard.

The Commission's resolution, in its selective disregard of our neighbors' present concerns, has raised serious doubts within the community that this will be the case. What's more, by not validating those concerns in full before the District government, the Commission has failed to be the critical check on DC government policies its role requires.

The result on both scores is a loss of confidence in the ANC itself among significant numbers of its constituents. Indeed, for these Chevy Chase residents, the resolution has called in question the ANC's own credibility and legitimacy.

Minority Opinion of Zachary Ferguson Advisory Neighborhood Commissioner, ANC 3/4G-07 Re; ANC 3/4G's December 11 Resolution On the Chevy Chase Community Center and Library Site

Dear Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development,

I submit this minority opinion as the Advisory Neighborhood Commissioner for singlemember district (SMD) 3/4G-07, which has its northern boundary at Military Road NW, only a few blocks from the Civic Core site. Our SMD boasts one of the highest levels of racial diversity within our ANC and includes an eclectic mix of housing, from singlefamily homes and duplexes to the tallest apartment in the ANC (5333 Connecticut Avenue) and the only public housing in Ward 3 (Regency House).

At our December 6 special meeting, ANC 3/4G passed a resolution conveying the results of a major ANC community survey to the Office of the Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development (DMPED). As the ANC 3/4G Treasurer, I know this was a significant investment of money (\$9,118), as well as countless volunteer hours. I am eager for the ANC, DMPED, and the public to look closely at what this rich data set tells us about resident views. The survey data has informed my understanding of community interests on this proposed redevelopment.

The resolution passed by ANC 3/4G at our December 11 meeting is a commendable and earnest effort to guide the District on the proposed Civic Core redevelopment amidst divided community opinions. It utilizes insights gained from the survey and many years of ANC engagement on this issue including prior surveys, resolutions, formal public comments, meetings, and conversations.

Despite agreeing with much of the resolution, I voted against it. The primary reason is the flurry of last-minute amendments introduced and accepted near the end of our meeting, which I found challenging to review and consider adequately in the time available.

One minor concern with the resolution is that imprecise wording can muddle the resounding call expressed by residents to see any new development offer bountiful green space, civic gathering space, and recreational space at this site.¹ The survey and the resolution voted on refer to "open/green space" and I fear that phrase could be

¹ Taking the liberty here to speak as a parent who regularly brings my kid to the existing playground and talks to other playground parents, we are excited to see long overdue investment in a new tot lot/playground that will bring joy to kids and families for generations to come. The current playground has long had plywood closing off a slide, lacks shade in the blistering summer months, and I know the DC Department of Parks and Recreation is capable of building something incredible for kids here.

misread. Currently, the site has two asphalt parking lots, and while they are technically 'open space,' they are not green, recreational, nor thoughtful civic gathering space. When residents talk about the need for abundant green space and recreational space, I do not think they are talking about asphalt parking lots unless explicitly discussing parking needs.

More significantly, while the survey and resolution appropriately attempt to address resident fears and concerns, I believe the resolution falls short in embracing the community's hopes and aspirations. In my interactions with neighbors and also found in survey comments, a recurring theme is the desire that teachers, home health aides, police officers, and other workers – who are indispensable to our community – can find housing for their families that allows them to live in the neighborhood they serve. Similarly, I hear from residents that want their children, who grow up in this great neighborhood, to be able to afford a home and start their own families here. The current housing market, with three-bedroom homes often exceeding \$1 million, poses a significant barrier to these aspirations. While no single project will solve that problem, each project has the ability in some way to make the affordable housing crisis better or worse.

Moreover, the history of housing and racial segregation in Chevy Chase, though not directly addressed in the survey, is a factor that a number of my constituents believe should inform the conversation of Chevy Chase's future. Our own ANC 3/4G passed a resolution in July 2018 touching on the forced removal of Black families in our ANC and nearby to build whites-only segregated public facilities.² Although this history can be painful to examine, it is important, and we have had groups like Historic Chevy Chase DC organize well-attended events that explore what this history of racial injustice tells us about our past, present, and future.

Finally, I want to highlight an aspect of ANC 3/4G-07 participation in the survey. The overall turnout is an impressive feat made possible by taxpayer funds, immense effort by the ANC Survey Committee and its volunteers, and of course resident participation. Within that overall response, ANC 3/4G-07 was the *least* represented among all seven SMDs in the survey, with roughly half as many responses as several other SMDs. And among all ANC 3/4G survey respondents, younger residents, racial minorities, and renters were significantly under-represented compared to current population data.

Survey takers were asked eight demographic questions because, as the survey stated, "having some basic information will help the ANC analyze and communicate the survey results." Although delays in completing the survey (originally scheduled for October)

² <u>https://anc3g.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/Adding-Capt-Pointers-name-to-Lafayette-Rec-Center.pdf</u> ANC 3/4G households are in-boundary for what is now Alice Deal Middle School, which opened in 1931 as a whites-only school developed in connection with the removal and displacement of Black residents.

have shortened the time available for analysis, it is my hope that DMPED will fully utilize the survey data. Specifically, I encourage a focused examination of the responses from under-represented groups in the survey, especially ANC 3/4G-07 residents, as their perspectives are crucial for gaining insights into the broader community's views and needs.

In closing, I hope that residents, the ANC, DMPED and other District partners can collaborate to bring state-of-the-art public facilities to this site in a way that addresses present concerns yet also aligns with the long-term vision and aspirations of the community and the District of Columbia.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Zachary Ferguson Advisory Neighborhood Commissioner ANC 3/4G-07