



**Government of the District of Columbia1**  
**ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 3/4G**

Chevy Chase, Barnaby Woods, Hawthorne

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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

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Minutes  
ANC 3/4G Public Meeting  
March 27, 2023

00:00:00      <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sTs0e5q0d3M> **Introduction of Commissioners, meeting procedures, adoption of agenda**

Commission Chair Lisa Gore (3/4G-01) called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Also present were Commissioners Bruce Sherman (3/4G-02), James Nash (3/4G-03), Peter Lynch (3/4G-05), and Zachary Ferguson (3/4G-07). Gore declared a quorum (at least four commissioners being present).

00:05:16 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sTs0e5q0d3M> **Commissioner Announcements**

Commissioner Ferguson's announcement was to remind residents that DC's Covid Centers were closing at the end of March. He expressed gratitude for the DC employees who staffed these centers during the pandemic and said that residents can still find COVID vaccines at retailers and pharmacies by searching [www.vaccines.gov](http://www.vaccines.gov) and find free rapid tests at <https://testinglocator.cdc.gov/>.

00:11:43 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sTs0e5q0d3M> **Community Announcements**

Tim Walsh, the owner and operator of the Capital Crab restaurant on Connecticut Avenue announced he had recently signed a lease for 5532 Connecticut Avenue, the former diner space. He said it is too early to get into the restaurant concept as the location is filled with rodents that must now be eradicated. He said he wants to work with the community about decorating the outdoor space of the project. The landlord owns millions of square feet around the country, and it took a long time to get the owners to focus on this “eyesore.”

Matthew Barclay, for the Mayor, made the following announcements:

- As a part of her proposed 2024 budget released last week, Mayor Muriel Bowser announced a plan to purchase up to \$90 million in medical debt, meaning the 90,000 D.C. residents with outstanding payments could see their debts erased this year. D.C. joins a [growing movement](#) of local governments across the country making similar moves.

D.C. will be using \$900,000 in surplus money from last year’s budget that was specifically set aside to address health inequities and racial disparities. The city will spend one penny on the dollar or \$1 for every \$100 of debt, according to a spokesperson with DCHF.

D.C. is seeking a third-party debt purchaser to buy the debt, and will accept proposals from those organizations through a Notice of Funding Announcement released Friday, March 31. They hope to finalize a purchaser by April or early May, who would then purchase the debt directly from the city’s hospitals. It’s unclear when exactly residents might see their outstanding debts erased. Once the hospitals reach an agreement with the selected grantee, the debt should be erased automatically.

- On February 23<sup>rd</sup>, Mayor Muriel Bowser announced that residents who own a 2011-2021 Kia or Hyundai vehicle will be eligible for a **free anti-theft device**
- Residents impacted can visit any MPD District stations to pick up a steering wheel lock on a first-come, first-serve basis and while supplies last.
- Residents who qualify for the steering wheel lock must have proof of the below:
  - A 2011-2021 Hyundai or Kia Vehicle
  - A steel key ignition (keyless entry/push-to-start vehicles are not impacted)
  - Proof of DC registration
  - A District ID
  - A District ID
- From February 20 through May 15, 2023, **DC Water will be conducting a routine, city-wide temporary switch in the drinking water’s disinfectant**, from chloramine to

chlorine. During this time, you may notice a slight change in the taste and smell of your drinking water.

- The Department of Small and Local Business Development (DSLBD) is accepting applications for the **2023 Robust Retail Citywide Grants**. These grants support existing DC-based retail businesses in maintaining operations and viability during the current small business crisis. DSLBD intends to award up to \$5,000 per business to approximately 100 businesses from the \$500,000 in available funding for the Fiscal Year 2023.
  - The deadline to apply is April 10, 2023, at 2 PM EST.
- **DPW will begin Posted Street Sweeping** on March 1, 2023. Every year between March and October our sweepers operate along residential streets where signs are posted restricting parking during street sweeping hours. DPW will issues warning from March 1, 2023, through March 10, 2023. After March 10, vehicles in violation of posted parking restrictions will be subject to a \$45 fine.

The service request for Holiday Tree collection closed on March 3, 2023. Residents can leave the tree at the point of collection. Please note, that trees will be collected with trash as space permits in the truck.

The alley cleaning service request is not available until April. If the condition of the alley needs immediate attention, please place a 311-service request for sanitation enforcement.

- **Expanded recreation center hours.** More information at the link below.  
<https://mayor.dc.gov/release/mayor-bowser-announces-expanded-hours-recreation-centers>
- **Expanded Hours at Recreation Centers**  
Weekday hours will expand from eight hours to 15 hours and Saturday hours will double from four hours to eight hours. In April, an additional 37 recreation centers will expand operating hours. The old weekend operating hours were 12 pm to 8 pm; the new weekday hours will be 6 am to 9 pm. The old Saturday hours were 9 am to 1 pm; the new Saturday hours will be 9 am to 5 pm.
- The first eight recreation centers to begin expanded hours on Monday, March 27 are listed below.
  - Columbia Heights Community Center (1480 Girard Street NW)
  - Emery Heights Community Center (5701 Georgia Avenue NW)
  - Turkey Thicket Recreation Center (1100 Michigan Avenue NE)
  - Edgewood Recreation Center (301 Franklin Street NE)
  - Deanwood Community Center (1350 49th Street NE)
  - Kenilworth Recreation Center (4321 Ord Street NE)

- Rosedale Recreation Center (1701 Gales Street NE)
- Barry Farm Recreation Center (1230 Sumner Road SE)
- We are pleased to share information about our new **Summer Camp Lottery Program**, which opens today for all DC residents and DC families interested in our summer recreational programming for children and youth.

[DPRsummercamp.com](https://dprsummercamp.com).

DPR will be offering over \$3 million in funding to organizations providing recreational programming to DC's youth. Having this grant authority provides DPR the opportunity to strengthen partnerships and build new ones, and to make a positive impact on our city by expanding opportunities for kids and young adults to be engaged in meaningful activities and events.

DPR will empower recreators in underserved communities with barriers to high quality and affordable recreation opportunities. Applications will be accepted on an on-going rolling basis until Tuesday, August 1, 2023 or until funds are exhausted.

Complete information about the program, including an application can be found at <https://recforallgrants.splashthat.com/>. Please feel free to share this information with organizations in your community that might be eligible.

- Mayor Bowser's FY24 budget proposal includes several investments to expand access to child care for District families, including:
  - Raising the eligibility for the childcare subsidy from 250% of the federal poverty line to 300% of the federal poverty line.
  - \$6.8M toward the Special Education Enhancement Fund. Part of this funding will be awarded to development facilities (including those that operate before/after school programs) with capacity to serve infants, toddlers and school-aged children with disabilities and developmental delays.
- Spring Into A New Career
  - -DC govt agencies will be giving on the spot job offers for opportunities in several industries.
  - -Martin Luther King Jr. Library, 901 G Street NW
  - -Wednesday, April 19th, 2023

Leigh Catherine Miles made the following announcements on behalf of Councilmember Frumin.

- Councilmember Frumin introduced the **Rent Stabilization Protection Amendment Act of 2023** on March 20. The bill applies rent stabilization protections like controls on rent increases to units rented to housing voucher recipients, ending the current exemption. The bill, which he crafted in consultation with the Office of the Tenant Advocate, is one critical step in addressing DCHA overpayments to landlords and creating a voucher system that serves all residents without jeopardizing existing rent-stabilized housing. You can find more information about the proposed legislation, including a one-pager highlighting key provisions, on the Councilmember's website at <https://mattfruminward3.com/rentstabilization/>
- The Council is the midst of budget oversight following the submittal of the mayor's proposed fiscal year 2024 budget last week. While recognizing that current economic conditions make this a challenging year for the city and budget, Councilmember Frumin remains convinced that the budget process can expand opportunity for all residents. He was heartened that in the mayor's proposal:
  - School-level budgets begin to reverse the serious cuts presented in the initial budgets, though we must do more to fully fund our schools.
  - Adds 7.9 million in DGS funding to aid in addressing the backlog of school-related work orders and ongoing maintenance issues.
  - Expands access to the Child Care Subsidy Program and will increase the number of families who can afford childcare, the costs of which are often a crushing burden.
  - Continues to make investments in sustainable multimodal transportation in Ward 3.
- While these investments are welcome, the Councilmember will be seeking ways to improve the FY24 budget to ensure a fair recovery for all Washingtonians. You can make your voice heard by participating in the budget oversight process and testifying at agency level hearings. Find more information about the budget process and how you can register to testify on the Council website at <https://www.dccouncilbudget.com/fy-2024-budget>

#### Constituent Services Update

- Chairman Mendelson will host an in-person Tax Town Hall on March 29th at 6:30pm to address the assessment increase in property tax. The Town Hall will take place at the Chevy Chase Library as Chevy Chase and Hawthorne are the 2 neighborhoods with the highest assessment increase in Ward 3. To RSVP, call 202.724.8032 or email [ChairmanCS@DCCouncil.gov](mailto:ChairmanCS@DCCouncil.gov).
- Councilmember Frumin will join Attorney General Brian Schwalb for a Ward 3 Listening Session on Tuesday, April 4 at the Tenley-Friendship Library. The public will have the opportunity to learn about the work and services of OAG, share their concerns, and discuss ways to collaborate with the office. Space is limited for this in-person event so residents are encouraged to RSVP at <https://oag.dc.gov/community> by noon on Monday, April 3.
- Lastly, our office is here to assist you in getting the support you need. Please fill out our constituent services form if you need assistance accessing government or community

services. Head to <https://mattfruminward3.com/constituent-service/> to contact our constituent services team.

00:30:37 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sTs0e5q0d3M> **Adoption of Agenda**

Chair Gore requested the agenda be changed so that Christopher Dyer could speak before Christopher Lucas. The motion to approve the amended agenda was approved 5-0.

00:31:18 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sTs0e5q0d3M> **Presentation of Christopher Dyer, Department of Parks and Recreation**

Christopher Dyer is the Community Engagement Manager for the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR).

He said the Chevy Chase Community Center hours will change on April 10. The new hours are 9 am to 9 pm weekdays and 9 am to 5 pm on Saturdays.

Mr. Dyer then listed a number of DPR web addresses which are all available by going to the DPR website: <https://dpr.dc.gov>. If you go to <https://dprprograms.splashthat.com/> at the bottom of the page you will see the Chevy Chase Community Center and by clicking on it you will see a list of all the programs at this location, he said.

To obtain permits in order to host events at DPR sites, go to [dpr.dc.gov/permits](https://dpr.dc.gov/permits). For a schedule of all activities at a specific DPR site go to: [dpr.dc.gov/DPRCALENDAR](https://dpr.dc.gov/DPRCALENDAR)

Mr. Dyer said his primary purpose in speaking at the meeting is to talk about summer camp. <https://dpr.dc.gov/service/summer-camps>

Registration for camp started on March 13. For complete information go to [dprsummercamp.com](https://dprsummercamp.com). There are a range of offerings for children from ages 3 to 13. Children are sorted into four categories: Little Explorers (ages 3-5); Discover Camp (ages 6-10); Half-Day Sports Camps (ages 11-13); and DPR Boost Camp (ages 11-13). Reduced rate applications are available, but the deadline is April 1.

Registration for DC residents is now done by lottery. People will be notified in April if they have been selected.

Commissioner Gore asked if Mr. Dyer is the POC for the ongoing issues at Lafayette-Pointer Park. He replied he is the main POC for DPR. The ANC has called out conditions on the perimeter track and lighting in its budget letter. A question in the chat asked if there are no spots available in the three sites, can one apply for an open spot elsewhere. Mr. Dyer said on May 1 people can apply for openings and be placed on a wait list. He invited people to email him at [christopher.dyer@dc.gov](mailto:christopher.dyer@dc.gov) with questions or go to the DPR summer camp website.

00:41:48 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sTs0e5q0d3M>

### **Presentation of Christopher**

#### **Lucas, DC Office of Tenant Advocate**

Mr. Lucas is Program Analyst at the DC Office of the Tenant Advocate's Education & Community Outreach Section (OTA), an independent agency within the executive branch that has been a voice for tenants since 2006. It works in the areas of legal, policy advocacy, emergency housing, education and community outreach services to DC renters.

Mr. Lucas said that recently the agency's attorneys prepare most tenants to represent themselves in court. The agency's main number and hotline is (202) 719 6560. Tenants may call for such issues as: eviction prevention assistance, rent increases, lease questions, housing code violations, security deposit returns and the Tenant Opportunity to Purchase Act. The OTA website is [www.ota.dc.gov](http://www.ota.dc.gov).

The agency offers a variety of educational programs: eviction prevention classes, tenant mentoring programs and assistance in forming or strengthening tenant associations. He said the eviction prevention program is the main reason he wanted to present at the ANC meeting. The most common reason for eviction is non-payment of rent, followed by lease violations and criminal activity, which has been rising recently. Landlords in DC must go through a judicial process for evictions: self-help evictions such as changing the locks are illegal.

Commissioner Gore asked about the recent increase in evictions for criminal activity and Mr. Lucas said his office is unable to get involved in these situations. She also asked for a list of tenant associations in ANC 3G, and Mr. Lucas said he could provide this.

00:59:00 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sTs0e5q0d3M> **Discussion and possible vote on a resolution regarding Transportation to School for Students with Special Needs (Commissioner Gore)**

Commissioner Gore reviewed the rationale for the resolution. The DC Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE) is responsible for transporting special needs students to school. Many people believe DDOT performs this service; it does not. There has been a paucity of drivers on the routes leading to delays. It has been extremely disruptive to students and families. Transportation is a service on the individualized education program (IEP) signed by the students' parents and the school under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). OSSE has a long history of failing to provide timely transportation for students with special needs, leading to lost class time, disruption and costs to families that is not reimbursed. Commissioner Gore said the problem is city-wide, but she has heard from constituents in her SMD about it as well.

The resolution calls for the Mayor and the DC Council to take immediate action to bring relief to the students, their parents and caregivers.

Commissioner Lynch said this situation is "shameful," and called on everyone to contact their elected leaders.

The resolution was approved by a vote of 5-0. (Commissioners Gore, Ferguson, Sherman, Lynch and Nash).

1:09:45 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sTs0e5q0d3M> **Discussion and possible vote on ANC 3/4G's FY24 Budget Priority Letter (Commissioner Gore)**

Commissioner Gore said this is the first time the ANC has written a budget priority letter. Typically, the commission does budget testimony. She said she wrote a letter this time because there are four new commissioners; consequently, fewer commissioners have the history needed to testify and answer questions.

The letter comes after the mayor's budget has been released. Ward 3 and 4 council members will be copied; while these council members did put in their budget letters many of the ANC priorities, they did not include them all. For example, the E6 bus route was not in the council members' letters. Some issues Chair Gore had been unaware of, e.g., the Lafayette Pointer issue has been going on for a long time and has not been addressed.

The letter hits all the major budget areas. For example, under Economic Development and Regulation, the ANC requests funding for the Chevy Chase civic core. The letter's lengthiest section is Operations and Infrastructure and calls for investments in traffic safety and traffic calming, listing the hot spots the community has identified along Connecticut, Utah and Western Avenues, Chevy Chase Circle and elsewhere. Stormwater management in Barnaby Woods was addressed. A new commissioner identified composting as an area of focus. Lafayette School, along with other DC schools, is facing a 5 percent budget cut; the letter requests level funding at a minimum. The ANC renewed its request for a Ward 3 Senior Wellness Center.

One new request is for a safety patrol officer on Connecticut Ave., because of a rash of burglaries and assaults. Lafayette is behind in work orders, like schools elsewhere in the city; funding is requested to address this issue. There is also a request for more funding for the Office of ANC's and a stipend for ANC commissioners, who currently are unpaid.

Commissioner Lynch offered a friendly amendment calling for increased funding to deal with the work order backlog throughout the city. Commissioner Lynch added this language in the chat and Commissioner Gore agreed to add it to the resolution.

Commissioner Sherman said there has been a strong community effort to improve traffic safety. He said there are other ways to address this issue than with speed bumps. It will be a collaborative process.

The question of ANC salaries was raised in the chat. Commissioner Gore said this has been discussed for years. There is no set figure, the recommendation is that the mayor look at the issue and make a contribution toward it.



Commissioner Nash said he had heard from a constituent that the sidewalks along the south side of Military Road are virtually unusable; he offered to send language to add to the letter a request to address that issue. Commissioner Gore agreed.

A comment in the chat asked that language requesting funding for affordable housing in the civic core be removed from the letter because no decision on whether to include affordable housing in the redevelopment has yet been made. Commissioner Gore replied that the letter's language is in line with Ward Three Council Member Frumin's request.

The ANC voted 5-0 to adopt the draft FY 2024 budget letter with amendments from Commissioners Sherman, Lynch, Zeldin and Nash.

1:33:02 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sTs0e5q0d3M> **Discussion and possible vote on ANC 3/4G Testimony Before the Committee on Recreation, Libraries and Youth Affairs FY 2024 Budget Hearing – Department of Parks and Recreation (Commissioner Gore)**

Commissioner Gore said this concerns testimony before the Committee on Recreation, Libraries and Youth Affairs, in the Dept. of Parks and Recreation on the fiscal year 2024 budget. The testimony came from the finance sub-committee of the ANC's Zoning Design and Development Committee and is about the civic core project. The testimony works from the Mayor's proposed budget for 2024, according to which funding from the proposed budget "merely" carries forward \$19.5 million, from previous years, one million of which has already been spent 2020. The testimony argues this amount is insufficient to provide underground parking, affordable housing and other community needs in the redevelopment of the civic core, especially given the rise in construction costs in recent years.

The budget hearing date is April 5. This will be commission testimony and Commissioner Gore said she thought it was well-written and appropriate to the situation. She added that individual commissioners and citizens may offer their own individual testimony.

Noting that the testimony relied on a survey now five years old, Commissioner Sherman said he supported doing a new survey on the redevelopment of the civic core and promote civic engagement on the issue.

Commissioner Gore agreed, pointing out that the commission continues to listen to and work with the community on the redevelopment of the civic core; this is why the zoning committee was formed, and established four sub-committees under this committee, to address various aspects of what is going on in the civic core. Thirty community members showed up, either in person or virtually, at their last meeting, Gore said, adding this is "unheard of." These committees are doing a good job of letting the community know about the process as well as engaging with and listening to citizens' concerns.

One sub-committee (charrette) is devoted to the issue of doing a survey on the civic core redevelopment. The biggest obstacle is ensuring that we have the right skill sets to get that done, Commissioner Gore concluded.

Commissioner Lynch said this issue was discussed at the last Charette meeting. Commissioner Gosselin is interested in tying a group called "Link," a professional organization devoted to community facilitation and surveys. He explained the importance of having actual architectural models (or charrettes) of what could be at the site, so that people can have a better idea of the options.

Commissioner Gore moved the Commission adopt ANC 3/4G testimony before the committee on recreation, libraries and youth affairs fiscal year 24 budget hearing for the Dept. of Parks and Recreation, as amended. The motion was approved 5-0.

1:54:49 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sTs0e5q0d3M> **ANC Committee and Task Force Reports.**

ZDD Report: Commissioner Lynch said many things are going on. The most important development is that last week a deed restriction was found back 150 feet from the civic core site. The restriction prohibits apartments on the site. It is unclear, he said, where to go from here. There are differing views in the community, the committee and DMPED. An "Our RFP" process is in the works: the ANC advocated for it and DMPED will use it. It allows for community input as proposals are made. Lynch said it would be best if DMPED, the Office of Planning and Council Member Frumin met with the community to explain where we are in the civic core plan. Commissioner Gosselin apologized, Commissioner Lynch reported, for the failure to sort out the hybrid meeting. Some community members want to abandon housing at the site, others steadfastly want lots of housing, others in the middle want there to be some housing.

Commissioner Sherman reiterated his desire to do a survey so that everyone in the community has an opportunity to weigh in on the civic core issue.

Commissioner Gore replied that "we are beating a dead horse here." The Commission has always listened to the community and will continue to do so. According to Commissioner Gore, "We need to let the charrette committee do its work." In the end, the Commission will make a decision. Some will be unhappy with this decision, and they will say they were not listened to. In this case, as in all previous cases, the Commission will listen to the community and take that into consideration as it makes its decision.

Commissioner Lynch said the members of the ZDD committee have varying opinions on how the project should turn out.

Commissioner Nash said he wanted to second what Commissioners Lynch and Gore had said, that the commission is doing a good job of listening to the community on the civic core issue. He asked the commission to move on to the next task force report.

Commissioner Gore said RASE had a meeting she did not attend due to a family emergency. She said she would update everyone at the next meeting.

02:07:22 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sTs0e5q0d3M> **Commission Business**

Secretary's Report: Commissioner Nash said the 3/13 meeting minutes will be ready soon.

#### Treasurer's Report

The treasurer, Commissioner Ferguson, stated that Stefanie Van Pelt, who previously worked for the ANC, had paid \$540.39 for GoDaddy webhosting services for the ANC 3/4G website for which she had not been reimbursed to date. Further, the ANC had a Verizon bill of \$166.96 coming up.

Commissioner Ferguson made a motion that the ANC write a check to Stefanie Van Pelt for \$540.39 to reimburse her and to approve the ANC to pay the Verizon bill of \$166.96 by debit card. The motion was approved 5-0.

Commissioner Ferguson introduced the discussion to approve expenses for hiring an administrative staff for the commission. The commission is interested in hiring staff as an employee for \$23 per hour for 10-20 hours a week. This position would assist the commission in administrative work, such as helping with minutes, finances, and our recordkeeping. The position would run until January 30, 2025. The federal withholding for this position is estimated to be \$722 per biweekly pay period. Commissioner Ferguson also recommended hiring PayChex for payroll and other employment services at a cost of up to \$60 per biweekly pay period.


Commissioner Nash asked about the payroll services and whether other ANCs typically hire a company for that. Commissioner Ferguson noted that the Office of ANCs recommends that ANCs hire a payroll service provider such as PayChex, and that the commission will save some money by paying biweekly rather than weekly.

Commissioner Ferguson made a motion to, pursuant to the discussion, allocate money in the ANC 3/4G budget for hiring a part-time employee for \$23 per hour to work between 10-20 hours per week, and further, to hire a payroll services company to provide payroll services for a cost of up to \$60 per biweekly pay period. The motion was approved 5-0.

Commissioner Ferguson moved the Commission skip its Sept. 25<sup>th</sup> meeting, as it conflicts with the Jewish holiday of Yom Kippur. The motion was approved by a vote of 5-0.

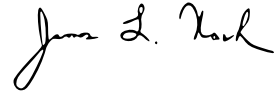
02:18:30 **NB At this point, the secretary was ejected from the meeting and the meeting video ended.**

**APPROVED** at a regular public meeting notice of which was properly given and at which a quorum of four (4) of seven (7) members was present on May 8, 2023 by a vote of 6 yes, 0 no, 0, abstentions.



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**Lisa R. Gore, Chair**



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**James L. Nash, Secretary**