

ANC 3/4G FIELD TASK FORCE COMMUNITY UPDATE #13

The ANC 3/4G Field Task Force held our thirteenth public meeting via Zoom on Wednesday, April 10, 2024. Below is a quick summary of the meeting and the link and passcode to watch the Zoom recording of the full meeting is pasted below. We are in the process of posting the recording and this update to our ANC Field Task Force website which can be found [here](#).

RECORDING OF 4/10/24 MEETING

https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/td5vdQsf_W7Dfkr3y-WCWEqDaZg0yJP5uB9aCbCAtZDNQRgPuFuZ2UOgDNqQx-rZ.hRHqfYtfnkeH8gL7

Passcode: iWK3r\$2G

The 4/10 meeting was called to order by Task Force Co-Chair Jenny Backus at 6:59 PM and was adjourned at 8:27 PM. Five of the six Task Force members were in attendance including Co-Chair Mike Osborne, At-Large Member Marek Gootman, ANC 3/4G-02 Commissioner Bruce Sherman, and ANC 3/4G-03 Commissioner Jim Nash. ANC 3/4G-01 ANC 3/4G Commission Chair Lisa Gore, could not attend the meeting nor could ECC's Stephanie Nash. In addition, non-voting Task Force members Trey Holloway from Maret, Johnny Seikaly from MCN, and Terry Fauntleroy from Brailsford and Dunlavey, Maret's owner rep for the field project, attended the meeting.

Between 10-15 community members joined the Zoom throughout the meeting. Maret sent out their bi-weekly progress report to the community and the Task Force before the TF meeting and it was reviewed in detail at the meeting. [A copy can be found here](#) and on the Maret and ANC Task Force websites listed below.

MEETING HEADLINES

ACTIVITY IS HAPPENING ON SITE - CURB CUT ALMOST COMPLETE/BASKETBALL COURT COMING DOWN/RETENTION BED ON 28th STREET DAMAGED

- Installation of the erosion and sediment (E&S) control measures for the construction entrance at Nebraska Ave are approximately 95% complete.
- The concrete curb at Nebraska Ave is scheduled to be cut within the next 1-2 weeks.
- Remaining Erosion and Sediment control measures are also being completed around the site per the approved Tree Protection Plan.
- Root pruning of trees on the site has begun in anticipation of future earthwork. This work is being completed in accordance with the approved Tree Protection Plan and is being overseen by a certified arborist. It is expected that this work will continue for the next four weeks.
- Removal of the basketball court, pool and stumps on the site began on Thursday 4/11/24. This work will take approximately one week to complete.
- The excavation of the temporary sediment trap will begin at the end of week 4/8 & continue through the week of 4/15.
- Sheeting and shoring permit was received on 4/10 and work will begin in the coming weeks
- *****A Bio Retention bed on 28th Street was damaged due to sediment run-off. DOEE informed the Maret Construction Team on site on Wednesday afternoon 4/10 that the bed needed to be repaired immediately. Repair work began immediately on Thursday morning 4/11 and wrapped up at the end of the day.**
 - *(Note this update was not given to the TF at the 4/10 meeting and there was considerable surprise, confusion, and concern in the community when repairs began without notice on the bed Thursday morning, immediately following Wednesday's TF meeting. The Maret team said*

they had not yet been informed of the Retention Bed issue at the time of the meeting and that they are putting measures in place to ensure any future information of this nature flows to them quickly so they can provide community notice for this kind of work)

REQUEST FROM COMMISSIONER NASH FOR BETTER PLACEMENT OF “SIDEWALK CLOSED” SIGNAGE ON NEBRASKA AVE

- ANC 3G-03 Commissioner Jim Nash, who is the Chair of ANC 3/4G Transportation Committee and whose District abuts the ECC property along Utah Ave, asked that existing or new “SideWalk Closed” signage be placed closer to the crosswalks so walkers have an opportunity to cross Nebraska safely.

TASK FORCE AND COMMUNITY RAISE CONCERNS AROUND LACK OF NOTIFICATION AND CONFUSING COMMUNICATIONS BY CONSTRUCTION TEAMS. CALL ON MARET & FIRMS TO DO BETTER

- As they did in the last few meetings, all the Task Force members stressed the need for ongoing timely, transparent, communication and notification from Maret and their contractors, especially in light of the recent issues around impacts on Claudia Russell’s property, confusion over inaccurate property line marking, and run-off damage to the Bio-Retention bed on 28th Street. *“Maret is not being served well by their construction vendors. You need to do better. More communication leads to less confusion”*

MARET SUPPLEMENTAL SURVEY OF PROPERTY LINES ON 28th STREET BORDER COMPLETE AND MISCOMMUNICATION ADDRESSED WITH PROPERTY OWNERS

- The Task Force received and recorded considerable communications in the weeks leading up to the 4/10 Task Force Meeting, including numerous emails and photographs, from concerned neighbors Claudia Russell and Nancy Voisin about a land survey Maret was conducting on their end of the ECC field, whether their property lines were “in dispute,” and why markers and a temporary fence that appeared to encroach on the property line had not been moved.
- After extensive discussion, it was agreed there actually was no legal “dispute” in play about the boundaries of the properties abutting the field, and the supplemental Maret survey was undertaken out of extra caution to ensure markers matched the plats. The Contractors will meet with neighbors at the end of the week to review the survey and move the fence that was over the line.
- Maret officials took responsibility for the confusion around their use of the term “dispute” in prior communications, which they intended to mean neighbors challenging the accurate placement of the marker and fencing rather than Maret disagreeing with the boundaries as conforming to existing plats and previously submitted for planning approvals.

RAINWATER/RAINWATER REMEDIATION CONTINUES TO BE AN ISSUE

- Neighbors Claudia Russell, Nancy Voisin, and Ann Sutherland raised concerns about the continuing rainwater issues, especially along the lowest part of ECC field along 28th Street.
- They asked for better monitoring, and Ann raised concerns about neighbors having to self-report problems.
- Maret and Construction firms acknowledged that mitigation efforts originally approved by the city had not been sufficient to meet recent weather conditions. They highlighted additional short-term and long-term work being done - trenches, silt fencing, hay bales, even hiring a company to pump water out the field further “upstream” when it was heavily raining earlier in the month.
- Contractors represented intent to move more rapidly on installing drainage and piping that could fix the problems, as soon as boundary issues were clarified.
- Task Force members asked Maret and the Construction Team to put themselves in the shoes of these homeowners and do everything they can to get ahead of issues.

REQUEST TO MARET TO REMIND SUPPORTERS AND VENDORS NOT TO PARK IN THE ALLEYWAYS AROUND THE SCHOOL/ VIDEO OF TEENAGERS MISBEHAVING SHARED

- Neighbor Kathy Abbruzzetti reported that a Maret-associated family had parked in their alleyway earlier the month to look at field progress, but did quickly move their car when requested. She asked that folks be reminded of the parking restrictions around the site.
- She also shared a video of recent teenage “ring and run” activity around her home and asked Maret to review it in case it was any of their students.
- Trey Holloway thanked her for bringing up these issues and said he would check with school officials to identify and take action if it was Maret students who had been misbehaving..
- Commissioners Sherman and Nash discussed how they work with St. John’s leadership whenever issues around their students and supporters come up, such as street parking and students speeding through the neighborhood.

TASK FORCE REITERATES ITS ROLE AS A FORUM WHERE COMMUNITY MEMBERS' VOICES CAN BE HEARD, ISSUES CAN DISCUSSED, INFORMATION CAN BE SHARED AND MISCONCEPTIONS ADDRESSED.

- Commissioner Sherman and TF Members Marek Gootman and Jenny Backus discussed the role of the Task Force. Sherman outlined his thoughts as to what the TF could and could not do and how community members had to reach to city agencies for help.
- Backus said that the TF creates transparency for the community, and helps to drive accountability in the process.
- Gootman talked about the importance of the TF as a regular forum where every community member has a place to bring their concerns about the project or Maret relationship – whether or not they technically fit the construction activity remit – to enable more consistent, efficient communication across stakeholder groups, and facilitate neutral clarification and resolution of issues.

LOOK AHEAD:

- Final Clarifying Property Line Survey Walk with Claudia Russell and Nancy Voisin on Friday 4/12
- “SHORING & SHEETING” to begin
- No traffic issues are expected around current construction activities on the Field.

The 4/10 ANC Field Task Force meeting ended at 8:27 PM.

THE NEXT FIELD TASK FORCE MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR Wednesday, May 8, 2024, at 7:00 PM.

- The Zoom Link will be the same for each meeting and the Task Force will send out a RSVP form for each meeting as part of our regular community update.
- [You can RSVP for the 5/8/24 meeting here](#) and we will notify you if there is a change to the meeting time.
- **STANDING TASK FORCE ZOOM LINK**
 - <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89538477321?pwd=cmxmd1F2Tjkzb3ZmQ200ZmRZM3g2QT09>
 - **Meeting ID: 895 3847 7321**

- **Passcode: 273823**

DRAFT AGENDA FOR MAY 8 2024 TASK FORCE MEETING:

- Welcome
- Construction update from Maret/ECC/GC
- Questions/Comments from the Task Force and the ANC Commissioners
- Questions/Comments/Complaints from the Public

(Please note this agenda is the same for every Task Force meeting.)

REVISED 2024 ANC FIELD TASK FORCE MEETING DATES AS OF 2/13/24

Month	TF Meetings
January	Wed., Jan 10 at 7 PM
February	Wed., Feb. 7 at 7 PM
March	Wed, March 6 at 7 PM
April	Wed, April 10 at 7 PM,
May	Wed, May 8 at 7 PM
June	Wed, June 12 at 7 PM
July	Wed. July 10 at 7 PM
August	Wed, August 7 at 7 PM
September	Wed. Sept. 4 at 7 PM
October	Wed, Oct. 2 at 7 PM,
November	Wed, Oct. 30 at 7 PM,
December	Wed, Dec. 4 at 7 PM

HOW TO CONTACT US:

- Task Force email address - ancfieldtf@gmail.com
- [Task Force webpage](#) on the ANC 3/4G website - https://anc3g.org/task_forces/maret-school-ecc-sports-field/maret-school-ecc-sports-field-project-task-force/
- [ANC 3/4G Field Construction Task Force Community Question/Complaint Form](#)

WHERE YOU CAN FIND FIELD TASK FORCE UPDATES

[ANC 3/4G Website on the ANC Field Task Force Page](#)

[Maret Athletic Facilities Project Page](#)

[Chevy Chase ListServ](#)

TASK FORCE COMMUNICATIONS PROTOCOLS

- The Task Force is committed to regularly updating the community across multiple platforms. We issue updates after each Task Force meeting that include a recording of each meeting.

These updates are posted on the [ANC 3/4G Website on the ANC Field Task Force Page](#) and on [Maret Athletic Facilities Project Page](#)

- We share our meeting notices via the listservs, at ANC meetings, and with Task Force members including ANC Commissioners Sherman, Nash, and Gore.
- Our Agenda for each TF meeting is the same. We review the bi-weekly update report from Maret that is shared by Maret with the community, we take questions from TF members and questions from the Community.
- Based on requests from Commissioner Sherman and several community members, we will work to the best of our ability to highlight key topics that may come up at our TF Meeting in our meeting notices in the days before each meeting but residents should also review the Maret Bi-Weekly Reports as well which can be found here [Maret Athletic Facilities Project Page](#) since they account for a bulk of each meeting's discussion.
- Community Members who have concerns and questions about the Field Project are encouraged to notify the Task Force of those concerns via the ancfieldtf@gmail.com email and the ANC Field Task Force Complaint/Question Form. Those concerns and questions will be addressed by the appropriate parties and discussed as part of the next Task Force Meeting.
- All members of the Task Force have access to the ancfieldtf@gmail.com email and the [Complaint Form](#) and the Chairs check those documents daily.

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY: If there is an emergency happening on your property related to the Field Project

- Please email the ANCFieldtf@gmail.com email
- Please email/call or text Johnny Seikaly from MCN Build at johnny.seikaly@mcnbuild.com; (202) 333-3424
- It is important to do both actions in case Johnny is not available and also to keep a record of concerns that the Task Force can follow up on.

IMPORTANT RESOURCES FOR THE COMMUNITY

Maret and MCN release Progress Reports about the Field. You can find the Progress Reports posted on Maret's ECC Construction Website. Here is the link to the web page <https://www.maret.org/athletics/proposed-new-fields-at-ecc/construction>

These Progress Reports also are posted to the Chevy Chase listserv and other neighborhood social media channels. Each Progress Report includes a look back, a look forward, and pictures of activity that has happened to date.

[The BZA issued their final written order](#) for the Maret ECC field project on April 12, 2023.

The ANC created a [dedicated page on its own website for the Task Force](#).

https://anc3g.org/task_forces/maret-school-ecc-sports-field/maret-school-ecc-sports-field-project-task-force/ [Maret Athletic Facilities Project Website](#) -

<https://www.maret.org/athletics/proposed-new-fields-at-ecc/construction> is Maret's website dedicated to the project and is designed to provide updated information about the construction of the project to the community. It includes maps, timelines, and contact information for Maret's Construction Manager. Maret is mandated by the MOU to post updates to this site and the Task Force will be monitoring the site to ensure up-to-date info is being provided. Maret will post their latest [Progress Reports](#) in the calendar section.

The MOU signed by the ANC and Maret is linked to the [Maret webpage](#). The MOU contains a detailed

explanation of what the project is and is not and also includes important information about the use of the field once construction is completed. here's the link to the MOU through the ANC website:

<https://anc3g.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/ANC-34G-Resolution-re-Maret-BZA-Case-No.-20643-2-28-22-FINAL.pdf>

OUR OPERATING PRINCIPLES:

- The Task Force is designed to get questions and concerns from the community about the construction of the new field addressed quickly and efficiently by Maret/ECC/General Contractor (GC).
- The Task Force will conduct our work in a transparent manner with a focus on respectful listening and speaking.
- Working with the ECC, Maret, and the GC, we will provide factual information to the community quickly and transparently and work to ensure clear lines of communication between all parties involved.
- Through meetings of the Task Force and regular updates, we will keep the community apprised of how the work is going, what's coming next, and what, if any, concerns have been raised and how they are being addressed.

WHAT WE WILL BE DOING:

- Setting a regular briefing and public meeting schedule.
 - Sharing accurate information about the project with the community on a timely basis.
 - Ensuring citizen complaints are addressed and resolved in a timely manner.
 - Holding Maret/ECC/GC accountable.
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- The sheeting & shoring permit has been received, but the work has not begun yet. We expect that to begin in a couple of weeks. But for now, we've just received the permit (on 4/10)
 - I understand the need to include something about the bioretention bed on 28th St. The repair work began, and concluded, on 4/11, so they wrapped it up as quickly as possible. It may or may not be appropriate for inclusion in the update, but DOEE showed up late in the day on Wednesday requesting immediate repair on the retention bed so the work started Thursday morning to meet DOEE's requests. That limited our ability to provide notification. But we are putting measures in place to ensure any future information of this nature flows to us quickly so we can provide community notice for this kind of work
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