

Draft

3G01- Lisa Gore
3G02- Bruce Sherman, Treasurer
3G03- Carol Grunewald, Secretary
3G04- Laura Phinizy, Chair
3G05- Karrenthya Simmons
3G06- Peter Gosselin
3G07- Elizabeth Nagy, Vice-Chair



5601 Connecticut Ave NW
P.O. Box 6252
Washington, D.C. 20015
3G@anc.dc.gov
<https://anc3g.org>
YouTube: ANC3G

Government of the District of Columbia ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 3/4G Chevy Chase, Barnaby Woods, Hawthorne

Resolution: Improving the Department of Public Works' Performance during Snow Emergencies

WHEREAS, beginning on January 25, 2026, the District of Columbia experienced an unusually severe winter storm characterized by heavy snowfall and sleet that rapidly compacted on neighborhood streets, creating extraordinary logistical and mechanical challenges for Department of Public Works (DPW) response crews;

WHEREAS, ANC 3/4G appreciates DPW's efforts and those of supporting District agencies, particularly the dedication of frontline workers, to restore passable travel under difficult and hazardous conditions;

WHEREAS, ANC 3/4G acknowledges that DPW's established snow emergency response guidelines prioritize treatment of major transportation arterials such as Connecticut Avenue NW and Military Road NW, followed by significant secondary corridors such as Nebraska Avenue NW and Oregon Avenue NW, and only then residential side streets such as Quesada Street and Jenifer Street;

WHEREAS, ANC 3/4G discussed the District's snow emergency response during its public meeting on January 26, 2026 and subsequently provided preliminary feedback on January 27, 2026 in a letter to the leadership of DPW;

WHEREAS, since issuing its letter to DPW, ANC 3/4G has received extensive constituent feedback about, and observed firsthand, street accessibility and public safety impacts;

WHEREAS, from the onset of the storm on January 25 through as late as the evening of January 28 multiple residential streets within ANC 3/4G remained unplowed or slightly plowed but still impassable other than in four-wheel drive vehicles;

WHEREAS, in addition to the streets, pedestrian "transition zones," including bus stops, intersection lead-ins, and crosswalks such as those along Western Avenue, Connecticut Avenue, and elsewhere in ANC 3/4G remained covered in snow and ice long after streets and sidewalks were cleared, preventing access for pedestrians and transit users;

Draft

WHEREAS, among the concerns of Chevy Chase constituents (25% of whom are 65 years of age or older) is having been stranded for several days with no ability to attend medical appointments or receive emergency medical assistance had any been needed – indeed, facing potentially life-threatening conditions due to the delays in clearing the snow;

WHEREAS, ANC 3/4G has observed important operational issues, flagged in part in the commission's January 27 letter to DPW and confirmed since then:

- uneven service patterns in which some residential blocks received multiple plowing and salting passes while others received no service at all; and
- inaccuracies in the District's GPS snowplow tracking system which may have contributed to a misreading of streets cleared and misallocation of resources to clear them, leading to service delays;
- lack of clarity as to agency responsibility – DPW, DDOT, WMATA? – for clearing bus stops, intersection lead-ins, and crosswalks, leaving many of these areas unaddressed for days;

WHEREAS, the deficiencies in the snowplow tracking system compounded residents' frustration when streets were marked as cleared but in fact were not, heightening criticisms and loss of confidence in DPW efforts; and

WHEREAS, due to lack of timely service by DPW in certain areas, residents took matters into their own hands and contracted with commercial services to clear their streets at considerable expense to themselves, exemplifying a partial breakdown in the District's snow recovery and deepening dissatisfaction with DPW's performance.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

- ANC 3/4G recommends that DPW consider establishing a policy that all residential side streets be serviced at least once before others are serviced twice or more – consistent with DPW protocols and priorities for plowing and salting District roads of all kinds;
- ANC 3/4G recommends that DPW review and remediate problems associated with the GPS-based snowplow tracking system that result in inaccurate and incomplete readings of serviced streets;
- ANC 3/4G urges the District to clarify responsibility for clearing snow from critical pedestrian infrastructure, including bus stops, curb cuts, and crosswalks, to ensure they are cleared with the same priority as streets;
- ANC 3/4G recommends the addition of a snow plowing category at [DC 311](#) to allow residents to specify the service for neighborhood streets, to include clearing intersections and the lead-ins to intersections used by pedestrians;
- ANC 3/4G recommends continued coordination among DPW, the Mayor's Office, and the Commission to ensure timely identification and servicing of overlooked streets and dangerous pedestrian crossings; and
- ANC 3/4G requests a written response from DPW addressing the concerns outlined in this resolution, describing corrective actions and improvements for the future.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT: The Commission designates Commissioners Phinizy and Sherman to represent the Commission on all matters related to this resolution.

Draft

This resolution was adopted at ANC 3/4G's duly noticed public meeting on February 9, 2026 with a quorum of Commissioners present, voting .. Yes, .. No, and .. abstain.