



ANC 1A ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 1A

SMD 1A01 – Layla Bonnot
SMD 1A04 – Chris Hall
SMD 1A07 – Mukta Ghorpadey
SMD 1A10 – Rashida Brown

SMD 1A02 – Dieter Lehmann Morales
SMD 1A05 – Christine Miller
SMD 1A08 – Kent C. Boese
SMD 1A11 – Dotti Love Wade

SMD 1A03 – Carlo Perri
SMD 1A06 – Brandolon Barnett
SMD 1A09 – Michael Wray
SMD 1A12 – Vacant

Director Delano Hunter
1275 First Street, NE, 8th floor
Washington, DC 20002
via email

November 6, 2022

RE: ANC 1A FY24 BUDGET REQUEST

Dear Director Hunter,

Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) 1A serves a diverse community with many families across a range of incomes. Our commission recognizes the value of investing in robust programming and opportunities to support our residents.

As you consider how you will best serve our young people, families, and community in your agency's FY 2024 draft budget submission to the Mayor, ANC1A requests the following additions:

1. **Dedicated funding to establish partnerships in youth programming between DPR and the Mount Pleasant DC Public Library.** This additional spending on OST programming will universally yield a positive benefit-cost ratio through the prevention of crime, substance use, public assistance, and teen pregnancy, and benefits through increased graduation rates, test scores, post-high school education, special education rates, grade repetition, employment rates, and earning potential.^{1,2}

Our local library has a long history of serving all Ward 1 residents. As we look toward how we can offer an interagency approach to helping meet our young people where they are serving them directly in spaces they trust, and that already provide complimentary services. Our team of librarians at the Mt. Pleasant library is already providing direct services to our most vulnerable. It will bring the expertise and established relationships necessary to expand programming in intentional, meaningful ways.

2. **A robust and appropriately staffed Roving Leader program in the ANC1A area** would include regular site visits to Powell Park, the 14th and Girard Street Park, and the Columbia Heights Civic Plaza—all DPR properties with no dedicated staff. Active and

¹ [The benefits of recreational programming on juvenile crime reduction: A review of literature and data.](#), National Recreation and Parks, September 2, 2014.

² Looking at a cost at cost-benefit analysis of a diverse array of K-12 programming by [Washington State Institute for Public Policy](#), there was an almost universal positive in the benefit to cost ratio.

regular engagement from Roving Leaders at these locations would strengthen the community with positive youth-adult interactions that would reduce the need for youth-police interactions. The Roving Leader program is an essential and valuable resource. Investing more in this program would be money well spent.

3. Funding dedicated to hiring two FTEs, specifically Urban Farm Specialists for DPR's Parks and Environment Division, to scale up the successful programs we see in Edgewood, Lederer, and Powell. Our community has recently benefited from the creation of Powell Communal Farm, managed by Josh Singer and community volunteers. Since our first planting this spring, we have already provided residents in our community with the following:

- Positive activation of an abandoned and blighted space;
- Free and fresh produce every week; and,
- Hands-on educational opportunities.

Alongside DPR staff, residents have learned about growing, harvesting, and the benefits of fresh food. ANC 1A requests that you help continue this great work by supporting these programs and adding more full-time positions at DPR to maintain, expand, and add new farms across the city.

ANC 1A hopes you will read these recommendations and lead your department in supporting innovative ways to engage and support our youth and community. Ensuring funding in these areas allows for better service and innovative opportunities to serve our community. We look forward to working with you to ensure we bring the resources into those spaces where we see the need and direct benefit to residents.

Respectfully,

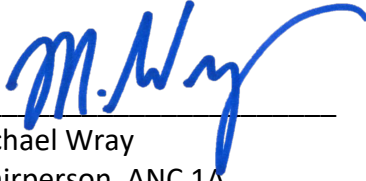


Christine Miller
Commissioner, 1A05
Chair, ANC1A Education Committee

Cc: Paul Khin, Deputy Mayor of Education
Director, DC Public Libraries
Councilmember, Brianne K. Nadeau

Certification:

After providing sufficient notice for and with a quorum of 7 present at its November 09, 2022 meeting, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 1A voted, with 7 Yeas, 0 Nos and 0 Abstentions, to adopt the above resolution.



Michael Wray
Chairperson, ANC 1A



Mukta Ghorpadey
Secretary, ANC 1A