



**ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 7F**  
**Government of the District of Columbia**  
**"Crossroads East of the River" Where Communities Come Together**

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**General Commission Meeting Minutes**

**February 16, 2021**

**Time: 6:30 p.m.**

**via Zoom due to COVID-19**

**1) Call to Order & Roll call**

Chairperson Holcomb called the meeting to order at 6:36 pm. A brief moment of silence was held to acknowledge the lives lost in the COVID-19 pandemic. Also, present were commissioners Hunter, Weston, Diggs, and Codling. Commissioner Hughes had an excused absence.

**2) Consideration & Adoption of the Agenda**

Chairman Holcomb moved to approve the agenda. The motion passes unanimously with five in favor and zero against. (5-0-0)

**3) Updates**

**a) Mayor Bowser's Office - Osha Daniels**

The 2021 budget engagement forum is currently underway, there will be two forums held virtually on Thursday, February 18th at 6pm & Saturday, February 20th at 11am.

Residents can call in to express their concerns in regards to the 2022 budgets. The forum will be streamed live on the Mayor's Facebook as well as on Youtube and Channel 16.

Vaccines are still being released every week, seniors 65 and older and healthcare workers can get vaccinations on Thursday mornings at 9am for priority zip codes (20019 and 20020). These individuals can make appointments by calling 1-855-363-0333 or online [vaccinate.dc.gov](https://vaccinate.dc.gov) On Fridays at 9am additional appointments will be available for the entire district. Specialized zip codes with higher covid cases will be given priority.

The Mayor's office has been working tirelessly to contact seniors who are having trouble making appointments by reaching out to senior facilities. If you're having trouble getting vaccines contact Osha Daniels @202-374-9282 or [osha.daniels1@dc.gov](mailto:osha.daniels1@dc.gov) for assistance.

DPW has a plow tracker so residents can track plow trucks if needed, visit [https://www.511portal.com/dc\\_dpw](https://www.511portal.com/dc_dpw) for this information.

**b) Councilmember Gray's Office - Tamika Finnell - Deputy Director of Constituent Services**

On Monday February 8, 2021, the DC Council began its performance oversight hearings in which every DC government agency presents detailed information on their operations. Government and public witnesses can testify in these performance hearings if interested.



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The committee on health held a two day public oversight roundtable on the districts COVID-19 vaccination progress in a recent roundtable on January 29th. The number one issue discussed was the need to establish a waitlist or registry for the weekly enrollment process which separates enrollment and appointments.

The Vaccinate.dc.gov portal has been redesigned for applications to be saved through the portal so residents will only need to complete it once. Councilmember Gray's office is working with members from Allen House senior building and the department of health to assist seniors who still need vaccinations. The grocery store bill initiative will be fully funded during this budget cycle, but there are no clear predictions about when the bill will be available. Presently, there are some uncertainties about whether or not the streetcar extensions will be funded at all. Councilmember Gray would like to see full funding for the streetcar proposal because the money included in the funding is also for infrastructures, traffic and pedestrian safety, and other improvements to the Whitlock Bridge. Councilmember Gray believes the bridge improvement itself will provide greater connectivity for Ward-7.

As a part of the healthcare system connected to the new community hospital, there will be two new GW urgent care centers. The Ward-8 urgent care center will be built on the Mapleview property and is scheduled to open in the fourth quarter of 2021. The site of the Ward-7 urgent care center has not yet been determined, however, the center is scheduled to be open in the first quarter of the calendar year 2022.

The Fletcher-Johnson Task Force Community Meeting will be held on February 20th, via zoom. The zoom meeting ID: 874 5331 4443 & Password: FJ INFO. To watch any of the performance oversight hearings residents can go to the council site

<https://dccouncil.us/council-videos/> or the OCTFME site  
<http://video.oct.dc.gov/DCC/jw.html>

If you have any questions or concerns contact Tamika Finnell @202-741-0898 or [tfinnell@dccouncil.us](mailto:tfinnell@dccouncil.us)

#### c) **MPD- Captain Conners**

Year to date there is an overall 17% reduction in non-violent crimes. However, there has been an increase in violent crimes such as carjackings and robberies with firearms. MPD has a task force for carjackings of motor vehicles which has law enforcement agencies partnering all over the district. There have been 25 arrests for people driving stolen auto-vehicles, MPD believes this will also help with solving violent crimes. There have been 93 arrests this year and five illegal firearms recovered so far this year. An adult male was found suffering from multiple gunshot wounds in a building on the 300 block of 33rd street on February 16th, anyone with tips can call 2729099 or text 50411. On January 25th there was a kidnapping investigation and rescue, two people were arrested and one firearm was recovered. There was a robbery arrest on the 3800 block of Minnesota Avenue. Two suspects were arrested for a drive-by shooting on Blaine Street where suspects fired multiple rounds into the house of a resident, two people were arrested and three firearms were recovered. MPD is currently working on the murders at



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Dubois and 35th street and focusing on retaliation shootings for each case. There are not many police camera's due to limited resources and other factors. MPD encourages residents to get their own private security cameras and gunshot detection systems.

#### 4) Presentations/Special Guest

##### a) **Chief Parsons -Assistant Chief for Investigative Service Bureau- MPD**

In 2019 the case closure rate was 68% and 69% in 2020. MPD is currently working to increase the case closure rate for 2021. When a homicide goes unsolved the case goes to the cold-case squad. MPD is also partnering with residents to help combat gun violence, this means having inclusion and transparency with the community through shared information. Information on drug activity is sent to the narcotic prevention unit and there are undercover narcotics officers that are dispatched to cover different areas throughout the district. Parson advises residents to lock their cars and get an anti-theft device because stolen vehicles are being used to commit other crimes. Contact [Leslie.parson@dc.gov](mailto:Leslie.parson@dc.gov) with any questions or concerns.

##### b) **Nakeda Gilbert - Program Manager- Cure the Streets**

Cure the Streets is a program for violence prevention that is attempting to mediate conflicts before they become violent. The program has a number of trained teams throughout the district. Their goal is to change the norms for the community, in hopes that potential shooters will choose another route once they have the necessary resources. Gilbert believes the biggest challenge has been the pandemic because of the restrictions it has imposed. The biggest needs for participants right now are schooling, job opportunities, job training and parenting classes. Gilbert and her team are currently gearing towards middle schools and high school so they can identify and mediate conflicts at their root. Their office is on Massachusetts Avenue but they cater to the Benning terrace and Benning Park area. For any questions or concerns contact Nakeda Gilbert @202-424-8556 or [nakeda.gilbert@fatherfactor.net](mailto:nakeda.gilbert@fatherfactor.net)

##### c) **Tessia Knight - NB+C/AT&T**

Tessia Knight is seeking approval for small cell installations at specific locations throughout Ward-7. Small cells are flexible, targeted network solutions that cover a radius up 1200+ feet and can easily be deployed to locations that are heavily populated or areas that are more likely to experience connectivity issues. AT&T is currently looking at a subject pole adjacent to John Philip Sousa Junior High School, this is a historic designation and DDOT guidelines doesn't allow placements in properties with historic designations. The company looked at other areas nearby but the small cell only covers a



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small area. The project is expected to be completed by June 2021. They're required to send notification letters to everyone within a block radius of the small cell pole. NB+C /AT&T currently has agreements with Pepco, Verizon & DDOT and these companies will be paid. Laying the groundwork for future 5G technology such as smart cars and smart-cities. RF-energy level is lower than a traditional macro-facility, the idea is to improve network speeds while also keeping costs low. Research has shown that low energy antennas such as small cells don't pose any health risks. The Historic preservation office agreed to support the application.

#### d) **Ciara Boderick - Community Engagement Specialists for Ward 7 - DDOT**

DDOT has Paved 131 miles of roadway and planning for the Ward-7 circulator route is currently underway. DDOT also has a newly elected Interim director, Everette Lott. DDOT is looking into a short corridor on Central Avenue and will be able to provide updates soon. However, residents can visit <https://www.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=76784c82ddcb4fb798769138f27c0ed3> to see what alleyways and corridors are underway. The Kenliworth transportation study is complete and there have been significant improvements. The Ward 7 circulator route is still being studied and DDOT is still collecting data to determine the best route out of 7. DDOT has done a lot in response to Covid such as streeteries and slow streets for safety for biking, walking or recreational activities. There are also 2021 Ward projects that are currently underway. Residents are encouraged to utilize 311 for services, it will assist with providing updates and assistance. Every service has a timeline under the service level agreement, this information is provided through 311. Residents are encouraged to contact DDOT and their commissioners when completing a Traffic Safety Assessment. After completion this information should be submitted to [Traffic.dc.gov](https://www.traffic.dc.gov)

DDOT receives federal funds to implement projects and MoveDC is a long range plan that looks 25 years in the future to look at what DDOT wants transportation networks to look like. MoveDC was completed in 2014 and updates about the project will be provided every five or six years. This plan is used to implement improvements on transportation and traffic safety policies. In October a survey was conducted for feedback from the community and there are also town halls and opportunities to call, surveys can also be conducted over the phone. The current survey focuses on strategies to improve transportation in DC.

#### 5) Community Concerns/Announcements

- a) **Lauren Hillian:** Hillian is the property manager at Milestone Senior and is willing to open her community room for the vaccinations. She can be reached at 202-575-0034.



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- b) **Nori Nori:** Work is continuing within the 295 Corridor. For information, traffic advisories and more please visit the website [www.improving295DC.com](http://www.improving295DC.com)
- c) **Michael:** Pages 206-210 of the following PDF has some nice renderings if anyone is curious or has questions about the streetcars.  
<http://www.benningproject.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/Final-EA.pdf>

#### 6) Administrative/Reports

##### a) **Chair's Report**

The chair is concerned about the traumatic impacts of gun violence on the community and will continue to advocate on behalf of the issues that are most important in the community. This includes issues concerning funding that go towards systemic issues. The committee has laid the groundwork for a lawsuit against the halfway house being built.

##### b) **Secretary's Report**

Commissioner Weston moved to approve the meeting minutes for January 19, 2021 with any additional changes. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hunter. The motion carries with 5 in favor, 0 against (5-0-0).

##### c) **Treasurer's Report**

Chairperson Holcomb moved to table this month's Treasurer's report. Motion was seconded by commissioner Hunter. Motion carries with five in favor and zero against (5-0-1)

#### 7) Commission Business

##### a) **Approve Q1 Quarterly Financial Report**

Chairperson Holcomb moved to approve the Q1 quarterly financial report. The Motion was seconded by commissioner Codling. The motion passes unanimously with five in favor and zero against.

##### b) **Resolution 21-004: Hazard Regarding 4311 Texas Avenue SE**

Commissioner Hunter moved to table Resolution 21-004: Hazard regarding 4311 Texas Avenue SE, seconded by Chairperson Holcomb. The motion passes unanimously with five in favor and zero against and will be tabled for further discussion. (5-0-0)

##### c) **Letter of Support: Proposed Small Wireless Facility - TOPS Application #330005**

Commissioner Codling moved to approve the Letter of Support: Proposed Small Wireless Facility - TOPS Application #330005 with the amendment to provide a community engagement requirement. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hunter. The motion passes unanimously with five in favor and zero against. (5-0-0)



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- Holcomb: Aye
- Hunter: Aye
- Weston: Aye
- Codling: Aye
- Hughes: Absent
- Diggs: Aye

#### 8) Meeting Adjourned

- Chairperson Holcomb moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:05 pm.