

**Government of the District of Columbia**  
**ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 7E**  
*Marshall Heights ▪ Benning Ridge ▪ Capitol View ▪ Fort  
Davis*

7E01 – Veda Rasheed  
7E02 – Linda S. Green, Vice-Chair  
7E03 – Ebbon Allen  
7E04 – Takiyah “TN” Tate  
7E05 – Victor Horton, Treasurer 7E06 –  
Delia Houseal, Chair  
7E07 – Yolanda Fields, Secretary  
Executive Assistance – Jemila James



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**RESOLUTION #: 7E-20-006**  
**Opposition of Halfway House in Ward 7**  
**Proposed for February 11, 2020**

**WHEREAS**, Advisory Neighborhood Commissions (ANCs) were created to “advise the Council of the District of Columbia, the Mayor, and each executive agency with respect to all proposed matters of District government policy,” including economic development;

**WHEREAS**, the government of the District of Columbia by law is required to give “great weight” to comments from ANCs;

**WHEREAS**, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 7E stands in solidarity with our returning citizens and believe that they deserve a safe place to transition back into society.

**WHEREAS**, The US Bureau of Prisons issued a formal request for proposals to operate a halfway house in the District of Columbia and CORE DC may receive \$60 million dollars over five years for D.C. to house 300 returning citizens,

**WHEREAS**, CORE DC plans to utilize the property located at 3701 Benning Road NE, located within the boundary of Advisory Neighborhood Commission 7F, also known as Downtown Ward 7.

**WHEREAS**, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 7E fully supports returning citizens, we believe that this location in Ward 7 is not prepared to support the successful reentry of returning citizens.

**WHEREAS**, research studies have found that halfway houses placed in neighborhoods laden with violence and other external stressors result in increased rates of recidivism. Further, it runs contrary to the basic advice given to individuals about to be released—not to associate themselves with environments or individuals that will increase the likelihood of them reoffending.

**WHEREAS**, with current recidivism rates at 44 percent<sup>1</sup> and the proposed project slated to include offenders with sexual offenses against children, ANC 7E has concerns about the public safety and the well-being of our constituency.

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Alpher, Mariel, Matthew Durose, and Joshua Markman. 2018. *2018 Update on Prisoner Recidivism: A 9-Year Follow-up Period (2005-2014)*. U.S. Department of Justice.

**WHEREAS**, ANC 7E believes the placement of this halfway house in a developing commercial corridor will reduce the disposal income, drive down the Area Median Income (AMI) and thwart potential development opportunities.

**WHEREAS**, ANC 7E understands the need for a safe place that fully rehabilitates our returning citizens; Ward 7 is inundated with group homes, shelters and short-term housing projects.

**WHEREAS**, ANC 7E supports economic development along the Minnesota Ave/Benning Rd corridor that will create opportunities for our community and eventually serve as a safe, welcoming environment for returning citizens and other vulnerable populations to grow and thrive.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) 7E notes the following:

- I. We **oppose** CORE DC's plan to purchase the property at 3701 Benning Road NE to place and operate a halfway house.
- II. We request that the Office of Zoning submit a written decision on whether or not the proposed use of the property is permitted given the current zoning designation of the property at 3701 Benning Road NE is industrial.
- III. We request that DMPED work with CORE DC and District residents to identify a suitable location to operate a halfway house within the District of Columbia.

**ADOPTED** by vote at a regular public meeting (notice of which was properly given, and at which a quorum of   7   of the seven members was present on February 11, 2020 by a vote of   7   yes,   0   no and   0   abstained.

*Delia Houseal*  
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Delia Houseal, ANC 7E06  
Chair