

Sponsors: Vice-Chairperson Trupti Patel (2A03)

Introduced: April 12, 2024

Title: A Resolution Regarding Budget Oversight and the DC Department of General Services.

1 **WHEREAS**, On February 21, 2024, ANC 2A (the “Commission”) voted 4-2-1 on the 2024
2 performance oversight resolution on the Department of General Services (DGS) handling of the
3 Aston,

4
5 **WHEREAS**, In May 2023, the George Washington University (GWU) announced it had sold
6 the Aston, a former graduate student dormitory located at 1129 New Hampshire Avenue N.W. ,
7 to the Washington D.C. government through DGS for \$27.5 million,

8
9 **WHEREAS**, The Aston would be turned into D.C.’s first high-barrier homeless shelter that
10 would primarily serve adults with acute medical conditions, mixed-gendered adult families and
11 couples experiencing homelessness — populations that can’t be properly served in the other
12 shelters,

13
14 **WHEREAS**, ANC 2A, at a special meeting in June 2023, passed a resolution¹ in support of the
15 Aston contingent upon certain conditions being met and outstanding questions around services
16 provided and the state of the Aston answered,

17
18 **WHEREAS**, After the commission requested the building assessment² report from the
19 Department of Human Services (DHS) it was provided from DGS and upon review there was a

¹ [ANC-2A-RESOLUTION-CR-23-003-DGS-1.pdf \(anc2a.org\)](#)

² [Aston-Asset-Condition-Assessment-1.pdf \(thewash.org\)](#)

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20 deep concern regarding the safety and integrity of the building,

21

22 **WHEREAS**, Commissioner Omictin raised concerns about the state of the roof and that it
23 needed to be replaced immediately and considered as a non-negotiable Fiscal Year 2025 (FY
24 2025) budget priority not to be tiered out and replaced in 2028,

25

26 **WHEREAS**, Page 12 of the building assessment states, “The roof has a lot of patching and
27 water ponding's. No leak reported but the deterioration is visible and **needs immediate**
28 **replacement.**”

29

30 **WHEREAS**, At its April 2024³ meeting, the Community Advisory Team (CAT) was informed
31 that the Aston would become operational by August 2024,

32

33 **WHEREAS**, DGS has a history⁴ of not being transparent or working with a sense of urgency in
34 the maintenance of other D.C. government owned properties, causing distress amongst different
35 stakeholders,

36

37 **THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that ANC 2A requests the Council to allocate funding to

³ [DC tentatively sets August move-in date for Aston residents – The GW Hatchet](#)

⁴ [Audit cites General Services for mishandling of D.C. building repair requests - The Washington Post](#)

Resolution number: CR-24-014

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38 repair the roof in FY 2025.

39 **THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that ANC 2A requires both DHS & DGS to

40 outline procedures and protocols to ensure that the health and safety of the residents of the Aston

41 are centered.