



# Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2A

*“Serving the Foggy Bottom and West End communities of Washington, D.C.”*

April 28, 2025

TO: Janeese Lewis George, Ward 4 Council Member of the District of Columbia, Chair of the Committee on Department of General Services

## **RE: Department General Services Performance Oversight Resolution**

At its regular meeting on April 15, 2025, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2A (“ANC 2A” or “Commission”) considered the above-referenced matter. With all six commissioners present, a quorum at a duly-noticed public meeting, the Commission, after a motion made by Commissioner Patel and seconded by Commissioner Malec, adopted the following resolution by 5-0-1:

**WHEREAS**, In May of 2023 The George Washington University (GWU) announced it had sold the Aston, a former graduate student dormitory located at 1129 New Hampshire Avenue N.W., to Washington D.C. government through Department of General Services (DGS) for 27.5 million dollars;

**WHEREAS**, The initial announcement to the ANC indicated that Aston would be turned into D.C.’s first high-barrier homeless shelter that would primarily serve adults with acute medical conditions, mixed-gendered adult families and couples experiencing homelessness to stay together—populations that can’t be properly served in the other shelters,

**WHEREAS**, The Aston would be able to house 190 residents at its peak capacity, with up to two people per room and a bathroom for each unit. To stay there, residents would need to meet admission criteria and also agree to ongoing, “intensive” case management.

**WHEREAS**, The reason for such scrutiny and intensity around the oversight by the commission is that the Aston under The George Washington University had issues around mold and water leakage. If students were having such issues around maintenance before it was sold to DGS then it means the city has now inherited these issues.

**WHEREAS**, ANC 2A at a special meeting in June 2023 sent a resolution in support of the Aston contingent upon certain conditions being met and satisfactory responses to questions that were asked to be addressed, The resolution recommended creation of a Community Advisory Council(CAC) to oversee the management of the Aston and assure the safety of Aston residents and neighbors. This recommendation was implemented in an agreement between the Mayor and Councilmember Pinto.

**WHEREAS**, ANC 2A, the CAC, and Commissioner Patel testifying in numerous hearings in the FY 2025 budget cycle have worked to assure the condition of the Aston is safe for its residents were sending in letters of support for the Aston.



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**WHEREAS**, Friday, February 21, 2025, there was a Pepco Outage impacting the West End and the Aston was impacted resulting in the evacuation of the residents of the Aston.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that ANC 2A's requests a response in regards to the Pepco outage impacting the Aston to keep in line with the request for transparency and robust communications around the Aston:

1. With the knowledge that the Aston housed vulnerable populations that makes it traumatic and difficult in displacing them, why did the Aston neglect in upgrading the generator?
2. The current generator only does emergency electricity-the generator could not do heating or cooling and there was no hot water—how was this missed during the assessment of the Aston?

**THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that ANC 2A views the Aston having a generator that allows residents to stay in place as an essential item that DGS and DHS must address with urgency.

Commissioner Trupti Patel ([2A03@anc.dc.gov](mailto:2A03@anc.dc.gov)) is the Commission's representative in this matter.

ON BEHALF OF THE COMMISSION.

Sincerely,

Chairperson Trupti J Patel (she/her)  
Chair, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2A  
Historic Foggy Bottom  
Single Member District 2A03

CC:

Phil Mendelson, Chairperson,  
Christiana Henderson, At-Large Councilmember of the District of Columbia  
Brooke Pinto, Ward 2 Councilmember of the District of Columbia  
Brienne Nadeau, Ward 1 Councilmember of the District of Columbia  
Matthew Frumin, Ward 3 Councilmember of the District of Columbia  
Delano Hunter, Director, Department of General Services  
Alan Karnofsky, Chief of Staff, Department of General Services  
John Stokes, Associate Director External Affairs



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Wayne Turnidge, Deputy Mayor Health & Human Services

David Ross, Chief of Staff, Department of Human Services

Rachel Pierre, Interim Director, Department of Human Services

Anthony Newman, Deputy Administrator, Homeless Services, Department of  
Human Services

Sakina Thompson, Legal Counsel & Senior Policy Advisor, Executive Office of the Mayor

Tadai Abila, Ward 2 Manager, Mayor's Office of Community Relations