



# **Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2A**

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

June 25, 2025

TO: Matthew Frumin, Ward 3 Council Member of the District of Columbia,  
Chair of the Committee on Human Services  
Suite 408  
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington DC, 20004

## **RE: Department Human Services Budget Oversight Resolution**

At its regular meeting on June 18, 2025, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2A (“ANC 2A” or “Commission”) considered the above-referenced matter. With five commissioners present, a quorum at a duly-noticed public meeting, the Commission, after a motion made by Commissioner Youngstone and seconded by Chairperson Patel, adopted the following resolution by 4-0-1:

WHEREAS on December 9, 2024, the District of Columbia (DC) government opened the Aston, a non-congregate homeless shelter in ANC 2A converted from former George Washington University dormitories;

WHEREAS the Aston is currently capped indefinitely at a total of 100 residents due to an agreement<sup>1</sup> signed on July 6, 2023 by Ward 2 Councilmember Brooke Pinto and representatives of Mayor Muriel Bowser’s administration;

WHEREAS it has been reported that the Aston has the space to house up to 190 residents<sup>2</sup>;

WHEREAS DC continues to remain in a crisis of high rents and limited affordable housing<sup>3</sup> with supply of shelter for the unhoused continuing to lag behind demand;

WHEREAS recent reporting<sup>4</sup> has indicated that, following the closure of temporary winter shelters this year, the existing shelter infrastructure is saturated to the point that there are frequently no open shelter beds for men anywhere in the District, and Deputy Mayor Wayne Turnage stated in a recent oversight hearing<sup>5</sup> held on June 9, 2025 that the District needs to find ways to make more beds available;

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<sup>1</sup> [https://lims.dccouncil.gov/downloads/LIMS/53342/Other/PR25-0296-PR25-0296\\_and\\_CA\\_25-254\\_Disapproval\\_Resolution-Withdrawal\\_Memo.pdf](https://lims.dccouncil.gov/downloads/LIMS/53342/Other/PR25-0296-PR25-0296_and_CA_25-254_Disapproval_Resolution-Withdrawal_Memo.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.washingtonpost.com/dc-md-va/2024/11/25/dc-homeless-shelter-aston-families/>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.washingtonpost.com/dc-md-va/2024/10/25/study-dc-region-had-highest-rent-increase-among-major-metro-areas/>

<sup>4</sup> <https://streetsensemedia.org/article/dc-homeless-shelters-near-capacity-after-seasonal-closures/>

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r7fYR4i1ab0>



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WHEREAS the Aston’s non-congregate model makes it an outlier among DC shelters, offering levels of privacy and safety that are especially valued;

WHEREAS since the opening of the Aston, President Donald Trump has exerted continuing pressure for DC to eliminate encampments, and subsequently closure of encampments in DC in general and in ANC 2A specifically have ramped up significantly<sup>6</sup>, further increasing the need for shelter beds;

WHEREAS the elimination of thousands of federal workforce jobs by the new administration has caused unemployment to spike and experts to warn of a possible local recession<sup>7</sup> which will also likely increase the demand for shelter beds;

WHEREAS recent decisions made by the federal government have placed major economic pressure on this year’s DC budget cycle, creating a shortfall amounting to hundreds of millions of dollars<sup>8</sup>;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2A considers the presence of up to 90 habitable, unoccupied beds in the Aston to present an opportunity to make available desperately needed housing resources at a very low cost during a budget cycle where major financial constraints demand efficient usage of DC government property;

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2A urges Councilmember Brooke Pinto to communicate her support to the mayor’s office for continuing to gradually expand the maximum capacity of the Aston up to 190, and remove her requirement that it remain indefinitely capped at 100;

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2A urges Mayor Muriel Bowser and DMHHS to treat 190 as the new maximum capacity of the Aston, while continuing to preserve its mission as a bridge housing shelter;

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2A urges the DC Council to allocate funds in the upcoming budget cycle beyond the currently allocated \$13.1 million to supply the Aston with the additional employees and resources required to maintain the current level of service provided by the Aston at an increased capacity of 190 residents;

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<sup>6</sup> <https://streetsensemedia.org/article/dc-encampment-closures-displace-residents/>

<sup>7</sup> <https://www.washingtonpost.com/dc-md-va/2025/05/09/dc-economy-slump-recession-trump/>

<sup>8</sup> <https://www.nbcwashington.com/news/local/dc-weighs-layoffs-and-other-cuts-as-house-leaves-capital-city-in-budget-limbo/3896812/>



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THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2A recommends that the new cap of 190 be progressed towards gradually in the same manner as the previous habitation targets of 50 and 100, with another intermediate target of 150, to ensure that high quality service continues to be provided to all residents.

Commissioners Sean Youngstone ([2A09@anc.dc.gov](mailto:2A09@anc.dc.gov)) and Trupti Patel ([2A03@anc.dc.gov](mailto:2A03@anc.dc.gov)) are the Commission’s representative in this matter.

ON BEHALF OF THE COMMISSION.

Sincerely,

Trupti Patel  
Chairperson

CC:

Kevin Donahue, City Administrator, Washington DC  
Jenny Reed, Director, Office of Budget and Performance Management  
Jennifer Budoff, DC Council Budget Director  
Muriel Bowser, Mayor Washington DC  
Phil Mendelson, Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia  
Christiana Henderson, At-Large Councilmember of the District of Columbia  
Robert C. White, Jr., At-Large Councilmember of the District of Columbia

Brooke Pinto, Ward 2 Councilmember of the District of Columbia

Zachary Parker, Ward 5 Councilmember of the District of Columbia

Wendell Felder, Ward 7 Councilmember of the District of Columbia

Rachel Pierre, Interim Director, Department of Human Services

David Ross, Chief of Staff, Department of Human Services

Anthony Newman, Deputy Administrator, Homeless Services, Department of



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Human Services

Wayne Turnidge, Deputy Mayor Health & 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 Liaison Mayor's Office of Community Relations