



Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2A

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

October 22, 2025

TO: Brooke Pinto, Ward 2 Council Member of the District of Columbia,
Chair of the Committee on Judiciary & Public Safety
Suite 106
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington DC, 20004

RE: ANC 2A Aston Capacity Response to Councilmember Pinto

WHEREAS, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2A (“ANC 2A” or “the Commission”) passed the *Department of Human Services (DHS) Budget Oversight Resolution for Fiscal Year 2026* on June 18, 2025;

WHEREAS, ANC 2A received a response¹ from Ward 2 Councilmember Brooke Pinto to the above-referenced resolution on October 9, 2025;

WHEREAS, The Aston is currently capped indefinitely at a total of 100 residents pursuant to an agreement² signed on July 6, 2023, by Councilmember Brooke Pinto and representatives of Mayor Muriel Bowser’s administration;

WHEREAS, it has been reported that The Aston has the space and capacity to house up to 190 residents³;

WHEREAS, Councilmember Pinto stated in her correspondence, “*There are concerns about the feasibility of increasing the existing capacity with the current budget while maintaining the high quality of services for residents*”;

WHEREAS, Commissioner Youngstone responded the same day, respectfully requesting that the Councilmember “*identify some concrete targets The Aston could work towards in order to secure her support for expansion, so that the cap becomes dependent on performance instead of remaining as an arbitrary ceiling*”;

WHEREAS, Deputy Mayor Wayne Turnage stated during a June 9, 2025 oversight hearing⁴ that the District needs to find ways to make more beds available;

WHEREAS, recent federal decisions have placed significant economic pressure on the District’s FY2026 budget cycle, creating a shortfall amounting to hundreds of millions of dollars⁵;

¹[PintoResponseJuneResolution.pdf](https://www.washingtonpost.com/dc-md-va/2024/11/25/dc-homeless-shelter-aston-families/)

²https://lims.dccouncil.gov/downloads/LIMS/53342/Other/PR25-0296-PR25-0296_and_CA_25-254_Disapproval_Resolution_Withdrawal_Memo.pdf

³<https://www.washingtonpost.com/dc-md-va/2024/11/25/dc-homeless-shelter-aston-families/>

⁴<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r7fYR4i1ab0>

⁵<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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WHEREAS, in September 2025, *The Way Home Campaign* sent a [letter](#)⁶ to Mayor Muriel Bowser and Councilmember Pinto urging expansion of bridge housing, specifically The Aston;

WHEREAS, on October 15, 2025, *The Way Home Campaign* launched a citywide [sign-on letter](#) again calling for the expansion of The Aston;

WHEREAS, in her October 21, 2025 response to ANC 2A, Councilmember Pinto further stated, *“The success of this model is in part built on the consensus of the community, government partners, and those running the facility on the number of people served at a site”*;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that ANC 2A respectfully requests a clear and transparent response from Councilmember Pinto to Commissioner Youngstone’s question identifying specific goals and targets that the Department of Human Services (DHS) should meet in order to lift the current cap;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that ANC 2A does not support an indefinite cap on the number of residents at The Aston;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that ANC 2A requests a briefing from Deputy Mayor Wayne Turnage and DHS Director Rachel Pierre regarding The Aston’s first year of operations;

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that ANC 2A recommends that the capacity at The Aston be gradually increased toward a new cap of 190 residents, progressing through intermediate targets of 150 and 190, as was done in the previous increments of 50 and 100, to ensure continued high-quality service for all residents.

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

ON BEHALF OF THE COMMISSION.

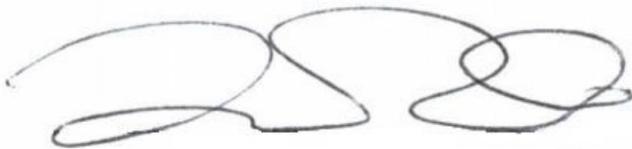
Sincerely,

⁶ [The Way Home Campaign Sign On Letter to Expand Bridge Housing](#)



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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

Matthew Frumin Ward 3 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

Theresa A. Silla, ICH Executive Director

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 Human Services

Wayne Turnidge, Deputy Mayor Health & 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