



Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2A

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

September 30, 2025

To:

Marcus L. Hunt
Director District of Columbia National Guard
2001 East Capitol Street SE
Washington, DC 20001

RE: DC National Guard Support for Community Beautification Projects

At its regular meeting on Wednesday, September 17, 2025, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2A (“ANC 2A” or “Commission”) considered the above-referenced matter. With four of five 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 **(4-0-0)**:

WHEREAS, Advisory Neighborhood Commissioners were sent a letter¹ on Monday, September 8, 2025 offering assistance for neighborhood beautification projects;

WHEREAS, ANC 2A appreciates the dedication of the members of the DC National Guard who balance their professional callings with deep roots in our neighborhoods;

WHEREAS, the National Guard has a critical mission: to respond in times of natural disasters, national security threats, and other emergencies that demand military readiness;

WHEREAS, using Guard troops for park clean-ups or neighborhood beautification projects departs from that mission and sets a troubling precedent;

WHEREAS, federal military forces should not be normalized as a presence in our community life for tasks that properly belong to civilian agencies.

WHEREAS, this is also a misuse of federal resources;

WHEREAS, the District’s parks have suffered from decades of neglect, not because our residents lack commitment, but because the National Park Service (NPS) budget has been repeatedly underfunded.

WHEREAS, the solution is not substituting military manpower but rather fully funding NPS so it can meet its obligations to care for our green spaces.

¹ [DC National Guard seeks to expand community role during federal takeover - WTOP News](#)



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WHEREAS, anything less diverts attention from systemic underinvestment and shifts responsibility onto institutions never designed for this purpose;

WHEREAS, ANC 2A acknowledges that many of our parks are in need of significant care and restoration;

WHEREAS, the right path forward is through structural investment—repairing decades of disrepair with a commitment to sustainable, long-term funding for NPS and local partners, not through temporary interventions by federal troops;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that this Commission must respectfully but firmly oppose the request for ANC participation in neighborhood beautification efforts involving National Guard troops.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Commission disapproves the request for Guard involvement in neighborhood beautification.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Commission advises the federal government to properly fund the National Park Service and to remove federal agents and military forces from neighborhood-level civilian life in the District of Columbia.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Commission remains committed to advancing strong, community-driven stewardship of our parks and green spaces, and to ensuring that our residents have the tools and investments needed to thrive.

Commissioner Trupti Patel (2A03@anc.dc.gov) is the Commission’s representative in this matter.

ON BEHALF OF THE COMMISSION.

Sincerely,

Trupti Patel
Chairperson

CC:

Muriel Bowser, Mayor, The District of Columbia

Pamela Smith, Chief, Metropolitan Police Department, The District of Columbia



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Lindsey Appiah, Deputy Mayor for Public Safety & Justice, The District of Columbia

Brian Schwalb, Attorney General, The District of Columbia

Phil Mendelson, Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia

Kenyan McDuffie, At-Large Council Member, Council of the District of Columbia

Robert White, At-Large Council Member, Council of the District of Columbia

Christina Henderson, At-Large Council Member, Council of the District of Columbia

Anita Bonds, At-Large Council Member, Council of the District of Columbia

Brianne Nadeau, Ward 1 Councilmember of the District of Columbia

Brooke Pinto, Ward 2 Councilmember of the District of Columbia

Matthew Frumin, Ward 3 Councilmember of the District of Columbia

Janeese Lewis George, Ward 4 Councilmember of the District of Columbia

Zachary Parker, Ward 5 Councilmember of the District of Columbia

Charles Allen, Ward 6 Councilmember of the District of Columbia

Wendell Felder, Ward 7 Councilmember of the District of Columbia

Trayon White, Ward 8 Councilmember of the District of Columbia