



# Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2A

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

September 20, 2025

TO:

Muriel Bowser  
Mayor of the District of Columbia  
Executive Office of the Mayor  
John A. Wilson Building  
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 20004

## **RE: Resolution on Public Notice and Unscheduled Encampment Clearings in and around Washington Circle**

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 Malec and seconded by Commissioner Patel, adopted the following resolution by **(4-0-0)**:

**WHEREAS**, on August 8, 2025, the Office of the Deputy Mayor for Health and Human Services (DMHHS) posted notice that encampments in and around Washington Circle would be closed on Monday, August 18, 2025<sup>1</sup>;

**WHEREAS**, on the evening of Thursday, August 14, 2025, federal agents and District police arrived to clear the aforementioned encampments but departed after being shown the DMHHS notice indicating a Monday deadline;

**WHEREAS**, no tents were cleared on Thursday, August 14, 2025;

**WHEREAS**, on Friday, August 15, 2025, law-enforcement and public works personnel returned to the area in and around Washington Circle and conducted unscheduled clearings notwithstanding the previously posted August 18 notice;

**WHEREAS**, the District’s Protocol for Responding to Homeless Encampments on Public Space (02/28/2025)<sup>2</sup> requires at least seven (7) days’ posted notice for a standard cleanup and permits

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<sup>1</sup> See EXHIBIT A at the end of this document.

<sup>2</sup> *Office of the City Administrator*. (2025, Feb 28). Protocol for Responding to Homeless Encampments on Public Space. Retrieved Aug 27, 2025, from [https://dmhhs.dc.gov/sites/default/files/dc/sites/dmhhs/page\\_content/attachments/Encampment%20Protocol\\_02.28.25.pdf#:~:text=](https://dmhhs.dc.gov/sites/default/files/dc/sites/dmhhs/page_content/attachments/Encampment%20Protocol_02.28.25.pdf#:~:text=)



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an immediate cleanup without prior notice only when DMHHS determines that the site poses an emergency security, health, or safety risk;

**WHEREAS**, unscheduled clearances can cause significant harm by denying residents a reasonable opportunity to secure their belongings, increasing the likelihood of losing critical documents, medications, and other essential items, and undermining connections to services;

**WHEREAS**, ANC 2A believes all District residents should be treated with dignity and respect by their government, regardless of housing status, and that transparency and accountability are foundational to public trust;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that ANC 2A requests a formal, written response from the Mayor’s administration addressing the following, and supplying all underlying documents:

1. **Presence on Aug 14 (Thursday evening):** Which District agencies and which federal agencies/units were on-scene in and around Washington Circle?
2. **Authorization (Aug 14):** Which District official(s) and which federal official(s) authorized the attempted clearing? Please provide any written directives, emails, and operational plans.
3. **Decision to stand down (Aug 14):** Who decided to refrain from clearing, and on what basis?
4. **Decision to proceed (Aug 15, Friday):** When, and by which District official(s), was the decision made to proceed with the clearing on Aug 15?
5. **Legal/Protocol basis (Aug 15):** Was the Aug 15 action treated as a “Standard Cleanup” or an “Immediate Cleanup?” If “Immediate,” provide the written emergency determination, hazard description, inter-agency notifications, and the post-cleanup notice required by the Protocol.
6. **Agencies on Aug 15:** Which District agencies (e.g., MPD, DPW, DHS, DBH, DDOT) participated on site? Were any federal personnel present or directing operations?
7. **Notice awareness:** Were the officials who authorized the Aug 15 clearing aware of the Monday, Aug 18 posted notice? If so, why was action advanced?
8. **Ward notification:** Was Ward 2 Councilmember Brooke Pinto notified by the Mayor’s administration in advance of (a) the Aug 14 attempted clearing or (b) the Aug 15



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clearing? If so, when and by whom?

9. **Resident protections:** What steps were taken to ensure safety and continuity of care (on-site DHS/DBH outreach, medical support, language access, ADA accommodations), and what were the counts of shelter/housing offers and acceptances on Aug 14 and 15?
10. **Property handling:** How many items were stored versus discarded, where can residents retrieve stored property, and what is the inventory number assigned under the Protocol’s 60-day storage provisions?
11. **Records:** Please provide copies of all posted notices for Washington Circle, any rescheduling or immediate-cleanup signage, after-action reports, and any communications with federal agencies concerning Washington Circle between Aug 13-18, 2025.
12. **Future coordination:** What steps will be taken to ensure that future cleanups in ANC 2A comply with the Protocol’s notice requirements and that the ANC and Ward 2 councilmember’s office receive timely notice?

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that ANC 2A urges the Mayor’s administration to adhere to the 02/28/2025 protocol’s notice and outreach standards and to employ the “Immediate Cleanup” exception only when an objectively documented emergency exists.

Commissioner Jim Malec ([2A08@anc.dc.gov](mailto:2A08@anc.dc.gov)) and Commissioner Trupti Patel ([2A03@anc.dc.gov](mailto:2A03@anc.dc.gov)) are the Commission’s representatives in this matter.

ON BEHALF OF THE COMMISSION.

Sincerely,

Trupti Patel  
Chairperson

CC:

Wayne Turnage, Deputy Mayor for Health and Human Services (DMHHS)  
Sakina Thompson, Legal Counsel and Senior Policy Advisor for DMHHS  
Rachel Pierre, Acting Director, DC Department of Human Services



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Timothy Spriggs, Director, DC Department of Public Works

Pamela A. Smith, Chief of Police, Metropolitan Police Department

Tatjana Savoy, Commander, Second District, Metropolitan Police Department

## EXHIBIT A

