



# Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2A

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

April 28, 2026

Charles Allen, Ward 6 Council Member,  
Chair of the Committee on Transportation and Environment  
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Suite 110  
Washington DC, 20004

## **RE: THE RISING COST OF UTILITIES AND THE NEED FOR STRONGER OVERSIGHT AND CONSUMER PROTECTIONS**

At its regular meeting on Wednesday, April 15, 2026, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2A (“ANC 2A” or “Commission”) considered the above-referenced matter. With six of six commissioners present, a quorum at a duly-noticed public meeting, the Commission, after a motion made by Chairperson Patel and seconded by Commissioner Dolan, adopted the following resolution by (4-2-0):

**WHEREAS**, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2A (“ANC 2A”) is authorized to advise the District of Columbia government on matters that affect the health, safety, economic stability, and quality of life of residents within its boundaries; and

**WHEREAS**, residents of ANC 2A and across the District have experienced significant increases in utility costs, with some households reporting substantially higher monthly bills alongside rising housing, food, and other cost-of-living expenses; and

**WHEREAS**, increases in utility costs may have a disproportionate impact on seniors, low-income households, communities of color, and working residents with limited disposable income; and

**WHEREAS**, residents have expressed concerns regarding utility affordability, billing practices, notice of rate changes, and utility disconnections, including the timing and resolution of such disconnections; and

**WHEREAS**, The DC Office of The People’s Counsel<sup>1</sup> has challenged two of the Public Service Commission’s decisions that were deemed harmful to Pepco Customers;

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<sup>1</sup> [OPC Wins A Victory for Pepco Customers in Two Major Appeals Court Decisions | Office of the People's Counsel](#)



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WHEREAS, the DC Council has adopted emergency legislation temporarily prohibiting Pepco from disconnecting electric service for a period of ninety (90) days for residents and businesses with arrearages of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) or less, and;

WHEREAS, ANC 2A recognizes the importance of accompanying legislative action with effective implementation, monitoring, and oversight to ensure intended consumer protections are realized;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2A respectfully requests that the Council of the District of Columbia consider pairing utility affordability legislation with ongoing oversight and accountability measures, including, but not limited to, the following:

## Public Service Commission Oversight

- Request clear, publicly accessible explanations of approved utility rate changes, including information on potential household impacts by income level and geography.
- Conduct periodic oversight hearings focused on consumer protection, affordability, enforcement activity, and complaint resolution.
- Encourage transparency regarding communications related to utility rate proceedings.

## Utility Assistance Program Access

- Encourage the use of existing income and benefits data, where legally permissible, to facilitate automatic or streamlined enrollment in utility affordability and arrearage management programs.
- Reduce administrative barriers that may limit resident participation in assistance programs.

## Utility Disconnection Practices

- Support enforcement mechanisms for existing disconnection protections and consumer safeguards.
- Request regular reporting on utility disconnections by geographic area and household characteristics, with publicly available summaries.

## Billing Transparency

- Encourage utilities to present charges, fees, and rate components in clear and understandable language on customer bills.



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- Request advance notice and review of proposed rate structures or fees that may significantly affect household utility costs.

## Review of Utility Oversight Framework

- Support an independent review of the District’s utility oversight framework, including regulatory processes, enforcement practices, and complaint handling procedures.
- Encourage the development of publicly reported recommendations and implementation timelines, as appropriate.

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED** that ANC 2A encourages the District government to continue evaluating utility affordability impacts across all income levels and communities and to prioritize policies that promote transparency, fairness, and stability for District residents.

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, Chairman, At-Large Councilmember of the District of Columbia  
Doni Crawford, At-Large Councilmember of the District of Columbia  
Christiana Henderson, At-Large Councilmember of the District of Columbia  
Brienne Nadeau, Ward 1 Councilmember of the District of Columbia  
Brooke Pinto, Ward 2 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  
Jimika Williams, Ward 2 Liaison, Mayor's Office of Community Relations