

Transcript of ANC 3B Meeting of April 9, 2026

Edited for Clarity and Readability

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0:08:55	New Business
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0:22:44	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Briefing on Potomac Spill from Hedrick Belin, President of Potomac Conservancy
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Call to Order [0:00:00]

Approval of Agenda [0:00:00]

Turmail: Oh, we started. Well, hello everyone. It's Brian Turmail with ANC 3B. Let's give folks a couple seconds to finish logging in and then we'll get started. So, hang tight. You're in the right spot. Hedrick, how are you today?

Belin: Doing well, thank you.

Turmail: We've got like two quick items on the agenda and then we're going to get to you, if that's all right.

Belin: Good, no worries. Appreciate the opportunity.

Turmail: But thank you for making time to join us. We do very much appreciate it.

Belin: You're very welcome.

Turmail: All right. I feel like that's enough. I don't like long silences, so that's enough time. If other people log in afterwards, they'll figure out what's going on. Welcome to ANC 3B's April meeting. The first thing we need to do before we can start the meeting is actually approve the agenda. Melissa prepared an agenda, circulated it. I think we had one update to it between the first time we published it and the second time. But is there a motion to approve the agenda and get started?

Howie: Motion.

Turmail: All right. A second?

Howie: Second, Howie.

Turmail: All in favor say, "Aye," or raise your hand. All right. We've got five commissioners voting for it. Richard is not with us, so it's five to zero.

Police Report [0:1:25]

Turmail: First thing on the agenda is an update from the Metropolitan Police Department, Second District. Lieutenant Johnson, you're with us.

Johnson: Hello. Can you hear me?

Turmail: We can hear you just fine. Absolutely.

Johnson: Hello, everyone. It's Lieutenant Johnson from Second District, PSA 204, which includes ANC 3B, Glover Park. This month we had about six crimes to report. We had three thefts from autos and three thefts. In reference to one of those thefts from autos, the doors were unlocked. So, please remember to lock your doors, hide your items, and try to park in well-lit places if you can. Other than that, Glover Park's been doing real good. Nothing newsworthy to report in the last 30 days in Glover Park.

Turmail: Don't be jinxing things, Lieutenant.

Johnson: We had a rough patch in February, so we're doing a lot better. Hopefully we keep this up. Any questions about anything going on in Glover Park? Any traffic concerns or anything you want addressed?

Turmail: Gupi, you have a question? We'll start with you.

Howie: I just was wondering if you had any more background info on like the Glover Park Tobacco being closed and then--

Lane: Reopening.

Howie: --reopening and what's going on?

Johnson: Did it reopen?

Lane: Yes.

Howie: Yes. I remember getting an email from you about it being closed. I just wasn't sure why or how it got reopened.

Johnson: ABCA closed it. They had some violations. I guess they sell tobacco products, and I guess they had some violations regarding that. And I thought they permanently closed it. I didn't know they reopened. When did they reopen, do you know?

Lane: They opened a couple of weeks ago. They paid a \$5,000 fine because they were selling more than tobacco, and promised not to sell any more pot.

Johnson: Oh, wow. ABCA, they didn't give me too much information other than when they close and open. So I'll email them and see what's going on with that.

Howie: Do you know how ABCA was made aware of Glover Park Tobacco selling--?

Johnson: I know ABCA, they do pop-up inspections and things like that, and they have their little investigation team. They do try to buy products that they shouldn't, you know. So they have their own investigators. They go out and investigate.

Howie: Okay.

Turmail: Other questions, Gupi?

Howie: No. The Department of Buildings will like issue permits with no inspectors randomly

popping up, but ABCA will show up randomly to make sure you're not smelling weed.

Johnson: Yeah, I see them at night running club zones. They do have inspectors out all times of the day and night.

Turmail: I'll take your word for it. I haven't seen any at the clubs because I haven't been at the clubs. Other questions for Lieutenant Johnson from commissioners? Anyone from the community have a question for Lieutenant Johnson?

Lane: I don't see any.

Turmail: All right, we're going to let you off easy tonight, Lieutenant Johnson. Thank you so much for what you guys are doing. Hope you all stay safe out there. If you need anything from us, let us know, please.

Johnson: Appreciate it. Stay safe, everyone.

Turmail: All right, thank you. And remember to lock your cars. I lived in DC in the mid-90s, so I can't leave a single item in my car just because I was so burned by that experience.

Old Business [0:04:44]

Review and Vote on Grant Request for Glover Park Day 2026 [0:04:44]

Turmail: Old business. We need to review and vote on a grant request for Glover Park Day 2026. We had this originally on the agenda for March if I recall, but we had to move it to April because we had to wait for clearance from the Office of the ANC that this was an appropriate use of our grant resources. And the word was that it is appropriate. So I don't know if we need to say more about the grant or what it's for.

Lane: Yeah, I will. I will.

Turmail: Go for it. Thank you, Melissa. Save me from myself.

Lane: I'll save you, Brian. By the way, I'm going to recuse myself from this vote because I am a co-chair of Glover Park Day, and my other co-chair is here to give you a rundown on it. Alexandria Trager, I see your name. There you are.

Trager: Yes, I'm right here.

Lane: Okay. So, Alex is going to give you the rundown and what we are asking for.

Trager: Yeah. Thanks, Melissa. My name is Alexandria Trager, and I'm one of the event co-chairs for this year's 35th annual Glover Park Day. As you all know, it's our annual neighborhood festival celebrating the businesses, organizations, and residents that really make Glover Park a special place to live. We typically draw about 3,000 attendees from the greater community and connect our residents to businesses, local artisans, and many DC agencies. And this annual community event is planned and staffed entirely by volunteers through the support of the Glover Park Citizens Association. And it's also funded primarily by local businesses. But the Glover Park Citizens Association covers all of the upfront costs to plan the event as well as any losses incurred. So last year the event, just for reference, cost about \$20,000, and GPCA absorbed approximately a \$7,000 loss from last year's event. So, I first of all want to thank the ANC for its past support of this event as we request this grant support again this year. The costs for basic infrastructure such as tables, chairs, a stage for entertainment, they just continue to increase year-over-year. So this year we are requesting a grant of \$5,000 to help offset that specific line of expenses for the event. So the current quote we have for that is just over \$8,200. So, just offsetting a portion of those expenses. We would appreciate the approval of this grant request so we can keep putting on this event for our community. And I'm happy to answer any specific questions you might have.

Turmail: All right. Any questions about the grant request from fellow commissioners? I do see one question from the chat function, and it's--
"Are there any new--" I got distracted by the previous questions. "Are there any new contributions from sponsors?" Sorry, Alex. "Are there any contributions from sponsors that are helping offset," I assume, my inference is, "that are helping offset the costs as well?"

Trager: Local businesses will contribute to sponsor the event. They will sign up to attend, and there's different sponsorship tiers. So, different businesses throughout the greater Clover Park area will sponsor at different levels. That is what primarily, that is what funds the majority of this event every year.

Turmail: Gotcha. Any other questions from the community since we've opened it up for questions from the community? All right. At that case, I would like to make a motion that we approve the grant request for Glover Park Day 2026. Anyone seconding?

Howie: Second.

Rodriguez: I'll second.

Turmai: All in favor, raise your hand or say, "Aye."

Howie: Aye.

Rodriguez: Aye.

Turmail: I show four for, one abstaining. All right. We'll work out the details of getting you the

money, Alex, but it's yours.

Trager: Thank you very much.

Turmail: Thank you, both to you and Melissa, and for everyone else who's involved in organizing Glover Park Day. It is one of the special events that ties our community together. It's a ton of fun, and I must appreciate that it's a ton of work getting it put together. And you probably all have day jobs, so thank you for what you're doing.

Trager: Thank you guys.

Turmail: Gotcha.

New Business [0:08:55]

Discussion and Resolution on Request for Installation of a Public “Throne” Restroom on the Grounds of Guy Mason Recreation Center [0:08:55]

Turmail: All right. Next up, we have two pieces of new business. And, Hedrick, we're almost there, I promise you. We just have a discussion. And I think, Melissa, this one is yours as well, if I've got it wrong, on request for installation of a public throne restroom on the grounds of Guy Mason Recreation Center?

Lane: This is mine also. I have Jeff Russell here who is the president of Friends of Guy Mason. The issue is that there is no accessible restroom when the Rec Center is closed, which is on weekends, which is very hard for parents who have kids on the playground, and also for people with mobility challenges. And so the proposal is to have one of these public thrones installed. There is one, if you wanted to see it, on the east side of Dupont Circle, and they're they're self-contained. But I will let Jeff go into detail about that.

Russell: Thank you, Melissa. So, my name is Jeff Russell, president of Friends of Guy Mason. And thank you for giving me a moment to speak about this effort. I just added to the chat the link to the website for the Throne Labs. Melissa hit the nail on the head. This is to add capacity for our neighborhood, the people that use the park on the weekends. The facilities are not open Saturday, Sunday, when we have a lot of families come to use the playground. And so I thought that it would be a good addition to the park and a good addition, good help for the community. I have spoken to a representative from the company, the Throne. They're here in DC. Melissa said there's one in Dupont Circle. I've seen it. These things are self-contained. They are solar powered. They have, you know, they don't require any hookup to sewer, or electric, or water. Again, they're self-contained. The access is limited to an app on the telephone, which adds to accountability. So they know who has used this thing at a particular time. And the outside of it is

coated with a vinyl, so it's easy to-- It's graffiti proof. The interior is graffiti proof. If something happens, it's easy to fix and maintain. The company maintains these things on a regular basis, on a per use, you know, with so many uses they send around a maintenance crew. This thing is rather expensive, but the city has already entered into a relationship with the company. And so my ask here for this organization would simply be an endorsement of this, which I will then take to Councilman Frumin and the office of the Mayor to advocate for this thing.

Turmail: Gupi, it looks like you've got a question? You're on mute though. Profound, but on mute.

Howie: Sorry. I just wanted to quickly summarize what I understand.

Russell: Yeah.

Howie: So, this is like a self-contained unit where-- So, there's no like flush?

Russell: There is a flush. There's a toilet in there.

Howie: Is there water like in the bowl?

Russell: Yep. So, it has its own water storage, and it has its own receptacle for the waste. So it does need to be maintained regularly to refill and evacuate.

Howie: And then how often-- Is that like a-- Like, if you want it to be done every week versus every month? Is that like a subscription level that you have to--

Russell: No, no. It is based on usage.

Howie: Okay.

Russell: So this thing connects to the mothership, and it knows 15 usages, time to go out and clean it. 16, 20, whatever the number is that they've determined, they go out and clean, refill, evacuate.

Howie: And just for residents that might be concerned. So it's not open all the time? It's locked, and you have to download an app to access it to unlock the door?

Russell: So, yes, correct. You have to have an app on your phone. If you look at the website, I believe there's a QR code right on the front of the space, and you can get in. It is limited to a ten-minute time frame inside.

Howie: What happens after ten minutes?

Russell: You know, that's a good question. I presume the lights go out.

Howie: Okay. I was just wondering.

Russell: At the very least. Maybe the doors kick open, I don't know. But this is on the website.

Howie: Okay. I think this--

Russell: And also, it is ADA compliant in that it has a ramp and grab bars. You know, to get in and out.

Howie: I think this is, I mean, I'm just speaking for myself as a former parent who took young kids to Glover Park. I think this would be a great addition instead of having to like, if you have a boy, just like shoveling them over to like the Russian poetry garden and peeing on a stone.

Turmail: We just walk him to Whole Foods. But anyway. But there was a period where it was closed.

Howie: Well, there was also no ramp over there, so you had to like go around. You had to pass the question-- Anyways, so I think it's nice that it's not just open in a way that would encourage people to just reside and encamp there because there's a free bathroom to use.

Russell: Yes, that's very true. Let me see. When I spoke to the representative from the company, this thing needs to be placed on a firm surface. You put it out on dirt, it will sink. It'll go sideways, because it weighs a lot. We're suggesting the corner of the parking lot nearest the entrance. That'd be off of Calvert, the entrance at Calvert. And it would take up two parking spaces. So, it's not going to be a big burden to the space. But it would allow--

Lane: It's also well lit there.

Russell: Yes, correct. So there you go. If you guys want more information, I have a-- I don't know if I can upload a-- I've got an FAQ. The website has an FAQ page where you can go and take a look at it. So, this thing is expensive. There's not a chance that the Friends of Guy Mason can afford this thing. It's 60 to 80k a year, which would clean our clock in a hurry. So, I'm hoping that with the ANC's support that perhaps the city would take care of this.

Turmail: Other questions from commissioners about this? I think you addressed my one question, which was just what's to prevent someone from taking up residence in one of these? I don't know if there's a direct link, but when we had a few more ATM machines in the neighborhood, it seems that there were some people who took residence in the evenings there. And, look, I'm all for having a roof over your head, but there's probably a healthier place for people to be than in a toilet.

Russell: Definitely.

Rodriguez: Yeah. I just went to that website you posted also. There's some helpful information on there as well as Q&A, so it does answer a lot of the questions that we're receiving.

Turmail: Any other questions from commissioners? If not, I'm happy to open it up to the community. It looked like there was maybe-- I wasn't quite paying attention to online. Carol, did you have some questions?

Vilsack: Hi, thanks. I mean, I'm for it, too. I'm for it, too, but the cost is super high. Are there any alternatives to this, or this is actually the preferred model at 60 to 80K?

Russell: Well, I don't know of any alternatives. When I struck out on this search, this is what I found. They're already here in the city. I mean, it's a fairly large box. And given the maintenance concerns, this is why the price point is high.

Howie: I would assume the alternative-- Oh, sorry. Carol, I would assume the alternative would be like a porta-john that we all have those experiences of on a hot humid day, you open the door, and this waft of-- You know.

Vilsack: Yes. TMI, of course.

Lane: Those are really expensive, too.

Vilsack: Agree, agree.

Howie: Well, you asked.

Vilsack: I think it's a good idea. I'm just asking if there are alternatives that are less expensive. And also for safety, it just concerns me that if it's right there in the parking lot, people will just pop in and use it and then drive away. I don't know. I don't know if that's how the Dupont Circle one is used. I mean, I think it's a great idea for young parents and children. I'm not disputing this. I'm just asking for safety reasons, is that location the best location to put it? I don't know.

Russell: I'm not 100% certain either about the location being the best. You know, the scenario of people driving by and popping in, that's precisely what it's for. It is a public restroom.

Vilsack: Yeah, I don't-- You're presenting this as an opportunity for young parents at the park, and now it's turned into a stop on the parkway where you stop in, and have a break, and get a snack.

Turmail: Carol, did you have another question?

Lane: It's more than that. It's more than just a stopgap for parents in the park. It's also we have an awful lot of challenges with people who have mobility challenges who can't get into the Rec Center because the elevator door is locked for security reasons. It's well beyond just parents

with kids. They are one of the groups that's in need though.

Vilsack: Okay. Understood.

Turmail: Other questions for Jeff? All right. I would make a motion that we approve the--

Lane: I've got a resolution. Do you want--

Turmail: Yeah, I'm sorry. I'm sorry. Of course. Go for it. Why don't you share the resolution before we make a motion on the resolution?

Lane: Okay, I'll just do-- I won't go through the whole thing, but I'll do the, "Therefore, be it resolved that ANC 3B formally requests that the Department of Public Works evaluate Guy Mason Recreation Center as a priority site for installation of a Throne public restroom. Be it further resolved that ANC 3B urges Ward 3 Councilmember Matt Fumman to support this request and, if necessary, allocate funding to introduce budget language to facilitate installation. And finally, that ANC 3B authorizes the Chair and the Commissioner for SMD 3B03 to transmit this resolution to DPW and the Office of the City Administrator, the Department of Parks and Rec, and the Ward 3 Councilmember."

Turmail: Any questions from commissioners about the language in the resolution? Or concerns, or comments, or edits? All right. Anything from the community about the resolution? I know we've already asked questions of Jeff. All right. I will make a motion that we approve the resolution. Is there a second?

Lavezzo: Second.

Turmail: All in favor say, "Aye," or raise your hand.

Howie: Aye.

Turmail: I'm showing five for, zero against. The resolution passes.

Howie: You mean five for the resolution? Because when you say five for, it sounds like five are for it, and four are against.

Turmail: Five in support of the resolution.

Howie: Thank you.

Turmail: Zero people voting against the resolution. Thank you for helping me clarify. I need all the help I can get, Gupi. All right. Resolution is yours. Thank you, Jeff.

Russell: Thank you.

Turmail: You bet. Appreciate it.

Lane: Thanks, Jeff.

Turmail: And thank you for what you're doing for Guy Mason. And as a parent who has spent many years having to take the kid to the Whole Foods and then buy them stuff because we're in the Whole Foods, I appreciate what you're trying to do. And sadly, I actually miss those days. Anyway, all right.

Briefing on Potomac Spill from Hedrick Belin, President of Potomac Conservancy [0:22:44]

Turmail: Moving on. Next on the agenda item is-- I'll let Hedrick do most of the background here, but just kind of the very high-level overview. In January, I can't remember the exact date, the DC Water pipeline that runs parallel to the C&O Canal a couple miles outside of the DC line in Maryland near Glenn Echo burst, which then led to raw sewage being leaked into the canal and ultimately into the Potomac. And then efforts to repair the pipeline were stymied by the fact that there had been a large, I think, boulder blockade in the pipe that had to be removed, which then required DC Water to turn the C&O Canal into an open-air sewer to divert around the rock blockage. Anyway, all of this is, I think, being resolved. I'll let Hedrick disagree on this one or not. But it obviously had a big impact on the water quality of Potomac. And though our ANC doesn't touch the Potomac, I assume all of us, A, value and many of us, B, use the Potomac. I, for one, am a member of the Washington Canoe Club and like to go kayaking and stand-up paddle boarding, and don't want to have to worry about falling into sewage when I'm stand-up paddle boarding. So, we've asked Hedrick who is, I've got his bio, but I won't read-- It's a very short bio. He's the President of the Potomac Conservancy, which fights to improve the Potomac River and its surrounding lands through conservation and advocacy. We've asked Hedrick to come and speak to us about, you know, what happened and what's going on. And I think answer some questions about, you know, is the Potomac safe, and is it something, a place where we can safely recreate? I will add that we did also invite representatives from DC Water to come tonight and share any updates, and they declined the invitation. And I know we also reached out to Councilmember Frumin, but I believe he had a scheduling conflict. With that, Hedrick, thank you so much for making the time to join us. I'll kind of hand it over to you, and perhaps you want to give us an overview, and then if you would be kind enough to entertain some questions, that'd be wonderful, please.

Belin: No, happy to do it. And thank you. And, yeah, I'll try to be brief, and then time for questions. I will note way back before there was a Whole Foods, I did live on W Street, 37th. So, yeah, you know. But that area has obviously changed a lot. At the same time, I'm pretty sure Rockland's Barbecue is still there.

Turmail: It is, and we're big fans.

Belin: Just saying. So anyways, no, but appreciate the opportunity. And I do think it's-- I appreciate the introduction. The Potomac Conservancy, you can find out more about us at potomac.org, but we're one of the region's leading clean water advocates, and we really believe that the foundation for vibrant, sustainable, healthy communities starts with clean water. And we're fortunate to have over 42,000 supporters, neighbors and friends of yours, probably, that stand with us to protect the river. And we work alongside all sorts of local, regional, and national partners to deliver meaningful clean water results. But Brian's correct. On January 19th, there was a catastrophic failure of this sewage pipe that starts out near Dulles Airport and goes all the way down to Blue Plains, which is down near Woodrow Wilson Bridge. This pipe at this particular stretch is six feet in diameter. So, it's enormous. And the complete collapse happened roughly at the American Legion Bridge in the C&O Canal, just to put a finer point on it. But over hundreds and hundreds of millions of gallons of raw sewage over about a five-day period just went flowing right downhill into the Potomac. To be fair, the engineers at DC Water did an incredible job figuring out how to design an emergency bypass, which was to pump this above the break, divert the sewage into the C&O canal, and run it past the brake, and then put it back into this six-foot pipe. You know, just below where the break was. And you may not remember, but they got it going right before all the snow hit. So they were setting this up under terrible-- It was below freezing the whole time. So the crews also did a Herculean effort to try to get it contained. Fortunate at some level that there was a a bypass like the C&O Canal, but acknowledging also that the C&O Canal is a 200-year-old, clay-lined structure. And the reason the Park Service doesn't put water in there is because it leaks. But anyways. So the good news is by mid-March they had sort of solved everything, and there's no longer sewage flowing into the pipe, 40 to 60 million gallons of sewage on a daily basis flowing into the canal. It's all back in the pipe, which is great. But at the same time, there's a lot of problems around this. Decades of progress cleaning up the Potomac. It's inexcusable that we had to have an open sewer flowing just upstream of DC. And DC Water, we pushed them, along with other partners, to hold public meetings, public sessions at Walt Whitman High School, also down at DC Water headquarters in February and March. And a lot of people were ticked off and angry, and wanting answers. And at those meetings they got left feeling dismissed. And so there's a big issue about trust, both with DC Water and the community, I think, but also trust, and I'll come to this in a sec, about the river. And is it safe to go into it? I think just because the sewage is back in a pipe, contained, that doesn't mean the crisis is over. The ecological harm is certainly significant, especially around-- This is Lock 10 on the C&O Canal and other touch points and just downstream, Minnie Island, Sycamore Island. The other thing is with this amount of sewage and solids, we don't know where it all ended up. Solids tend to sink. We called on DC Water to do three or four things. One, obviously, is to continue to do water quality testing and monitoring at a variety of sites immediately you know there at Lock 10, but all the way down to like Thompson's, so just a little bit below the Washington Canoe Club. But a lot of other places before you get to Key Bridge. And then actually going further downstream, National Harbor and whatnot. So we want to see DC Water, you know, this long-term monitoring at both the spill site and downstream through the summer. Because we don't have, it's not like we could sort of go like, "Oh, remember the spill that happened in Boston and the one in Chicago?" to learn from. But people want to know, obviously, is it safe to swim in, or paddle board on, or let their children splash

along the shoreline? And the good news right now is overall daily testing for the most part looks like the pollution levels is below the threshold for recreation. That said, if it's rained hard in the last 48 hours, even before this, if it's rained hard in the last 48 hours, you don't really want to be going into the Potomac because of some combined sewer overflows. The other two things we're looking at is we need an independent, third-party investigation into the root causes of this collapse. And recommending solutions, systemic changes that need to happen. DC Water is doing an internal investigation that's better than nothing, but we don't feel like it's enough. I mean, you know, Some of the questions that we think need to be answered. What did DC Water know about the conditions of this section of the pipe? The Post actually had a story a week ago this Thursday. And what was the conditions, and what did it know about it. And, you know, what maintenance, inspections, capital decisions were made or deferred on this section? So, there's still a lot of questions to answer there. And then the final thing, they've done some very preliminary remediation. I'm actually going to be down there tomorrow just to see what they've done over the last week or so, maybe ten days now. There's going to be a long-term, some long-term mitigation and repair. And the communities need to be involved. Cabin John, Glenn Echo. Users need to be involved, whether it's Canoe Cruisers Association, Washington Canoe Club. Just downstream at Lock 6, it's a place where a lot of Kayak and high school teams put in for kayak. And then Fletcher's Cove, obviously, you know, what's going on at that big fisheries place? We certainly want to see what does it mean for local businesses as well. What does it mean for high school rowers? I mean Potomac Boat Club I know, for example, is back out. Some high school teams are back out. Just a couple of final thoughts. We were lucky for a variety, a couple of different reasons. Lucky that it happened downstream of the drinking water intakes. Everyone in Glover Park, when you turn on the tap at home or if you work, you're drinking Potomac River water. So, on both sides of the river, actually. Langley and Fairfax, as well as Montgomery, and then at the aqueduct where, you know, but the intake's above the spill. Second is that it happened in the winter, so there weren't a lot of-- Actually, the break happened above the spots, so it happened at the Beltway. The water intakes are outside the Beltway. Whoever put that in the chat, thank you. And that it happened in the winter, so there wasn't a lot of recreation. If this had happened on July 1st, right before 4th of July weekend, a much different situation in terms of what's going to be allowed. In Glover Park, you're right, it's not, sewage is not going to come upstream into Glover Archbold Park. But, you know, anyone going down to Key Bridge or down to Thompson's is going to want to know it's safe. And it raises a another question, too. This is infrastructure that was put in in the 1960s. So, it's about 60 years old. We did a lot of great work addressing industrial pollute, bright green stuff coming out of an industrial pipe, right? But the infrastructure is old, and bridges and roads and other things, if we don't invest and maintain that infrastructure, there's chances for collapse or failure the way we saw here. And so where else is this particular sewage pipe vulnerable? Where else in the District proper, as well as Montgomery County? Where else in the country? So there's definitely some very specific things at a local level around, you know, what does it mean for members of the Washington Canoe Club? What does it mean for high school teams? What does it mean for businesses at the Wharf or Georgetown. In terms of, you certainly don't want people, "Come on down. It's got eau de sewage in Georgetown." Not really a selling line. But we're going to continue to keep with partners, continue to put pressure on DC Water as well as the state of Maryland, the EPA, and also the state of Virginia. Rosslyn, Oldtown, further downstream, they

all depend on the river, too. But appreciate the interest, and happy to answer questions or expand on anything here. Unprecedented, in terms of the amount of sewage discharged in a five-to-six-day period.

Turmail: All right. Thank you, Hedrick, so much. And Gupi, you had your hand up, but it went down. I didn't know if you had a question.

Howie: No, I just was saying, I think most of us for our ANC, it doesn't affect our drinking water. I'm glad that you told us that, and that's really all I wanted to say.

Turmail: Okay. I'll open it up to the community in a second. I'm sorry, other commissioners, did you guys have questions? No. I guess the one question, I did have one question before I open it up to the community, is just if people are still worried and/or want to get engaged and/or want to be heard on this, what's the best way for them to, A, check the-- You know, as it gets warmer and some solids rise to the surface, where should they be checking before they decide to recreate on the Potomac? I hate to be, sorry it's icky, but this is the subject. And two, if they really are pissed and want DC Water to do something different, what should they do?

Bilen: Yeah, I think in terms of checking for information, District Department of Energy and the Environment has a website or a couple of pages that aggregates all the testing that's been done. Obviously, that's a little bit rearview mirror. I can tell you what it looked like yesterday or the day before. But, you know, that's what they're able to do right now. DC Water also has some pages up, and I'm happy to send along both of those, where they are putting out statements. But they may be having, I mean, I think there may be an opportunity for those that are interested to comment on an additional restoration plan as well. They've done sort of the initial on-site very rudimentary cleanup. Again, not to be disgusting, but there's a lot of stuff that was literally and figuratively hanging around up there when you walked around the Clara Barton Parkway, and under the C&O Canal, and down to the river. Potomac Conservancy certainly has, through our river update, a free newsletter, e-newsletter. We're always putting stuff out about what's going on there. So, if you want to get the latest, signing up for that with your email, that'll give you-- As well as actually positive things like, "Here's some cleanups that are happening around Earth Day and other locations," and things like that. So, not just sewage.

Turmail: Great. I'll open up to questions. Thank you, by the way. That's great. I'll open up to questions from the community Any questions? You answered everyone's questions in advance, Hedrick. So, thank you so much.

Bilen: Yeah. And you've got some great resources. Again, people love the land, all the park land there and our Glover Archbold Park heading down south. Again, it's very-- I work throughout the 15,000 square mile watershed, but it's very local. And it's what's in your backyard. Is it Rock Creek? Is it Glover Archbold? Is it Sligo Creek? Is it Anacostia? You know, and people care about what they're connected to. We're going to be looking at how to safely make sure people have an opportunity to regain confidence in getting back down on along the river. I'll end with this. I mean, I'm told in the 1960s in August, because there was so much

pollution if you took a boat up from National Airport and came by the Kennedy Center and Theodore Roosevelt Island in August, there'd be a solid green mat of algae. And so we've made lots of great progress from a dismal D grade in our river report card about 15 years ago to a B. But the progress has been stalled out over the last six to eight years. And it's things like this. We can't, you know, the interceptors above the drinking water intakes as well, we're a little nervous about that. So good news, again, it was downstream, the break, of where the drinking water comes from. But, you know, no guarantee in the future. So, appreciate the time. Appreciate the civic engagement, because that's what it takes to make both the Potomac and our communities better.

Turmail: Thank you. I remember rowing on the Potomac in the 90s in Thompson's Boat Club, and they warned you not to get wet in there. So, it's gotten better. Appreciate all you're doing, and thank you for sharing with us. I don't think we have a specific action, but we just thought this is--We're getting to warmer months. The weather's getting nice. People are curious. We wanted to hear, you know, is it safe and what can people do? So, thank you for answering those questions for us.

Bilen: You bet. Happy to do it. Have a good rest of the-- Have a good weekend, all.

Turmail: All right. Good luck with your advocacy. We appreciate it.

Bilen: Thank you. See you. Bye-bye.

Turmail: Cheers.

Updates and Information [0:40:16]

Mayor's Office of Community Relations and Services (MOCRS) [0:40:16]

Turmail: All right. Let's see what's next. I don't know who's giving the update on the Mayor's annual spring cleanup hosted at Guy Mason Rec Center on the 25th of April.

Lane: Che has put the the link in the chat.

Turmail: Che, how are you? Sorry to keep you waiting. How are you doing?

Demczuk: I'm good. No worries. Don't apologize. This is y'all meeting. I didn't want to interrupt or anything like that.

Turmail: The conch is yours now.

Demczuk: I appreciate y'all. I appreciate y'all. So our Mayor's annual spring cleanup at Guy Mason will be at 10:00 a.m. at April 25th. We'll have a roll off on May 9th. You can bring, I'm going to give you more details as they come about. We have a lithium battery port, so you can bring your lithium batteries and any old electronics that you may have. Old furniture will be accepted on the roll off day as well, but we want to make sure that you guys know that if you do bring a lithium battery and a phone, we'll take out the battery from the phone, but you have to find something to do with the actual phone. But the lithium battery itself, we'll take care of, and we'll make sure that you guys are well updated on that in the coming weeks. Also, we'll have a bunch of pickers, a bunch of trash bags. We would love for you guys to bring some rakes and push brooms if you've got them so we can clean up the children park area, and the sandbox, and all of that. So, that would be great if you have that available. That'd be amazing. As well as, I'm trying to think, there was one more. I think that's it for now, but it's the 25th at 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 and there will be food and drinks available, of course. So bring kids along. It should be a fun day for the community.

Turmail: Gupi, you're like four for four on questions. We're going to go with you.

Howie: You said lithium batteries. Is this a hazardous waste collection as well, or just kind of like roll on, bulk trash?

Demczuk: Yeah, roll on bulk trash for sure for the roll off day. The actual cleanup day for April 25th will be just pretty much the park and stuff like that. But the roll off day will be your bulk trash, your extra furniture. If you want to bring that, that's fine.

Howie: So hazardous waste would be like paint cans.

Demczuk: No paint cans, nothing like that along those lines. I can check, I can double check. You have my email in the chat, and as we get closer to the event, I'll give you more updates. We're not 100% on all that's going to be there, but my email is there, my phone number is there. If you have any questions, please feel free to ask me. I'll be available at all times.

Turmail: Melissa, I'm sorry. Go ahead.

Lane: I just wanted to say that Glover Park Citizens Association is actually going to have a hazardous waste collection at Stoddard, but we don't have a date yet. So stay tuned for for that.

Turmail: Hold on to your paint, Gupi.

Lane: Yeah, Gupi.

Turmail: And then, Che, am I saying your first name right?

Demczuk: Perfectly. Perfectly. Couldn't say it better myself.

Turmail: Okay. Oh, good. I don't know about that. Should people sign up in advance for the cleanup day? Or can they just show up unannounced?

Demczuk: You could do both. I would love for you guys to-- It makes us look better as a group, and we're competing with our other wards and numbers, so it's a little competitive. So we would love for you guys to sign up on Eventbrite. And the links are both in the chat. But no, you're more than welcome to come by anytime. Anybody that's walking by is more than welcome to come and hang out, and we'll sign you up on the spot.

Turmail: And just to be clear, April 25th is cleanup day. May 9th is bring bulk trashy stuff like furniture and lithium batteries day?

Demczuk: You got it. You got it.

Turmail: For lack of a better phrase.

Demczuk: If there's any update, I will let you know personally.

Turmail: Awesome. Are there other questions from commissioners? And I worried for a second that maybe, Gupi, you had more questions before we went to Melissa? Okay. I didn't want to get in the dookie list. Questions from the community? Sorry about the pun. This may be too close to Hedrick's presentation for me talking about dookie lists. Forgive me. All right. Che, great job. Thank you. We appreciate it. We're excited to have you.

Demczuk: Thank you all so much.

Turmail: As much as I can't stand the phrase, MOCR, and have like a chronic inability to remember what all those letters stand for--

Demczuk: I'm trying myself. I'm working on it. It's a brand new acronym for me. So, I'm working on it every day. So, I appreciate you all.

Turmail: Your predecessor used to chastise me mercilessly about my inability to remember it. Anyway, thank you so much.

Demczuk: No worries. Thank you.

Open Forum [0:45:10]

Turmail: All right. With that, this is now the part of the agenda that's open forum. Any residents

or other interested folks with updates they want to share, issues they want to raise, comments? Speak now.

Vilsack: Melissa, is this where I talk about the D96?

Lane: Yes.

Turmail: This is where you talk about the D96. Yes. Even though--

Vilsack: Yes, sir. I would like to raise my hand and ask. I don't know how to do that, but I would like to politely ask.

Turmail: You've just done it.

Vilsack: Great. The D96 is, it's better than nothing, but it is not efficient. And I learned yesterday, I've been riding it now for several months, and the rush hour buses are not within 20 minutes. Like sometimes you're sitting there for a half an hour or longer, which is exasperating. I learned yesterday that the D96 is a light blue route, meaning it's one of the least-used buses, which I disagree with. Maybe during the day, but certainly not during rush hour, because we're all standing there waiting for the bus. And I don't think that this is a better bus route for Glover Park citizens. So I would kindly ask if the ANC could reach out or escalate the issue to perhaps ask WMATA to increase the schedule during rush hour so that folks aren't waiting a half an hour. You know, one day I waited 45 minutes for a bus. That's ridiculous, to take me 20 minutes to Glover Park. So I don't know how they got--

Howie: Carol, was that on weekday or a weekend? And what time?

Vilsack: During rush hour, between between 4:00 and 6:00.

Turmail: So your concern is that the headway, the distance between buses, or the time between buses is too great. And that you'd like to see greater frequency? I just want to make sure I understand. And D96--

Vilsack: Increased frequency during rush hour. Right. And I've reached out to WMATA several times asking, "Where are the buses?" Because the sign says it's supposed to be here, and then you don't get one. And then the schedule, the sign, the clock changes and says it'll be 37 minutes. And I'm like, "What happened to the one that was supposed to be here?" So I don't know who's playing with the meter, but it just seems to me that-- The light-blue coding for Glover Park should not be a very low-usage route. It might be at 9:00 at night, but it's not between 6:00 and 9:00 a.m., and 4:00 and 7:00 p.m. The buses are packed, and the kids ride free. Also, and I don't want to-- I know this is taped, but a lot of people don't even pay the fare, so they're not getting counted as riding the bus because maybe they pretend their phone doesn't work, or they just get on and tap, and it doesn't really click. They tap, and then go and sit down. And the bus driver doesn't want to create a scene. You know, the drivers are lovely. These people are great.

But my concern is why are we waiting 45 minutes for a bus to Glover Park? And why were we given a light blue coding? So, I'm just asking, is there anything the ANC can do to escalate? Because I've talked to WMATA several times and they keep saying we'll escalate for a deeper, you know, review, but nobody ever reviews it. And nobody ever has my name or request in the system, so they're always starting fresh. So, all I'm asking is, is this something that the ANC 3 could consider escalating on our behalf?

Turmail: We're happy to reach out to Metro. I would also advise that, you know, the more people-- Metro is a somewhat responsive agency. And we have found that the more people who weigh in, the more responsive Metro tends to be. So yes, obviously we're happy to reach out to Metro, and happy to ask these questions and make a point. But I would suggest, Carol, as you're waiting those 45 interminable minutes at the bus stop, I would suggest to your fellow users, you seem unshy, I would just suggest to them that they also contact Metro and reach out to them if you don't mind doing a little bus stop advocacy, Carol.

Vilsack: I mean, I'm happy to do that. But again, the WMATA people have said, "You should take the Metro to Tenley, and then cross the street and find a local bus back." And I'm like, "How is that a solution?" That's ridiculous. They've told me that several times. "Well, why don't you just take the train to Tenley." That's not a solution.

Turmail: Regardless of what they tell you, I would stay on message when advocating and encourage that with your fellow riders. And we'll certainly weigh in.

Vilsack: Thank you so much.

Turmail: And I have to admit, there was a time in my life when I could tell you most of the bus routes around here. And I've become soft and Metro-less in my old age. Which one is the D96?

Vilsack: It's the D2. It's the new D2.

Turmail: Thank you. Okay, that helps. I know the D2.

Lane: But it's not exactly the D2. It's a much longer route.

Turmail: This is the one that starts in Bethesda now, right?

Lane: It starts in Bethesda and goes down and around Potomac.

Vilsack: Correct.

Turmail: Everyone can please feel free to judge that I don't know the current bus route. I shall atone for my sins.

Vilsack: But again, I'm not saying it's the drivers. I'm just saying it's the scheduling, that the

buses are not spaced appropriately during rush hours. So, okay. Thank you, sir. Appreciate it.

Turmail: Sometimes I don't know if this is the issue you're running into, but the bus systems have traditionally had a problem with like bunching. Where you get no buses for 45 minutes, and then three buses come. One full, one half full, one empty, because they've all kind of met up with each other. But we'll see. We'll advocate. We'll see what we can do.

Vilsack: Thank you, sir.

Lavezzo: One thing that may be helpful, because I ride the D96 and the D80 a bunch, as does my wife. The signs on the bus stops are just not accurate. I would suggest using an app called Transit. And there is a free version, and that gives you a live view of where the buses are.

Vilsack: I have it, yeah.

Lavezzo: Yeah. And that seems to work pretty well. As far as people not paying, when Metro was doing the better bus reorganization, one of the data points they used was anonymized cell phone data, where they could see just how many signals were on a bus. So, you know, they also track like if you do the Metro yearly roundup of your ridership, it'll give you your percentage of paying riders. So they can see how many people are on buses, and how many people do pay. So, it is good that they're using that data. And that's really, I just want to mention those two things.

Vilsack: Understood. Thank you, sir.

Turmail: Kevin and his wife are making up for my lack of Metro business, too. Anyway, I'll stop there. Other questions or comments from the community? All right, we're back to the agenda. Do we have anything else on-- We have some administrative things we have to take care of. One of which was the approval of the March 2026 minutes.

Office of Human Rights Language Access Program [0:52:33]

Turmail: Wait, Laura, were you on? Did you have something you wanted to share before we got there? Sorry.

Gonzalez: Yes. I wasn't sure if this was the time. Hello. Good evening, Commissioners.

Turmail: This is the time. Go for it, Laura.

Gonzalez: Hi. Thank you so much. I appreciate it. My name is Laura Gonzalez. I'm with the Office of Human Rights Language Access Program. And today I'm joined by Rosa Carrillo, also in the chat, the Language Access Program Director. We wanted to let you guys all know that April is Language Access Awareness Month. And I'm actually going to share my screen so you

guys can see my announcement for the flyer for our language access.

Turmail: Awesome. Are you able to share screen? Or Melissa may have to give you permission? She's on it.

Gonzalez: Okay, let me see.

Lane: Where is it?

Turmail: Maybe? Maybe not? Under pressure.

Lane: Under pressure. Oh, here we go.

Gonzalez: Okay. Let me try it one more time.

Turmail: Look at that. Ice cube under pressure.

Gonzalez: Thank you. Thank you so much, Commissioner. I will share my screen now. Oh, I'm still having technical difficulties. Okay, there we go. There's just a delay. Okay, now I will share my screen.

Turmail: So nervous this works.

Gonzalez: Okay, so on my screen, can you guys see it?

Turmail: Yes.

Gonzalez: Okay, great. So, we wanted to announce that on April 22nd, we will be hosting language access office hours at the Cleveland Park location from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. We welcome all members of the public, as well as ANC commissioners. If they would like to know more information about the language access program, what we do, as well as other resources. We already went to Mount Pleasant Library on April 7th this week, and so we're trying to meet more with the community, just to share more information. As well, I wanted to share with you all one more event. On April 23rd, we will be at the CentroNia Resource Tabling Fair. And that's going to be from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. located at 1420 Columbia Road, Northwest, Washington DC. And it will be outside on CentroNia's rooftop. We will be bringing together family, community members, local organizations, to share valuable resources to support services for the community. And then my last announcement, I'll just switch screens here so you guys can see. Okay. Right here, I'm also sharing with you all our ANC resource page. We would just like to note a friendly reminder under the Advisory Neighborhood Commission's Omnibus Act of 2016, that ANCs can be reimbursed by OHR for costs related to translation and interpretation services, as well as purchase or rental of assisted listening systems, ensuring full participation for members of the public, residents, and commissioners with LEP or NEP proficiency, just like the meeting we're in currently right now. Some of the reimbursement that's also available for is

document translations. The top six languages in DC are Amharic, French, Spanish, Korean, Vietnamese, and Chinese. However, this does not cover the American Sign Language under the act. As well as it will be covered for assistive listening systems for hearing-impaired participants. I just wanted to let you guys know that the deadline will be Monday, October 5th. We do recommend to submit earlier than later, than waiting till the end of the fiscal year. As well as just submitting the form, your invoices from the vendor, including quotes and proof of payment to myself, Laura Gonzalez, which my email is just laura.gonzalez@dc.gov. I'll now stop right now and see if there's any comments, questions, or concerns that I will take at this time.

Turmail: All right. Any questions for Laura? Language access program. So just to summarize, this is a program where people can get essentially translating services when they have constituents or folks they're working with who are less than English proficient, and need to speak, whether it's Amharic, or Spanish, or Chinese, or French, or whatever it might be.

Gonzalez: Yes, correct. And those are just the top six languages encountered in DC, but it covers all languages. If in case you have any questions, feel free to reach out to myself or Rosa Carrillo. We'll be more than happy to assist.

Turmail: My wife is a teacher at DC, and she has used the service to have translation for parent-teacher conferences. It's been very handy.

Gonzalez: Wonderful. I know DCPS is going to spring break. So just shout out to all the teachers.

Turmail: As am I with her. So I get next week off. Woohoo. So there you go. All right. Any other questions? Awesome. Thank you for joining us and for what you guys are doing. We appreciate it.

Gonzalez: Thank you. Have a wonderful night.

Turmail: You, too.

Administrative Matters [0:58:06]

Turmail: All right. Now we'll move to some administrative functions. First we have to approve the March 2026 minutes, which Melissa assembled, circulated among the commissioners, gave everyone a chance to weigh in, and made sure they were accurate. Unless there are any questions or concerns?

Howie: I second.

Turmail: All right. I'll make a motion that Gupi has just seconded. All in favor say, "Aye," or raise

your hand. That is five in favor of the minutes and zero against the minutes. And Melissa, you had your hand up.

Lane: I was voting.

Turmail: Oh. Oh, I get it. Yeah, I got it. Sorry. I'm still on the uptick tonight, if not regularly. And then we also have my monthly financial reports for both February and March. Do I have that right?

Lavezzo: And January as well, I believe.

Turmail: And January. Just making sure you're paying attention.

Lavezzo: Yeah. My time to shine. And then we have the fiscal year 26 quarter 2 QFR. But let's start with the monthly reports. For January, we opened with \$50,904.08, and we closed with \$50,904.08. For February, we had the exact same amounts. We started with \$50,904.08 and ended with \$50,904.08. And in March, we-- Oh, apologies here. In March, we started with \$50,904.08 and we ended with \$54,576.06. We received a deposit of \$3,671.98 from the District of Columbia for our quarterly allotment, and we cut one check for \$84.15 for our transcription service. And give me a moment here, and I will get to the QFR. And to be very specific, I'll say again, this is the fiscal year 26 quarter 2 quarterly financial report. We received \$3,756.13 from the District allotment. We only cut one check, and that was for \$84.15 for purchase of service for our transcription services. And we ended the quarter with \$54,576.06.

Turmail: Any questions for Kevin? Any concerns? I have another chronic mental block. Do we need to approve any of the--

Lane: I think we need to approve the quarterly.

Lavezzo: Just the quarterly. Yeah.

Turmail: Yes. I would make a motion, unless there's any comments or questions, that we approve the quarterly 2026 second quarter financial report. I may have said that-- Hopefully I got all the right words, if not in the right order. Is there a second?

Howie: Second.

Turmail: All in favor say, "Aye," or raise your hand. That's five in support of the QFR and zero against. All right. The next meeting on our schedule, unless there's any additional business, will be on the 14th of May. Same time, 7:00 p.m., also virtual. And I will make a motion that we end tonight's meeting. I don't know if there's any seconds.

Rodriguez: Second.

Lavezzo: Second.

Turmail: Wait. Oh, wait, wait, wait. Che, did you have something else you wanted to add?

Demczuk: Real quick. I missed because of a loud dog earlier. Review and vote for grant request, Glover Park Day. What was the tally for that?

Turmail: Five in favor, zero-- Excuse me, four in favor, one abstaining, zero against.

Demczuk: Got it. Thank you so much, y'all. Again, appreciate y'all for allowing me into this space.

Turmail: You're always welcome.

Demczuk: Have a beautiful night.

Turmail: Of course. Thanks, Che. All right. All in favor of ending tonight's meeting say, "Yes," or raise your hand. I see five in support of ending the meeting and zero opposed to ending the meeting. May everyone be safe out there.

Howie: Thank you. Great meeting, Brian.

Lane: Thank you, Brian.

Lavezzo: Thanks, everyone.