

Transcript of ANC 3B Meeting of June 13, 2024

Edited for Clarity and Readability

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0:01:47	Police Report
0:05:27	Old Business
0:05:27	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• WMATA Better Bus Network Comment Period Open Until July 15
0:11:23	New Business
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0:37:05	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mayor's Office of Community Relations and Services (MOCRS)
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Call to Order [0:00:00]

Lane: All right, I'm letting them in.

Blumenthal: Let me know when they're all in.

Lane: Okay.

Blumenthal: Good evening, everyone. Welcome to--

Lane: Give them a couple of minutes.

Blumenthal: Oh, sorry.

Lane: Okay, I would go ahead.

Blumenthal: All right. Good evening, everyone. Welcome to the June meeting of ANC 3B. A few cautions before we begin. Please keep your mics on mute and your videos off until you are called upon to speak. You can answer, you can ask a question at question times by raising your hand, using the raise your hand button at the bottom. And in all question periods, commissioners ask questions first, and members of the community ask questions second, just so you know. We are starting tonight-- Somebody needs to mute their mic. Thank you.

Approval of Agenda [0:01:20]

Blumenthal: We are starting tonight by approving the agenda. I move that we approve the agenda.

Lane: Second.

Blumenthal: Commissioner Lane. All in favor? Okay, the motion carries 5-0, which prompts me to explain that Commissioner Lavezzo is absent tonight. But all other commissioners are here, so we have a quorum.

Police Report [0:01:47]

Blumenthal: The first thing on the agenda is the police report. Lieutenant Johnson, are you here? Can we see you? There you are.

Johnson: Hello, everyone.

Blumenthal: Hello.

Johnson: I'm Lieutenant Johnson from the Second District PSA 204. I have the police report for ANC 3B, which includes Glover Park. This month we have a good crime report. We had 11 reportable crimes according to our DC Crime Cards. I'll put a link in the chat so you can pull it up yourself. But all you have to do is put in the last month stats in ANC 3B, and you can see the same thing that I'm talking about. Okay. We had five theft from autos. Five thefts. And we had one motor vehicle theft. And the motor vehicle theft was a Kia, and they smashed the window

and punched the ignition and stole the car. Still haven't recovered that vehicle yet. I also want to talk briefly about the new moped laws that went into effect. And people had concerns about mopeds. The laws recently changed. Well, all mopeds, even if it's below 50cc, must be registered with a tag and insurance. And the owner must have a driver's license. If it's over 51cc, they need the motorcycle endorsement on their license as well as tax, insurance, and registration. So that's recently changed, and they've been enforcing that law recently. Also, we're going to have a community walk in June-- Let me get the date right. June the 20th. And we're going to start at the Cathedral Commons by the Starbucks. We're gonna meet there about 6:30, and we're going to walk around the community, and you can just show up and talk to-- I'll be there, Steve Sousa will be there. Sometimes Councilmember Frumin shows up, and we talk about things going on in the community, and how we can make a difference. Any questions about any crime I talked about? Any traffic concerns that I can write down and address going on in the area?

Blumenthal: Commissioners, any questions? Community members, any questions?

Lane: I have one.

Blumenthal: Okay.

Johnson: Yes, ma'am.

Lane: Lieutenant, there's been a-- In the 4100 block of Beecher, I know you guys have investigated it, but these guys are stealing mopeds, and hiding them over there. Are you doing regular patrols over there? I just want to make sure that area is covered.

Johnson: 4100 block of Beecher?

Lane: 4100 block of Beecher. They steal the mopeds, and then there's-- It's a space between two buildings, where they hide it sort of in the bushes. And sometimes they hang out over there. There are a bunch of guys that hang out over there.

Johnson: I'll make sure to add that to our special attention list and check that.

Lane: Okay, thank you

Johnson: What time of day do you think this-- You see people--

Lane: Usually like 9, 10 o'clock at night.

Johnson: 10 o'clock at night. Okay.

Lane: Thank you.

Johnson: Anyone else?

Blumenthal: Any other questions? Okay, thank you very much, Lieutenant Johnson.

Johnson: I hope you all can show up to community walk on the 20th.

Blumenthal: Okay.

Johnson: I'll put it in the chat, the date and the times, too.

Blumenthal: Okay, thank you.

Johnson: I'll do that now. All right, thank you.

Blumenthal: Good night.

Old Business [0:05:27]

WMATA Better Bus Network Comment Period Open Until July 15 [0:05:27]

Blumenthal: For old business I just want to review the bus issue. WMATA has been trying to redesign its bus networks for the entire DMV, and every-- This is the second iteration of their proposals to change the bus lines. We commented on the first one, and they heard us to a certain extent. The first iteration, as it affected Glover Park in particular, got rid of the D2 pretty much permanently, and had no route to Dupont Circle direct. And it had other problems as well. We complained about them, and they reissued a new plan. It's not much better. It's a little better. Last month we discussed it, because we didn't know what the comment period would be. The comment period now ends July 15th, so even though we have submitted something last month, anybody else can still submit a comment. And we suggest that you go to the Better Bus website, look at the routes for the N2, the D2, whatever bus you take in this area. Even the 30s are changing. The biggest problem with the former D2 is there is no bus stop planned for inside of Glover Park. The bus will only run on New Mexico, Tunlaw, and 37th Street. It will not go anywhere inside of Glover Park, which is something we have flagged. The N buses, I think, and Commissioner Bergmann, you can correct me on this, but I think they do not stop on Cathedral anymore. Is that correct?

Bergmann: Yeah, there won't-- There's going to be a bus that'll be less frequent that'll stop there, but essentially it's now just on along New Mexico, down into Tunlaw. Yeah.

Blumenthal: So what we'll end up with in our area are two buses running down New Mexico, Tunlaw, and 37th. I think they all go the same way. On the same road that has the bike lanes,

which has never had bus stops on it, except above 42nd, and below Benton. So it will be very problematic. Melissa, maybe you could put in the chat the links for people to comment.

Howie: I put in the links for the Better Bus.

Blumenthal: Okay, great.

Lane: I just put in the link for the--

Blumenthal: Survey?

Lane: The ANC survey.

Blumenthal: Yes, so ANC 3D is sponsoring a survey for the entire group of people affected by these same buses in Ward 3. And if you go to that link and click on the N2, or the D2, or whichever tab reflects your concern about a bus, it will show you the old route, the proposed new route, and then give you an option to comment. And 3D will file that for all of us. So that is another good way to do it. But I would suggest to also file your comments with WMATA. And I will remind people to turn their videos off, please, unless you're called on to participate, because it's distracting. Thank you. Commissioners, any comments about the bus thing? We're not going to really discuss it at this meeting because we did it last meeting, but I'm open if you want to say something. Okay. Of the community, is there any question that's very specific that we can answer quickly on this issue? All right, then please do make your comments to WMATA as soon as you can. And definitely before July 15th. I am going to turn them-- Oh, Kevin, did you have something to say?

Carroll: Someone put in the chat that there's a popup meeting next Tuesday for WMATA Better Bus at Friendship Heights Metro.

Blumenthal: Okay, that's good to note.

Carroll: **Between 7:00 and 10:00** a.m. on June 18th.

Blumenthal: All right, so that's a really good time for the community to show up and make their concerns known. And we will all try to be there as well.

Carroll: That's useful information. Thank you for putting that.

Blumenthal: Thank you. And thank you, Adriana, I think you did that. All right I'm going to turn the--

Lane: David White has a question.

Blumenthal: Oh, sorry. David White, please.

White: Hi, a quick one, because I live on Cathedral. Are the bus stops that are being-- Or do they choose to eliminate things because of ridership? Lack of?

Blumenthal: I do not know the answer to that. I don't know the answer to that. They probably use the combination of riderships and other efficiency factors that they're working on, I think. But that's the kind of question that we need to ask WMATA and find out about. Sorry, I don't know the answer. Okay?

New Business [0:11:23]

Stoddert School Construction Plans and Effect on Neighborhood [0:11:23]

Blumenthal: Okay, so we're going to move on. And I'm going to turn the mic over to Commissioner Howie to talk about the Stoddert School plans. And introduce the people who are here to share them with us. Commissioner Howie?

Howie: Hi. Okay, thank you. So as I'm sure people are aware, and just perusing the listserv, I think people have been aware that construction, or I should say, staging and prep for construction has been underway at Stoddert. And construction had briefly started, but has been stopped as of Tuesday morning until a six-foot chain link fence can be installed. So tonight we have Chris Jenkins, who is the DCPS Project Coordinator for Stoddert's addition. And Patrick Rush, who is the Senior Project Manager for Chiaramonte Construction Group. They will be here to answer any questions that the community may have. Did you guys happen to bring any of the slides tonight?

Jenkins: Yes, I did. If you don't mind, I can-- If someone can allow me to, I can share my screen.

Howie: Commissioner Lane, do you mind?

Lane: No, let me find that.

Jenkins: But yes, while we're here, if you don't mind, Commissioner Howie, I'd like to just introduce some of my colleagues who are helping to spearhead this project. So first I'd like to introduce Jenna Bolino. She's a PM for DGS. Jenna, do you mind just saying hello and introducing, maybe Crystal West?

Bolino: Hi, everybody. I'm Jenna Bolino. I'm the Executive Program Manager for the school modernization team. My Project Manager for this job is taking the day off, so I'm here in his place.

Jenkins: Perfect. And then Crystal West, who also works under Tom, has joined the call. And then I'm just going to turn it over to my colleague, Patrick Rush. Pat, do you mind just introducing yourself and anyone that's representing Chiaramonte?

Rush: Hi, Patrick Rush, Project Manager, Chiaramonte. I have Joe Swanson is on here. He's my Vice President of Operations for Chiaramonte.

Jenkins: And then also why don't you just introduce Enrique.

Rush: Oh, Enrique.

Jenkins: Yep, from Shinberg Levinas Group. Enrique, do you mind introducing yourself and anyone else that is here with you?

Neira: Hi, I'm Enrique. I'm the Project Architect with Shinberg Levinas. I've been working on this project since the beginning. I'm sorry, my camera is not working.

Jenkins: No problem. So before we--

Howie: I just wanted to-- Sorry, Chris, I just wanted to-- Shinberg Levinas is the architecture company that came up with the plans. Chiaramonte is the construction company carrying out those plans. And Chris Jenkins is our DCPS contact for this whole project. I also just wanted to let everyone know that Principal Lutz is on the call, just for support. And also our PTO presidents, Melinda Tsai and Marie O'Hara.

Swanson: And if I could just take a moment. Hi, everyone. My name is Joe Swanson, I'm the Vice President at Chiaramonte Construction. I just wanted to sincerely apologize for the work that started, and started to progress on Tuesday before we shut it down without a chain link fence. That should have never have occurred. We've been building schools for 20 years here in the District, and building on an active school campus, rule number one: define your construction zone with a secure perimeter. And so, you know, we had a little delay with the site fence. It's coming on Monday, so we stopped work until that can get erected, and we can really establish that safe, secure zone. So, thank you

Jenkins: That kind of segues into our presentation. So I'm going to share my screen. What I had hoped would happen is we would re-review the site logistics that we had previously shared with the School Improvement Team. And then we can open the floor up, obviously, to any questions or concerns about the presented plans, if that works for everyone here?

Levinas: Yes, I am here too, Chris, to tell you. I'm Salo Levinas from Shinberg Levinas. Thank you

Jenkins: Thank you very much. So this is the presentation we had previously presented on May

15th. You know, like I would say, like a softer form of construction. Really, just like pre-con work had initiated back in May. And really what that consisted of is just prepping the site for the major work that's going to start to occur this summer. Generally what we discussed were just, you know, our level of engagement with both the School Improvement Team and the larger community, the scope and generally some construction updates. So just jumping through you know civic engagement, here are all the touch points that we've had thus far. And so where we are right now, as you know, is in our construction phase. And eventually we'll segue to interiors where we'll discuss the furniture, fixtures, and equipment of the addition. And then in the fall what we plan on doing is revisiting the west end kitchen cafeteria, just to provide updates on that, because after the next school year, we will commence construction on the west end kitchen cafeteria. So this is just a look at where we are. As you can see, construction update, SIT community meeting. That would be more so for the western kitchen cafeteria. We don't have a date set yet, but that's something you can expect to look forward to in the future. And for anyone who wants to revisit this, this information is available on our website. Here's a quick overview of the project. So the project is designed to add an addition, a ten-classroom addition to replace the existing trailers in the parking lot. And add a cafeteria with additional capacity. The addition will accommodate ten classrooms, and is set to be complete in 2025. That is what you are seeing being built right now. That's the area that is undergoing construction. There will be some demolition. And so that's the idea of setting up a construction perimeter, to make sure that we secure the site. You know, we've already communicated at length with what we can, versus what we cannot salvage in terms of like some of the greenery in that area. But this is an ongoing thing, so we're very early in that process. And so the other part of this is the kitchen cafeteria area is set to commence construction next summer, and finish the following year. The overall project budget was expanded from about, I think it was 20-and-a-half million to 26.6 million. And as you know, Chiaramonte is the construction company. Shinberg Levinas is the architect, and I'm the Project Coordinator. And Jenna, Tom, and Crystal are the DGS representatives. And here's just the same thing we just discussed, but just in another view. But one thing that wasn't mentioned in the previous slide is that the new capacity for the kitchen cafeteria space should be about 531, will be 531. And what we expect are about 177 students being able to fit per each-- Excuse me. Per E-- I can't get that word out. Per each lunch period. There we go. And then the cafeteria square footage is 6,847 square feet, and then because the site does contain special heritage trees, that's a part of what we are going to fence off in an effort to protect those from being destroyed. And again, here's the overall modernization schedule. As you know, as I mentioned at length, the work has started. We've already surpassed all of the design phases. We are at construction for the addition. And what we expect is that everything, both the ten-classroom addition, and the west end kitchen cafeteria, will be complete in time for the school year '26-'27. So here are the construction logistics. At this point I'm going to turn it over to Mr. Patrick Rush of Chiaramonte Construction Company.

Rush: All right, good evening, everybody. So what we have here is our overall site logistics plan. Our plan is to come in off of 39th Street near the intersection of Davis and 39th. That's where our construction entrance will be. It'll be fenced off completely around that area, all the way down right where we're zoomed in. Our trailer will be right next to the big heritage tree. There'll be fencing around that, so we're outside of the apron of the tree. And there'll be mulch

on the ground inside of that fencing to protect the tree roots, if anything was to get inside. But it'll be completely fenced off, so there'll be no access to that tree. Same thing with the one in the garden. That one also is fenced off, so we have no access to it. And then, there you go, thank you. So our staging area is going to be on top of the hill, and we'll come down in. And we've already started our root pruning along that dark edge, where it says sheeting & shoring, root pruning, which protects the roots of the tree. And we actually trimmed a couple branches off of that heritage tree, which were all approved by Urban Forestry, DDOT. So we'll come in there. That's where the addition will be. It'll be on that end. During demolition of the concrete amphitheater, the playground and everything, we'll build walls in front of the pre-k and in front of the, I think it's the gymnasium, to protect the glass that's already there. So, any questions with that so far? Or do we want to wait till the end to ask any questions?

Howie: Let's wait till the end.

Rush: Okay. All right, there's another slide then, Chris. All right, so this slide is more for the interior, where we plan on blocking off and separating ourselves. Because, as you can see, or maybe not as apparent to me, but the dotted line on the right side indicates where the construction will be, which will include some of the staircase inside the existing school. So the highlighted area in yellow is the pre-k, and we're going to build a wall that separates, I think it blocks off the nurse's office and then the hallway. And that'll separate the construction site from the rest of the school. So we won't be able to get in there, and they won't be able to get into the construction site. And then if you go over to the left slide a little bit, this is-- Or, no, that's still the same one. We did this last time, didn't we? Or is that-- Yeah, that's not the second floor is it? No. Yeah, let's go to the second floor slide. There we go. So this one right here is the fifth grade classroom up there will come straight across where that little red line is, and we'll build a wall right there which will block off that staircase, again, where we have to do our work, and will separate us from the rest of the school. And we'll do-- These walls will be built during the summertime, so when the kids come back during the school year, we'll already be separated from them. All right. I think that's all we have there.

Jenkins: Can we just talk a little bit briefly about the schedule, as well, for everyone here

Rush: Yeah, this is a high level of the schedule, just some milestones. Construction start, which basically was our mobilization period, started May 13th. But we started on site, what, two weeks ago doing the root pruning? And we've been going pretty slow trying not to disturb the school, and waiting until the 17th to really get started out there. And then we have our fence coming on the 17th, protective fence, which will separate us from everybody. It'll take approximately two days to get installed, and then we'll be back on site, hopefully getting started when the kids are out of school. But this shows our excavation period, which should be done by July 1st. It shouldn't take that long to do it. A little bit of demo, and a little bit of excavation. We have some sheeting and shoring that has to be done that's not on here, but that'll happen during the excavation period. And then we'll start with our foundations, which will be in August. And then we'll start with our structure. And then we'll be weather tight, hopefully, as long as everything goes well, no hiccups, by March. And then we'll start with our permanent power. And site

complete, site work complete by the end of April. And then MEP operations through May, and final inspections in June, with certification of occupancy in June, and substantial completion by August.

Jenkins: And just to confirm, to clarify, this is only for the ten-classroom addition. This is not the construction schedule for the west end kitchen cafeteria?

Rush: Correct.

Jenkins: Any questions at this point about the site logistics or anything else?

Howie: Commissioners, do you have any questions? Anybody in the community have any questions or concerns?

Hanks: I have a question.

Lane: Alan Hanks does.

Blumenthal: Go ahead, Alan.

Hanks: Yeah, I live across the street from 39th Street where Stoddert Field is, at Davis Place. And I think one of the trees marked for removal is a mistake. I am talking about the 70-foot red maple that's closest to the corner. You've got five smaller trees on either side of those benches that are being removed for the access road, but that red maple is rather far from the road. And I'm wondering, did they mark it by mistake when they were going to make the road come in where the stairway was, and it's just a legacy? Are you really planning to remove a 70-foot red maple tree for a road that's 40 foot away?

Rush: No, sir. That tree will not be removed. And I don't know why there's five marked. There's only going to be three of them that we're removing. And the largest one that we're removing is only four inches around.

Hanks: And there's two trees on the east side of the sidewalk, in addition to the red maple. And then there's three trees, smaller trees, west of the benches, which I guess you have to remove because that's where the road's going to be.

Rush: Yeah, as I was saying, there's two trees that are approximately two to three inches in diameter that we're removing, and then there's a four-inch tree in diameter that we're removing. And they're all within 12 feet of the bench. So anything beyond that, we are not touching.

Bolino: I'm just going to add, I know in my neighborhood, I live in Adams Morgan, they're doing a bunch of tree trimming right now, DDOT is. So it might be marked for tree trimming by DDOT's team, and not from our project. But we can definitely circle back and check.

Jenkins: Definitely.

Hanks: Thank you.

Blumenthal: Any questions from the audience, from the community? Well, thank you so much. This has been--

Bolino: I do-- Hi, Jenna from DGS, sorry. I just also, if they're on the phone, want to thank whoever reached out to us about their safety concerns. Yesterday morning we were able to address them very quickly because they were brought to us very fast, so that's always very appreciated to us at DGS, because safety is our top priority, especially on active school sites. So, thank you.

Howie: This is Commissioner Howie. I will say I would like to thank Chris Evans. He shared his cell phone number at previous SIT meetings, and we were able to text him immediately when it was brought to our attention about the construction being started. And I think within two hours it was all shut down. So between Chris Jenkins and Principal Lutz, thank you for responding so quickly.

Bolino: Yes.

Jenkins: Admittedly, I called Tom in a panic, and I left him--

Bolino: And I called Joe in a panic.

Jenkins: At 8 in the morning I was like, "Oh, no. You know, what are we gonna do?" Because, you know, I live kind of far away. So I appreciate the response from both DGS and Chiaramonte. You know, I do agree that it was unfortunate that we did get started, especially during a graduation. You know, acknowledging that it was maybe a smaller oversight, I don't want to try to minimize what happened. But, you know, I think what we've taken away is that through collaboration we can keep this project running safely and on time. And I think we've learned that from all of the design phases to now that, you know, all of our heads together are better, right? We can think through some of these challenges, and address concerns. We're just starting construction, so there could be other things that come about, but I think this was a good show of good faith and collaboration. And I mentioned this before, but like fidelity to this project, right? We all want it to be successful, and we want the kids to benefit from it, most importantly. So I did want to just add those thoughts there as well.

Desai: I had a question if I could.

Blumenthal: Go ahead.

Desai: Yeah, sorry. Sorry, I didn't know how to raise my hand. This is mostly to Chris and Patrick. You had mentioned putting up a construction board with the timeline and some of the

details about the project that we could maybe have on the field? Is that something we can get up sooner, rather than later?

Rush: Yes we're working on that right now. The signs are being constructed. One will go down by the driveway, through the entrance of the project. And then we'll have another one by the heritage tree near the sidewalk in front of the school. So we'll have a board at each one, a project sign at each one. And the main one that we'll probably update more so is the one on 39th Street, at the entrance. But we'll try to maintain both of them with the most up-to-date information. That way you don't have to go searching for it.

Jenkins: Oh, I'm sorry, I just want to add I did want to mention that the DPR field still will be available, even after the fencing goes up. So, you know, there's a little bit of a safety net here, but I did confirm that this field will still be available for use in the summer.

Desai: And then just to follow up, this is from the last SIT meeting. I mean, any insights on cameras and lighting?

Rush: Yeah, I started looking into cameras. I've interviewed with a couple of security companies. And actually found some on Amazon that we can buy that monitor and go to a router and record 24/7. So there's a couple options I'm looking into right now. But, yes, we'll definitely have something up.

Howie: You may be able-- Sorry, you may be able to get MPD to reimburse you for those cameras if you allow them access to it, if there is vandalism. Just throwing that out there as well.

Rush: Sounds good. Thank you.

Desai: And then, guys, just one last question. Sorry, thank you. Just the water spigot, I know Commissioner Howie, this is something she's flagged. Is this something that, you know-- You know, it would be awesome. Like, we've got the garden there. We've got also in the front there, that planter that we try to water. I mean, if there's any way.

Rush: We've already talked with the engineer, the architect, Enrique and Salo. And we're looking at putting one down near the garden, and one out the front of the building.

Desai: Awesome.

Rush: Both of them are near water sources inside the building already, so it shouldn't be that big a deal to have it done.

Desai: Awesome. Really appreciate it. Thank you, guys.

Jenkins: Pat, if we can, I just wanted to address access to the garden here. I know there have been questions on what that would look like, and we had encouraged folks just to kind of steer

clear of it during the construction just for safety reasons. My understanding is there is one staff member, maybe, who still has access to it in maintaining the upkeep. That person has already made an acquaintance with Chiaramonte, and I think we all are in agreement that he will be primarily stewarding the well-being of this garden. So wanted to make sure that that is circulated, understood and well known, that we have identified our caregiver for this garden. So we're all set with that. No concerns there.

Rush: The janitor will be able to get in there.

Howie: Any other questions from the community or the commissioners? Okay. I just wanted to say thank you to everyone, from the PTO, the principal, DCPS, DGS, Chiaramonte, Shinberg Levinas, I think I'm saying it correctly. Thank you all for coming out to make yourselves available to answer questions and concerns from the community.

Lane: Commissioner Howie? Ashlee Mercer has put in the comments that she's checked with Urban Forestry, and the maple tree does have a work order for pruning, but there's no scheduled date for completion, so it has nothing to do with the construction.

Howie: Thank you, Ashlee.

Mercer: You're welcome.

Blumenthal: Thank you, Commissioner Howie. Thank you, everybody, for this presentation. It was very helpful. And if we could return the screen back.

Jenkins: Oh, yes. Thank you very much, everyone, for having us. I'm going to sign out. I think it sounds like the rest of the design build team can head out as well. But as always, if you guys ever have any questions, concerns, community-wise, I can certainly-- You know, Commissioner Howie, please circulate my phone number. I want to be available for any emergency situations or otherwise, inquiries. So please do reach out. I look forward to hearing from you all.

Blumenthal: Thank you.

Rush: Thank you. Have a good night.

Updates and Information [0:36:13]

Blumenthal: Okay, we are moving on to updates and information. I just want to note that roadway repair of Wisconsin Avenue, which was done a while ago up to the middle of the commercial area, is now continuing from about Whole Foods going south to White Haven. And it will be disruptive. It will cause no parking signs and lane closures till the end of July. So just so you're aware. And at this point, do any of the Commissioners have updates that they want to

share with us?

Open Forum [0:37:05]

Mayor's Office of Community Relations and Services (MOCRS) [0:37:05]

Blumenthal: All right, so in open forum we have Matthew Barclay from the Mayor's Office. You could go first. And then we'll have Ashlee Mercer from Councilmember Frumin's office.

Barclay: Hello, everyone. My name is Matthew Barclay, your current Ward 3 MOCRS from the Mayor's Office of Community Relations and Services. I'll drop my information in the chat. I do believe that this will be my last ANC meeting with ANC 3B, as you will have a new MOCRS class coming in I believe next month. So I will keep them up to date on everything that you care about. And you can still reach out to me anytime, so know that. Okay, all right, DME-related things. So for today we have two announcements from DME. DCPS out-of-school-time programs and afterschool programs engage students in academic support, free supper or snack, and variety of enrichment activities provided by DCPS teachers, paraprofessionals, and partner organizations. Registration for these afterschool programs began on Thursday, June 6. And you can go to dcps.dc.gov/asp. And that's for the '24-'25 school year. Also, the DC Department of Employment Services has a high school internship program application that closes tomorrow. So if you would like to get work readiness skills, project-based learning life skills, leadership development training, and work opportunities for ages 14 to 21, you can go to the website. I'll drop it in the chat. That's all I have for you guys today.

Blumenthal: Great. Thank you, Matthew.

Ashlee Mercer, Ward 3 Councilmember Frumin's Office [0:38:55]

Blumenthal: Ashlee?

Mercer: Oh, there we go. Hey, everybody. Sorry I've missed you guys the last two months. But we will be in Glover Park for Workday in the Ward this month at Glover Park Grill, on the deck from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. I've posted everyone that will be there that day. DOB, Department of Energy and Environment. DC water is coming. That's not there, I just actually got an email confirmation. Matthew will be there. DDOT will be there. So we're definitely excited. It always turns out to be a great day. Also--

Blumenthal: It's June 27th, did you say?

Mercer: Yes, ma'am. June 27th, from 8:00 to 2:00.

Blumenthal: Okay, great.

Mercer: And the council held-- The council held the second and final vote on the fiscal year '25 budget on Tuesday. Councilmember Frumin's newsletter that published today includes detailed updates on what was included in the budget, and how it advanced his Ward 3 for All policies and priorities. I've included that link in the chat as well. Just a note, as well, DPR pools and spray parks are open only on the weekends now, from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. So that's Saturday and Sunday. And they will open every day on June 24th. And the Great Graffiti Wipeout in Ward 3 begins on June 17th. That's all I have for you guys.

Blumenthal: Okay.

Howie: Ashlee, this is Commissioner Howie. In the council's budget, funding for Jelleff's Boys and Girls Club, was that reinstated in the council's budget? Are you aware?

Mercer: I actually am not aware. I would have to look. But it's possibly in the updates that are on the newsletter, but I'm not sure. I can get back to you, though, on it.

Blumenthal: I have a list of everything that was in there from Councilmember Frumin's newsletter. And Jelleff is in there. There's money for MacArthur School, Jackson Reed School, the Glover Park Villages, something we asked for, for the maintain the Main Street programs, all in ward 3. To restore the funding for Communikids and other preschool programs that had been cut. There's money for repairing the playground and the turf at Guy Mason. So there are a lot of things that this neighborhood and surrounding neighborhoods got that were not originally in the budget. And a lot of that is a result of advocacy by Councilmember Frumin. So you should thank him for us, Ashlee, please.

Mercer: I sure will.

Blumenthal: Anybody else have anything they want to say at the open forum? It's open to anybody.

Mercer: Oh, and I'm sorry, one more thing. Coffee with the Councilmember is from 8:00 to 10:00, so that's important. He will definitely be there from 8:00 to 10:00. I can't guarantee any other time.

Blumenthal: Okay, David White, your hand is up.

White: Hi. Sorry, I'll do this thing. Had a question for Councilmember Frumin's office, Ashlee Mercer. I haven't read the current newsletter, but I'm just curious about-- I live on Cathedral, and I have been hearing and they announced it today about the possible or planned bus stop eliminations along Cathedral. And I'm just wondering, is our councilmember advocating for not

eliminating those? Because, I mean, this area is pretty underserved by buses in general. And I know there are cuts also in Glover Park, and I totally support not cutting anything. But I'm just curious about our councilmember's position on the bus stops.

Mercer: Yes, we have not personally, me and him, talked specifically about the Better Bus Network. That's more of the communications team and legislative team. I'm sorry, I don't really-- I do more of the constituent services. But I can say that he did send an initial letter to DDOT, from what I recall, when the comment period was, in support of Glover Park continuing to be a part of the Better Bus Network. And making sure you guys didn't lose the stops. I know he's definitely-- That was a very great concern of everyone on our team.

Blumenthal: And I can say tomorrow morning the Councilmember is having his quarterly meeting with ANCs in Ward 3, and that will be a subject of conversation there as well. And Commissioner Bergmann, do you have something to say?

Bergmann: No, I was just going to say I know from email correspondence that the councilmember is aware about the bus impact on Cathedral Avenue, in particular, but also the whole area. And has exactly what you just said.

Blumenthal: Okay.

White: Can I add just one more thing? I'm sorry, is that all right? It's just, I'm concerned about it because I don't understand the evaluation. Like, how do they determine what to cut, and what to keep? And also then you have the news a few weeks ago about how Metro was struggling with our budget. I think it was a \$300 million deficit, or something along that line. It was very, very high. And right around that same time we had this sort of magical funding source for \$500 million to save the Capital Arena downtown. And it's just, it's very, it's hard to sort of put all that together. Like, but I live on this street, and I don't have, I won't have a bus? But they have 500 million that they didn't know they had, and the Mayor was very clear about, "Oh, this is a capital expense. It's not a budgetary." Which, what the heck is that? And it's just confusing, and disconcerting. I've lived here for 37 years, and I love living in the District. But when these types of enormous budget issues come out that don't seem to align, it just makes me nuts.

Blumenthal: Well, I think a lot of people agree with you, David. But there is a difference between the capital budget and the other budget. I just don't know the difference myself. I will say that when WMATA came forward with its shortfall, the District, Maryland, and Virginia all kicked in extra funding, at least for this fiscal year '25, which is what we're talking about right now, so that they didn't cut every bus and the Metro stops. So we will have to see how this plays out, and maybe we can learn more over time about how the budget works. Christopher Davis, did you have your hand up?

Davis: Hi, just a further comment on that. I just want to make sure, especially when you're giving feedback, just keep in mind I think we're not technically losing any bus stops on Cathedral Avenue. They just may no longer be on the routes we want them to be on. So just kind of be

careful about that. I think what's happening is there's a very low-frequency rush hour only route that's going to be covered by Cathedral Avenue. But it does seem like what they're trying to do is increase frequency, but make people walk a little bit more to actually get to near bus stops, to routes. At least we have a couple routes for those of us that kind of live on Cathedral. The one that goes down Tunlaw, and the one that goes down Massachusetts. But I did notice, and I was looking at their website today, part of what they said is, "This is what we can do with the funding we have now. And it doesn't represent everything we want to do." So it's important for us to make the point that this is something we want our funds invested in. That bus transit's important.

Blumenthal: Yes, I agree. That's the most important thing we can do is all comment as loudly and as clearly as we possibly can. And as frequently, too. Doesn't hurt to check in more than once. Thank you, Christopher. Heidi, you have your hand up. Heidi, you're muted. Unmute your phone, unmute your mic.

Yacker: Oh, I wasn't sure I could do that. I wanted to just ask, is there a place, a website that we can check these? I wasn't at the very beginning of the meeting here when you were describing what bus stops were going to, or what buses were going to change. Is there a place on WMATA's website that we can look to see the details?

Blumenthal: Yes, you can go to betterbus.wmata.com.

Yacker: Okay. Right, okay.

Howie: I just dropped it in the chat again.

Blumenthal: It's in the chat.

Yacker: Okay, thank you.

Howie: I just dropped it, so it's back at the bottom.

Blumenthal: Okay. Anybody else?

Yacker: Right, I see it. I see it. Thank you very much.

Blumenthal: You're welcome. Anybody else have anything they want to add for the open forum?

Administrative Matters [49:20]

Blumenthal: Okay, we need to approve our minutes from May. We've circulated them, edited them, and hopefully you've all reread them. I make a motion that we approve our May minutes.

Commissioner Carroll seconds. All in favor? Motion carries 5-0. The monthly financial report will be postponed till next month since our treasurer is not here. I don't expect that we had very much action, however. And that said, our next meeting is Thursday, July 11th. We will not meet in August, just to give you a heads up. So I move that we adjourn. Second, Commissioner Howie. All in favor? 5-0. Thank you all very much for participating, and have a good month.