



ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 3C
GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
CLEVELAND PARK • MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE HEIGHTS •
WOODLAND-NORMANSTONE • WOODLEY PARK

Single Member District Commissioners

01-Samuel Littauer (Secretary); 02-Adam Prinzo (Vice Chairperson);
03-Janell Pagats (Chairperson); 04-Erin Beard; 05-Zach Shaben;
06-Jay Bose; 07-Gawain Kripke (Treasurer); 08-Rick Nash

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By Electronic Mail

July 21, 2025

The Honorable Kenyan McDuffie
At Large Member of the Council of the District of Columbia
Chair, Committee on Business and Economic Development
The John A. Wilson Building
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20004

Rosemary Suggs-Evans
Director, District of Columbia Department of Small and Local Business Development (DSLBD)
The Mayor Marion S. Barry, Jr. Building
441 4th Street, NW, Suite 850 North
Washington, DC 20001

RE: ANC 3C Support for a Woodley Park-based entity having control over The Woodley Park Main Street Program

Chairperson McDuffie & Director Suggs-Evans,

At a regularly scheduled and properly noticed public meeting on July 21, 2025 with a quorum present, a quorum being five commissioners, Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) 3C voted 7-0-0 to submit these written regarding support for a Woodley Park-based entity having control over The Woodley Park Main Street Program.

As you know, the Woodley Park Main Street program has served as a critical partner in supporting our small business community, organizing community events, and preserving the unique character of the Connecticut Avenue commercial corridor. However, persistent administrative and funding challenges have undermined the stability and effectiveness of the program over the past several years.

A key factor in these disruptions has been the program's current fiscal agent and administrative partner, Historic Dupont Circle Main Streets (HDCMS). Earlier this year, HDCMS unexpectedly announced that it would resign its role managing the Woodley Park Main Street grant mid-year. Following that announcement, HDCMS ceased communication for more than three months, leaving

the program in limbo and depriving local businesses of access to Main Street grant funding, technical assistance, and other essential support services. While HDCMS has since reversed course and committed to administering the grant through the end of the fiscal year, the prolonged lack of communication and operational clarity created significant instability and concern among the local business community.

Unfortunately, this episode is not isolated. In 2022, Washington City Paper reported that then-Ward 3 Councilmember Mary Cheh proposed eliminating funding for the Woodley Park Main Street program in the FY2023 budget, citing allegations of mismanagement and inconsistent oversight by the Department of Small and Local Business Development (DSLBD). That proposal was ultimately rejected by the Council, but it underscored long-standing concerns regarding DSLBD's administration of the Main Streets program and the perceived favoritism in how grants are awarded and managed.

In light of this track record, ANC3C believes it is time for a change. We strongly support the designation of a Woodley Park-based entity to administer the Woodley Park Main Street grant beginning in Fiscal Year 2026. Local management would help restore accountability, strengthen ties with the neighborhood, and provide more consistent and responsive leadership, ultimately delivering better outcomes for the community and small businesses that rely on this program.

The Commission authorizes the Chair and the Commissioners for 3C02 and 3C01 and/or their approved designee(s) to represent the Commission on this matter.

Consistent with DC Code § 1-309, only actions of the full Commission voting in a properly noticed public meeting have standing and carry great weight. The actions, positions, and opinions of individual commissioners, insofar as they may be contradictory to or otherwise inconsistent with the expressed position of the full Commission in a properly adopted resolution or letter, have no standing and cannot be considered as in any way associated with the Commission.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Janell Pagats", with a stylized, flowing script.

Janell Pagats
Chair ANC3C
Single Member District 3C03

CC: The Honorable Matt Frumin, Ward 3 Member of the Council of the District of Columbia
John Goodman, President, Woodley Park Community Association