



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

P.O. Box 4966
Washington, DC 20008
Website <http://www.anc3c.org>
Email 3c@anc.dc.gov

By Electronic Mail

June 16, 2025

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

Members of the Council of the District of Columbia
The John A. Wilson Building
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20004

RE: ANC 3C Comments on The Mayor's Proposed FY26 Budget "Grow DC"

Mayor Bowser & Members of the Council,

At a regularly scheduled and properly noticed public meeting on June 16, 2025 with a quorum present, a quorum being five commissioners, Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) 3C voted 5-2-0 to submit these written comments on the proposed FY26 Budget.

1) Review the Football Stadium Deal

The Mayor's proposed stadium deal will require the city to spend perhaps one billion taxpayer dollars (and perhaps more) It will also require it to forgo revenues of a similar magnitude. All this at a time when the District's economy is feeling the effects of the Trump Administration's policies. The present benefits to DC residents will not come close to covering the costs. There are much better ways to spend this money. The deal, as it stands, at the very least needs to be looked at and negotiated to be a better deal for all District taxpayers, in addition to being a proper catalyst and best use of land for the residents of Wards 7 and 8. Council should be given a proper and reasonable amount of time for review, negotiation, and making of a decision.

2) Reform zoning procedures to streamline reviews of new development projects

ANC 3C suggests zoning reform should be taken out of this budget process in order to be further reviewed and discussed.

If it is to be considered, ANC 3C supports reforms to zoning procedures to both streamline reviews and limit Party Status to only parties who rightfully should be granted such status. ANC 3C was forced to relitigate the Wardman project after it had been approved multiple times, in multiple ways, and was a couple of months away from topping out construction because people from outside the area, with their own agenda, were given party status, exercising undue influence on the proceedings. This put 900 units of much needed housing at unnecessary risk.

ANC 3C further supports reforms to the review of HPRB regarding the height and density of buildings in Historic Districts. ANC 3C has lost a not insignificant number of housing units due to projects being scaled down at HPRB review when they were well within the height and density under existing zoning requirements.

3) Pause BEPS (Building Energy Performance Standards) & Net Zero requirements

ANC 3C opposes pausing these requirements. As these budget documents point out, the cost of energy is increasing. Promoting energy efficiency is a proven strategy to reduce costs. Pausing or cancelling these requirements is a detriment to building owners rather than providing a long lasting benefit of lower energy costs long term, which would be provided and realized by building to these standards and requirements from day 1.

4) Repeal the Parking Benefit Equivalent Program

ANC 3C opposes the repeal of this program. DC made commitments to being a more sustainable and mass transportation friendly city many years ago. DC should not walk back from those commitments by making it more convenient to drive a single occupant vehicle into the city, and store said vehicle for little to no cost to the owner. DC should continue providing incentives and investing in alternative means of transportation. We have seen increases in riderships across rail, bus, and CaBi, providing clear and substantial economic benefits for the District. Encouraging mass transit is an essential pillar of economic development, and changing directions now would only hinder the District's growth.

If the repeal of the Parking Benefit Equivalent Program moves forward in this budget, ANC 3C encourages Council to demand the release of the Congestion Pricing Study that the Mayor's office is refusing to provide. ANC 3C requests that Council demand the release regardless.

5) RENTAL Act (Reform TOPA)

ANC 3C suggests TOPA reform should be taken out of this budget process in order to be further reviewed and discussed.

If it is to be considered, ANC 3C opposes TOPA reform as proposed by the Mayor in this budget. Exposing long standing market-rate housing tenants to lose their rights is unacceptable and unnecessary. Doing so will not make it any less risky or expensive to build more housing, affordable or otherwise. There are many other reforms that could be enacted (see zoning procedure streamlines, HPRB review guidelines) that would go far further to achieving this goal before reforming TOPA should come into the conversation.

6) Repeal Initiative 82

ANC 3C suggests the Repeal of Initiative 82 should be taken out of this budget process in order to be further reviewed and discussed.

ANC 3C opposes repealing Initiative 82 both in the budget process (where it does not belong) and overall. Voters twice voiced support of paying workers a fair wage. Paying workers a fair wage also allows them to live in DC, leaning into the Grow DC budget theme.

7) Reduce Universal Paid Leave (Tax)

ANC 3C opposes any reduction in Universal Paid Leave. While the budget advertisements say that there is a reduction in the Universal Paid Leave TAX, it fails to highlight that comes with a significant reduction in the benefit. The reduction in the tax is minimal, the reduction in the benefit is large. It is said that not many people are taking advantage of the benefit, and therefore the reduction of said benefit is warranted and justified, many people simply do not know that they can use the benefit due to the lack of advertisement of it. If anything, the \$5M line item of “marketing” the EOM is carrying should include marketing of all of the benefits and services available to residents of DC.

8) Full funding for childcare subsidy, PKEEP, and the pay equity fund

ANC 3C supports this and is happy to see it included in the budget.

9) Horse Mounted MPD Unit

ANC 3C thinks this is unnecessary because the unit has not existed in MPD for at least three years now. For the large scale events said unit would be most useful to deploy this at, National Park Service Police has a mounted unit they deploy that can reasonably be expected to achieve the same tactical goals that would only be duplicated by a MPD mounted unit at the same event.

10) \$1.6M for 258 mobile cameras and 111 license plate readers

ANC 3C supports the purchase and encourages the use to increase safety by using this technology to boot and tow cars with outstanding tickets for dangerous driving in DC.

11) Legislation allowing retired MPD officers and/or FEMS firefighters to be hired at OUC

ANC 3C strongly supports allowing retired first responders to be hired at OUC (911 call center). ANC 3C has made many requests for attention and improvements to OUC, moving this legislation is common sense in terms of improving the staffing situation at OUC.

12) “Rightsizing” DC’s Medicaid Program Costs

ANC 3C opposes this not-half-baked plan to move people currently eligible for Medicaid to a new (yet to be established) plan run by the DC Health Benefits Exchange. There are exactly no details, costs, benefits, portal, plan, etc. to do this other than saying this is a thing we will do in 3 months time. Leaving people in a healthcare void is unacceptable now and anytime. Part of a Grow DC budget plan needs to realize that the more people who are alive and well in DC, the more we are able to Grow DC. Kicking people off healthcare will not achieve a growth goal.

13) \$75M in additional funds for WMATA to support bus and rail service including \$57M to continue to build out Bus Priority Lanes

ANC 3C supports fully funding and adding additional funds to support WMATA bus and rail service. ANC 3C has historically supported changes WMATA has made including making buses more stroller friendly and encourages ridership in the neighborhood.

14) \$13M to expand Capital Bikeshare and \$73M to build out the pedestrian and Bicycle trail network

ANC 3C supports.

15) \$106M to make roadway safety improvements along the High Injury Network
ANC 3C supports.

16) Changes to DC's Paid Family Leave Program
ANC 3C opposes the reduction of Paid Family Leave to only 2 weeks, defining a family member to include only immediate family, creating a wait list for people to be eligible to take said leave, and requiring a work commitment for those who take leave. People need to take care of their friends and families. Requiring this many hoops to do so is inhumane.

17) Restore cuts to DC Department of Energy & Environment
ANC 3C is alarmed by a deep, 24 percent, cut proposed for the DC DOEE in the FY26 budget. This is the largest reduction to any DC agency. We are concerned that these cuts will harm the Riversmart Homes program, green infrastructure maintenance, water quality, environmental education, and many other programs that make DC livable and safe. We call for the DC DOEE budget to be restored.

18) Fund Initiative 83
ANC 3C supports funding Initiative 83 and is curious as to why it was omitted from the budget. Initiative 83 passed with a resounding majority of the vote. The Council needs to honor that decision and commit funding for its implementation. ANC 3C requests that funding for Initiative 83 be included in the final budget.

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

At a regularly scheduled and properly noticed public meeting on June 16, 2025 with a quorum present, a quorum being five commissioners, Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) 3C voted 5-2-0 to provide written comments.

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,



Janell Pagats
Chair ANC 3C

CC: Kevin Donahue, City Administrator of the District of Columbia
Jenny Reed, Director, Office of Budget and Performance Management
Jennifer Budoff, Budget Director for the Council of the District of Columbia