



Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2A

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

December 1, 2021

Mr. Delano Hunter
Director
Department of Parks and Recreation
1275 First Street NE, 8th Floor
Washington, DC 20002
delano.hunter@dc.gov

Mr. Keith Anderson
Director
Department of General Services
2000 14th Street NW, 8th Floor
Washington, DC 20009
Keith.Anderson@dc.gov

RE: Demanding Improvements to Francis Field

Dear Director Hunter and Director Anderson,

At its regular meeting on November 17, 2021, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2A (“ANC 2A” or “Commission”) considered the above-referenced matter. With eight of eight commissioners present, a quorum at a duly-noticed public meeting, the Commission voted unanimously (**8-0-0**), after a motion made by Commissioner Causey and seconded by Commissioner Epstein, to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, Francis Field is a publicly owned park; located in ANC 2A at 25th Street and N Street NW; operated by the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR), the Department of General Services (DGS), and the National Park Service (NPS); and located in an area of low availability of parks relative to population,

WHEREAS, the Francis Field athletic field serves as a recreation area for the School Without Walls High School and School Without Walls at Francis-Stevens athletic teams,

WHEREAS, the limited size of the Francis Field dog park has compelled dog owners to use the athletic field, causing damage to the surface and leaving dangerous waste on the field,

WHEREAS, government agencies have not maintained Francis Field’s athletic field in a manner to allow its continued operation, requiring private citizens and children to volunteer to repair the field, and

WHEREAS, Francis Field is designated at the lowest maintenance level of care, a level which is designated to only one other field in the city.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2A requests that DGS and DPR raise the designation of Francis Field to a level consistent with its needs as an active community and DPR playing field.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2A requests that DGS and DPR remodel Francis Field, adding irrigation to the field to maintain the field surface.



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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2A requests an expansion of the Francis Field dog park, whose size fails to accommodate the large number of dogs in the community.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2A requests that DGS and DPR set aside funding for a revitalization of Francis Field’s athletic field and dog park in FY 2022.

Commissioners Joel Causey (2A02@anc.dc.gov) and Jeri Epstein (2A06@anc.dc.gov) are the Commission’s representatives in this matter.

ON BEHALF OF THE COMMISSION.

Sincerely,

Jeri Epstein
Chairperson

CC: Peter Nohrden, Capital Projects, Planning, and Design, DPR
Katie Rehwaldt, Manager of Park Partners and Community Engagement, DPR
Gary Griffith, President, Friends of Francis Field