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NAYLOR DUPONT

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 7B

District of Columbia Government

Mailing address: 3200 S Street, S.E.,
Washington, DC. 20020

Office: 3851 Alabama Avenue, S.E.
Washington, D.C. 20020

email: 7B@anc.dc.gov or anc7b@earthlink.net

web: www.anc7b.com

phone: (202) 584-3400 fax: (202) 584-3420

Dear Councilmember Gray,

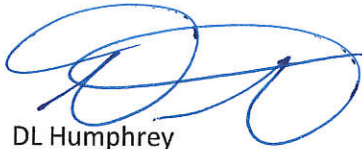
Commission ANC7B supports the efforts of Civic Associations within our Commission to add a budget line item in the FY-2021 in the amount of \$10 million dollars and additional funding in subsequent years as necessary to stimulate private investment and to also establish the Pennsylvania Avenue East Main Street Organization. As you know Pennsylvania Avenue to the East is the Gateway to our Community and a major thoroughfare.

This request is made because Pennsylvania Avenue, S.E. between the John Philip Sousa Bridge and Southern Avenue, S.E. has fallen behind the rest of the District, specifically the sections of Pennsylvania Avenue located west of the Anacostia River. District income and property tax paying residents who live along the Pennsylvania Avenue corridor referenced above are entitled to the same amenities enjoyed by D.C. residents in other areas of the District. In recent years, the District of Columbia has experienced a revitalization that has been evident in many parts of the city, however, the once vibrant stretch of Pennsylvania Avenue located east of the Anacostia River has not kept pace with the rest of the District as is evident by the number of boarded up and empty storefronts along the corridor, particularly in the blocks adjacent to L'Enfant Square.

There is a need for a Pennsylvania Avenue East Main Street Organization to coordinate the revitalization of this portion of America's Main Street in accordance with the current Comprehensive Plan for the National Capital adopted by the D.C. Council on December 19, 2006 and the Pennsylvania Avenue S.E. Corridor Land Development Plan approved by the D.C. Council (Small Area Development Plan a supplement to the Comprehensive Plan) in January 2008. Both plans show the framework for improvement, growth, and economic development along the corridor has not occurred at the same pace as the section of Pennsylvania Avenue, S.E. between the U.S. Capitol and the John Philip Sousa

Bridge. Additionally, records show that the Pennsylvania Avenue East of the River Task Force Report from December 8, 2001 reflect the same implementation recommendations as the two plans noted above. Nineteen years later, residents of Pennsylvania Avenue, S.E. east of the Anacostia River, as well as the neighborhoods along this corridor are still waiting for the changes promised to us nearly two decades ago. While a Main Street organization is not a cure-all, we believe it is a positive step in the right direction and therefore request that you include funding for a Pennsylvania Avenue East Main Street Organization in your FY-2021 D.C. Government Budget.

On behalf of the Commission,



DL Humphrey
Chair, ANC7B

Attachments:

**Fairfax
Village
Community
Association, Inc.**

3909-A Pennsylvania Avenue, S.E. Washington, D.C. 20020 202-583-8300

February 18, 2020

The Honorable Vincent Gray
Ward 7 Council Member
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Suite 406
Washington, DC 20004

Dear Councilmember Gray,

The Fairfax Village Community Association (FVCA) respectfully requests to have the Pennsylvania Avenue Southeast (SE) Corridor from the Sousa Bridge eastward to Southern Avenue designated as a Main Street and for the Council to direct the Main Streets funding in the FY2021 District of Columbia appropriation, as a budget line item to this cause.

As you are aware, Pennsylvania Avenue is one of *America's Main Streets*, an important commuter route, part of the National Highway System, and one of the earliest streets constructed in Washington, DC. Yet, when you cross southeast of the Sousa Bridge on Pennsylvania Avenue SE, *America's Main Street*, you see an area afflicted with buildings that are obsolete, dilapidated, and deteriorated.

Specifically along the Pennsylvania Avenue SE Corridor, from the 2300 block of Pennsylvania Avenue SE down to the 3900 block of Southern Avenue, it is evident the need of economic development and private investment. Both economic and private investment would help eliminate the existing vacant, abandoned and blighted land and buildings in accordance with the DC Comprehensive Plan and the 2008 Pennsylvania Avenue SE Small Area Plan. Some of the details of the scope of work in both plans requires but is not limited to: the acquisition of property through friendly sale or eminent domain, redevelopment or razing of existing structures, installing underground utility lines, site prep for new private developments, and façade and other related improvements.

Since 2001, residents of Ward 7 have requested revitalization of Pennsylvania Avenue East and nineteen (19) years later we are still waiting. As economic growth has blossomed throughout other Wards of the city, it is now our time, here in Ward 7, to experience the same.

The Pennsylvania Avenue SE Corridor deserves modernization via economic development and it deserves and requires the Main Street designation.

Sincerely,

Cortez Johnson
Board of Directors
Fairfax Village Community Association, Inc.

Fairfax Village Community Association, Inc.

3909-A Pennsylvania Avenue, S.E. Washington, D.C. 20020 202-583-8300

Attachment: List of Stalled Projects and Activities Regarding the Revitalization of Pennsylvania Avenue East, dated February 18, 2020

cc:

PBCCA Board Members
Rev. Kendrick Curry
David Retland, DPCA
Karen Williams, HCCA
Travis Swanson, RHCA
Chris Early, MHCDO
D.L. Humphrey, ANC 7B07
Mayor Muriel Bowser
Council of the District of Columbia, Chairman Phil Mendelson
Brianna K. Nadeau, Ward 1 Councilmember
Mary M. Cheh, Ward 3 Councilmember
Brandon T. Todd, Ward 4 Councilmember
Kenyan R. McDuffie, Ward 5 Councilmember
Charles Allen, Ward 6 Councilmember
Trayon White, Sr., Ward 8 Councilmember
Anita Bonds, Councilmember At-Large
David Grosso, Councilmember At-Large
Robert C. White, Jr., Councilmember At-Large
John Falcicchio, Interim Deputy Mayor, Office of Planning and Economic Development
Andrew Trueblood, Director, DC Office of Planning
Jeff Marootian, Director, Department of Transportation



The Honorable Vincent Gray
Ward 7 Council Member
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Suite 406
Washington, DC 20004

February 19, 2020

Dear Councilmember Gray,

The Penn Branch Citizens Civic Association (PBCCA) is requesting that you submit a budget line item in the amount of \$10 million dollars to the DC 2021 Budget, and additional funding in subsequent years as necessary, to stimulate private investment in the Pennsylvania Avenue SE corridor through the elimination of vacant, abandoned and blighted land and buildings in accordance with the DC Comprehensive Plan and the 2008 Pennsylvania Avenue SE Small Area Plan. Location is the 2300 block of Pennsylvania Avenue SE to Southern Avenue SE. Scope requires, but not limited to, the acquisition of property through friendly sale or eminent domain, redevelopment or razing of existing structures, underground utility lines, site prep for new private developments, and façade and related improvement.

Since 2001, residents of Ward 7 have sought revitalization of Pennsylvania Avenue East. Nineteen **(19) years later** we are still waiting. As you are aware, Pennsylvania Avenue is one of *America's Main Streets*, an important commuter route, part of the National Highway System, and one of the earliest streets constructed in Washington, DC.

Yet, when you cross southeast of the Sousa Bridge on Pennsylvania Avenue SE, *America's Main Street*, you see an area afflicted with buildings that are obsolete, dilapidated, and deteriorated. This area has become a "blight" to the residents, to the community, and to the city. These conditions contribute to juvenile delinquency, loitering, littering, poverty, and crime that impede the provision or expansion of safe, sanitary neighborhoods with thriving local businesses and housing. Pennsylvania Avenue East across the Sousa Bridge deserves modernization via economic development projects similar to those occurring all around the city. It is time, no it is past time for revitalization of this area.

Sincerely,

Jacquelyn Cannon

Jacquelyn Cannon
President, PBCCA

Attachment: List of Stalled Projects and Activities Regarding the Revitalization of Pennsylvania Avenue East, dated February 17, 2020

cc:

Mayor Muriel Bowser
Council of the District of Columbia, Chairman Phil Mendelson
Brianna K. Nadeau, Ward 1 Councilmember
Mary M. Cheh, Ward 3 Councilmember
Brandon T. Todd, Ward 4 Councilmember
Kenyan R. McDuffie, Ward 5 Councilmember
Charles Allen, Ward 6 Councilmember
Trayon White, Sr., Ward 8 Councilmember
Anita Bonds, Councilmember At-Large
David Grosso, Councilmember At-Large
Robert C. White, Jr., Councilmember At-Large
John Falcicchio, Interim Deputy Mayor, Office of Planning and Economic Development
Andrew Trueblood, Director, DC Office of Planning
Jeff Marootian, Director, Department of Transportation

DUPONT PARK CIVIC ASSOCIATION

PO Box 6826, Washington, DC 20020

February 18, 2020

The Honorable Vincent Gray
Ward 7 Councilmember
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Suite 406
Washington, DC 20004

Dear Councilmember Vincent Gray,

The DuPont Park Civic Association (DPCA) respectfully requests to have the Pennsylvania Ave corridor from the Sousa Bridge eastward to Southern Ave designated as a Main Street and for the Council to direct the Main Streets funding in the FY2021 District of Columbia appropriation, as a budget line item.

Main Streets is a comprehensive program that promotes the revitalization of business corridors in the District of Columbia. Furthermore, Main Streets is a powerful, grassroots network committed to creating high-quality places and to building stronger communities through preservation-based economic development.

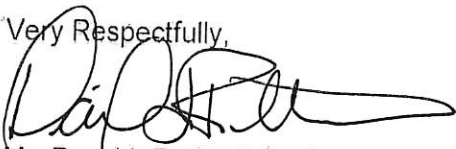
The quantitative data clearly demonstrates the DC Main Streets program has seen an increase in new businesses and jobs. In addition, facade improvements and building rehabilitation projects have upgraded the image of the commercial corridors, while marketing and branding efforts have resulted in additional exposure and increased market share. Since the DC Main Streets Program was created in 2004, over 600 businesses (net) and 7,500 jobs (net) have been created, and over \$350 million have been invested in public improvements.

In FY19, DC Main Streets programs generated the following economic activity:

- Net Jobs Created: 1,617
- Net New Businesses: 60
- Rehabilitation Projects Completed: 64
- Public Improvement Projects Completed: 20
- New Construction Projects Completed: 32

The Pennsylvania Avenue SE Corridor deserves and requires the Main Streets designation. The residents within our geographical boundaries have waited long enough. DPCA's approach is simple; continue to collaborate with residents, business, association, Area Neighborhood Commissioners, long standing Community Development Corporation (CDC) and specifically our Ward Seven (7) Councilmember – collectively we will make Ward 7 the most livable and prosperous community in the District of Columbia.

Very Respectfully,



Mr. David L Retland Sr, C.F.M
President, DPCA

Distribution List

Area Neighborhood Commissioners

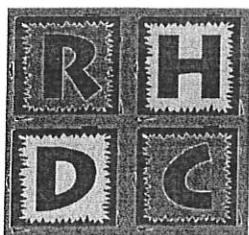
Nicole Smith McDermott	7B04
DL Humphrey *	7B06
Patricia Howard -Chittams	7B01
Ben Crane	7B03
Charlene Exum	7F04**

Citizens/Civic Associations

DPCA Executive Committee
Jacquelyn Cannon PBCCA
Rev. Kendrick Curry PABC
Karen Williams, HCCA
Travis Swanson, RHCA
Cortez Johnson, FVCA

Ward 7 Community Development Corporation

Chris Earley, MHCDO



Randle Highlands Citizens Civic Association

2826 Q Street, S.E. | Washington, District of Columbia 20020

info@randlehighlands.org | www.RandleHighlands.org

Twitter, Instagram, and Facebook - @RandleHighlands

February 19, 2020

To: The Honorable Vincent C. Gray
District of Columbia Councilmember, Ward 7
The John A. Wilson Building
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Suite 406
Washington, D.C. 20004

Dear Councilmember Gray,

On behalf of the Randle Highlands Citizens Civic Association – a neighborhood association established in 1995 and representing approximately 2,600 residents of the District of Columbia who reside within Randle Highlands’ borders – we hereby submit a request for you to add a budget line item in the FY-2021 D.C. Government Budget to establish a Pennsylvania Avenue East Main Street Organization.

We make this request because Pennsylvania Avenue, S.E. between the John Philip Sousa Bridge and Southern Avenue, S.E. has fallen behind the rest of the District, specifically the sections of Pennsylvania Avenue located west of the Anacostia River. D.C. income and property tax paying residents who live along the Pennsylvania Avenue corridor referenced above are entitled to the same amenities enjoyed by D.C. residents in other areas of the District. In recent years, the District of Columbia has experienced a revitalization that has been evident in many parts of the city, however, the once vibrant stretch of Pennsylvania Avenue located east of the Anacostia River has not kept pace with the rest of the District as is evident by the number of boarded up and empty storefronts along the corridor, particularly in the blocks adjacent to L’Enfant Square.

There is a need for a Pennsylvania Avenue East Main Street Organization to coordinate the revitalization of this portion of America’s Main Street in accordance with the current Comprehensive Plan for the National Capital adopted by the D.C. Council on December 19, 2006 and the Pennsylvania Avenue S.E. Corridor Land Development Plan approved by the D.C. Council (Small Area Development Plan a supplement to the Comprehensive Plan) in January 2008. Both plans show the framework for improvement, growth, and economic development along the corridor has not occurred at the same pace as the section of Pennsylvania Avenue, S.E. between the U.S. Capitol and the John Philip Sousa Bridge. Additionally, records show that the Pennsylvania Avenue East of the River Task Force Report from December 8, 2001 reflect the same implementation recommendations as the two plans noted above. Nineteen years later, residents of Pennsylvania Avenue, S.E. east of the Anacostia River, as well as the neighborhoods along this corridor are still waiting for the changes promised to us nearly two decades ago. While a Main Street organization is not a cure-all, we believe it is a positive step in the right direction and therefore request that you include funding for a Pennsylvania Avenue East Main Street Organization in your FY-2021 D.C. Government Budget.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully Submitted By:

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Travis R. Swanson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Travis R. Swanson
Director of Community Outreach
Randle Highlands Citizens Civic Association
Travis@randlehighlands.org | 202-656-0085