

I believe that the majority of Ward 3 residents support a homeless shelter at the proposed police station site. At the same time, they recognize that there could be a serious and significant burden being placed on those neighbors immediately adjacent to the site. Weighing the decision, I came to the conclusion that, based on the proposal presented to the ANC on 2/28 , the proposal is a balanced proposal worthy of support.

I. The city offered significant new concessions:

- 1) Parking that gets 60 or so cars off the street (\$2.5 million or cost to city)
- 2) Moving the playground and planting of a fantastic tree buffer zone
- 3) Possibility of refurbished tennis courts (\$1 million or so cost to the city)

II. Delay

I do not support delay. If construction does not start before the end of 2019, a possible new administration might not ever move forward. I do not support that there is a new shelter built in Wards other than Ward 3-- without Ward 3 sharing the burden.

III. Cost factor

At some point, the shelter becomes too expensive. \$30 million, the current cost, is already a lot of money coming from other programs. Adding a basement level would add at least \$5million I would guess. Is it worth it to take \$5million from other DC city programs to lower the height one story? Now that there is the tree buffer, I deem the height as acceptable.

IV. Finding an alternative site is not realistic

Land in Ward 3 is so expensive that it is necessary to use city-owned land. There just isn't any in Ward 3 city -owned site that makes sense. The first site was on private property and was opposed by the Council as too expensive. If the city buys land, it is capital cost that comes out of budget and must find an offset (so have to cut eg education or a program). If lease property as was the original proposal, this budget rule does not apply-- but the city does not own the property at the end of the lease (this is what caused Council to oppose first site). So, the city cannot go to a privately owned property because too expensive.

Sincerely, Jessica Wasserman, ANC3C03