

**Testimony of ANC 3D**

By: Conrad J. DeWitte, Jr.  
Commissioner, Single Member District 09  
ANC Neighborhood Commissioner 3D

Hearing Date: June 8, 2017

Re: Application No. 16-18A: Georgetown MedStar University Hospital  
Application for Further Processing of a Campus Plan

Chairman Hood and members of the Zoning Commission, my name is Conrad DeWitte, and I am the recently re-elected commissioner for ANC 3D09. As is relevant tonight, ANC 3D includes, among others, the neighborhoods of the Palisades and Foxhall, and my single member district includes portions of both the Palisades and Foxhall. For the last two and a half years I have been ANC 3D's representative to the GCP steering committee, and I have participated extensively in the transportation and parking working group. I represent all neighborhoods within ANC 3D at the GCP in my capacity as ANC 3D representative.

ANC 3D Chairman Stephen Gardner delegated to me the responsibility to represent the ANC tonight at this hearing. And in that capacity, **I am happy to report that last night, ANC 3D voted overwhelmingly to support MedStar's further processing application.** ANC 3D, by leave of the Zoning Commission, filed its resolution in support this morning.

I would like to thank MedStar for its thorough and thoughtful presentation discussing in detail all the issues regarding its proposed truck routes to be utilized during construction. These routes, which were developed in consultation with the transportation and parking working group, are of great concern to impacted residents within ANC 3D because the routes will utilize—almost exclusively—streets in the Palisades and Foxhall for the duration of the project.

In particular, I wish to highlight several commitments that MedStar confirmed in last night's presentation that were important in securing the overwhelming support of ANC 3D:

- First, MedStar confirmed that as it uses Reservoir Road, Foxhall Road, MacArthur Boulevard, Arizona Avenue and Canal Road as exit routes for hauling and delivery vehicles leaving the construction site, MedStar shall employ flaggers at impacted intersections along those streets, as necessary,

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to minimize the impact of the hauling and delivery vehicles on other traffic as well as to promote safety.

- Second, MedStar acknowledged there are a number of schools along the proposed truck exit routes, and that the speed limit for school zones during specified hours is 15 MPH. MedStar confirmed that it will continually inform its drivers of the absolute need to obey posted speed limits in these school zones. In addition, MedStar agreed that it will, if requested by ANC 3D, post flaggers at the school zones to ensure safety and compliance.
- Finally, MedStar has confirmed that traffic congestion will be a standing agenda item for discussion at the bi-weekly community meetings to be held as part of the construction management plan in order to address any unforeseen issues as construction progresses.

The community recognizes that truck traffic will have an impact on traffic flow within ANC 3D for the duration of this project. But, MedStar's excellent construction management plan as well as the explanations, clarifications and assurances provided at last night's meeting, led to ANC 3D's overwhelming vote in support of the further processing application. But overwhelming support is not the same as unanimous support—more often than not, in many settings, unanimity is impossible to achieve for a variety of reasons.

The entire point of the GCP is to provide a mechanism for people of *good will* to come together in *good faith* in order to arrive at *good solutions* that work for everyone. **Note that I didn't say perfect solutions.** Everyone knows that nothing in this world is ever perfect. And we must not let the perfect become the enemy of the good. The GCP's door of cooperative engagement is wide open, but one must walk through it *in good faith*, setting aside parochial interests and knowing that a good solution is one that must work for the entire community. As set forth in its presentation last night, MedStar's proposed truck routes reflect the realities of constructing a modern medical facility at a site located in a very constrained residential area.

In conclusion, ANC 3D supports MedStar's further processing application. Our vote is a clear statement that ANC 3D is a reliable partner that values cooperatively working within the GCP to develop plans that will meet the needs of the community surrounding the University for the benefit of the District of Columbia *as a whole*.

I welcome any questions. Thank you.