



BUSINESS  
IMPROVEMENT  
DISTRICT

**Safety & Security Meeting #3  
Aug 3, 2020 at 2:00 PM via Zoom  
Meeting Minutes**

**OVERVIEW/UPDATES**

**Kathy Guy, Safety & Security Committee Chair, Provides Updates:**

We hope this committee can be a platform for ongoing dialogue and updates to and from Dupont Circle BID members, DC Police Department, DC Department of Human Services and the Mayor's Office of Encampments, WMATA and others.

Last committee meeting was held on May 20th and was well attended.

Coronavirus Page on website as a resource; [www.dupontcirclebid.com/coronavirus](http://www.dupontcirclebid.com/coronavirus)

Colleen Hawkinson hosted a walk-through of the neighborhood with MPD, Department of Human Services, the Mayor's Office of Encampment's and the Mayor's Office of Community Relations on July 23rd. This was to discuss the issues and concerns that we have as a community and to note any items so that they can be tracked and addressed over time.

PPP Loan money is still out there. The BID can help connect you with PPP application assistance. Executive order requiring masks at all times (with the exceptions of being in the act of eating or drinking). Public Health Emergency currently goes through October 9<sup>th</sup>, can be extended by the Mayor.

**REPORTS FROM:**

**DC Metropolitan Police Department – Crime update and other issues**

N/A

**Department of Human Services – Homeless update and other issues (Larry.Handerhan@dc.gov, Chief of Staff)**

- 1) Shelter Conditions: Ongoing issue about cleanliness, concerns by unhoused for lack of storage. DC is working to address these issues.
- 2) If people from other jurisdictions come to a DC shelter, they are not turned away.

**Mayor's Office of Encampments – Homeless update and other issues (Monika.Merk@dc.gov)**

Full encampment clean-ups are very difficult to justify. They do plan on doing clean-up's once the State of Emergency order has been lifted (ends October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2020 as of 3/8/20).

If there are hygiene issues at an encampment, send detailed to [encampment.reports@dc.gov](mailto:encampment.reports@dc.gov) or (202) 727-7973. Please include images if possible.

The Department of Behavioral Health's crisis outreach number is 202-673-6495.

Other options: Shelters are being renovated. (Can't bring more than one or two bags with them. They're looking into storage spaces so that there are less items at the encampments.)

### **Mayor's Office of Community Relations – Homeless and other issues update**

Significant weather impacts today – Hurricane/Tropical storm. Contact the MOCRS [Nicole.goines@dc.gov](mailto:Nicole.goines@dc.gov) or [anna.noakes@dc.gov](mailto:anna.noakes@dc.gov) if you see any storm-related damage.

Lead constituent services team for the Mayor. Two representatives per Ward (16 in total). They are the voice for stakeholders within the Ward. They relay our concerns and ideas to MPD, DHS, etc. They do not have the power to reform in a way that provides immediate answers. But all concerns are forwarded to parties to ensure our comments are heard.

Introduction to Anna, who started in March 2020. She'd love to have an understanding on everything going on in Ward 2, as Nicole and Anna split Ward 2.

If you have ideas, concerns, comments, etc. you can reach out to Nicole and Anna. Especially down tree's in regard to the upcoming tropical storm.

### **Councilmember Brooke Pinto's Office (Sherri Kimball - [Skimbel@dccouncil.us](mailto:Skimbel@dccouncil.us))**

They're here to support in any way that they can. Councilmember Pinto has a full office now, so she's here and able to provide support.

## **Q&A**

### **Examples of 3 really important numbers everyone should know (Starting point until we re-send updated Outreach Card)**

- Individual with a welfare check, or in need of transportation, Shelter Hotline – (202)-399-7093
- Individual with mental/behavioral health issues (danger to themselves, but not others in immediate risk), Behavioral Health Crisis Response Team – (202)-673-6495
- How is aggressive panhandling defined? See code below from Larry Handerhan

### **Regards to panhandling: Clarification on the code if they are approaching everyone on the patio or Sreatery. What constitutes crossing the line in that scenario?**

Not solicit anyone within 10 feet of an ATM, blocking a parking space in return for money, not on private property, etc. Larry is going to ask MPD what their stance on that is.

Issue of safety when tents/clothing/etc. blows or ends up in the street and the potential to cause a crash.

### **Follow-up on the increase in drug use that we've seen on the streets.**

BID working closely with MPD. If you see any illegal drug transactions, please report directly to 911 immediately.

**Most of the tents are set up on the fence that protects the underpass. Last week, there was a thunderstorm and one of the tents landed on the street, which could be a traffic/safety issue.**

BID mentioned it during the walk-through, so Monika and Larry are aware of that. Larry mentioned that they saw folks drying clothes on the railing (which could be a hazard). Can be addressed through outreach workers.

**Next meeting will be in October 2020. Please reach out should you have any topics you would like to have discussed in the interim.**

**Aggressive panhandling is illegal per [DC code](#). Relevant section below.**

**§ 22–2302. Prohibited acts.**

- a) No person may ask, beg, or solicit alms, including money and other things of value, in an aggressive manner in any place open to the general public, including sidewalks, streets, alleys, driveways, parking lots, parks, plazas, buildings, doorways and entrances to buildings, and gasoline service stations, and the grounds enclosing buildings.
- b) No person may ask, beg, or solicit alms in any public transportation vehicle; or at any bus, train, or subway station or stop.
- c) No person may ask, beg, or solicit alms within 10 feet of any automatic teller machine (ATM).
- d) No person may ask, beg, or solicit alms from any operator or occupant of a motor vehicle that is in traffic on a public street.
- e) No person may ask, beg, or solicit alms from any operator or occupant of a motor vehicle on a public street in exchange for blocking, occupying, or reserving a public parking space, or directing the operator or occupant to a public parking space.
- f) No person may ask, beg, or solicit alms in exchange for cleaning motor vehicle windows while the vehicle is in traffic on a public street.
- g) No person may ask, beg, or solicit alms in exchange for protecting, watching, washing, cleaning, repairing, or painting a motor vehicle or bicycle while it is parked on a public street.
- h) No person may ask, beg, or solicit alms on private property or residential property, without permission from the owner or occupant.