



12/14/25

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Tommie Jones
Department of Parks and Recreation
1275 1st Street NE
Washington DC 20002

John Stokes
Department of General Services
2000 14th Street NW
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Washington DC 20009
VIA EMAIL

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Dear Mr. Jones and Mr. Stokes:

I am writing in support of a request from our ANC's Parks and Public Spaces Task Force seeking a briefing and update on the status of the Rumsey Aquatic Center modernization effort. We hope that your schedule will permit you to join our next scheduled task force meeting at 7:00 pm on October 20, 2025 or the full Commission meeting on November 15 at 7:00 pm. Of course, we will welcome your suggestions for alternative dates or procedures for meeting if these dates are inconvenient. At the meeting we are requesting, Commissioners and residents will be seeking understanding of the new timeline for completing the renovation project and updated plans for community engagement.

The Rumsey Aquatic Center is an important part of Capitol Hill and also to the broader DC Parks and Recreation system, providing critical access to indoor swimming and aquatic events throughout the year. However, according to the [web site](#) for the project, construction for the full-scale renovation was to begin in Fall of 2024 with a projected completion by 2027. Residents now want to learn about the current schedule for construction.

Our ANC also is seeking information about current plans to engage with residents about the renovation effort. You will recall that on March 12, 2025, DGS held a community forum to discuss pool designs in the North Hall of the Eastern Market. At that meeting, DC government representatives produced a one-story modernization plan that did not meet the expectations of the community, including those of local

Councilmember Charles Allen who has worked to secure additional funding to build a second story onto the facility. We have been told that responsible staff of the agencies have gone back to the drawing board to reconsider the initial plan, but no details regarding modified plans have been shared with the community to date. We hope that DGS and DPS are ready to move forward with additional community engagement this fall.

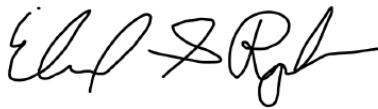
Finally, we have recently learned that the boiler system that keeps the current facility's pool at a consistent temperature is failing and must be replaced. While we appreciate efforts of DGS and DPR to keep the pool open for residents during the construction process, we are disappointed that valuable resources appear to be directed at replacing an old system rather than moving forward with a modern renovation.

At the meeting we are requesting, Commissioners and residents will be seeking understanding of the new timeline for completing the renovation project and updated plans for community engagement.

We have welcomed and appreciated the good efforts of both agencies to provide information to the community. To confirm your availability for a meeting with either our task force or the ANC6B Commission, please contact the chair of our task force, Gerald Sroufe at 6B02@anc.dc.gov.

We look forward to discussions of the current plans for Rumsey Pool in the near future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ed Ryder', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Edward Ryder, chair

ANC6B

Cc. Council Member Charles Allen, Commissioner Gerald Sroufe