

ANC 6B

Capitol Hill / Southeast

September 23, 2019

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Muriel Bowser, Mayor
John A. Wilson Building
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20004

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SMD 08 Chander Jayaraman

SMD 09 Kasie Clark

SMD 10 Denise Krepp

VIA EMAIL: muriel.bowser@dc.gov

RE: Relocation of the South Capitol Street Heliport

Dear Mayor Bowser:

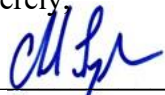
At a regularly scheduled, properly noticed, meeting on September 10, 2019, with a quorum present, Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) 6B voted 9-0-0 to write to you regarding the proposed relocation of the South Capitol Street Heliport to a location in SMD 6B06 adjacent the anticipated 11th Street Bridge Park.

ANC6B was disappointed to learn of the proposed relocation of the South Capitol Street Heliport to our community through word of mouth and not through outreach or community engagement from the City Administrators office or the Department of General Services. We understand that the site near 11th & Water Street SE is the primary location being considered due to its orientation on the Anacostia river. We also recognize that planning for this relocation has progressed enough that someone funded a noise study and testing took place along L ST SE in mid-summer.

In the absence of engagement from the City Administrator, a few ANC6B Commissioners organized a community meeting to collect concerns and questions. There were 40-50 neighbors in attendance on short notice. ANC6B then invited City Administrator Rashad Young to attend the ANC meeting on September 10 to address the community's questions in person, but he declined. We therefore submit the attached list of community questions and kindly request your response by October 25 so that we may consider it prior to setting our November agenda.

Please contact Commissioner Kelly Waud, SMD 6B07 [6b07@anc.dc.gov] or me at 6b08@anc.dc.gov with any questions about this letter.

Sincerely,



Chander Jayaraman
Chair, ANC 6B

cc: City Administrator Rashad Young; Councilmember Charles Allen, Robert White & Mary Cheh; DGS Director Keith Anderson via John Stokes; Scott Kratz

Community questions:

- 1) What are the chances that the current limited usage restrictions would be lifted?
- 2) Will the usage (and resulting noise) be 24 hours?
- 3) Will the neighbors affected by the increased noise be getting a tax break?
- 4) What are the chances that the heliport usage (and resulting noise impact) will grow?
- 5) Why can't they continue to use the current site? (because a private family owns the land)
- 6) How does the DC government envision this land usage (general description)?
- 7) Who would own the land?
- 8) Has the DC government considered the programming and financial impact to the 11th Street Bridge Park?
- 9) What are the regulations around fuel storage, and how will the DC government limit negative impacts on the Anacostia?
- 10) Has anyone studied the environmental impacts to the Anacostia river wildlife from the heliport? This is an otherwise low impact environment.
- 11) How will heliport operations affect the road access and pedestrian/cyclist/boater usage of the area?
- 12) How is the city considering a heliport acceptable usage of unzoned land? Boathouse row was federal land and has been unzoned land.
- 13) Why are these location restrictions in place? What is forcing the placement on the west side of the Anacostia?
- 14) Has the city considered the impact of the heliport to this historic boathouse on the Anacostia?
- 15) How will this location of the heliport affect the recreational usage of the river?
- 16) Is this location a part of the Anacostia flood plane? what does that mean for fuel storage?
- 17) What other sites have been considered?
- 18) Does it have to be in the District? Have you considered expanded usage of Butler Aviation?
- 19) How will this location of the heliport affect the proposed SE Boulevard bus depot?
- 20) There is already significant noise pollution with the increased CSX rail traffic, how does the DC city administrator justify adding additional noise pollution (cumulative) with the heliport?
- 21) Has the city considered collocating the heliport with the NPS helipad?
- 22) What is the financial impact to the development at 1333 M Street SE?

23) Councilmember Allen thinks that the capital improvements for MPD to use the heliport require council approval - is that true? what approvals are required to use the location as a heliport?