



Government of the District of Columbia Advisory Neighborhood Commission 1D

Resolution to Improve District Services to Ensure a Litter-Free Community

Introduced October 24, 2023

Whereas: Advisory Neighborhood Commission 1D considers public trash cans and collection of trash from these cans essential public services;

Whereas: The District of Columbia Department of Public Works (DPW) has removed the following public trash cans from within the boundary of ANC1D without notice to community members or explanation of the reason for their removal:

- Ogden & Center NW
- 3600 16th St NW
- Triangle Park on 14th at Oak & Ogden NW
- 3253 Mount Pleasant St NW

Whereas: All trash cans that have been removed were providing an essential public service and as such, community members have submitted the following 311 requests, asking that DPW return the cans:

- 22-00329478, submitted in July 2022
- 22-00576708, submitted in August 2022
- 23-00025703, submitted in January 2023
- 23-00025261, submitted in January 2023

Whereas: ANC1D has requested through DPW representatives on multiple occasions that all 311 requests be honored, and new trash cans be installed;

Whereas: DPW has informed ANC1D that the “service level agreement” calls for cans to be replaced in 270 days which has passed on every one of these requests;

Whereas: Street and sidewalk litter around ANC1D has significantly increased in the time in which cans have been removed resulting in subsequent requests for DPW street cleaning;

Whereas: The following remaining public trash cans are chronically full and/or overflowing, often resulting in increased street and sidewalk litter:

- Triangle Park at Mt Pleasant St & Park Rd NW (two cans)
- Corner of Brown and Newton St NW, closest address is 1640 Brown St NW
- Corner of Newton & Mt Pleasant St NW, near Bancroft Elementary
- Corner of Newton & 18th St NW, near Bancroft Elementary

Whereas: DPW has informed ANC1D that all above trash cans are emptied “2-3 times per week” and have “noted” the following trash cans for public abuse:

- 3320 Brown St NW / Brown & Newton St NW
- 1714 Newton Street St NW
- 3401 Mount Pleasant Rd NW

Whereas: DPW has further stated that aforementioned cans are in “low traffic areas,” which would necessitate lower frequency of trash removal.

Whereas: Commissioners and residents regularly submit 311 requests for overflowing public trash at each of the above locations. When DPW does not regularly collect from all public cans, these cans overflow and residents complain. These complaints should not be treated as evidence of abuse but, rather, of an ineffective trash removal schedule.

Whereas: ANC1D continues to lack transparent, public-facing information regarding locations of public trash and recycling cans, collection schedules, and responsible agencies.

Whereas: Other Advisory Neighborhood Commissions across the District have expressed similar interest in maintaining service levels for public trash and recycling can collection, as well as transparency around the locations of public trash and recycling cans, collection schedules, and responsible agencies. See, e.g., Advisory Neighborhood Commission 5F, Resolution, Requesting Community Enforcement of Littering Laws and Trash Pick-Up for the Department of Public Works (DPW) (May 23, 2023) (requesting daily pickup from public trash cans)ⁱ; Advisory Neighborhood Commission 1E, Letter Asking DPW for Bins (Sept. 1, 2022) (“Public trash cans and trash collection are important public services for residents in the District.”)ⁱⁱ; Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2F, Resolution Regarding the Department of Public Works’ Public Litter Can Program (Apr. 7, 2021) (calling for the Department to “update the map and roster of all public litter cans in the District currently available on opendata.dc.gov last updated 9/21/2017,” share “[t]he collection schedule for each area of the city – days, time of day, frequency -- similar to the Trash Collection Days data available on opendata.dc.gov,” and provide a “[c]lear indication within that data set of who is responsible for each can’s collection – DPW, Clean Team, school staff, office/apartment building staff”)ⁱⁱⁱ.

Whereas: As noted above, ANC1D considers public trash cans and collection of trash from all cans to be essential public services. Daily collection and transparent, public-facing information regarding locations, collection routes and schedules, and agency responsibility will ensure our communities are litter free.

Therefore, be it resolved that: ANC1D calls on DPW to urgently prioritize replacement of all 4 public litter cans that have been removed from the commission area;

Be it further resolved that: ANC1D requests that DPW cease removal of any additional cans from the 1D commission area;

Be it further resolved that: ANC1D calls on DPW to reassess the classification of “low traffic areas” for stated purposes of determining frequency with which cans are emptied;

Be it further resolved that: ANC1D calls on DPW to increase collection for all 6,700 public trash and recycling cans throughout the District with a goal of reaching daily collection.

Be it further resolved that: ANC1D urges DPW to provide real-time, easily accessible, and publicly facing data on the location, classification, and frequency of all public litter cans throughout the District;

Be it further resolved that: ANC1D urges DPW to develop a more transparent and effective approach to ensuring community input is incorporated into the placement of future public litter cans that does not create undue approval obstacles;

Be it further resolved that: ANC1D encourages DPW to use real-time 311 request data to assess areas in which public litter cans could be added to decrease requests for street cleaning and public litter cans which need to be changed to a higher collection frequency;

Be it further resolved that: ANC1D designates Commissioner Angela Allison, ANC 1D06, to represent the Commission in all matters relating to this resolution;

Be it further resolved that: That, in the event the designated representative Commissioner cannot carry out their representative duties for any reason, the Commission authorizes the Vice Chair to designate another Commissioner to represent the Commission in all matters relating to this resolution;

Be it further resolved that: Consistent with DC Code, only actions of the full Commission voting in a properly noticed public meeting have standing and carry great weight. The actions, positions, and opinions of individual commissioners, insofar as they may be contradictory to or otherwise inconsistent with the expressed position of the full Commission in a properly adopted resolution or letter, have no standing and cannot be considered as in any way associated with the Commission.

Certification: At a regularly scheduled and publicly noticed meeting held on October 24, 2023 Advisory Neighborhood Commission 1D considered the above resolution. With a quorum of X Commissioners present, the Commission voted with X yea’s, X no’s, and X abstentions to adopt the above resolution.

ⁱ <https://resolutions.anc.dc.gov/ViewResolution.aspx?Id=4RIAAA>

ⁱⁱ <https://resolutions.anc.dc.gov/ViewResolution.aspx?Id=sRIAAA>

ⁱⁱⁱ <https://resolutions.anc.dc.gov/ViewResolution.aspx?Id=a93LbFmUk0CBHU2c/v5eyA==>