

Government of the District of Columbia
ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 3F
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RESOLUTION REGARDING A MINI-PARK AT 36TH ST AND RENO RD NW

June 20, 2017

WHEREAS, ANC 3F supports and wholeheartedly embraces the District’s stated goals to “preserve and enhance parks and open spaces within the District of Columbia”¹ and “encourage the use of landscaping to beautify the city, enhance streets and public spaces, reduce stormwater runoff, and create a greater sense of character and identity;”² and

WHEREAS, the creation of mini-parks across the city – small parks accessible to the public on irregular pieces of land, such as those created by the intersection of grid and non-grid streets – has successfully turned unused land into public spaces that enhance the beauty, character, and environmental quality of District neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, the intersection of 36th St NW, Warren St NW, and Reno Rd NW creates such an irregular piece of land (see map below), which is owned by the National Park Service (NPS);

WHEREAS, the section of 36th St bordering this land on the east is owned by the District and managed by the District Department of Transportation (DDOT), with no homes or businesses directly adjacent; and

WHEREAS, closing the District-owned stretch of 36th St between Reno Rd and Warren St, replacing the current impermeable surface with natural landscaping, and connecting it to the existing NPS-owned piece of land, would

- a) create a new ADA-accessible “mini-park” of roughly 12,300 sq. ft. that could feature benches, public art, landscaping, and/or other amenities;
- b) eliminate 1,300 sq. ft. of impermeable surface and reduce accordingly the volume of stormwater and pollutants running into Soapstone Creek and Melvin Hazen Creek;
- c) reduce vehicle speed and increase safety along 36th St north of Warren St without reducing vehicle access; and

WHEREAS, the District could name a mini-park at 36th and Reno to honor a prominent historical District resident, and could partner with nearby institutions (embassies, University of the District of Columbia) to design and care for the park;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that ANC 3F requests the District Department of Transportation to

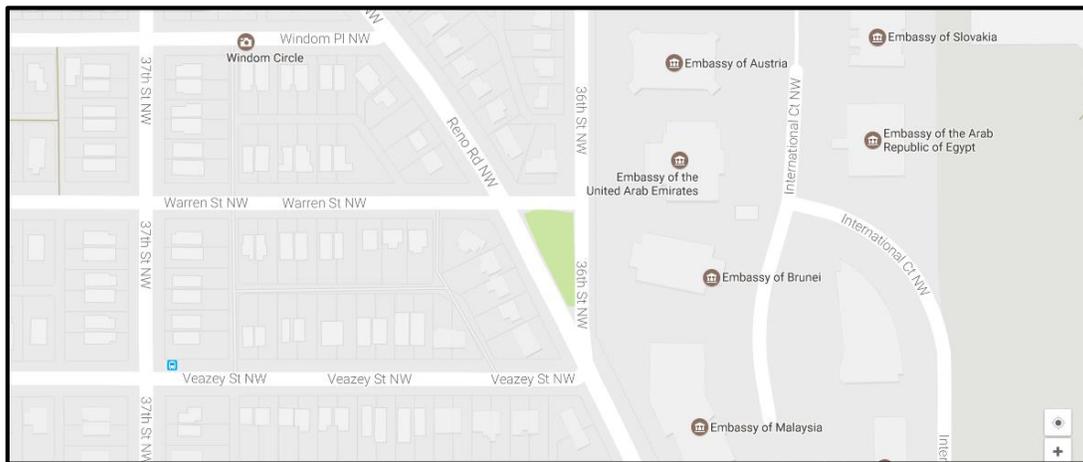
1. investigate the possibility of closing 36th St NW between Warren St NW and Reno Rd (including the traffic implications on surrounding streets and safety data at relevant intersections), replacing the impermeable surface with natural landscaping, and creating a mini-park in conjunction with the adjacent NPS-owned land; and
2. present options and possible next steps to the community at the next ANC 3F public meeting, on July 18, 2017.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Commissioners Nugent and Dickinson are authorized to speak on behalf of ANC 3F regarding this matter.

ANC 3F approved this resolution at its meeting on June 20, 2017, which was properly noticed and at which a quorum was present, by a vote of four (4) in favor, none (0) opposed, and none (0) abstaining.



Malachy Nugent
Chair, ANC 3F



¹ Comprehensive Plan for the National Capital, Volume 1, Chapter 8, “Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Element”

² Comprehensive Plan for the National Capital, Volume 1, Chapter 6, “Environmental Protection”