

Government of the District of Columbia
ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 3F
Van Ness • North Cleveland Park • Wakefield • Forest Hills

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3F04 – Stan Wall, Treasurer
3F05 – Claudette David, Chair
3F06 – Monika Nemeth
3F07 – James Tandaric, Secretary



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RESOLUTION - UDC Tennis Court Lights
November 15, 2022

Whereas the University of the District of Columbia (UDC) renovated the five tennis courts located on their north end of their main campus off Yuma Street NW.

Whereas, the community actively advocated to open the courts to the public in 2020, with an ANC resolution that passed unanimously on November 17, 2020 and a petition with 500 signatures;

Whereas, the community has consistently advocated for access and designated community hours on the tennis courts that include court access at night, utilizing the upgraded court lights that can shine directly onto the court, alleviating light spraying out into the neighborhood;

Whereas, on August 2021, the DC Zoning Commission approved the 2021-2030 UDC Campus Master Plan that codified limited public access to the tennis during daylight hours.

Whereas, this weekday window of time, while generous, is difficult and impractical for working families who would benefit from after work hour time (i.e. 6:00 pm to 10:00 pm or 11:00 pm).

Whereas, the public tennis courts in Van Ness are equipped with lights, so UDC and the community can also play at night, making these courts an even more essential and needed resource for both UDC and the surrounding tennis playing community

Whereas, in August 2022, UDC tested the lights during after sundown hours and sent out a survey to gather neighbor input on the resulting impact and received a response that suggested resident support of allowing the lights to be turned on for a reasonable after daylight hours.

Whereas, UDC staff has repeatedly expressed concern regarding potential vandalism to the renovated courts, councilwoman Cheh recommended a video monitoring system be installed on the courts to ensure that the courts are monitored:

Whereas, the District of Columbia reimburses residents and instructions for installing surveillance cameras and since the courts are bordering a public alley, the combination of lights and a surveillance camera would vastly improve public safety;

Whereas, UDC views itself as a revitalizing, energizing and positive force in the Van Ness community and the District and commenced a public process to update and prepare a Campus Master Plan of which the tennis courts are a component;

Now, Therefore be it resolved that, ANC 3F requests that the UDC - public tennis courts at Yuma Street fully utilize the new lights that are designed for non-daylight use.

Be it further resolved that, available hours for public use be extended from 6:00 pm to 11:00 pm on weekends (Friday and Saturday) and from 6:00 pm to 10:00 pm (Sunday-Thursday) when not being used by UDC to facilitate use by current and potential Phoenix Club members;

Be it further resolved that, paying community club members will be able to access the courts utilizing a lock code provided by UDC and the electronic reservation system that the community recommended UDC integrate into their reservation system;

Be it further resolved that, by extending tennis court hours, installing DC sponsored surveillance cameras will increase the safety for club members, the residents, UDC students and staff and businesses on and near the Yuma Street ally way;

Be it further resolved that, UDC send a written response to ANC responding to the above requests, including a timetable to the best of its ability, by (date to be determined by the Zoning Commission timetable).

It is further resolved that Commissioner Cristea and Nemeth and their successors are authorized to speak on ANC 3F's behalf regarding this matter.

This resolution was presented as a Draft at the regularly scheduled monthly meeting held on Tuesday, November 15, 2022 and then considered by ANC 3F at its regularly scheduled monthly meeting on Tuesday, December 13 (or future meeting in 2023) and the vote results were: __ (yes), __ (no) and __ (abstain).

Claudette David, Chair ANC3F

Copies of this resolution to be sent to Mr. Ronald Mason, President, The University of the District of Columbia, Mayor Bowser, CMs Mendelson, McDuffie, Cheh, Bonds, Henderson, Silverman, White, Nadeau, Todd, Allen, Gray, and White.