

Government of the District of Columbia
ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 3F
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3F06 – Courtney Carlson, Chair



4401-A Connecticut Ave, N.W.
Box 244, Washington, D.C. 20008
commissioners@anc3f.com
www.anc3f.com

**RESOLUTION REGARDING THE ENFORCEMENT OF REGULATIONS AND SCHEDULED
SANITATION SERVICES FOR THE FOREST HILLS PARK**

WHEREAS, DC Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) administers the baseball field, playground, tennis courts, basketball half-court and picnic areas in Forest Hills Park (Park) located between Brandywine and Chesapeake Streets NW east of Connecticut Avenue, and receives services from other District departments, including DGS, DPW, and MPD, and

WHEREAS, the Park is a cherished resource in the Forest Hills neighborhood used by DC residents including families, Capital City Little League teams, neighboring school sports teams, preschools, and baseball, softball, tennis and basketball players of all ages, and

WHEREAS, there is insufficient trash collection in the Park, so trash is left beside trash receptacles, and

WHEREAS, rats have been sighted on the playground, and

WHEREAS, the Park has sanitation services administered by two different agencies: DPW and DGS, and

WHEREAS, the vandalism of sections of the outfield fence of the baseball field and the fence separating the basketball court from the tennis court deprives residents of intended use of the facilities, and

WHEREAS, Park facilities, including the basketball half court and the tennis courts, are now locked at night due to noise, vandalism, and trash, resulting in limited access in the mornings, and

WHEREAS there has been frequent, illegal use of marijuana in the park, in areas where children play.

WHEREAS residents of apartment buildings and single-family homes in the neighborhood have complained about loud noise in the park in the late evening

WHEREAS, Van Ness Main Street has provided support for the playground in the past and

assisted with periodic community clean-up efforts and supported parent groups concerned about the appearance and resources of the Park, and

WHEREAS, Van Ness Main Street and ANC 3F have conducted walkthroughs of the Park with DC Departmental staff, Mayoral representatives, Councilmember Frumin and his staff, apartment residents, MPD officers and community residents to highlight the problems of overflowing garbage and vandalism in the Park, and

WHEREAS, MPD and DPR have been notified about such behaviors in the Park and have achieved limited success in reducing these behaviors through the enforcement of current regulations, and

WHEREAS, residents and patrons of the Park have filed complaints with the District agencies about this behavior and have requested increased enforcement activities of existing regulations, with limited effect, and

WHEREAS, residents and patrons of the Park have voiced complaints during ANC 3F meetings about this behavior and the lack of appropriate level of enforcement of the existing regulations to reduce this behavior, and

WHEREAS, other cities in the U.S. have established clear, published bylaws, rules or regulations and enforcement programs to address these types of behavior in their city parks.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that ANC 3F requests the following:

1. DPR and MPD expand their enforcement programs to maintain services and reduce destructive behavior in the Park; and
2. DGS to provide additional trash receptacles in the Park and a regular schedule that provides for trash collection at least 3 times per week from the Park; and
3. DPR and DGS to provide repairs necessary to immediately address the current damage from vandalism to Park facilities, and
4. DPR to strengthen and clarify the regulations for the Park, as warranted, with input from the community, to ensure that a safe and clean environment is maintained for all who use the Park and vandalism is addressed and reduced, and
5. DPR to replace current "guidelines" signs with signs that clearly identify prohibited activities within the Park, and
6. MPD enforce DC drug laws regarding marijuana use in public places

7. DPR to install automated locks within 90 days (universal access-controlled locks that can be locked and unlocked from remote locations) on the access doors for the basketball court and the tennis courts, capable of unlocking these doors at 6 am every morning and locking these doors at dusk.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that ANC 3F directs departments, including DPW, DGS, MPD and the City Council to assist with the enforcement of the regulations of the Park by augmenting their programs associated with the Park programs and resources, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that ANC 3F supports and will continue to support the efforts of Van Ness Main Street and community efforts for clean-up activities in the Park and other Park-based activities to maintain and expand and improve Park resources, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Commissioner Mitchell Baer is authorized to speak to this issue on behalf of ANC 3F.

ANC 3F approved this resolution at its meeting on July 16, 2024, which was properly noticed and at which a quorum was present, by a vote of 6 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstaining.



Courtney Carlson
Chair, ANC 3F