

April 11, 2022 Virtual Meeting Highlights

How You Can Help

- Submit questions for inclusion in our Ward 5 Councilmember Candidate Forum. We are hoping to convene a candidate forum at our next meeting; be in touch (eckingtoncivic@gmail.com) to suggest questions or flag topics that you'd like us to raise during the moderated discussion. On the call, members raised issues including a vision for Rhode Island Ave transformation and development; air quality; gunshots/ghost guns; enforcement of no-truck zones; policy accountability; environmental and green space priorities; traffic safety; and noise/safety issues with local dirt bikes and the GoPuff warehouse.
- Save the date October 1 for Eckington Day 2022! Stay tuned for more details!
- Help get the word out about the <u>next round of ECA Grants</u> we're accepting applications until June 6 for grants of up to \$1,000 that would improve the environment and health for Eckington residents; promote community engagement; provide skill building, education, mentorship, civic engagement, or other community-building activities for Eckington youth; and/or promote safety on Eckington's roads and sidewalks.
- Consider serving as an ECA officer in 2023. Although elections are not until November, this is a great
 time to get your questions answered! Check out <u>descriptions of the different roles</u> and responsibilities,
 and get in touch (<u>eckingtoncivic@gmail.com</u>) if you have interest or questions.

Decisions Taken

- Members voted YES to provide a grant to resident Sianna Boschetti to construct a Little Free Library near Tanner Park.
- Members voted YES for the ECA to prepare and submit a letter advocating for changes to the proposed ANC redistricting map (see update below).

ECA Updates

ANC Redistricting: ANCs stand for Advisory Neighborhood Commissions. Individual commissioners are elected from within single member districts, and these commissioners have considerable power to help shape zoning, permitting, and other items that shape our community. DC is currently going through its redistricting process, which happens every ten years, and is based on the population counts of the most recent census. Each single member district is supposed to have approximately 2,000 residents, and the target range is roughly 1900-2100. The Ward 5 redistricting task force has proposed creating a new ANC that would be composed of Eckington and Edgewood (labeled 5F in the Arcgis map). In discussion, members agreed that the ECA should advocate for adjustments that might make the northeast portion of Eckington more cohesive and contained within traditional Eckington boundaries. Members who would like to additionally share feedback to the Council should contact Will Singer (wsinger@dccouncil.us) at Councilmember Silverman's office.

- Update on New York Avenue NE Roadmap. The office of planning will be doing several studies to inform what happens along NY Ave Corridor, including the portion adjacent to Eckington and the MBT, which is largely zoned for production, distribution and repair zones. While there is no action needed at this time, this will be an important opportunity for the ECA, residents, and our ANCs to push for changes we'd like to see.
- The Office for the Attorney General (OAG) will soon host a restorative justice dialogue regarding dirt bikes/ATVs in the neighborhood. Please contact Iullian.Brevard@dc.gov to express interest and receive details on the date and venue of this meeting.
- Members discussed resident experiences with last-mile delivery services, especially the GoPuff warehouse at 4th and T NE. Several concerns were raised about aggressive driving, speeding, wrongway driving, intoxicated driving, loud music, litter, blocked streets, and more. The ECA will plan outreach to our ANCs and Councilmember McDuffie's office.

Updates from the offices of elected representatives and community members

- Silas Grant, Senior Advisor, Office of Ward 5 Councilmember Kenyan McDuffie
 - ANC Redistricting another public hearing will be held on April 28. The Councilmember will submit comments based on feedback from witnesses at last hearing, as well as additional comments received. Markup is scheduled for May 18, with a first vote to follow on June 7, and a second vote on June 24.
- A <u>farmers market</u> is coming to Tanner Park on Thursdays. Expected hours are 3-7pm, likely starting in May).
- The Langley Elementary Parent Teacher Organization is hosting a "Make Some Noise" event to benefit the school. The event will be held at MetroBar on May 14 from 3-6pm. Entry is free; raffle tickets can be purchased at bit.ly/MakeSomeNoise2022 for a chance to win \$250 Cash, Family Membership to the Phillips Gallery, gift cards to local restaurants, group wine tastings, sporting events tickets, and more.
- Eckington Parks & Arts has a number of events planned, including free dance workouts on April 30, May 21, and June 18; Story Thyme for kids 0-7 and Book Bike for other ages on April 23; and more.
 Visit eckingtonparks.com for more.
- DC Natives will be planting a number of pollinator gardens in Eckington in coming weeks. Visit
 https://dcnatives.org/pollinator-garden-planner/ to learn more about indigenous plants and how your
 garden can play a part in preserving our pollinators. Hollis Luzecky is the DC Natives neighborhood
 captain and can be reached at https://dcnatives.org/pollinator-garden-planner/ to learn more about indigenous plants and how your
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Upcoming Meetings & Events

- First and third Saturday of every month: <u>community cleanup with Eckington Parks & Arts</u>
- Saturday, April 23, 10 a.m.: Story Thyme and Book Bike events in Tanner Park
- Saturday, April 30, May 21, and June 18, 2 p.m.: Free dance workout in Tanner Park, hosted by EP&A. Sign up here.
- Monday, May 9, 7:00 8:30 p.m.: Next ECA monthly meeting
- Saturday, May 14, 3:00 6:00 p.m.: Langley PTO "Make Some Noise" event at MetroBar.

About the Eckington Civic Association

The Eckington Civic Association meets the first Monday of each month (unless otherwise noted). You do not need to be a member to attend. If you are interested in becoming a member of the association, which allows you to vote at meetings and serve on committees, please register <u>HERE</u>. Membership is <u>free</u> for residents (your participation is your most valuable contribution!), but we welcome donations <u>HERE</u>.

Website: https://eckingtoncivicassociation.com
Join the Eckington Google Group HERE.

You can also follow us on NextDoor!

Email: eckingtoncivic@gmail.com

2022 ECA Officers

Conor Shaw, President

Dana Samuels, Daniel Agold, Taylor Kennedy, and Brandt Witt, Vice Presidents

Neil Shah, Treasurer

Ben Colbert, Communications Director

Other contact information

DC 311 (this is where you should file city service requests, like rodent abatement, tree planting, etc.)

<u>Contact</u>: File a request for city services at https://311.dc.gov/citizen/home, on their smartphone app (search DC 311) or on twitter @311DCgov.

If you are having an issue with city services, please begin by filing a service request to see if it resolves your issue. If contacting 311 does not or cannot resolve your issue, please consult the list below to contact the appropriate office.

Advisory Neighborhood Commissioners (contact your ANC commissioners about zoning, permitting, and related matters)

<u>Contacts</u>: Denise Wright, ANC 5E03 (East Eckington) Commissioner: 5E03@anc.dc.gov or 202-262-7717; Sylvia Pinkney ANC 5E04 (West Eckington) Commissioner: 5E04@anc.dc.gov or (202) 269-4180

Eckington's ANC commissioners should be your first point of contact for zoning, permitting, and other ANC matters. The ECA endeavors to coordinate with our ANC officials on other matters when possible. ANC 5E typically meets on the 3rd Tuesday of every month at 7pm at Friendship-Armstrong Public Charter School, 1400 1st Street NW, Washington, DC. More information here: https://anc5edc.blogspot.com/.

The Mayor's Office of Community Relations & Services (Mayor Bowser's constituent services office) Contact: Nokomis Hunter Ward 5 Liaison, MOCRS: Nokomis.Hunter@dc.gov or (202) 251-5049.

MOCRS serves as the Mayor's primary constituent services organization by responding to constituent requests, complaints, and questions. If you are experiencing issues with a city agency, MOCRS may be able to help resolve the matter.

Ward 5 Councilmember Kenyan McDuffie (your Ward CM)

<u>Contacts</u>: Silas Grant, Constituent Analyst: shgrant@dccouncil.us or (202) 727-8274; Kelley Cislo, Constituent Services Director: kcislo@dccouncil.us or (202) 724-8172

Council Member McDuffie's office should be your primary point of contact regarding legislative matters, and his office can also be a resource to navigate issues with city agencies. Council Member McDuffie represents Ward 5, which includes Eckington. Keep in mind that you also have 5 other representatives on the DC Council who hold at-large seats and also may be able to assist you. They are currently: Chairman Phil Mendelson; Anita Bonds; Christina Henderson; Elissa Silverman; and Robert White, Jr.

Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) 5th District

<u>Contacts</u>: Call 911 for any emergencies. Otherwise, contact Ralph McLean, Fifth District Commander, <u>ralph.mclean@dc.gov</u> or (202) 698-0150 for inquiries about our local police district. You can also contact

Frances Penn, who is the Chair of the 5th District Citizens' Advisory Council: chair@the5dcac.org

Murder Free DC Violence Interruptors in Eckington/Truxton Circle

Contact: Sean Magruder at seanmagruder@murderfreedc.org or +1 (619) 956-6065

District Department of Transportation (DDOT)

Contact: Dalando Baker, DDOT Ward 5 liaison: dalando.baker@dc.gov