

Government of the District of Columbia

ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 5A 5171 South Dakota Avenue NE, Suite 125 Washington, DC 20017

RESOLUTION AFFIRMING ANC SUPPORT FOR TESTING OF ALL OF FORT CIRCLE PARK FOR TOXIC WASTE

WHEREAS, Fort Circle Park is a residential neighborhood park in ANC 5A which is regularly used by the surrounding community; and,

WHEREAS, the Spring Valley toxic waste site is a Superfund site where chemical weapons and other highly toxic substances were improperly stored in the ground by American University researchers during World War I; and,

WHEREAS, in July of 1992, a load of soil known to have come from the Spring Valley toxic waste site was brought to Fort Circle Park in ANC 5A for use in a landscape restoration project following construction for the Green Line; and,

WHEREAS, the aforementioned soil was then removed to an unknown location; and,

WHEREAS, in July of 2020, a WWI-era "unexploded ordnance modified for use as a chemical weapon" was found in Fort Circle Park; and,

WHEREAS, in April of 2023, an additional two WWI-era military canisters were found in the soil of the park which the Army Corps of Engineers indicated were similar to those found in Spring Valley; and,

WHEREAS, the National Park Service has thus far only conducted two limited soil tests of relatively small areas of the park in 2019 and then again in 2021; and,

WHEREAS, those two soil tests showed elevated levels of chemicals of concern, including arsenic, among others; and.

WHEREAS, Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton has formally requested additional testing be done of the entirety of the Fort Circle Park area:

ANC 5A Commissioners (2023-2024)

5A01 Duvalier Malone

5A03 Emily Singer Lucio, Corresponding Secretary

5A05 VACANT

5A07 Keith Hardy

5A09 Zachary Ammerman, Treasurer

5A02 Karlus Cozart, Parliamentarian

5A04 Alex "Diego" Rojas

5A06 Kweku Touré, Vice Chair

5A08 Gordon-Andrew Fletcher, Chairman

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 5A affirms our strong support for additional surface and subsurface soil testing for chemical weapons and other chemical substances of concern in the entirety of Fort Circle Park from Fort Totten Drive NE on the west to South Dakota Avenue NE on the east, and from Riggs Road NE on the north to Bates Road NE on the south.

Gordon-Andrew Fletcher

Gordon-Andrew Fletcher, Chairman Advisory Neighborhood Commission 5A

APPROVED: April 26, 2023

ANC 5A is comprised of eight (8) Commissioners and therefore five (5) Commissioners constitute a quorum. On April 26, 2023 at a duly noticed Public Meeting of ANC 5A, eight (8) Commissioners attended the meeting. At the time of voting to adopt the above resolution there were eight (8) Commissioners present and voting. ANC 5A voted 7-1-0 to approve the Motion; and specifically requested that ANC 5A's comments be afforded the "great weight" prescribed pursuant to the DC Home Rule Charter.

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