

ANC 2E Redistricting Plan Proposed by the Co-Chairs of the ANC 2E Working Group

The co-chairs of the ANC 2E redistricting working group (Jennifer Altemus, Ron Lewis and Lenore Rubino) have prepared a proposed redistricting plan for the single member districts in ANC 2E (the co-chairs' proposal).

The co-chairs' proposal:

Is based on knowledge and careful inquiry into every area of ANC 2E;

Respects and enhances neighborhood cohesiveness – for example, by keeping the Burleith community together in SMD 01, reflecting the community's cohesiveness and its strong relationship with Ellington School of the Arts and Ellington Field (where a BCA committee initiated and coordinated the renovation of Ellington Field and is now actively engaged in the maintenance as well as the use of the field);

Respects the historical patterns of SMD's in ANC 2E, including variations in size of the SMD's and the fact that some SMD's include areas both east and west of Wisconsin Avenue;

Creates an eighth SMD so on-campus GU students will have two SMD's – the number that is justified by the approximately 5,000 on-campus beds – preserving and enhancing the cohesiveness of those SMD's and the adjacent SMD's; and

Best respects the wishes of the affected residents and institutions (e.g., the Hospital).

By contrast, a proposal prepared by a member of the working group who is a GU student, John Flanagan (the Flanagan proposal), is a mechanical approach driven by a faulty premise – that there should be three student SMD's – and flawed by insufficient ground-level research and inquiry. The Flanagan proposal, e.g.:

Uses incorrect numbers, ignoring the fact that the two on-campus student SMD's in the co-chairs' proposal accurately reflect the approximately 5,000 students actually housed on campus;

Would split up the Burleith community; and

Would violate community cohesiveness – by, e.g., denying effective representation to the many residents in the area adjacent to the campus between 37th and 33rd Streets and between M and P or O Streets who have serious issues with the University.

The co-chairs' proposal best reflects the character and interests of the various areas within ANC 2E. We urge that it be adopted.

Jennifer Altemus, Ron Lewis and Lenore Rubino - Co-chairs, ANC 2E redistricting working group