



The Washington, DC region is great >> and it can be greater.

**2018 Greater Greater Washington ANC Candidate Questionnaire  
Ward 5 Responses**

<b>First Name</b>	<b>Last Name</b>	<b>ANC</b>	<b>ANC/SMD</b>
Cortney	Segmen	5E	5 E03
Shelley	Vinyard	5E	5 E04
Karla	Lewis	5E	5 E06
PATRICIA (PAT)	MITCHELL	5E	5 E06
Bertha	Holliday	5E	5 E07
Sam	Bonar	5E	5 E09
Emily	Singer Lucio	5A	5A03
Ronnie	Edwards	5A	5A05
Earl	McDermott	5A	5A05
Gordon-Andrew	Fletcher	5A	5A08
Landon	Jones	5B	5B05
Gail	Brevard	5C	5C01
Henry	Coppola	5C	5C01
Laurence	Telson	5C	5C01
Walter	Deleon	5C	5C02
Thaddeus	James	5C	5C06
Kirsten	Williams	5C	5C06
Luke	Cieslewicz	5C	5C07
Jeremiah	Montague Jr	5C	5C07
Ryan	Linehan	5D	5D01
Bernice	Blacknell	5D	5D04
Walter	Largent	5D	5D05
Sydelle	Moore	5D	5D05
Jason	Burkett	5D	5D06
Romello	Goodman	5D	5D06

Name: **Cortney Segmen**

ANC and Single Member District: **5 E03**

**What are your hopes and/or concerns regarding the McMillan Sand Filtration site? What are your priorities and goals when it comes to balancing new development and green space in our ANC?**

Neighbors have expressed conflicting views about the McMillan Sand Filtration site. Some are excited about its future potential while others have shared concerns ranging across traffic flow, access to affordable housing, sustainability, etc. I support development that continuously engages with the community, responds to community needs, and ensures that all community members can access the benefits of new development. I hope that developers continue to strengthen their relationship with the community by not only listening, but also by proactively engaging and responding to community concerns. It is important to be thoughtful with new development and green space in our ANC. Decades of research have shown the positive impact of living near green space on human health and wellness, including reduction in depression and anxiety, and it is a public health issue to deprive communities of access to green space.

**What is your opinion of the Rhode Island Shopping Center (Forman Mills) redevelopment?**

As mentioned above, I am generally supportive of thoughtful, sustainable development that provides benefits to the community. I think it is important to always think about developments holistically to help avoid any unintended consequences. For example, poorly executed demolitions of old buildings could release toxins like asbestos into the air and pose health risks to a community. For the Rhode Island Shopping Center redevelopment specifically, I hope it can create more jobs/economic prosperity for community members and goes beyond the bare minimum to provide opportunities, such as additional affordable housing, for the community to benefit.

**With our neighborhoods becoming more popular, how can we promote quality development that allows more people to move to the neighborhood without pushing longtime residents out? How do we get more quality retail and services to our neighborhood?**

We can look to equitable development strategies that research has shown to promote neighborhood improvement or revitalization while avoiding gentrification. As a newer resident, I still have a lot to learn about the history of my neighborhood and views of my neighbors, so I am hesitant to offer specific examples until I have done more work to better understand the unique history of my SMD. I think it is beneficial to not only improve physical environments of neighborhoods, but also place an intentional focus on creating or strengthening educational and workforce opportunities within the community. It is also beneficial to strengthen resource sharing and collaboration between a community's various stakeholders. I think further investing

in and supporting local entrepreneurs and youth, including offering opportunities for mentorship and professional development workshops, could lead to more quality and retail services in our neighborhood. With tools and resources that meet their needs, communities are more equipped to sustain themselves and flourish.

**What are your ideas and priorities on pedestrian, bike and traffic safety in ANC 5E, particularly with regard to problem intersections (along New York and Rhode Island Avenues) and cut-through traffic on neighborhood streets (such as First Street NW or Franklin Street NE)?**

The problem intersections and cut-through traffic have been dangerous and anxiety-provoking for all types of commuters. I will continue to work with stakeholders to prioritize these transportation and safety issues and advocate for additional investments to improve accessibility. I know there are a number of solutions that have been explored and I will continue to press for a change.

**What is your stance on the recently approved Bloomingdale Historic District?**

Like many Bloomingdale neighbors, I oppose the decision to designate Bloomingdale as a historic district. Lack of affordable housing continues to be a driver of homelessness and too many people are one car accident or medical bill away from financial hardship. Though historic preservation and limits on development are important, the costs associated with renovations and housing affordability will have a very real and immediate impact on neighbors. Neighbors and representatives made their views clear on this issue, and their voices were wrongfully ignored.

**If there were a way to improve bus transit or bike infrastructure in your neighborhood, but it required removing on-street parking, how would you approach the situation? Give a specific example if possible.**

I would proactively solicit input from my neighbors through the app Nextdoor, ANC and civic association meetings, and door knocking, especially those most potentially impacted by the proposal, to decide how to best tackle the situation.

**Where would you like to see new bicycle lanes, sidewalks, or other infrastructure to make it safer for residents, families, and seniors to walk and bike? What are the top Vision Zero priorities for your community?**

Fortunately, there are many bicycle lanes for neighbors to utilize in my neighborhood. Safety on the Metropolitan Branch Trail continues to be a concern for neighbors, particularly in the evening, and I will advocate for investment in additional safety measures to help prevent violent incidents. There are also intersections, such as V St and 3rd St NE, with poor visibility that are dangerous for pedestrians and drivers alike. I know commissioners have explored the possibility of a 4-way stop at this intersection and I will continue to push for solutions that

strengthen visibility and safety. Something else we need to work on is people breezing through stop signs - irresponsible.

**What role do you think your ANC could play in addressing housing affordability challenges? How can your neighborhood contribute its fair share of the housing our growing city needs?**

Housing affordability is a complex issue and ANCs certainly play a powerful, and sometimes limited, role to address these challenges. This is an area I would like to research further to better understand how to best advocate as a commissioner.

**What is the biggest controversy in your neighborhood not already listed on this questionnaire, and what is your position on it?**

There is a tension and distrust that exists, for a number of complex, valid reasons, between some residents who have been in my neighborhood for 10+ years and “newcomers” who have been here less than 5 years or so. I think it's important to discuss this dynamic openly and collectively craft solutions that benefit all community members.

**Why do you think you are the best person to represent your SMD? What’s your vision for your ANC in 2 years?**

I think I am the best person to represent my SMD because I am confident I will put in the work necessary to build and maintain positive relationships within the community and serve my neighbors well. In my opinion, effective ANC commissioners are present and responsive, which is often built through strategic planning and consistency. They communicate honestly, clearly, and frequently with their neighbors and stakeholders, and have an ability to craft solutions that are responsive to sometimes conflicting input from the community. From serving as an educator to community organizer to federal policymaker, I have spent the last decade in a number of public service roles that have demonstrated my ability to lead in this way. Over the next two years, I hope to engage more community members in local decision-making processes, increase opportunities to build leadership of youth and those who are already civically engaged, and continue to promote the positive work of past commissioners and the community.

**Sometimes community members advocate for a position that is in their narrow interest, but is counter to broader city-wide interests and is highly problematic position if all communities across DC were to act that way. How will you lead in such a situation? Give a local example if possible.**

While the responsibility of an ANC is to be their “neighborhood’s official voice” on things that impact their community, they are also public servants broadly. I plan to always serve with integrity and advocate for greater collective good than harm.

Name: *Shelley Vinyard*

ANC and Single Member District: *5 E04*

**What are your hopes and/or concerns regarding the McMillan Sand Filtration site? What are your priorities and goals when it comes to balancing new development and green space in our ANC?**

I believe our ANC needs both more public green space and additional housing stock in order to grow sustainably, and that those two goals are not mutually exclusive. As an longtime environmental advocate and organizer, I know that public green space has numerous benefits to local communities--from reducing heat islands (which are linked to heat-related illnesses and are more prevalent in lower income areas) to fostering healthy lifestyles for those who have easy access to it. More public green space in our ANC brings those benefits here. At the same time, our ANC is growing just as rapidly as the rest of the city, and we need to have open minds when it comes to how we accommodate the influx of new residents. New development, particularly when close to mass transit, can help ameliorate some of the pressures of growth and improve affordability over the long run. The McMillan Sand Filtration site has long sat vacant and inaccessible to nearby residents, and is well-located to provide both more public green space and additional housing to our community. As commissioner, I will weigh the concerns of the community and the need to preserve the history of the site in any decisions I make regarding its development, and will work to ensure that whatever happens with the site maximizes the public benefit.

**What is your opinion of the Rhode Island Shopping Center (Forman Mills) redevelopment?**

I support the redevelopment of the Rhode Island Shopping Center. It is an ideal location to increase urban density, and will bring a lot of amenities to the neighborhood. I do worry that MRP (the developer moving forward with this particular project)'s decision to drop its planned unit development (PUD) to avoid further community pushback (and legal delays) could become a troubling trend. Dropping the PUD had the net effect of decreasing the total number of affordable housing units offered, and diminished the community's negotiating power in the process. If more developers decide to go the route of avoiding the PUD process altogether, I fear it will mean our communities will face both increased development and less due process.

**With our neighborhoods becoming more popular, how can we promote quality development that allows more people to move to the neighborhood without pushing longtime residents out? How do we get more quality retail and services to our neighborhood?**

As DC grows, it's imperative we do not do so at the cost of longtime residents being forced out of the city. We need to explore more ways to make the choice easier for longtime residents to stay in their neighborhoods. Councilmember Elissa Silverman has introduced legislation that would make it easier for seniors and residents with disabilities to afford rising rents--this is a

great idea. We also need to look at other cities, talk to local organizations, and bring ANCs across the city together to brainstorm new ideas for tenants and homeowners alike. In regard to the second part of this question, Eckington has a dearth of neighborhood-serving businesses. Just peering down North Capitol, there's a stark contrast between the businesses on the west side and the lack of storefronts on the east. In my role as the chair of the Eckington Civic Association's Development Committee, I've been a staunch advocate for bringing more quality retail to our neighborhood. I highlighted that need in Eckington's Comprehensive Plan amendments, and have called on developers to add more retail to their plans. We've slowly seen improvement with Qualia Coffee, Yang Market, and Workafrolic all opening in the last few years. As commissioner, I will work with the city, North Capitol Main Street, Rhode Island Main Street, and NoMa BID to identify even more opportunities to recruit businesses to our neighborhood.

**What are your ideas and priorities on pedestrian, bike and traffic safety in ANC 5E, particularly with regard to problem intersections (along New York and Rhode Island Avenues) and cut-through traffic on neighborhood streets (such as First Street NW or Franklin Street NE)?**

I can confidently say I've used nearly all the modes of transportation available to travel through our ANC. Whether I've biked, walked with my daughter in a stroller, or driven (I've so far been too scared to scoot!), I've definitely noticed that our transportation infrastructure needs some serious work. In Eckington, it can often feel like we are trapped in our own neighborhood and must risk our safety to even attempt to leave. Between FedEx trucks, construction vehicles, school buses, and cut-through traffic, it takes the most time simply to go the few blocks to get out of our neighborhood via one of the main exit points (Eckington Place, Circle, R Street, Lincoln Road, and 3rd Street). I strongly support DDOT conducting a neighborhood-wide traffic study of Eckington. The situation today is close to untenable, and the coming developments to our community will likely only exacerbate the current challenges. If elected, I also plan to request sidewalk and pothole repairs across my SMD, making it safer for pedestrians and cyclists. As I've canvassed my neighborhood, there have been several streets where neighbors have requested more traffic calming measures--I will work to get the city to install those. Finally, there are a lot of areas across ANC 5E where we could improve connectivity for pedestrians and cyclists--for example, connecting Eckington to Bloomingdale, Eckington to NoMa, Bloomingdale to Stronghold, and more. Though I've thought most about these challenges from an Eckington perspective, in general I support building more of our transportation infrastructure around how most DC residents typically commute, which most of the time is not by car.

**What is your stance on the recently approved Bloomingdale Historic District?**

I was disappointed to see the Historic Preservation Review Board ignore the wishes of Bloomingdale residents and the ANC by moving forward with designating Bloomingdale a historic district. This end result underscores the need for reform of the historic districting process in DC. Historic designation, when used selectively and carefully, can be a powerful

tool to preserve truly historic sites. However, in DC, historic districting has been used by a vocal minority to drastically limit the scope of change in neighborhoods across a broad section of the city. I wholeheartedly agree with those who believe that development in the city must be done thoughtfully and with foresight, but right now, historic designation has become a very poor substitute for any sort of meaningful discussion about what neighbors want their neighborhoods to look like for future generations. Everyone deserves to have an equal voice in shaping what our city should look like. The historic designation process circumvents democracy and gives an outsize voice to those who want the least change.

**If there were a way to improve bus transit or bike infrastructure in your neighborhood, but it required removing on-street parking, how would you approach the situation? Give a specific example if possible.**

I believe that in most situations like this, there is a middle ground where we can accommodate the needs of mass transit users, cyclists, and drivers. I understand the need for on-street parking. Many of my neighbors do not have parking on their properties, and driving is a necessity for some (especially parents and those with mobility issues). However, I also believe that our growing city needs to encourage more mass transit usage and more non-motor vehicle traffic. As an example, in Eckington several years ago, DDOT proposed adding a contraflow lane to one block of R Street. Many residents were concerned about its impact on parking. Ultimately DDOT designed the lane so that it was in between parked cars and the sidewalk, thereby preserving parking and providing a safer biking experience for cyclists using that lane.

**Where would you like to see new bicycle lanes, sidewalks, or other infrastructure to make it safer for residents, families, and seniors to walk and bike? What are the top Vision Zero priorities for your community?**

As mentioned earlier in my questionnaire, I see a number of specific opportunities to improve transportation infrastructure in Eckington and the surrounding area. One of my first actions as ANC commissioner, if elected, would be to conduct an audit of the streets in my SMD to identify potholes, needed sidewalk repairs, and other specific problems the city can easily fix, and make sure the city follows through on fixing them. I'm also interested in working with DDOT to improve connectivity for residents from Eckington to all its neighboring communities, like Bloomingdale, Edgewood, and NoMa. Those are all relatively small (but meaningful) actions. Without a doubt, my top Vision Zero priority, and one of my top priorities as ANC Commissioner, period, is fixing the Florida Avenue Virtual Circle. I've personally had too many near misses by bike, by foot, and by car to ignore this problem intersection, and any time I bring the issue up with other neighbors, I see their heads nod vigorously in agreement. If the city is truly serious about its commitment to Vision Zero, fixing this dangerous intersection must be a top priority for them too.

**What role do you think your ANC could play in addressing housing affordability challenges? How can your neighborhood contribute its fair share of the housing our growing city needs?**

I have long thought the ANC could play a much larger role in identifying and advocating for creative policy solutions to the housing affordability crisis in DC. If elected, I would work eagerly with other commissioners in my ANC and across the city to identify solutions to this particular problem. I'm interested in looking not only at the problem from our own city's perspective and potential solutions here (like Councilmember Silverman's legislation on this matter), but also in researching solutions that have worked in other cities across the country. Eckington is already contributing quite substantially to growing the city's housing stock. We have one large condo building going up on Florida Avenue, and will have three more in the coming years (Eckington Yards, the Foulger-Pratt development on R St., and the second building at Washington Gateway). For our neighborhood, I believe we need to focus on how we accommodate that anticipated neighborhood growth while making sure current residents do not feel priced out of their homes and their community.

**What is the biggest controversy in your neighborhood not already listed on this questionnaire, and what is your position on it?**

As mentioned above, the Florida Avenue Virtual Circle (aka "Dave Thomas Circle") is a quagmire for our neighborhood. No matter the mode of transportation you take to exit our neighborhood on the south side, you end up feeling exasperated and unsafe. While I can't say it's controversial (everyone in Eckington agrees that something needs to change with the Virtual Circle's design), I know it will take a lot of community effort to actually get the District Department of Transportation and the City Council to prioritize fixing it. DDOT has published several options for redoing that intersection, many of which are worth exploring. For DDOT to get serious about fixing it in a timely fashion, however, they need more political pressure to prioritize it and they need the money to spend on its reconfiguration. As ANC Commissioner, I would bring together community members, local businesses, and local organizations to pressure the city to move more quickly and heed community feedback.

**Why do you think you are the best person to represent your SMD? What's your vision for your ANC in 2 years?**

I love my neighborhood. When my husband and I moved to Eckington five years ago, I immediately knew it was home. I immersed myself in working to make it as good as it could possibly be. In the last few years, I've spent countless hours as the Development Committee Chair of the Eckington Civic Association working to make sure the development that's happening in our neighborhood maximizes the benefits for our community. I've consulted with neighbors, asked tough questions of developers and decision-makers, and pushed them to invest as much as possible in making Eckington even better than it already is. I think the people I've worked with in the Civic Association and in my day job will say I excel at listening to others, communicating clearly, and getting to the heart of issues. Most importantly, though, they will say I get things done. If elected, I will spend the next two years working to make



Eckington safer, cleaner, more affordable, and more accessible for all its residents. I will recruit more neighborhood-serving businesses. I will work to fix Dave Thomas Circle and our numerous other transportation challenges. Finally, I will increase communication by actively seeking out feedback and ideas from all corners of my SMD and from residents old and new, and will work with people to implement those ideas. It would be such an honor to serve as ANC commissioner for 5E04. I would love the opportunity to put my years of experience as an advocate and organizer to work improving the community I live in and love.

**Sometimes community members advocate for a position that is in their narrow interest, but is counter to broader city-wide interests and is highly problematic position if all communities across DC were to act that way. How will you lead in such a situation? Give a local example if possible.**

I am an organizer by trade, and I believe in listening to people, hearing their concerns, and bringing people together in order to make changes where necessary and where people want them. I also believe that some of the challenges our city faces--like rapid growth and a changing climate--require thinking about the bigger picture, and making sure residents understand the full implication of any decisions we make. The creation of historic districts is a perfect example of this dynamic, and one I have a lot of experience with. If every neighborhood in DC became a historic district, it would drastically change the type of development that happens in DC and might significantly limit building additional housing stock. When the Eckington Civic Association pursued historic designation in our neighborhood, I was very involved in organizing and educating the community about what that could mean for us. I sought out research on both sides of the issue and worked to make sure my neighbors were informed as well. I felt this was a very big decision that had long-lasting ramifications for our neighborhood and the city, and everyone in the neighborhood had the right to engage and be informed. At the time, I didn't think of historic designation as a tragedy of the commons situation (as in, if a lot of neighborhoods took the same self-interested action, it would be detrimental to the city as a whole), but I believe my approach then would be the same approach I'd take if faced with a similar dilemma in the ANC. I'd prioritize educating myself, engaging my constituents, and weighing the effects of my decision on my neighbors, as well as the city as a whole and future generations.

Name: *Karla Lewis*

ANC and Single Member District: *5 E06*

**What are your hopes and/or concerns regarding the McMillan Sand Filtration site? What are your priorities and goals when it comes to balancing new development and green space in our ANC?**

I'm hopeful that the redevelopment of the McMillan site will provide jobs to the jobless and homes to the homeless. With 646 new residences that will offer housing to all income levels, thousands of new jobs being created from the development of a healthcare facility, community center, grocery, and retail spaces, this project will help provide job opportunities and affordable housing to DC residents. The proposed plans will preserve some of the historic sand filtration towers and there will be plenty of open/green space. I think that this strikes a good balance and could be used as a template for balancing future development and green space projects. The redevelopment of McMillan is good, but there needs to be some controls in place to ensure that the areas surrounding the new development site are not severely impacted by the traffic entering and leaving the complex. The McMillan development plans include a transit hub with transit options for bus, bike and car share, which is great, but it's not enough. There will be some on street parking offered within the development, but it will not accommodate the residents living on the complex and the influx of traffic of the nearby residents that will shop at the grocery store and other retail stores. Michigan Avenue, North Capitol St, and First St NW are already severely congested during rush hour. Traffic from the main thoroughfares are being diverted onto neighborhood/side streets. Bicycle and pedestrian safety on First St NW is already a concern. Traffic has already been severely impacted by the David Thomas Circle. Plans need to be put into place in order to avoid another traffic nightmare. New development is crucial in accommodating the growing DC population. It is also just as vital to preserve green space for the residents of DCs.

**What is your opinion of the Rhode Island Shopping Center (Forman Mills) redevelopment?**

I believe that the redevelopment of the Rhode Island Avenue Shopping center (Bryant Street) is good. More affordable housing units with retail space that is in close proximity to metro station is always a win-win. A little more thought should have been given to the impact of closing the pedestrian bridge to the metro station. Residents will now have to navigate the traffic on Rhode Island Avenue placing pedestrians at risk. Pedestrian safety should have been a priority and the bridge could have been replaced in the last stage of the project.

**With our neighborhoods becoming more popular, how can we promote quality development that allows more people to move to the neighborhood without pushing longtime residents out? How do we get more quality retail and services to our neighborhood?**

Use area median income (AMI) to determine eligibility for affordable housing. Contracts with developers should allow for an adequate percentage of housing to be set aside as affordable housing units. Make new housing opportunities available to longtime DC residents first. Conduct surveys to determine the retail and services that are needed in the neighborhood. Offer tax breaks and other incentives to business to make it a win-win for the residents and the businesses.

**What are your ideas and priorities on pedestrian, bike and traffic safety in ANC 5E, particularly with regard to problem intersections (along New York and Rhode Island Avenues) and cut-through traffic on neighborhood streets (such as First Street NW or Franklin Street NE)?**

To ensure pedestrian safety, we should provide more pedestrian overpasses at major intersections similar to the overpasses on the Las Vegas strip. In addition, research and studies could be conducted to determine if having parallel streets as one way would help to ease congestion and prevent cut-through traffic on the side streets. One way streets running north and south/east and west like First, Second, and Third Avenues in NYC will allow more traffic to flow in one direction. With traffic traveling in one direction, it may be possible to have bicycle sharrows or lanes. Last but not least, we need to make fixing the David Thomas circle a priority. It is probably the worst intersection in DC.

**What is your stance on the recently approved Bloomingdale Historic District?**

I believe that homeowners should have the right to either include/exclude their properties from the National registry list. Seniors and low-income residents are already struggling to pay taxes and keep up the maintenance on their homes. Historic designation raises home values, which in turn increases property taxes. In addition, maintenance work in historic districts require additional fees such as permits for exterior work such as roof replacement, masonry repair, repointing, window and door replacement. Seniors, low-income families and some residents with disabilities aren't aware of the financial implications to them because they may lack access to the internet, are less internet savvy or are unable to attend live forums where issues are discussed. No plans have been put in place to provide financial assistance/grants to the residents that will need the most help.

**If there were a way to improve bus transit or bike infrastructure in your neighborhood, but it required removing on-street parking, how would you approach the situation? Give a specific example if possible.**

Communication is a key part of problem solving. I would gather representatives for all the stakeholders together, in person, to clarify the issues, find out what each party needs in the

solution and facilitate a brainstorming session to determine the most relevant solution given our constraints. In this case, the stakeholders may include: a cross-section of residents who commute by bus, bike and car; nearby business owners; local bike share, car share and other commuter companies; and the relevant dc authorities such as DDOT and Metro. Then I would facilitate a brainstorming session to determine the best solution given our constraints. I have successfully facilitated this type of problem solving at work using design thinking techniques.

**Where would you like to see new bicycle lanes, sidewalks, or other infrastructure to make it safer for residents, families, and seniors to walk and bike? What are the top Vision Zero priorities for your community?**

I would like to see other infrastructure such as overpasses on the cross sections of the major corridors. Drivers speeding, distracted drivers and ignoring traffic signals are the top Vision Zero priorities for my community.

**What role do you think your ANC could play in addressing housing affordability challenges? How can your neighborhood contribute its fair share of the housing our growing city needs?**

When developers presents plans to our ANC for new multiple dwelling units, ensure that there will be commitments to have affordable units. There are still abandoned or blighted properties within our ANC. Investigate whether or not the Property Acquisition and Disposition Division (PADD), the DC Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) can make these properties into home ownership opportunities for district residents.

**What is the biggest controversy in your neighborhood not already listed on this questionnaire, and what is your position on it?**

The constant flooding of residences in the 5E06 community. WASA is working to address the issues, but homes are still being flooded. Residents are tired of their homes being under water. I fully support making this a priority for my SMD.

**Why do you think you are the best person to represent your SMD? What's your vision for your ANC in 2 years?**

I believe that I am the best person to represent SMD 5E06 because I earnestly care for the community, namely the residents and the businesses. I care about: All residents having a good quality of life. We should be able to have quiet, peaceful, orderly and safe neighborhoods. Having systems in place that will provide health care, education, employment, transportation and affordable housing. Children in the community and I will work to ensure that we have programs in our SMD that will train them in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM). We need to develop the children in the competencies that will be required in the future. Seniors. Many have difficulty keeping up with the increasing costs of maintaining a home in 5E06. They are unaware of the services being within our SMD. Some of the seniors are not online and therefore disconnected from the

activities happening in the community. I will keep them informed and help them acquire the services that they need. Homeless and the jobless. We need to develop a process for getting people out of homeless shelters and off of the streets. Train them so they can be employed and pay rent. This means that we need to provide affordable housing opportunities so the low income residents will not be displaced. Eradicating the rats and reducing crime. At-risk youth and repeat offenders. We need to engage them, land jobs for them and get them off of the streets. My vision for SMD 5E06 is to have a safe, clean, walkable, bikeable, diverse, healthy thriving community where we are able to provide all of the services needed by our residents. I care about the things that are important to the residents in 5E06 and I will work hard to ensure that we have them because 'Karla cares'.

**Sometimes community members advocate for a position that is in their narrow interest, but is counter to broader city-wide interests and is highly problematic position if all communities across DC were to act that way. How will you lead in such a situation? Give a local example if possible.**

My previous experience as a Business Architect and Business Analyst, would help me to analyze and understand the concerns, interests and influence of the major stakeholders (e.g. community members and DC Government). I would work with all stakeholders to help them understand the goals and objectives of the DC Government. It is important for everyone to know and understand the over arching benefits and the negative impact that the narrow interest position would have on the City as a whole. The impact needs to be clearly communicated in such a way that the community members will understand how it will hurt their bottom line, have a financial impact on them, affect their families, their houses, etc. Once looking at the financial implications, pros, cons, benefits, work with the stakeholders to bring them into alignment with the city-wide interests.

Name: **PATRICIA (PAT) MITCHELL**

ANC and Single Member District: **5 E06**

**What are your hopes and/or concerns regarding the McMillan Sand Filtration site? What are your priorities and goals when it comes to balancing new development and green space in our ANC?**

My hope is that the City and Bloomingdale McMillan Group will reach an agreement that encompasses some of each group's desires for the space. Recreational-park and green-space are an important part of a community's health and well-being and I would like nothing better than to see McMillan become an oasis where residents can recreate and enjoy, as it was envisioned and used in the early history of this community. However, given the DC Government's poor performance in maintaining green-space and the failure to adequately address homelessness in this City, I would not like to see McMillan become unkept and under-utilized because of it or, even worse, a haven for drug dealing and homelessness. McMillan, is too big and too important a space to fail and too big to depend on community groups to maintain it. When I heard the initial arguments against development in the early days – more than 20 years ago – that was my opinion then and sadly it is my opinion today because not much has changed – except homelessness has gotten worse. Because of this, from the beginning, I have felt that a development that encompasses public and private interests is the best use of this space. The question is that of balance. and I fully support the work of the McMillan Group to ensure that balance is reached.

**What is your opinion of the Rhode Island Shopping Center (Forman Mills) redevelopment?**

Overall, I believe the new development will have a positive impact on the community. In the past, it's my opinion, the retail mix has been so limited that it has gone under-utilized. Bringing the type of development as suggested, including the movie theater, would benefit the community greatly, by building a more robust and diverse residential community, while providing new amenities that attract residents to the new housing developments in the area as well as others in close proximity – like Catholic, Brookland and Michigan Park. In addition, it will create jobs, especially entry-level jobs for the high population of youth and under or unemployed residents.

**With our neighborhoods becoming more popular, how can we promote quality development that allows more people to move to the neighborhood without pushing longtime residents out? How do we get more quality retail and services to our neighborhood?**

There is always a need to balance retail amenities and accessibility with the community's capacity to sustain it. When you have an overabundance of retail that cater to poorer, low- or fixed-income residents, those residents with adequate disposable income do not patronize. As an example, I don't patronize Foreman Mills mainly because of the quality of merchandise

offered. However, if there were -- as an example -- a Target located there, I would definitely patronize. As a result, you improve the quality of retail and expand the economic demographics at the same time. The solution to getting quality retail is balance. The solution to keeping longtime residents is balance.

**What are your ideas and priorities on pedestrian, bike and traffic safety in ANC 5E, particularly with regard to problem intersections (along New York and Rhode Island Avenues) and cut-through traffic on neighborhood streets (such as First Street NW or Franklin Street NE)?**

We need new and adequately designed crosswalks that take into consideration the volume of traffic, the width of the intersection, pedestrian and bicycle traffic and other traffic-calming, pedestrian-friendly measures. North Capitol and R Street, Rhode Island and 1st Street corridor, New York and Florida Avenues, and Florida and R Street, NW are all intersections that get plenty of foot and bike traffic that make these intersections difficult to navigate.

**What is your stance on the recently approved Bloomingdale Historic District?**

I totally support it. There's no question the historical value and important history of Bloomingdale was well-documented and substantiated. But beyond that, I'm confident, in the long-run, being designated as an historic district will be a stabilizing factor Bloomingdale. One of the major issues I historic designation will help to curb is the out-of-control development that has occurred in Bloomingdale, which is a major factor in the home prices rising so dramatically over several years. One only has to be reminded that the Attorney General has pursued legal actions against some unscrupulous developers in Bloomingdale. Had an historic district been in place, some of the issues that were either directly or indirectly tied, at least to facade alterations, may have been avoided. I am not suggesting unequivocally that historic designation would run bad developers away. What I am suggesting is that folks who do shoddy work, who cut corners, whose only goal is to get the most by doing the least, will not look favorably on another level of oversight such as that required by HPO. The cost of home ownership is directly related to assessments, which are done yearly, not every 10 years or so. Rising assessments are directly related to neighborhood sales. If you're making an economic argument stabilizing cost of home ownership should be the prime objective. Other arguments -- like making repairs under historic designation would be so expensive that it would cost homeowners to lose their homes -- were just not based in reality. Other arguments that were circulated, from preventing older residents from aging in place or not being able to make renovations to, say, a deck in the back were just unfounded since, one, HPO oversight would always be tailored to the community design improvement applications as it exists today, not in the past and two, HPO oversight only applies to facade renovations and what can be seen from the street -- not decks, or interiors or chair lifts, or even wheelchair ramps. I believe it won't take long for the community to recognize and appreciate the benefits of historic designation.

**If there were a way to improve bus transit or bike infrastructure in your neighborhood, but it required removing on-street parking, how would you approach the situation? Give a specific example if possible.**

I believe in a situation like this, the impact of losing on-street parking would have to be spread throughout the neighborhood and absorbed as equally and practical as possible. For instance, an entire street within a neighborhood -- unless that street is a major thoroughfare like North Capitol or Florida Avenue -- should not be entirely absorbed into a plan to improve bike or infrastructure. I do not think it would benefit the neighborhood to remove on-street parking from residential streets, generally. Living in DC is not cheap and penalizing residents who own cars by removing on-street parking in their own neighborhoods is another burden to residents, especially given the fact that on any given day, depending on where you live, there are as many vehicles from Maryland and Virginia as there are vehicles with DC tags, if not more. I believe the prime objective for DC in terms of planning is to put the residents first, make it easier to move around in their own communities. This supports our local businesses as well.

**Where would you like to see new bicycle lanes, sidewalks, or other infrastructure to make it safer for residents, families, and seniors to walk and bike? What are the top Vision Zero priorities for your community?**

New/adequately designed crosswalks that take into consideration the volume of traffic, the width of the intersection, pedestrian and bicycle traffic and other traffic-calming, pedestrian-friendly measures should be planned and developed at North Capitol and R Street, Rhode Island and 1st Street, New York and Florida Avenues and Florida and R Street, NW. The Dave Thomas Circle is a daily hazard for cars and pedestrians. The lighting is not timed adequately to allow cars to maneuver through the circle without causing repeated block-the-box scenarios on nearly every light change, depending on the traffic volume. Pedestrian crossing is dangerous at New York and Florida, New York and 1st and New York and North Capitol. Lights are inadequately timed; crosswalks are not adequately identified for pedestrians or autos. These areas within 5E are need a comprehensive plan to address safe foot and auto traffic. And I believe, some areas, like New York and Florida Avenues, should not include bike lanes until the pedestrian/auto scenario is thoroughly and adequately addressed to provide safety for the many pedestrians that use that path from the Metro Station daily. I believe, the Dave Thomas Circle is the top Vision Zero priority for my community.

**What role do you think your ANC could play in addressing housing affordability challenges? How can your neighborhood contribute its fair share of the housing our growing city needs?**

The role the ANC should play in addressing affordability challenges in the city is to provide a forum to hear from residents, assist the community in developing guiding principles that form the basis for how it assesses a planned development and act as the liaison between community and developers to ensure the community's wishes are accurately interpreted and executed. I think a neighborhood's contribution to fair housing should be considered in context to the larger community -- whether that community is defined geographically or politically.



**What is the biggest controversy in your neighborhood not already listed on this questionnaire, and what is your position on it?**

I don't think there is a controversy on this issue but I have heard it spoken by more than one resident in opposition to historic designation, and that is the issue of membership to the civic association and, specifically, Bloomingdale Civic Association. Some believe the requirement to pay dues to become a member is, in effect, a poll tax. In some ways, I agree. I would like to see a civic association that is funded and supported strictly on a voluntary basis, where membership is based solely upon the address of the resident which falls within the boundaries. However, having been president of the civic association many years ago, I do not believe the civic association would be able to do the work it does given the lack of participation today -- both financially and physically.

**Why do you think you are the best person to represent your SMD? What's your vision for your ANC in 2 years?**

I am the best person for ANC Commissioner for 5E06 because I am a committed and well-respected leader in this community. I have a proven track record of working with people with varying beliefs and viewpoints. Having lived in Bloomingdale for many years, I know the community, its history and the many of its residents intimately. I am a thoughtful and always prepared leader who can bring people together. I have integrity, meaning I won't have different opinions for different audiences. As with anyone, my position on matters is based on my beliefs and perspective, but I am always open to different ideas and willing to accept other's points of view. I can work with and, more importantly, I have worked with people of all stripes, colors, demographics and political persuasions. There are some things I will not compromise on -- my integrity being one of them.

**Sometimes community members advocate for a position that is in their narrow interest, but is counter to broader city-wide interests and is highly problematic position if all communities across DC were to act that way. How will you lead in such a situation? Give a local example if possible.**

I think my answer to the previous questions best exemplifies the way in which I would address issues of NIMBYism. I would lead in this way.

Name: **Bertha Holliday**

ANC and Single Member District: **5 E07**

**What are your hopes and/or concerns regarding the McMillan Sand Filtration site? What are your priorities and goals when it comes to balancing new development and green space in our ANC?**

I hope the developers will demonstrate a bit more flexibility and responsiveness to community concerns. There are some major concerns related to density, traffic, and the need for more greenspace, as well as retention of more of the site's underground structures. I do hope the site will eventually become a vibrant place where all will feel welcomed.

**What is your opinion of the Rhode Island Shopping Center (Forman Mills) redevelopment?**

Too large— and too much transient occupancy — too little family and affordable housing. Unsure if retail will reflect the range of economic needs of its new occupants and those in surrounding neighborhoods. Would urge more thoughtful planning

**With our neighborhoods becoming more popular, how can we promote quality development that allows more people to move to the neighborhood without pushing longtime residents out? How do we get more quality retail and services to our neighborhood?**

ANC 5E recently developed a resolution on The Comprehensive Plan and Affordable Housing. It calls for increasing INCLUSIONARY ZONING requirements to no less than 25% of a development's units. Of those, at least 25% should be set aside for families requiring 3 or 4 bedrooms. Furthermore it calls for specific set-aside of IZ Units for different income levels: 25% for 39% FMI, 25% for 59% FMI, 25% for 60% FMI, and 25% for 89% FMI. I think this proposal is a good start for promoting greater inclusion in housing, less transient development,, and less displacement in neighborhoods.

**What are your ideas and priorities on pedestrian, bike and traffic safety in ANC 5E, particularly with regard to problem intersections (along New York and Rhode Island Avenues) and cut-through traffic on neighborhood streets (such as First Street NW or Franklin Street NE)?**

My neighborhood consists of century old homes with few major arterials— all of which are not very cyclists friendly in their current configuration. There is particularly a need for north/south bike lanes. Side streets are already over capacity and can not easily accommodate increased bike or auto traffic. The Bloomingdale Civic Assoc's Bloomingdale Village Square Project envisions a re-configuration of North Capitol St. whereby that street's underpasses would be decked over to create a park-like greenway that would serve to connect the east & west sides of the street—this promoting pedestrian traffic. Likewise, portions of the street that are

currently at surface would be tunneled and decked over. The result could be a Park-like green way that could stretch from Michigan Ave. to Massachusetts Avenue and incorporate much needed North/south bike lanes, park-like greenway, promote pedestrian traffic, connect the east and west sides of street thereby encouraging commerce, & simplify commuter travel.

**What is your stance on the recently approved Bloomingdale Historic District?**

I strongly support. With the increased emphasis on the building of new (typically mixed use) 'communities' and less stringent zoning laws and guidelines ( e.g. proposed revisions to the DC Comprehensive Plan), I view historic district designation as an important tool for preserving the City's long-established residential neighborhoods that are often characterized by established neighborhood institutions, businesses, services, family housing, public transportation routes, public spaces, organizations, and social networks — many of which did not exist in the newer communities. Such older neighborhoods are essential for ensuring a rich urban fabric and housing and demographic diversity.

**If there were a way to improve bus transit or bike infrastructure in your neighborhood, but it required removing on-street parking, how would you approach the situation? Give a specific example if possible.**

Most of my constituents have repeatedly made it clear they oppose any loss of on-street parking.

**Where would you like to see new bicycle lanes, sidewalks, or other infrastructure to make it safer for residents, families, and seniors to walk and bike? What are the top Vision Zero priorities for your community?**

See prior responses.

**What role do you think your ANC could play in addressing housing affordability challenges? How can your neighborhood contribute its fair share of the housing our growing city needs?**

When developers appear before ANCs, efforts should be made to increase the number of affordable units proposed and use of a broader range of affordability. Affordable housing in the residential rowhouse Bloomingdale neighborhood primarily takes the form of rental of basement apartments. Recently rental payments for housing vouchers significantly increased. This policy change should serve to increase the supply of affordable housing. Similar changes in policy in the Comp Plan and by the Zoning Commission would hopefully also increase affordable housing availability. When looking at the landscape of development and housing, ANC's lack sufficient authority to effect significant change.

**What is the biggest controversy in your neighborhood not already listed on this questionnaire, and what is your position on it?**

Whispered impacts of gentrification.

**Why do you think you are the best person to represent your SMD? What's your vision for your ANC in 2 years?**

I am thoughtful. I am experienced. I respect diverse perspectives. I recognize the complexities of my neighborhood.

**Sometimes community members advocate for a position that is in their narrow interest, but is counter to broader city-wide interests and is highly problematic position if all communities across DC were to act that way. How will you lead in such a situation? Give a local example if possible.**

Unclear what this question is addressing. Specifically, what are "broader city-wide interests", and specifically, who made this determination, and what are the criteria for a position being "highly problematic if all communities...were to act that way"—(which would seem to invalidate that the preferred action represents city-wide interests))? In fact, the question asked about diverse opinions in a single community. Because I believe in the value and power of diverse perspectives, under such circumstances, with intentionality, I, promote the seeking of the common ground among varying perspectives.

Name: **Sam Bonar**

ANC and Single Member District: **5 E09**

**What are your hopes and/or concerns regarding the McMillan Sand Filtration site? What are your priorities and goals when it comes to balancing new development and green space in our ANC?**

It would be wonderful if we could just take that fence down and have the whole thing as a park. But after decades of fighting and a rapidly developing city, it seems nothing can stand in the way of some sort of development on this incredibly valuable land. That said, it is completely unacceptable that the City did not use a competitive bidding process and is offering one plan at a time while removing all of the risk to the developer through tax incentives. Politics can no longer be zero-sum and "take it or leave it". The other side often uses these tactics as well, claiming that they would rather the fence stay up than ANY sort of development into a partial park. If they are going to develop it, we should use creativity and coordinated community action to disarm and get our voices heard and our feet in the door. I'm fighting for 50% park, actually affordable housing (and enough of it to not push out existing community members), a thorough parking and traffic plan that doesn't explode congestion on North Capitol, and affordable retail space that enriches the community through art and recreation, not another over-priced restaurant serving up more gentrifier specials. I also want to explore alternative development financing such as through Community Land Trusts.

**What is your opinion of the Rhode Island Shopping Center (Forman Mills) redevelopment?**

Unlike McMillan Park, there seems to be far fewer folks who prefer the current shopping center and the things it offers. I'm cautiously for redevelopment, especially given its improvements to the Metro Branch Trail and connections to Brentwood Metro station on the other side. My approval comes with similar caveats to my hopes for new development at McMillan: the quantity of affordable housing should be more than doubled and with more units for families, the retail space should be affordable for local shoppers, and there should be some community and arts-focused retail space that provides something to new and old communities alike - essentially "affordable" retail for the retail tenants who will create the new development as a destination and a gem of the neighborhood.

**With our neighborhoods becoming more popular, how can we promote quality development that allows more people to move to the neighborhood without pushing longtime residents out? How do we get more quality retail and services to our neighborhood?**

I think it's incredibly important to consider and demand arts spaces and community-focused development as this city gentrifies and changes. As a comedian and musician who has done work with arts non-profits throughout my time in DC, I am appalled at how little space of these many massive development projects is devoted to retail that can't pay \$50/sqft, but that

actually provides a service and value, enriches the old and new communities, and helps them come together. Just like a percentage of the housing is reserved for affordable, there should be a percentage of retail that is also affordable for spaces that give back to and create opportunities (besides just jobs) for the neighborhood. This is where funding for the arts should be done - right now it is lost in political dealings and boring spaces that people with big pockets can understand and feel good about themselves supporting, instead of being something anyone can afford/wants to go and see. Arts funding should think towards the future of entertainment and of community. In addition to arts retail, there should be arts and recreation features added to developments to make them places that people can meet each other and communities can form both deliberately and spontaneously. There should be ping pong tables, fire-pits, splash parks, and other ideas that no one has thought of yet but that some kid in the community has been waiting for their whole life. If you reach out to the community and ask them what they want, you will get less resentment and push back. And if we stay committed to affordable housing and rethink the payroll tax scheme, we can provide a way for the tide of a neighborhood to rise without drowning the people already docked there. Gentrification is a serious problem and we need to consider and learn from the people who already live in a neighborhood if we are swooping in to upend and develop it.

**What are your ideas and priorities on pedestrian, bike and traffic safety in ANC 5E, particularly with regard to problem intersections (along New York and Rhode Island Avenues) and cut-through traffic on neighborhood streets (such as First Street NW or Franklin Street NE)?**

As far as local issues go, I have heard a great deal of concern about the speed of drivers on the streets mentioned in this prompt, but also on V St NE and Lincoln, where drivers barrel down the road and cars get sideswiped often. I think recommendations need to be street-specific, but speed bumps, mini-roundabouts, added stop signs are all acceptable and needed in many locations in our neighborhood. I think bicycle traffic should be incentivized and I support many of the recommendations WABA has put forward about bike lanes and redesigning streets with increased bike and scooter traffic in mind. Citywide, I fully support the Vision Zero initiative. I am a avid biker and bike-safety advocate. I think we should provide subsidies for bicyclists instead of subsidies for parking, and incentivize businesses who offer such benefits to their employees. We also need to enforce and fine driving rule violations more heavily, as well as taxing non-shared Uber/Lyft rides. If we get our city on board with envisioning a new future, the culture will slowly change to accept that.

**What is your stance on the recently approved Bloomingdale Historic District?**

As much as I understand and lament the loss of the "look" of a neighborhood, I do not think that it should be the priority of government officials. This is especially true when it limits larger goals like fighting climate change (by making it hard to put solar panels on your house) or improving people's livelihoods and not wasting their time as they try to improve their property. I think we should focus on neighborhood needs, not just neighborhood looks. We need to accept a certain amount of change as long as it is done responsibly and achieves a greater goal

for the community. I also think that the process for establishing a historic district is completely opaque and frustrating for the community. They schedule hearings on days/times when folks cannot go to voice their opinion and they ignore the recommendation of the ANC, civic association, and will of the people. We can certainly place limits on unsightly and exploitative development in our neighborhood, but the historic district office seems to have another agenda and I'd prefer to discuss what we actually want instead of just what we don't like.

**If there were a way to improve bus transit or bike infrastructure in your neighborhood, but it required removing on-street parking, how would you approach the situation? Give a specific example if possible.**

This is so hard to do in the general, so we need to be careful and considerate in every situation to make sure people are being listened to and are being recompensed for lost value in a new plan. I usually fall on the side of bike and bus infrastructure, but totally understand that folks are in various situations that preclude them from using those systems. On First St NW, I like the idea of creating middle-ground policies like the mini-roundabouts that have been proposed that would assuage bike and safety concerns without removing parking.

**Where would you like to see new bicycle lanes, sidewalks, or other infrastructure to make it safer for residents, families, and seniors to walk and bike? What are the top Vision Zero priorities for your community?**

Mini-roundabouts on First St NW, with a bike lane on the north end and onto Michigan, speed bumps on V St. NE, a stop sign on Lincoln Rd at V St NE, Protected bike lanes and/or larger sidewalks on North Capitol, a bike path through LeDroit Park. I think my community is worried about congestion and people using our streets as throughways and speeding through, so improved signage (both about fines and about bikes being able to share the road) and traffic enforcement as provided in the Vision Zero plan are very important.

**What role do you think your ANC could play in addressing housing affordability challenges? How can your neighborhood contribute its fair share of the housing our growing city needs?**

We need to bring our fight to the city to guarantee deeply affordable housing in new developments at higher percentages than the measly units the developer offers. This is especially true for developments that are not competitively bid and have zero risk to the developer through tax incentives (like McMillan). This is a much bigger conversation, but using new forms of land management and financing such as Community Land Trusts could alleviate some concerns about neighborhood "character", affordability, and exploitative developers controlling the conversation. We cannot just sit back and react to the onslaught of changes, we need to pipe up and come together around a common proactive goal of what we want for our neighborhood. An ANC is primed for such a goal.

**What is the biggest controversy in your neighborhood not already listed on this questionnaire, and what is your position on it?**

The big ones were mostly covered, so I guess I'll talk about rats. People hate them and they are on the rise. This is a tricky issue that everyone has their half-baked theories about. But I think more community conversations, cleanups, and signage initiatives can make a big difference so people feel heard and the small things that add up are taken on by everyone. Also, we need to get clear advice from the city on the process for getting rat treatments and cleanups, as well as boxes that trap and kill them internally.

**Why do you think you are the best person to represent your SMD? What's your vision for your ANC in 2 years?**

I think I am willing to be honest, upfront about the ways I am problematic, creative and lighthearted even under pressure, and not just take sides in every debate. I am fighting for a proactive future where, in 2 years, our goals and mission for the SMD are outlined clearly so we have something to point to when someone comes in with a plan that people hate. We are both advocating for ourselves to get control of the changes that happen in our community like McMillan's development, but also standing for something bigger and working to find common ground about little things we can do to be a model community. I am willing to knock on every door and take our fights to City Council or even to Congress. At the same time, I listen and realize that this cannot be about me or my goals, but about representing and being a sidekick for my community members. They are the heroes and I want to let them shine.

**Sometimes community members advocate for a position that is in their narrow interest, but is counter to broader city-wide interests and is highly problematic position if all communities across DC were to act that way. How will you lead in such a situation? Give a local example if possible.**

As discussed in the section about the Bloomingdale Historic District, these are really fine lines to walk. I am used to being under pressure and listening actively due to my work in improvisational theater and planning large-scale events and projects at my old office. Leading through listening and mediation is my approach, always making sure people are heard even if they are not getting what they want. I think creating a clearly defined community plan and priorities can help get agreement about these things and not have each little upset be a whole issue. We need to know what we stand for and have someone in the ANC represent those clearly laid-out ideals.



Name: *Emily Singer Lucio*

ANC and Single Member District: *5A03*

**What is your vision for economic development around the Takoma Park Metro Station?**

Takoma and Takoma Park are beautiful historic areas. It is important, as with all development, that we maintain the individual character of the area, while moving forward with progress and services that enhance and benefit the community. The Coop, which is up the street from the metro station is a staple in that community. As long as the proposed development can maintain the local flavor, by keeping the current stores and by working with local and regional businesses, not chain retail, to provide a balance that fits into the character of the community then I would support development.

**Many institutions in our area (such as the St. Joseph's Seminary, Providence Hospital, Howard Divinity School) with big institutional parcels are in the process or are considering redevelopment. How will you approach these debates about green space and accommodating new residents and development?**

Again, my firm belief is that the individual character of a neighborhood needs to be taken into consideration when any development has been proposed. In regard to the EYA development on the St. Joseph's Seminary property that has been proposed and at this point is in the final stages before going forward, the developers need to be held accountable. I am concerned about the loss of that green space that has been so wonderful to have in the neighborhood. With that loss, kids and adults will need to look elsewhere for places to play soccer and softball. What we need to do is to continue to work with the developer to ensure that they stick to what they agreed to and are respectful of the area and the residents during the construction. The Providence Hospital situation is very concerning to me. Having a hospital in the neighborhood is a huge asset. The fact that they are downsizing and eliminating vital services ( like the ER) leaves a huge void in this area. I hope to continue to have conversations with the representatives from Providence to make sure they are aware of the community needs and concerns and that we are kept in the loop as they move forward. Howard University Divinity School has a beautiful peace of land. Being a neighboring ANC, this development has an impact on my constituency. So, my hope would be to work with them to ensure that their proposal maintains the character of the community for everyone.

**What is your position on the McMillan Sand Filtration site redevelopment?**

The McMillian site is a large piece of land that has a lot of potential for the community, Again, I think it needs to be used in a way that fits into the community. In addition, because it falls under Historic Preservation, the developers need to be cognizant to preserve the history of the area. From my understanding, the proposed development will include open space, a new community center, mixed use housing, retail and offices. Having the additional green space is a

wonderful asset for the community. This has been a difficult deal to work through. But, I think in the end having something that meets the needs of the community on a variety of different levels will be good for the community and area overall. As with all development it will be important to continue to monitor this project to ensure that it lives up to the agreement.

**What are your hopes and/or concerns regarding the plans for the Armed Forces Retirement Home?**

I am glad to see that there are discussions about what would be best to do with this land. Being that they are close to the hospital, I think the idea of having an assisted living facility as well as medical offices is worth considering. A hotel is one thing that this area really needs with three universities and the hospitals. From what I have seen, Children's is in desperate need of more parking. So having additional parking would also be helpful. Again, I think the key to this being a development that works is something that balances the needs of the community with the desires of the developer.

**What your ideas and/or priorities regarding improving cross town infrastructure for bicyclists?**

Having bike lanes throughout the city have been extremely helpful, while at the same time they do cause confusion for some motorists. Within the 2005 DC Bicycle Master Plan, one of the areas that is addressed is more bicycle related education. I think that would be useful. In the Brookland area, a continuing concern is the safety on the MBT. Safety on the roads in the bike lanes and on the MBT need to be a top priority.

**If there were a way to improve bus transit or bike infrastructure in your neighborhood, but it required removing on-street parking, how would you approach the situation? Give a specific example if possible.**

I do think we need to ensure that there is space on the roads for cars, buses and bikes. I am not opposed to removing on-street parking in those areas if it means we can better ensure everyone's safety so long as there are strong alternative options for parking that don't negatively impact the area.

**Where would you like to see new bicycle lanes, sidewalks, or other infrastructure to make it safer for residents, families, and seniors to walk and bike? What are the top Vision Zero priorities for your community?**

I would like to see bike lanes on Taylor Street and Michigan Avenue since those are main access points for the MBT. In my neighborhood, we need a sidewalk on Buchanan between 7th street and Puerto Rico. South Dakota is a busy street. Streets like South Dakota with heavy car, bus and truck traffic have the greatest potential for bike safety issues. But, that doesn't mean we should neglect the smaller streets. In order to allow both on the road safely, we need to have bike lanes and street space that fit within the Vision Zero priorities.

**What role do you think your ANC could play in addressing housing affordability challenges? How can your neighborhood contribute its fair share of the housing our growing city needs?**

As an ANC Commissioner, it would be important to work with all developers looking to come in to the area to ensure that a part of their plan includes affordable housing. We also need to work with developers to ensure that there are opportunities for our seniors to stay in this area as they age.

**What is the biggest controversy in your neighborhood not already listed on this questionnaire, and what is your position on it?**

On South Dakota Avenue The Four Seasons Convenience store has several times attempted to apply for a liquor licence, including recently. In addition, the strip mall next to Mc Donald's has an application for a liquor store. To add to all of this, the Mc Donald's is looking into making some changes that would require a zoning change , which could impact other development in the area. All of this is connected and could have significant impacts on the community.

**Why do you think you are the best person to represent your SMD? What's your vision for your ANC in 2 years?**

I have been a resident in this area for over 10 years. I have been an active member of the North Michigan Park Civic Association. I have held the position of Block Captain and also served on various NMPCA subcommittees regarding area development. I have seen things change over the years and I want to work with the community to make sure that growth maintains the character of our community.

**Sometimes community members advocate for a position that is in their narrow interest, but is counter to broader city-wide interests and is highly problematic position if all communities across DC were to act that way. How will you lead in such a situation? Give a local example if possible.**

I think the most important thing one can do in these situations is to listen to each side and try to ensure that each side appreciates the other's position. As a Commissioner, I would try to work to see where we could find some common ground and while it might not be possible to make any changes, I do think often times being listened to and making an effort to acknowledge and internalize the other position can go a long way in at least feeling like people are listening and trying to understand.

Name: **Ronnie Edwards**

ANC and Single Member District: **5A05**

**What is your vision for economic development around the Takoma Park Metro Station?**

That area seems a little congested already. Not sure whether the focus should be development or security.

**Many institutions in our area (such as the St. Joseph's Seminary, Providence Hospital, Howard Divinity School) with big institutional parcels are in the process or are considering redevelopment. How will you approach these debates about green space and accommodating new residents and development?**

We will continue our efforts to support the desires of residents in existing neighborhoods. We will continue urging DDOT to sanction a comprehensive transportation planning strategy and as always, fight for maximum green space and community amenities.

**What is your position on the McMillan Sand Filtration site redevelopment?**

I have always supported majority residents who look forward to seeing McMillan serve a useful function to the community as opposed to being fenced off and abused by sexual predators.

**What are your hopes and/or concerns regarding the plans for the Armed Forces Retirement Home?**

Within reason, we will work with the community to support strategic development of the site. As in 2016, when we fought the Transfer of the 14th Street bus depot to the site, we will oppose anything not compatible to the community or the actual residents in the home.

**What your ideas and/or priorities regarding improving cross town infrastructure for bicyclists?**

I support the expansion of bike lanes wherever feasible. However, as we continue improvements ensure that our operational policies provide strict safety guidelines and equitable protections for vehicular traffic

**If there were a way to improve bus transit or bike infrastructure in your neighborhood, but it required removing on-street parking, how would you approach the situation? Give a specific example if possible.**

As previously stated, the community generally drive my action. However, as in prior occasions, as chair of ANC5C we supported reasonable testing and expansion of bike lanes during its early

stages of implementation. I believe we should accommodate all reasonable and safe means moving people.

**Where would you like to see new bicycle lanes, sidewalks, or other infrastructure to make it safer for residents, families, and seniors to walk and bike? What are the top Vision Zero priorities for your community?**

I have not given it any thought.

**What role do you think your ANC could play in addressing housing affordability challenges? How can your neighborhood contribute its fair share of the housing our growing city needs?**

Keep working with the Council to adopt “real” affordable housing. It’s one thing to say “affordable” yet quite another to deliver. Affordable needs to be based only on DC proper and compared in no way to Fairfax, Montgomery or Prince George’s Counties.

**What is the biggest controversy in your neighborhood not already listed on this questionnaire, and what is your position on it?**

**Why do you think you are the best person to represent your SMD? What’s your vision for your ANC in 2 years?**

I have served my community honorably for a number of years. We have always worked together for the good of the community at large. As this Neighborhood contain diverse constituencies, I’m blessed to be a Veteran working with my fellow servicemen at Armed Forces Retirement Home.

**Sometimes community members advocate for a position that is in their narrow interest, but is counter to broader city-wide interests and is highly problematic position if all communities across DC were to act that way. How will you lead in such a situation? Give a local example if possible.**

I have demonstrated over the years that I am a consensus builder and constantly work with the community to reach a majority decision. Once that decision is made we stick to it.

Name: *Earl McDermott*

ANC and Single Member District: *5A05*

**What is your vision for economic development around the Takoma Park Metro Station?**

One of the biggest challenges is to both make the area economically viable and keeping the spirit of DC. My vision would include having DC residents involved in all sides of the development process. There should be proper outreach into the young professionals and young artist in the area as well as the DC remnants who hold the history of the area in the minds, eyes and hearts. ' That said, one of the biggest focuses should be the imprint made on the existing area. I would like to keep the footp

**Many institutions in our area (such as the St. Joseph's Seminary, Providence Hospital, Howard Divinity School) with big institutional parcels are in the process or are considering redevelopment. How will you approach these debates about green space and accommodating new residents and development?**

[did not respond]

**What is your position on the McMillan Sand Filtration site redevelopment?**

The biggest disappointment that I have is that the redevelopment has reached a point where nothing is getting done. There is a lot of real estate there which can be used to serve many of the residents who live in the community now. But I understand the resistance. Often times I see developers come in selling their "good" intentions and then go back into business as usual. 531 apartments, 146 brown stone town homes, a huge corporate grocery store and then "additional" plans for a park and community center. It sounds like business as usual to me. The focal point of developing in an existing community never seems to be the interests existing residents. Instead it seems to always be with the new money that can be introduced into the area. By placating the existing residents they push the development through and at the end there is no one to hold anyone accountable when things go sideways, people start to become displaced and the spirit of the area vanishes completely. I think that the new developers should show good faith by making commitments to the area. Starting with the community center and park first. Then increasing the jobs/services available in the area and reaching out to people who live in the community first foremost. Making a commitment to stay and be accountable for the negative impacts of the development. There does not need to be a huge Harris Teeter. Instead the space should be filled with a local grocery stores with the capacity for the area and possibly some garden space. Traffic concerns me. With the development effort as well expanding the population to such a degree should not only be taken into account but this should also be one of the major focal points in the proposed redevelopment.

**What are your hopes and/or concerns regarding the plans for the Armed Forces Retirement Home?**

[did not respond]

**What your ideas and/or priorities regarding improving cross town infrastructure for bicyclists?**

As an avid biker and commuter I understand that cycling in the city can be terrifying. I imagine it could look like a high risk extreme sport. I think that creating a safe and reliable network for low stress bike lanes is a major priority. According to INRIX transportation analytics, DC is the 18th most congest traffic area in the world. Even asking simple questions "How many families can and do use these lanes?" could be an enormously helpful approach into testing the confidence in the system. DC has very beautifully designed bike paths which should be extended further and incorporated into a more cohesive system that reaches the more rural areas. I think that the area from brookland to union station is a perfect example of piggy backing off existing infrastructure for bicyclists. Make maps and build awareness of what is available for the bicyclists. Engaging the residents and commuters are unsure about biking in the city.

**If there were a way to improve bus transit or bike infrastructure in your neighborhood, but it required removing on-street parking, how would you approach the situation? Give a specific example if possible.**

I think that there is no way to get around the controversy of taking away parking. First I would make the case for why this would be of benefit. I would match the circumstance to previous circumstances and then transpose the best solutions onto how we would improve our bus or bike infrastructure. After a trial run, I would look for areas of improvement then expand.

**Where would you like to see new bicycle lanes, sidewalks, or other infrastructure to make it safer for residents, families, and seniors to walk and bike? What are the top Vision Zero priorities for your community?**

[did not respond]

**What role do you think your ANC could play in addressing housing affordability challenges? How can your neighborhood contribute its fair share of the housing our growing city needs?**

I think that creating opportunities for businesses and developers to be directly involved with the community is an incredible way to help address some of the affordable housing. Often the housing is not affordable because neither the businesses or housing is involved with being of service to the community that they are entering. I think that growth is excellent and worth while. But growth and change are two different things. I think my neighborhood has the capacity to expand slowly and affordably.

**What is the biggest controversy in your neighborhood not already listed on this questionnaire, and what is your position on it?**

I think that one of the bigger controversies in my neighborhood not listed is property theft.

**Why do you think you are the best person to represent your SMD? What's your vision for your ANC in 2 years?**

I'm an engineer and builder (mechanical and construction project manager respectively), I was educated to solve problems and I spent the bulk of my professional career building things. I have a intimate connection to the area. I was born here, I grew up here and my family and friends are from here as well. I've fallen and gotten back up again and again. I am a Washingtonian and I carry with me the spirit of this city. I love my city and I will see that it is well taken care of. Within the next two years there is room for incredible infrastructure and services to come into my SMD. I see my community having a voice in this, becoming more vocal, being more engaged. I see younger people becoming more involved and our older community being well looked after.

**Sometimes community members advocate for a position that is in their narrow interest, but is counter to broader city-wide interests and is highly problematic position if all communities across DC were to act that way. How will you lead in such a situation? Give a local example if possible.**

I am, have been and will continue to engage our bright minds and senior community across DC. I believe working together by being open to other community members not only being supporters but critics of my positions. I won't always be able to share someones opinion but I can always make an effort to understand their position. I think this is the best approach to seeing city-wide interests. I would then make sure that my community was involved in construction and benefit of these interest.



Name: **Gordon-Andrew Fletcher**

ANC and Single Member District: **5A08**

**What is your vision for economic development around the Takoma Park Metro Station?**

Economic Development must continue to occur around the Takoma Park Metro, but it must take into account the historical and traditional fabric of the neighborhood as well. I am dealing with a similar balancing dilemma around the Fort Totten Metro Station, which sits in my SMD. We must understand as elected officials that we represent both long term Washingtonians, but we also represent those Washingtonians that just moved here. However, I was raised to protect tradition and history, so that is something that I tell developers and all stakeholders.

**Many institutions in our area (such as the St. Joseph's Seminary, Providence Hospital, Howard Divinity School) with big institutional parcels are in the process or are considering redevelopment. How will you approach these debates about green space and accommodating new residents and development?**

The number one way to deal with this ongoing situation is to have various community meetings with all stakeholders in the community such as residents, stakeholders in the development, ANCs, and Civic Associations. You must organize and bring information to the residents. As a current ANC Commissioner, I have had meetings with stakeholders of Providence Hospital about the closing of its doors. Not many residents even know about this situation, which is very troubling in itself.

**What is your position on the McMillan Sand Filtration site redevelopment?**

N/A

**What are your hopes and/or concerns regarding the plans for the Armed Forces Retirement Home?**

N/A

**What your ideas and/or priorities regarding improving cross town infrastructure for bicyclists?**

I believe we need to limit how many scooters and bike shares that are just placed on sidewalks across DC. That would improve cross town infrastructure for bicyclist. This is a great idea, but scooters and bikes have taken over DC sidewalks. Moreover, there are not enough safety mechanisms in place for children who use them means of transportation.

**If there were a way to improve bus transit or bike infrastructure in your neighborhood, but it required removing on-street parking, how would you approach the situation? Give a specific example if possible.**

Once again, I would have to connect with the ANCs Civic Associations, and other community leaders to make sure that this information was provided with proper notice and an opportunity for those who were against it to be heard. Many times that is the big issue with changes in the community, which is that residents are not properly informed. I believe it is up to city and elected officials to inform residents. I made sure to provide an opportunity to all stakeholders in the Art Place at Fort Totten to come together and meet before the filing of a PUD for the Second Phase of Development with The Modern - Art Place at Fort Totten. Community leaders appreciated the opportunity to know what was happening in their community before it happened, and not after.

**Where would you like to see new bicycle lanes, sidewalks, or other infrastructure to make it safer for residents, families, and seniors to walk and bike? What are the top Vision Zero priorities for your community?**

I would like to see them on non-major roads where residents would not have to deal with serious traffic hazards.

**What role do you think your ANC could play in addressing housing affordability challenges? How can your neighborhood contribute its fair share of the housing our growing city needs?**

ANC can be an advocate for Affordable Housing by advocating during Council Hearings, to Councilmembers, and the Mayor's Office. The role is an ANC is to advocate on behalf residents, and many residents want to preserve affordable housing wherever possible. I have dealt with this issue within my SMD with the Modern at Art Place Development. Many residents lived in Riggs Plaza for decades before being forced to move to the Modern. The stakeholders of the Modern, such as the Cafritz are great people and want do well there, but for many residents moving into the Modern is not considered affordable. The Modern has allowed them to move in for the same rental cost as they previously paid, but there will still be hidden cost that will increase the cost of living for many residents. It is a layered problem, but the ANC must always advocate on behalf of residents, while trying to see the proper intent of a developer.

**What is the biggest controversy in your neighborhood not already listed on this questionnaire, and what is your position on it?**

Public Safety is becoming a major concern with the increased population in the North Michigan Park/Ft. Totten area. There have been many more robberies than in recent years. I want to thank MPD for all they do, but we need increased police presence in this neighborhood.

**Why do you think you are the best person to represent your SMD? What's your vision for your ANC in 2 years?**

I am the best person to represent my SMD, because I am the inter generational elected official. I understand and listen to the needs of younger residents, older residents, and new residents. I do not mind door knocking and bringing information to residents as well as providing updates via social media. The demographics of the District of Columbia have changed immensely and we need elected officials that understand that. An elected official must understand what it means to be a 50 year Washingtonian or a Washingtonian for five months. Moreover, my vision is for continued unity, collaboration, and accountability as Vice Chair of ANC 5A and Commissioner of ANC 5A08. I will continue working with my colleagues on ANC 5A, with community leaders from Lamond-Riggs & North Michigan Park, as well as hold Council-member McDuffie's and Mayor Bowser's Office accountability when necessary. I will provide accolades as well. The time for strong, refreshingly qualified, and passionate leadership is now. I am best suited to lead.

**Sometimes community members advocate for a position that is in their narrow interest, but is counter to broader city-wide interests and is highly problematic position if all communities across DC were to act that way. How will you lead in such a situation? Give a local example if possible.**

I would lead by listening to what the overall community wants. I would do that through a reasonable amount of community meetings to determine what the final consensus would be.

Name: *Landon Jones*

ANC and Single Member District: *5B05*

**What are your hopes and/or concerns for development at transit rich sites in our ANC like 800 Monroe and at the Brookland Metro?**

I hope that these areas become a venue for Brookland residents that are entrepreneurs, artists, and musicians. I believe that this would provide Brookland residents/visitors with an understanding of what the Brookland community members have to offer when they're passing through this high traffic corridor. Also, I hope this area continues to support a variety of crowd-share scooters and bike options to connect metro riders to nearby businesses and homes. However, we need to make sure that we have proper infrastructure in place to ensure that riders and pedestrians are able to get around without crowding the sidewalks or impacting car and bus traffic.

**What are your hopes and/or concerns for 12th Street NE as the area continues to grow and develop?**

12th Street NE has a long and proven history of providing residents in Brookland and throughout DC with businesses to serve their needs. I hope that businesses and community programs continue to thrive along 12th Street NE and expand to include a safe space for those dealing with mental illness and others who struggle to find consistent housing. Also, I hope that 12th Street can have a theatre so that residents can host film or playwright festivals. I am concerned with the potential impact construction of new housing/business developments will have on air quality for current residents, as well as the increasing cost of housing in our community. I worry that low-income residents will not be able to afford housing here in the future as development moves forward.

**What is your position on the controversy surrounding the Brookland Green?**

The Brookland Green must be preserved. Those trees have been here longer than most of us and deserve to remain there.

**Many institutions in our area (such as the St. Joseph's Seminary, Providence Hospital, Howard Divinity School) with big institutional parcels are in the process of or are considering redevelopment. How will you approach these debates about green space and accommodating new residents and development?**

New development projects must consider the environmental impact and maintain green spaces because it is a priority for many residents and a draw for non-residents seeking an escape from the hustle and bustle that urban environments can perpetuate. As ANC Commissioner for 5B05 I would encourage developers to participate in community meetings so that they can hear the

perspective of Brookland residents who have concerns about environmental impacts associated with new development projects. In regards to development for new residents--anything built in Brookland should include mixed income housing to allow families, young and old, the opportunity to live comfortably and protect their income.

**If there were a way to improve bus transit or bike infrastructure in your neighborhood, but it required removing on-street parking, how would you approach the situation? Give a specific example if possible.**

For many who call Brookland home, removing street parking would make it difficult for our residents who do not have access to a garage. However, it is important to think about how our transportation infrastructure can maintain the safety of those who walk and bike in our community. As ANC Commissioner I would love to plan events that champion biking and walking in Brookland.

**Where would you like to see new bicycle lanes, sidewalks, or other infrastructure to make it safer for residents, families, and seniors to walk and bike? What are the top Vision Zero priorities for your community?**

It would be ideal to place stop signs at the intersections of Perry and Quincy along 12th Street NE. It would be great to see a bike lane on the Franklin Bridge as well as a sidewalk to keep pedestrians safe as they walk along the bridge. The intersection at Michigan Avenue and 12th Street NE also needs to be assessed because pedestrians are at risk of being harmed unless there are proper light signals and speed cameras there.

**What role do you think your ANC could play in addressing housing affordability challenges? How can your neighborhood contribute its fair share of the housing our growing city needs?**

Our ANC should be responsible for communicating with developers to ensure that they are providing mixed income housing for residents. Long time residents and newcomers alike should not have to worry about whether they can pay rent or a mortgage and still make ends meet. Developers need to properly notify residents about their arrival and plans for construction. Clear expectations for construction must be set to ensure that development doesn't happen at the expense of current residents.

**What is the biggest controversy in your neighborhood not already listed on this questionnaire, and what is your position on it?**

There is a giant dumpster on 12th Street in front of Pho 12 due to construction taking place. The mural along the building will essentially be erased as a result. I worry that this open dumpster and its smell will attract pests and deter patrons from visiting this restaurant and the salon next door.

**Why do you think you are the best person to represent your SMD? What's your vision for your ANC in 2 years?**

I believe that I am the best person to represent 5B05 because I am committed to equity and community outreach. People in this city are proud of where they live, but they are also frustrated that their concerns are not being heard. I want to elevate the voices of Brookland residents who have not had a seat at the table so they have a stake in the decisions that will shape the future of our community. In two years, I hope that our ANC is able to: Develop programs that help teenagers find employment Work with DDOT to ensure that pedestrian and bike safety is a continued priority under Vision Zero in our community Engage with local businesses and community partners to raise scholarships for Brookland residents who want to attend college Provide seminars for entrepreneurs and future homeowners Serve as a liaison between developers and community members Protect and maintain green spaces that allow residents to enjoy the historical and natural aesthetic of Brookland

**Sometimes community members advocate for a position that is in their narrow interest, but is counter to broader city-wide interests and is highly problematic position if all communities across DC were to act that way. How will you lead in such a situation? Give a local example if possible.**

If their time permitted, I would sit down with those community members to better understand their perspective. For example, in my current role as a school administrator I have collaborated with community members at ANC meetings to open a new DC public school. This experience provided me with an opportunity to see community members organize to advocate for their community development needs. In situations like this, it is important to remember that discourse is and must remain healthy so that we can reach a decision that best serves all parties involved.

Name: *Gail Brevard*

ANC and Single Member District: *5C01*

**The status of the controversial redevelopment of Brookland Manor is uncertain. What is your position on the RIA development and how would you engage with the project's future?**

I want the project completed in the time frame that was presented to my Commission. However, we know that rarely happens in new construction. Community engagement is greatly needed.

**What is your vision for economic development in your neighborhood, and how would you support that as a commissioner?**

My vision includes the departure of tire shops, used auto sales, and the auto repair shop in the 3100 Block of Rhode Island Avenue. The smaller lots should be replaced with shops and the larger lot should become an activities center. I do not have a park or recreation center in my district.

**What is your stance on the proposal to use eminent domain to remove the trash collection facility on W Street?**

I am in favor.

**What are your hopes and/or concerns with the ongoing development at Union Market? How can we better support our neighborhood's connectivity to that area?**

I hope the Developers and community reach an agreement that would benefit both parties

**If there were a way to improve bus transit or bike infrastructure in your neighborhood, but it required removing on-street parking, how would you approach the situation? Give a specific example if possible.**

I am not in favor of removing on-street parking in my SMD, at all. Many senior citizens, who are aging in place, reside here. Many have adult children also living in my SMD. I was in the same situation living two houses away from my parents. This makes caring for a parent(s) and that parent getting loving care reasonable, convenient, and inexpensive. However, automobiles are needed to transport some of these citizens, for example, to and from medical facilities, houses of worship, and grocery shopping. I found depending on other services to provide transportation to be frustrating. Most were unreliable, ill-timed, and none of the drivers would assist in the boarding or unloading of my parents. Both required wheelchairs. We need our cars and a place to park them.

**Where would you like to see new bicycle lanes, sidewalks, or other infrastructure to make it safer for residents, families, and seniors to walk and bike? What are the top Vision Zero priorities for your community?**

I would like to see better sidewalks on the south side of the 2800 Block of Rhode Island Avenue, NE near Monroe Street. The walkway is impassable and impeded by tree roots.

**What role do you think your ANC could play in addressing housing affordability challenges? How can your neighborhood contribute its fair share of the housing our growing city needs?**

First, I know how the DC Government defines Affordable Housing, but how are the Pro-Affordable Housing community doing so? Affordable housing in this city is far more affordable by the working class people compared to New York City and San Francisco. Secondly, we have held financial seminars and community meetings to teach and train those who are or were in low income rentals on how to improve their chances to prosper and not be in need of that type of dwelling. Douglas Development helped in doing so as well as other groups. The training included improving job skills, work ethics, maintaining employment, improving credit, and following one's passion to start a business. The problems I have faced are people who do not want to do anything, except depend on the community. They got the information and did nothing to improve their situation, but later complained to the Washington Post that they were losing their homes and had nowhere to go. Finally, it is my firm belief, based on my experience, those in need of housing need to be vetted to determine where they formally resided and why they are in DC. My experience dictates they are from anywhere but DC, because of easy access to DC benefits. Social Services advices folk to get a DC ID then apply for services, which they do so.

**What is the biggest controversy in your neighborhood not already listed on this questionnaire, and what is your position on it?**

It is already listed

**Why do you think you are the best person to represent your SMD? What's your vision for your ANC in 2 years?**

It is already listed

**Sometimes community members advocate for a position that is in their narrow interest, but is counter to broader city-wide interests and is highly problematic position if all communities across DC were to act that way. How will you lead in such a situation? Give a local example if possible.**

It was presented in my Affordable Housing statement



Name: *Henry Coppola*

ANC and Single Member District: *5C01*

**The status of the controversial redevelopment of Brookland Manor is uncertain. What is your position on the RIA development and how would you engage with the project's future?**

I've followed the redevelopment at Brookland Manor from a pretty general perspective through local media coverage (including the GW series) but have not taken a deep dive into all of the concerns at issue and the specifics of the plans and permitting processes involved. If elected to be a commissioner in ANC 5C I would undertake a deeper dive into better understanding the issues and concerns and getting to know the parties involved. Generally speaking I am in favor of redevelopment projects that work with existing communities to make sure that they are not displaced and that the improvements made through the redevelopment project are ones that benefit the existing community. My understanding is that the RIA project is currently on hold and I think that is a bad situation. Having buildings or lots sit empty is a real loss for the community and the developers. Finding a way to get the project moving again is very important. I understand that there are concerns that not as many or as large affordable units will be available under the current plan as were in Brookland Manor to begin with, I understand the interest in maintaining an equivalent number of such units especially in an effort to avoid displacement pressure on the existing community. It's also my understanding that the plans for RIA include 22% of the units as affordable housing where the standard requirement would be 8% and that they would continue the Section 8 contracts, which they are not under any obligation to do. So the developer appears to be making fairly solid efforts above meeting requirements for affordable housing. I am definitely concerned that if the project remains stalled MidCity will decide to sell the property to another developer or move forward with a different plan under by-right regulations and that may well result in a huge loss in affordable housing and a great deal of displacement. Development needs to be win-win for the community and the developers and helping to find those options will always be my goal as ANC. I think that the community loses when they are not able to work with developers to shape projects. It's really a shame that the Zoning Commission and Office of Planning rejected the original proposal as being out of line with the Comprehensive Plan; I'm not sure what if any efforts were made to push back on that decision but that would have been my inclination. All of that being said it's worth noting that Brookland Manor is in 5C05 & 06 and my priority as ANC for 5C01 will be focusing on the needs of my more immediate community.

**What is your vision for economic development in your neighborhood, and how would you support that as a commissioner?**

I would like to help to continue the revitalization of Rhode Island Ave NE through the support of existing business and residents and the addition of new ones. The RI Ave NE Main Street program has been doing good work in this arena and supporting their efforts would be central to my actions as a commissioner. The stretch of RI Ave that runs through 5C01 serves as the

bridge between the existing (although fairly small) commercial hub that runs from roughly 20th St to South Dakota Ave to Mt Rainer's business district, which has several planned projects in the early stages. There is an empty lot at Monroe St and RI Ave and getting something going there would be my main focus in terms of supporting economic development in our immediate SMD.

**What is your stance on the proposal to use eminent domain to remove the trash collection facility on W Street?**

I am not familiar with this proposal and I have been unable to find any information about it so I am unable to take a stance on it at this time. If you can provide me with more information about the proposal I would be happy to offer my thoughts.

**What are your hopes and/or concerns with the ongoing development at Union Market? How can we better support our neighborhood's connectivity to that area?**

We need more housing across a range of income levels in DC and increasing density in the area surrounding Union Market is an important step in that direction. The new development will invariably alter the character and feel of the neighborhood and may reduce some of the charm of feeling like you've found a hidden spot or managed to get off the beaten path. I don't think that the development currently underway will actually be detrimental to Union Market as a institution though. I am a little concerned about the proposals to redevelop / build on top of the existing Union Market building; that seems like a tricky thing to do without disrupting and negatively impacting the market itself. If that project is undertaken I hope that the utmost care will be taken to avoid negative impacts to the Market. I really enjoy going to Union Market and am probably there at least once or twice a month; I've been going since before the current version of the market and it has been interesting to watch the area and the market change; it's really nice to still have Litteri's and Harvey's. I normally drive to get there from our house near South Dakota and RI Ave and it is an easy drive but other transportation modes are certainly trickier from our neighborhood. Better bike infrastructure seems the most feasible way to create better connectivity from the RI Ave corridor. While there isn't a direct bus route you can take the bus to the Red Line and then walk from the NoMa Station easily, it is a bit roundabout of a route though.

**If there were a way to improve bus transit or bike infrastructure in your neighborhood, but it required removing on-street parking, how would you approach the situation? Give a specific example if possible.**

It would depend on the specific situation. In most cases in our ANC I expect that such a situation would arise along a major road – probably RI Ave – which already has limited parking times and where most of those spots when they are used aren't used by residents at home but by people visiting shops and restaurants. In that case I'd work with the business owners who might be impacted by a loss of parking to understand their concerns and see if we could demonstrate how the improved bus or bike infrastructure would bring more people, and

therefore customers, to the area. Removing on-street parking primarily used by residents is definitely a bigger ask and I would need to be convinced that it was worth the impact to the residents. If I was convinced of that I would work to convince them of the value of the project as well.

**Where would you like to see new bicycle lanes, sidewalks, or other infrastructure to make it safer for residents, families, and seniors to walk and bike? What are the top Vision Zero priorities for your community?**

Improving the streetscape and pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure along RI Ave is definitely the place where we could have the most impact in our community. The safety of crosswalks on RI Ave are of particular concern to many in our community and definitely the top Vision Zero priority. We also have a problem with cut through traffic on several streets that run between RI Ave and South Dakota where these, primarily commuters and not community members, vehicles speed and run stop signs. This is also an area of concern for many residents. I believe that a full fledged traffic study may be in line to address this situation. I think that stop bars at two or three intersections would have an immediate beneficial impact. When I first moved to the neighborhood there were several missing sections of sidewalk along South Dakota but I believe that they have all been filled in. Making sure that we didn't have any remaining missing sections would be worthwhile.

**What role do you think your ANC could play in addressing housing affordability challenges? How can your neighborhood contribute its fair share of the housing our growing city needs?**

Our SMD is primarily single family homes, most of which I believe are owner occupied, the place where we have room to easily add additional housing is along RI Ave and I believe that we as a larger ANC should be supportive of these efforts and work to encourage new projects especially on empty lots. I also believe that our neighborhood would be a good fit for "missing-middle" type housing and that there are places where spec houses have been flipped or rebuilt which would be better suited to a duplex for example; although I am unsure as to whether the zoning would allow for that.

**What is the biggest controversy in your neighborhood not already listed on this questionnaire, and what is your position on it?**

Alcohol licenses for business along RI Ave are often controversial. I believe that each application needs to be considered individually and that the community should be working with the business owner to come to an arrangement that is agreeable to everyone; commissioners should be leading these conversations. We definitely need to have more restaurants and bars along RI Ave to continue the revitalization of the corridor.

**Why do you think you are the best person to represent your SMD? What's your vision for your ANC in 2 years?**

I think that my commitment to our local community and the wider DC community combined with my skills and experiences from a career working with the public in community organizer type positions makes me well suited to take on the role of ANC. I believe that good communication is the key to being an effective and helpful ANC. That means both keeping the neighborhood informed about what's happening & being readily available when residents have questions / comments / concerns & problems that I can help with. My vision for my SMD in two years is a better connected and more informed community. My vision for the aider ANC is one that is working more holistically to embrace and shape development projects to benefit the existing community while growing and strengthening our ANC and city.

**Sometimes community members advocate for a position that is in their narrow interest, but is counter to broader city-wide interests and is highly problematic position if all communities across DC were to act that way. How will you lead in such a situation? Give a local example if possible.**

I think the most likely local example would be community pushback against new housing developments. I think that CM McDuffie addressed this quite well in a recent hearing and I would take much the same tactic. We need more housing in DC and across a range of income levels and if we don't build more housing then people who have higher income levels will spend that money on existing housing and that will drive up rents and property values in ways which create greater displacement for existing residents than if we do build new housing.

Name: *Laurence Telson*

ANC and Single Member District: *5C01*

**The status of the controversial redevelopment of Brookland Manor is uncertain. What is your position on the RIA development and how would you engage with the project's future?**

Change is inevitable. However, it should be done within a social context where the needs and concerns of all are adequately addressed and weighted. Brookland Manor is not just a place: it is a neighborhood where families are raising their children, and these children should be provided with safe and vibrant homes. As the ANC for 5C01, I will advocate for the families to obtain subsidized housing within the RIA or financial compensation with assistance in finding similar housing.

**What is your vision for economic development in your neighborhood, and how would you support that as a commissioner?**

As a relatively new resident and a mother of a teenage boy, I am grateful for my neighbors whose wise guidance on raising children in DC eased our integration in the community. As the ANC for 5C01, I will listen and work with my neighbors to create a safe, inclusive and vibrant neighborhood community for long-time DC residents and new families. I will devise community activities, such as block parties and apps, to promote a sense of belonging and “know thy neighbor.”

**What is your stance on the proposal to use eminent domain to remove the trash collection facility on W Street?**

It is environmentally unsafe to allow a trash collection site in residential areas, where schools (elementary and high schools) and university (Gallaudet) are located. Our children deserve better. The fight for removing then trash site has been on-going for a quarter of a century. It is time to act and as the 5C01 ANC I will support its removal and will advocate for improved social development of the area.

**What are your hopes and/or concerns with the ongoing development at Union Market? How can we better support our neighborhood's connectivity to that area?**

My hope is to see a sustainable development of Union Market. Ward 5 needs to address the benefits of economic development and guarantee that DC long-time residents do not lose out.

**If there were a way to improve bus transit or bike infrastructure in your neighborhood, but it required removing on-street parking, how would you approach the situation? Give a specific example if possible.**

Rhode Island Avenue is an important corridor for DC residents and PG county commuters. The street is also experiencing a vibrant development. I wholly support adding new bike lanes however, as businesses are increasingly moving into the area, there will be a need to offset the lanes' reduction by increasing the frequency of the buses connecting Brookland and RIA metro stations to the areas. Community awareness campaigns will be a must to ensure safety of bikers, scooters and pedestrians. Added paid parking will also provide additional revenues to the city.

**Where would you like to see new bicycle lanes, sidewalks, or other infrastructure to make it safer for residents, families, and seniors to walk and bike? What are the top Vision Zero priorities for your community?**

The purpose of bike lanes is to provide alternatives commuting means while promoting health habits. New bike lanes should be placed on the main arteries, such as Rhode Island Avenue, as well as in the streets leading to downtown, main shopping areas and the metro stations.

**What role do you think your ANC could play in addressing housing affordability challenges? How can your neighborhood contribute its fair share of the housing our growing city needs?**

Providing affordable housing is a social good that also helps to maintain the economic diversity of our city. ANC can advocate for schemes that promote such thinking and as I mentioned in my response to question 1, the city government can provide incentives to developers and potential renters. However, the most important tool in providing affordable housing is to facilitate home ownership and the city should look into efficient home buying incentives.

**What is the biggest controversy in your neighborhood not already listed on this questionnaire, and what is your position on it?**

In ANC5C01, traffic is the major concern in two aspects: crossing the RIA at the pedestrian designated walkways and speeding in the residential streets. Both issues can be resolved by (i) putting additional speed cameras (ii) raise the pedestrian walkways and (iii) place speed bumps in the larger residential streets.

**Why do you think you are the best person to represent your SMD? What's your vision for your ANC in 2 years?**

Hi, my name is Laurence Telson and I come to politics because of my passion for effective and fair solutions. During my 4 years in our community, I have been fortunate to meet longtime residents and young families that have just recently moved in. I listen to your concerns about safety and speeding, letting your children play in the street and keeping our community

together during this time of change. As a professional, I work in governance, public finance, gender and diversity – all are areas that apply to truly improve our city and our community. I hold master degrees in Public Policy and Applied Economics and have lived in several countries in Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean. I speak your languages: English, Spanish and French. Being an ANC representative is about listening and leadership. It is knowing your community and advocating for each and every person. As an ANC for our neighborhood 5C01, I commit to bring your concerns to the DC government and advocate for changes that consider our social and economic diversity.

**Sometimes community members advocate for a position that is in their narrow interest, but is counter to broader city-wide interests and is highly problematic position if all communities across DC were to act that way. How will you lead in such a situation? Give a local example if possible.**

Conflict of interests often arise when people are in a position to influence decision making. The best approach in this case is to request the interested party to justify how the proposed action is applicable to the common good. It is the role of the ANC members to analyze – with questions and reasonings – where the argument does not stand. In difficult circumstances where there is unambiguous motions to push forward a personal interest that is opposed to the common good, the best approach is to inform our constituents.

Name: **Walter Deleon**

ANC and Single Member District: **5C02**

**The status of the controversial redevelopment of Brookland Manor is uncertain. What is your position on the RIA development and how would you engage with the project's future?**

I'm disappointed that the Brookland Manor redevelopment project has been scaled back and stalled several times since its announcement over two years ago. Ideally, the redevelopment would give us a chance to preserve and expand housing stock, including affordable housing, in an area so close to the RIA Metro station. Because of DC's housing shortage, I would only continue supporting the project if it could be done without mass displacement and the one-for-one replacement of affordable housing units Mid-City Financial initially promised.

**What is your vision for economic development in your neighborhood, and how would you support that as a commissioner?**

DC Brau, Scratch DC, and Harper Macaw are great examples of businesses that have moved into our community in recent years due to the abundance of vacant warehouses. I will push the DC Council to give tax credits to businesses that move into disused warehouses in my Single Member District. I will also push DDOT to study an infill MARC commuter rail station at NY Ave & Bladensburg Rd. A commuter rail station would help make our community less of a transit desert and connect us with the rest of DC.

**What is your stance on the proposal to use eminent domain to remove the trash collection facility on W Street?**

As ANC of 5C02 in 2016, I was proud to support a resolution in favor of the Council's legislation authorizing the use of eminent domain for the trash transfer facility on W St. I will continue to support the use of eminent domain not only for the W St. trash transfer station, but for the trash transfer facilities at 2160 Queens Chapel Road and 2106 Bryant St. (both in my SMD.) It's high time for these blighted facilities next to residential areas to close.

**What are your hopes and/or concerns with the ongoing development at Union Market? How can we better support our neighborhood's connectivity to that area?**

I would like to see better connectivity between our neighborhood and Union Market through the establishment of a direct bus route between Woodridge, Union Market, and Downtown through New York Avenue. I also support the creation of a separated bike trail between these areas alongside N.Y. Avenue.



**If there were a way to improve bus transit or bike infrastructure in your neighborhood, but it required removing on-street parking, how would you approach the situation? Give a specific example if possible.**

Methods of transit that carry more people than a car should always be accommodated more. For example, I would support removing a parking spot if it allowed for the construction of a bus boarding island/platform in its place.

**Where would you like to see new bicycle lanes, sidewalks, or other infrastructure to make it safer for residents, families, and seniors to walk and bike? What are the top Vision Zero priorities for your community?**

This is a question that requires my community and constituents to weigh in. However while campaigning, many neighbors across 5C02 have asked for more speed bumps on their streets and have pointed out areas where sidewalks should be replaced.

**What role do you think your ANC could play in addressing housing affordability challenges? How can your neighborhood contribute its fair share of the housing our growing city needs?**

As DC goes through a severe housing shortage, every neighborhood has a responsibility to take on new housing. With regards to the ANC's role, the Commission could demand more concessions from a new development project, like more affordable housing units.

**What is the biggest controversy in your neighborhood not already listed on this questionnaire, and what is your position on it?**

For many years, the overabundance of nightclubs in our community has been a huge source of concern for neighbors. The lack of decent transit options paired with lack of space for cars/taxis along Bladensburg and Queens Chapel Road cause enormous traffic jams on many weekends and headaches for residents nearby. I will continue seeking solutions to the issues of noise, congestion, and lack of transit options by working with neighbors and businesses in our area.

**Why do you think you are the best person to represent your SMD? What's your vision for your ANC in 2 years?**

As a proud DC native, activist, and former Commissioner I've been proud to establish strong relationships with community and civic leaders, members of the DC Council, and residents. These ties have helped me effectively advocate for my community in the past and will help me effectively advocate for my community again as Commissioner. If given another chance to serve, I'll keep fighting for an even more safe, equitable, and transit-connected community.

**Sometimes community members advocate for a position that is in their narrow interest, but is counter to broader city-wide interests and is highly problematic position if all communities across DC were to act that way. How will you lead in such a situation? Give a local example if possible.**

As a former Commissioner I've learned that the best way to combat this issue and issues like "NIMBY-ism" is by bringing people together and working on sorting out the issue at hand. For example, when the Mayor first proposed her plan to close the DC General homeless shelter, her administration proposed a site on highly polluted land in my Single Member District. We organized the community against placing families in that unsuitable site and worked with members of the Council to find a city-owned property in a residential area. In the end, we succeeded in organizing against placing families in industrial land and helped do our part to make sure DC General is eventually closed.

Name: *Thaddeus James*

ANC and Single Member District: *5C06*

**The status of the controversial redevelopment of Brookland Manor is uncertain. What is your position on the RIA development and how would you engage with the project's future?**

There was an appeal filed by Minnie Elliot, president of the Brookland Manor residents association in partnership with alleged housing activist groups ONE DC and Washington legal clinic for the homeless. The appeal filed in protest of the Zoning Commission Orders to move forward with the construction of our multifamily and our much needed senior building for Ward-5 seniors. This appeal is a delay tactic too force the developers into a partnership and that is never going to happen. These groups have no documented facts the Zoning Commission Orders are not in accordance the DC Comprehensive Plan and the impact it will have on low-income families. It is a documented fact, the preservation of 373 HUD sec-8 units and a commitment to retain 117 Housing Choice Voucher residents. It is a documented fact, seniors don't have to relocate to the new seniors building. There is a senior housing crisis and the first phase of this project is the development of a much needed senior building. This delay cause by these so-called housing activist is a critical threat to the health, safety and wellbeing of our seniors. The RIA development is about revitalization and not gentrification. This project is about ending residential isolation, segregation, the elimination of concentrated poverty, this a build in place project and not about displacing families. We are going to build a great and diverse community. I'm a supporter and a advocate of the human capital plan a support services program, design to meet the needs of currant residents, that will be transitioning into the new redevelop community. My role as a ANC Commissioner will be to build bridges in and around our community, supporting the community concerns and sharing information with the RIA redevelopment team. Also I want our neighbors to see themselves as problem solvers in future redevelopment planing stages. This will be a chance of a life time, to be involved in planning and designing a new community.

**What is your vision for economic development in your neighborhood, and how would you support that as a commissioner?**

The redevelopment project is expected to revitalize economic development and bring in new business opportunities, employment, new tax revenue to support schools, improve infrastructure and more security. In conjunction with the redevelopment team, I will implement a support services programs design to meet the needs of the community. The support services programs will provide evidence base, economic supports, and self sufficiency services programs. There will be case management team and the primary goal will be to assist residents and community members with linkage to social and support services. There going to be retail and franchise opportunities for community members, and there will be entrepreneur and employment training.

**What is your stance on the proposal to use eminent domain to remove the trash collection facility on W Street?**

The use of eminent domain to remove a business that release pollution's into the environment that can affect the health of our most vulnerable community members should be exercised. From my understanding the D.C. water department is underpressure to move from it's currant location, to clear the way for a new community development. There was an agreement if the owner improve the site, the city pledged not to try and shut it down for 25 years. The plan is to bring D.C. water into our community and you will be relocating another environmental injustice that will release foul odors into the air. This is an issues that should have require input from our community.

**What are your hopes and/or concerns with the ongoing development at Union Market? How can we better support our neighborhood's connectivity to that area?**

My main concern is gentrification will there be housing available for the very low-income and will there be affordable housing for people who's income don't allow them to qualify for low-income housing, but their income is not enough for market rate housing. To make that community connection, there need to be an alliance with community leaders. As a ANC candidate I emailed ANC's so that we could meet and share our goals and objective about Ward-5 senior housing, subsidized and affordable housing, minority business opportunities, and other topics related to human capital planning.

**If there were a way to improve bus transit or bike infrastructure in your neighborhood, but it required removing on-street parking, how would you approach the situation? Give a specific example if possible.**

This would be an issues I would present at a community meeting. Community input is very important, because there will be many challenges, and it is important that I understand the community concerns.

**Where would you like to see new bicycle lanes, sidewalks, or other infrastructure to make it safer for residents, families, and seniors to walk and bike? What are the top Vision Zero priorities for your community?**

I would like to see new bicycle lanes along Rhode Island Ave and benches up and down the side walks. There will be considerable economic development and business opportunities along Rhode Island Ave. There will be a much needed grocery store, and this new economic development will generate more than \$500 million in new tax revenue. The new redevelopment will be a safe mixed-income and multigenerational community. There will be below ground parking and retail along Rhode Island, Montana Ave, and Saratoga. The new street grid will create eight new blocks and laid out to allow the development of walkable and active pedestrian experiences.

**What role do you think your ANC could play in addressing housing affordability challenges? How can your neighborhood contribute its fair share of the housing our growing city needs?**

The most critical challenges of housing affordability is housing for our seniors and families who can't afford market rents. Because of income restriction and lack of subsidize housing for our senior they are force to remain in conditions that are critical to their health, safety, and wellbeing. Included in that scenario are the people and families who's income don't qualify them for subsidized housing and they don't make enough for market rate housing. It is important the ANC's work together as a team and if developers want to build in their community the developer project need to exceed the amount required under the inclusionary zoning law. Developer should make a commitment to 20% of units for subsidize and affordable housing.

**What is the biggest controversy in your neighborhood not already listed on this questionnaire, and what is your position on it?**

There is a senior housing crisis in Ward-5 and these housing activist making the housing situation more critical, with their legal appeals some of our senior project will never see the light of day. The Brookland Manor Residents Association President Minnie Elliot in partnership with the alleged housing groups ONE DC and Washington legal clinic filed an appeal in opposition to the Zoning commission orders and the senior development will cause Elliot eminent and direct harm. These groups are twisting facts and using assumptions to radicalize our residents with a layer of racism. What they are doing is a critical threat to the health, safety, and wellbeing of our seniors and multifamily residents, and community revitalization. This legal appeal could delay construction and the redevelopment project could be in limbo for years. Their appeal will not only stop construction that will create employment, and job training, it will delay support services programs. Their appeal could cause displacement, and the loss of subsidized housing. When redevelopment projects can't move forward this, add to the housing crisis and make it difficult for senior and families to find subsidized housing. Minnie Elliot, ONE DC, and Washington legal clinic appeal tactic is playing Russian roulette with our residents lives. They are not supporting what is positive for our residents or RIA revitalization. Their agenda never been explained with documented facts, and this is proof their motives are of self-interest. The community has to organize and mobilize against the opposition who want to stop the development of senior, and multifamily subsidized housing, and support programs that will assist our resident to transition into our new revitalize community.

**Why do you think you are the best person to represent your SMD? What's your vision for your ANC in 2 years?**

Let me say this, I care, I respect, I understand, and I believe in team work. I can identify the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats in and around our community. I can assist with support services to meet the needs of our seniors and families. When I'm elected, I'm going to make our community safer by advocating for the improvement of street lighting in residential areas, and residential parking signs, something I'm currently working on, more police

present in problem areas, and advocating for the modification and removing those middle island from Rhode Island Ave so bike lanes can be made. The human capital is one of my priorities, I will get the funds to develop a case management support services. The goal will be outreach and assessing community needs. The support services will be related to substance abuse and mental health, domestic violence, employment, extremely low-income, affordable housing, and daycare. I believe the ANC Commission should be a paid management position that focus on the human capital.

**Sometimes community members advocate for a position that is in their narrow interest, but is counter to broader city-wide interests and is highly problematic position if all communities across DC were to act that way. How will you lead in such a situation? Give a local example if possible.**

This is one of my objectives organizing the ANC Commissioners from all the district to share their vision and plans for their communities, and discuss pending and current project, and whether you have their support for project in your community. Case example, councilmember McDuffie seeks eminent domain to take over the trash transfer station and relocate DC dept of water to that sight. This could become problematic because you are replacing one problem for a services that my become a future problem, from my experience DC Water at times can emanate a very strong oder. This is an issues ANC's need to have an input. That should be a concern of Ward 8 Councilmember Trayon White to find a new location for DC Water Dept.

Name: *Kirsten Williams*

ANC and Single Member District: *5C06*

**The status of the controversial redevelopment of Brookland Manor is uncertain. What is your position on the RIA development and how would you engage with the project's future?**

My position is that Ria keep the 535 and same size units. Keep the families to together and no displacement. Also keep our in house section 8 and section 8 vouchers holder. I will in engage by looking at each project making sure that it sever the community as a whole.

**What is your vision for economic development in your neighborhood, and how would you support that as a commissioner?**

That all families despite income level that everyone should be treated equally and despite family sizes and the community should and will be a safe environment .As a Commissioner I will support by getting Police , city officials , community and housing HUD Child and family services to on one cord.

**What is your stance on the proposal to use eminent domain to remove the trash collection facility on W Street?**

My stance on the proposal to use eminent domain is to close the trash collection facility on w street because it cause a lot of health problems inhaling the trash smells.

**What are your hopes and/or concerns with the ongoing development at Union Market? How can we better support our neighborhood's connectivity to that area?**

My hope is to keep union market but to build a tunnel to make train station over at union market wouldn't be good idea because metro trains are all ready breaking down and busess and that money should go into good use which is for them to make repairs on the older equipment instead of wasting it on something that is not need or necessary. We can support by making sure the right appropriate developmen is use in that neighborhood .

**If there were a way to improve bus transit or bike infrastructure in your neighborhood, but it required removing on-street parking, how would you approach the situation? Give a specific example if possible.**

If there was a way I say that we build a parking lot or garage to ensure that bus transit or bike infrastructure will be built and it have more room to have cars to park and also thier neighbors and Guest to park buy having park lot or garage.

**Where would you like to see new bicycle lanes, sidewalks, or other infrastructure to make it safer for residents, families, and seniors to walk and bike? What are the top Vision Zero priorities for your community?**

I would like see new bicycle lane ,side walk, infrastructure in Rhode Island Avenue Brooklyn Manor , Saratoga , 14st and Brooklyn station to make more safer.

**What role do you think your ANC could play in addressing housing affordability challenges? How can your neighborhood contribute its fair share of the housing our growing city needs?**

ANC can address housing affordability by educated individuals/ families and city officials and developer, government agencies about challenges and what real can people can afford vs not caring and want make money. My neighborhood can contribute by hosting and sitting in voice there concern so they the city officials ect ... about the how it is challenges really is for affordability housing for neighborhood as a whole.

**What is the biggest controversy in your neighborhood not already listed on this questionnaire, and what is your position on it?**

That trash being thrown and young poeple are being to loud and drugs and are on same side of seniors , and harrasment by police and Security offices mid city change the rules without letting the residents know.

**Why do you think you are the best person to represent your SMD? What's your vision for your ANC in 2 years?**

I'm best person because i will be able to make the problems move replace it with the best for community with community support. My vision is to keep the families together and have a safe neighborhood and have a more activitie and fun around community.

**Sometimes community members advocate for a position that is in their narrow interest, but is counter to broader city-wide interests and is highly problematic position if all communities across DC were to act that way. How will you lead in such a situation? Give a local example if possible.**

I would lead by being for people in my community and fix the problems and making sure that the other community does the same.



Name: *Luke Cieslewicz*

ANC and Single Member District: *5C07*

**The status of the controversial redevelopment of Brookland Manor is uncertain. What is your position on the RIA development and how would you engage with the project's future?**

While I support development in the district, it needs to be beneficial for all. I do not support the development in its current form due to the displacement of too many of the current residents. I would engage with the developers to keep not only the same number of affordable units, but also multi-bedroom units.

**What is your vision for economic development in your neighborhood, and how would you support that as a commissioner?**

Through the RIA Main Street project and other developments in the area, there are a lot of opportunities for business to come to the area. I think that with that, we need to encourage the developers/businesses to first open those positions to the residents in the community. I would also work for an official ANC recommendation to the Council to support implementing Initiative 77, since not only did it pass for the district as a whole but also within my Ward.

**What is your stance on the proposal to use eminent domain to remove the trash collection facility on W Street?**

I respect the opinion of those living closer who want the station removed, as it appears they did not hold up on their end of a bargain to not process raw garbage. I would work with the community to help them get something to take its place that would a benefit to them.

**What are your hopes and/or concerns with the ongoing development at Union Market? How can we better support our neighborhood's connectivity to that area?**

I think we need to improve our transit options to Union Market and Ivy City as both those areas continue to come up and become more appealing to pedestrian traffic. We also need to make sure we have sufficient pedestrian and biking infrastructure to protect and serve those travelers.

**If there were a way to improve bus transit or bike infrastructure in your neighborhood, but it required removing on-street parking, how would you approach the situation? Give a specific example if possible.**

I think especially on Rhode Island Avenue, where parking is limited on different sides during different times of day, we could improve bus and bike infrastructure. We also may want to make sure all of our side streets for residents are then zoned, to help their parking concerns.

This has already been done for part of RI ave on a temporary basis during the shut down of the RI Ave station.

**Where would you like to see new bicycle lanes, sidewalks, or other infrastructure to make it safer for residents, families, and seniors to walk and bike? What are the top Vision Zero priorities for your community?**

Rhode Island Avenue, as I mentioned above, is a big one. We also need more ways to keep our residents safe when traveling to and around Langdon park. Hamlin street by the library also needs more work to help keep pedestrians safe. Finally, speed humps could help slow people on some of the more residential streets.

**What role do you think your ANC could play in addressing housing affordability challenges? How can your neighborhood contribute its fair share of the housing our growing city needs?**

There are already plans for many new units in our area, so I think the big challenge will be affordability. So we will need community agreements from developers to contribute more affordable housing, and from the DC Government to open up more assistance.

**What is the biggest controversy in your neighborhood not already listed on this questionnaire, and what is your position on it?**

I think there are several "party houses," a club (Sip), and park events that contribute to the noise pollution in the area. We would need for us to come together as community to take care of our own and help the family friendly, neighborly aspects of our community shine through. We can also petition for Sip to lose their liquor license if they refuse to be good neighbors.

**Why do you think you are the best person to represent your SMD? What's your vision for your ANC in 2 years?**

I think that I bring a good energy to the position, have clear vision for helping all my neighbors, and I have very strong interpersonal skills to aid in my engagements with community members. I have a vision for progress in my community but for the benefit of all, and extending the success of the greater DC area to all residents.

**Sometimes community members advocate for a position that is in their narrow interest, but is counter to broader city-wide interests and is highly problematic position if all communities across DC were to act that way. How will you lead in such a situation? Give a local example if possible.**

I think it is important to look at the broader picture and what will benefit all over a narrower view. I would make my position clear to the community and hope that even if they do not agree, they can understand where I am coming from. A local example would be wanting more parking with all development and retaining all on street parking. We need to sacrifice some of that in order to provide easier transit, bike, and pedestrian paths. All of which benefit every member of my SMD and DC at large, as well as moving toward Vision Zero.

*Name: Jeremiah Montague Jr*

*ANC and Single Member District: 5C07*

**The status of the controversial redevelopment of Brookland Manor is uncertain. What is your position on the RIA development and how would you engage with the project's future?**

It is unfortunate that the project has been caught up in the legal wranglings preventing the project from going forward. However, the parties involved need encouragement to find a common ground allowing a project which satisfies the needs and demands of all involved. This is outside my ANC however, it do believe that I can engage the ANC commissioners involved and offer assistance, or new perspective which might relieve some of the ill will generated.

**What is your vision for economic development in your neighborhood, and how would you support that as a commissioner?**

In my neighborhood, Woodridge, and specifically ANC-5C07, we are experiencing the pressures of investor encouraged development altering and potentially erasing some of the character of the neighborhood. I have worked with the ANC, its SMD commissioners, and community to guide our community's development, providing historical reference which newcomers often are unaware of or indifferent toward. My vision is for a vibrant commercial corridor along Rhode Island Avenue, which maintains character and structures as much as possible, but builds a walkable, safe, and lively amenable to visitors and residents alike. One successful effort was the preservation of the facade of 2027 Rhode Island Avenue NE, incorporated into a new structure, revised to complement the community.

**What is your stance on the proposal to use eminent domain to remove the trash collection facility on W Street?**

The use of eminent domain may appear heavy handed. However, there are times when its use benefits the greater community excising private activities harming the public at large either directly or indirectly. Thus, in this case, failing other routes of engagement, it may be an appropriate use of eminent domain. However, we still must act in a manner which does not simply transfer the problem to another section of the city, inflicting harm upon them. A comprehensive solution which benefits the entire community must be found, but protracted resistance resulting in a non-solution is unacceptable.

**What are your hopes and/or concerns with the ongoing development at Union Market? How can we better support our neighborhood's connectivity to that area?**

Union Market appears to be improving the former area. However, it comes at a price which makes it not accessible (affordable or otherwise) to those who might have frequented the prior commercial enterprises. With a connection to the planned improvements to the New York

Avenue corridor, and better bus connections, more city residents may also enjoy the benefits of the development. So I encourage improved connection to the MPT, New York Avenue, and Ivy City/Trinidad encouraging walking, biking, improved Metrobus, and perhaps DC Circulator.

**If there were a way to improve bus transit or bike infrastructure in your neighborhood, but it required removing on-street parking, how would you approach the situation? Give a specific example if possible.**

In ANC-5C07 parking is at a premium. It is perhaps one of the most contentious issues when addressing incoming development or redevelopment. The G9 has improved transit options for reaching the inner city but only during rush-hours, it needs to be implemented all day. Removing on-street parking is a non-starter during non-rush hours as it discourages using local businesses and pushes the displaced parking onto nearby streets making parking nearly impossible for residents, where a considerable number are older. We encourage new development to find solutions to incorporate parking into their development plans, or reduce their impactful density. The community readily encourages engagement and discussion on the matter. But one thing that is unacceptable is the transferring of on-street parking burdens onto streets unable to accommodate them. Woodridge regularly engages dDOT, the Office of Planning, and WMATA to find better solutions to the problem, knowing that the development is rapidly advancing from the west of the city eastward.

**Where would you like to see new bicycle lanes, sidewalks, or other infrastructure to make it safer for residents, families, and seniors to walk and bike? What are the top Vision Zero priorities for your community?**

We need new sidewalks along streets where they are absent. We need reconstruction of damaged sidewalks, throughout and streets, particularly at 24th and Hamlin Place NE. We have a need for speed controls on Irving Street, and other nearby streets which absorb overflow and cut-through's by commuters in the morning and evening rush hours. Many of these ignore traffic signs endangering local residents. I do believe that current efforts and continuing them to engage dDOT, and MPD to address these issues are paramount for our community safety. I do not accept governmental indifference and snails pace response to addressing these as proper or appropriate. The cities comprehensive plan, as written, does not sufficiently address these matters for Woodridge, and areas east of 4th Street NE. The upper northeast is much more than just Brookland and everyone in the city needs to recognize this reality and stop neglecting the needs of other residents.

**What role do you think your ANC could play in addressing housing affordability challenges? How can your neighborhood contribute its fair share of the housing our growing city needs?**

The ANC and SMD's play an important role in addressing the housing affordability challenges occurring within the City of Washington. However, people need to have a greater awareness of key definitions and their use to as applied, to fully engage the policy makers within the city. ANC 5 had worked hard to refine how regulatory application of "affordable" affects and

disaffects Ward 5 residents. We recognize that changes are necessary and some accommodation is warranted. However, displacing residents with false promises and inflicting a disproportionate level of falsely labelled affordability is undesirable and unwanted. There are a substantial number of housing in disrepair, or off market residential units is high. Most could be and should be improved and returned as units affordable to most income levels, not only as high income affordable. Our communities efforts to carefully review and evaluate existing programs, and incoming development to incorporate a variety income affordability is a primary importance. Our community does not accept that by-right entitles you to deliver adversely transforming changes. We encourage everyone to engage in full-faith solutions to bring about housing for everyone who desires it.

**What is the biggest controversy in your neighborhood not already listed on this questionnaire, and what is your position on it?**

Our biggest controversy is the eradication of points of historical interest which may lack awareness by those coming into the community. Further, the attitudes that "demand" permits disrespect of community. The ANC, SMD's, with the assistance of our local historian now bring a new awareness of this to the table and improved engagement to all issues coming before them. Our time has come, our ANC willfully works to assure that we are not overcome by events, nor ignored in our needs.

**Why do you think you are the best person to represent your SMD? What's your vision for your ANC in 2 years?**

I have worked hard over the last several years to bring about improvements directly to the greater Woodridge area. I walk considerably throughout the city, often evaluating our needs against changes occurring elsewhere in the city. Having lived in many different areas of the city, and my work to increase the awareness of our community, and bringing its needs to the attention of leaders of city government. I have the training and disposition to engage community leaders, and residents alike to give them food for thought when making critical decisions. My vision is to continue improving the economic value of Woodridge, but also to assure it benefits from the outcomes from the city comprehensive plans. I want our seniors to feel safe when at all times of the day. I want newcomers to find acceptance, and active participants in the community while respecting the established. I would change our over reliance on the internet at our primary communication tool. I would increase the level of direct engagement giving voice to all perspectives of which i may or many not agree. My vision is to improve neglected resources bringing them on-par with any found anywhere in this great city, and accept nothing less for our residents, and businesses

**Sometimes community members advocate for a position that is in their narrow interest, but is counter to broader city-wide interests and is highly problematic position if all communities across DC were to act that way. How will you lead in such a situation? Give a local example if possible.**

All perspectives are important in arriving at an appropriate solution. Not everyone will walk away from a problem satisfied with the solution. However, everyone should agree that the solution is the best for the long term, and perhaps changeable over the duration. Recently, we had a situation at 2027 Rhode Island Avenue, where the contractor wanted to demolish a building built in 1923. It was the formerly the Woodridge-Langdon Commercial and Savings Bank. Instead of demolishing the building, we were able to get the developer to incorporate the facade into their design. Further, we were able to get them to respond and address local resident concerns regarding parking and nearby structure concerns, in particularly St. Francis Church, the historic King Residence (pre-1900), and the Dudley Barber College Building. Addressing this issue was emblematic of how to approach the development occurring at 1700 Rhode Island Avenue NE (DC Transition Housing) and the development planned at nearby 1800 Rhode Island Avenue. We considered the "narrow interests" and by adding a perspective causing opponents to be respected, we engendered, at least, some agreement for progress.

Name: *Ryan Linehan*

ANC and Single Member District: *5D01*

**What are your hopes and/or concerns with the ongoing development at Union Market? How can we better support our neighborhood's connectivity to that area?**

We need to make sure we provide welcoming community green space. A space for all to feel welcome. The rapid rate of development has allowed for displacement to affect my community and I'd like to see truly affordable housing be offered at these new high-rise apartments.

**What is your vision for Starburst Plaza? How would you work to improve both the Benning Road and Bladensburg Road corridors?**

Starburst plaza would benefit from more green space and fountain/splash park. Something that would welcome the community to this space which has long been used as a serving ground. The continued police presence, to counter this problem, just creates an unwelcoming environment for all.

**ANC 5D voted this year to support the controversial Kingman Park Historic District. What is your stance on the issue?**

This is a polarizing issue for the neighborhood, which I am not part of. I feel that the neighborhood deserves to be recognized for its 1920s African American history. However, I hope this designation does not come as a tax that furthers the city's issue of displacing long time residents. These residents too deserve the opportunity to stay in their homes.

**If there were a way to improve bus transit or bike infrastructure in your neighborhood, but it required removing on-street parking, how would you approach the situation? Give a specific example if possible.**

Public transit is the best way for us to least hurt our fragile environment. In a city booming with development and population this means more cars. If we can better our public transit we can lessen the dependency we have on our personal cars in the city, reducing the rate of parking spaces.

**Where would you like to see new bicycle lanes, sidewalks, or other infrastructure to make it safer for residents, families, and seniors to walk and bike? What are the top Vision Zero priorities for your community?**

We need new sidewalks, repaired streets, more speed bumps to protect our kids who have nowhere else to play aside from in the street. It is this why we need to focus on the development of the Crummell School and ensure its development means green space, recreation space and



a place for education. Crummell School needs to be for the community like it was intended when it first opened

**What role do you think your ANC could play in addressing housing affordability challenges? How can your neighborhood contribute its fair share of the housing our growing city needs?**

We need to ensure that Washington DC leads by example. Displacement can not continue in the nation's capital. We must ensure that these new developments are required to offer truly affordable housing options for long time residents.

**What is the biggest controversy in your neighborhood not already listed on this questionnaire, and what is your position on it?**

The Crummell School. It is not surplus. It is a historic site. It needs to be for the kids and the community. It needs to be green, in a neighborhood with one of the lowest air quality levels in the city.

**Why do you think you are the best person to represent your SMD? What's your vision for your ANC in 2 years?**

I am running because my neighbors asked me to. Because they know I care about the kids and the needs of the community. I want to see my community stay intact because it is such a strong historic community. In 2 years I want to see the kids playing on the lawns and basketball courts of the Alexander Crummell recreation center.

**Sometimes community members advocate for a position that is in their narrow interest, but is counter to broader city-wide interests and is highly problematic position if all communities across DC were to act that way. How will you lead in such a situation? Give a local example if possible.**

The only reason to run for local office is to help affect your community positively. This is best done by listening to your neighbor. Hearing their needs and truly empathizing with them. Then echoing these needs will for this position to stay a true and honest voice of the community. The personal gain is in helping strengthen the community your part of.

Name: **Bernice Blacknell**

ANC and Single Member District: **5D04**

**What are your hopes and/or concerns with the ongoing development at Union Market? How can we better support our neighborhood's connectivity to that area?**

none

**What is your vision for Starburst Plaza? How would you work to improve both the Benning Road and Bladensburg Road corridors?**

none

**ANC 5D voted this year to support the controversial Kingman Park Historic District. What is your stance on the issue?**

I supported it

**If there were a way to improve bus transit or bike infrastructure in your neighborhood, but it required removing on-street parking, how would you approach the situation? Give a specific example if possible.**

[did not respond]

**Where would you like to see new bicycle lanes, sidewalks, or other infrastructure to make it safer for residents, families, and seniors to walk and bike? What are the top Vision Zero priorities for your community?**

[did not respond]

**What role do you think your ANC could play in addressing housing affordability challenges? How can your neighborhood contribute its fair share of the housing our growing city needs?**

[did not respond]

**What is the biggest controversy in your neighborhood not already listed on this questionnaire, and what is your position on it?**

[did not respond]

**Why do you think you are the best person to represent your SMD? What's your vision for your ANC in 2 years?**

[did not respond]

**Sometimes community members advocate for a position that is in their narrow interest, but is counter to broader city-wide interests and is highly problematic position if all communities across DC were to act that way. How will you lead in such a situation? Give a local example if possible.**

[did not respond]

Name: *Walter Largent*

ANC and Single Member District: *5D05*

**What are your hopes and/or concerns with the ongoing development at Union Market? How can we better support our neighborhood's connectivity to that area?**

In order for neighborhood's connectivity be successful, children needed both security and freedom. They require the basic belief that young children need secure relationships with trusted adults in order to learn to deal with other adults and children. It was imperative, that their children have friends and be exposed to people from a variety of backgrounds; their children would need to be able to get along well with others in a diverse world.

**What is your vision for Starburst Plaza? How would you work to improve both the Benning Road and Bladensburg Road corridors?**

All families need opportunities to be involved in the planning and promotion neighborhood initiatives. Early childhood professionals, both administrators and law enforcement, should begin to understand not only the needs of the families they serve but also the desires that families have for their children in general and for their early education in particular.

**ANC 5D voted this year to support the controversial Kingman Park Historic District. What is your stance on the issue?**

I feel that it is important to preserve the historic district and the cultural history of Kingman Park as an African-American community. I also feel the importance of preserving the quality of its architecture, however I am concerned about the impact of, "pop-ups" and inappropriate renovations on the character of the neighborhood. As a homeowner I also have concerns about the added tax burden of rising property values on seniors and low-income renters, extra difficulty renovating properties, and the potential a historic district would deter potential investors in the Benning Road corridor. Why, in Ward 5, is there a consistent general lack of information and outreach from the applicants regarding this issue in particular????

**If there were a way to improve bus transit or bike infrastructure in your neighborhood, but it required removing on-street parking, how would you approach the situation? Give a specific example if possible.**

I think Capital Bikeshare has helped bolster the infrastructure for cycling in the city because it's generated thousands more bikes on the road.

**Where would you like to see new bicycle lanes, sidewalks, or other infrastructure to make it safer for residents, families, and seniors to walk and bike? What are the top Vision Zero priorities for your community?**

The city has one of the country's first widespread bike share programs, Capital Bikeshare, as well as the D.C. Public Schools program that teaches every second-grader how to ride a bicycle.

**What role do you think your ANC could play in addressing housing affordability challenges? How can your neighborhood contribute its fair share of the housing our growing city needs?**

The ANC should expand access to deeply affordable housing, making the District better able to meet other pressing goals, such as improving student outcomes, reducing racial inequity, and addressing homelessness

**What is the biggest controversy in your neighborhood not already listed on this questionnaire, and what is your position on it?**

The gun debate taking place on Capitol Hill has been filled with measured questions on the meaning of the Second Amendment and remembrances of innocents lost in suburban mass shootings. It is a conversation largely swept clean of the sort of gritty trauma that too often marks the streets of Capitol View in Northeast Washington.

**Why do you think you are the best person to represent your SMD? What's your vision for your ANC in 2 years?**

Livability - Regularly reported and follow-up with appropriate agencies to repair damaged sidewalks, replace missing signage, trash and graffiti removal, and requests for rodent abatement. Public Safety – Worked with MPD (Metropolitan Police Department) and our individual PSAs (Police Service Area) on responsiveness to neighborhood concerns through communication with officials, participation in safety meetings, and completion of 6-week training - Community Engagement Academy. Responsible Development – Ensured that Settlement Agreements encourage local business development while engaging with community on pending licenses; provided ongoing support for local business owners; and, followed up with DCRA on enforcement of permits and violations.

**Sometimes community members advocate for a position that is in their narrow interest, but is counter to broader city-wide interests and is highly problematic position if all communities across DC were to act that way. How will you lead in such a situation? Give a local example if possible.**

Four key principles—accountability, transparency, participation, and law enforcement—have in recent years become nearly universal features of the policy statements of improving our inner-city environment. Yet this apparently widespread new consensus is deceptive: behind the ringing declarations lie fundamental issues over the value and application of these concepts. Understanding and addressing these divisions is crucial to ensuring that the four principles become fully embedded in community city wide interests.

Name: *Sydelle Moore*

ANC and Single Member District: *5D05*

**What is your vision for Starburst Plaza? How would you work to improve both the Benning Road and Bladensburg Road corridors?**

The more we can bring positive activities to Starburst Plaza, the more we will be able to displace some of the negative activities. The long-standing issues with violent crime and substance abuse that have plagued the Starburst are a major concern for people living nearby. My focus is on continuing beat-style policing, using the space for positive programming and providing resources for those suffering from substance abuse issues and chronic joblessness. It will take a creative blend of partnerships to manage the issues that we see each day at the Starburst. I already have a very strong track record on addressing these issues and would like to continue many of the strategies that have already brought progress. I testified before the Committee on Public Safety in February to highlight the need for more resources targeted at crime prevention (not just response), drug diversion and job training programs. I've worked with the new Office of Neighborhood Safety and Engagement, The Department of Behavioral Health and the Department of Employment Services to make sure that trained professionals are engaging on these issues. Thanks to this advocacy, we already have three new dedicated outreach workers from the Department of Behavioral Health working to address the long-standing substance abuse issues and members of other officers using their tools to address unemployment and violent crime. I have also developed a great relationship with H Street Main Street which has already garnered real results. We have a weekly summer concert series at the plaza and will enjoy other activities in the coming months and years.

**ANC 5D voted this year to support the controversial Kingman Park Historic District. What is your stance on the issue?**

First of all, when I talk about the Kingman Park Historic District, I only speak about the concerns of my neighbors in Langston (north of Benning Rd) and not people living in the Kingman Park neighborhood. The public conversation surrounding the designation in our respective neighborhoods has been very different. As far as Langston is concerned, I did not support the original boundaries, but I do support the current ones. The most important concern I had about the Kingman Park Historic Designation was the process and all of the concerns that were left unaddressed by not consulting residents prior to voting including: 1. ANC5D made no attempt to inform the public of the proposal until after they had already voted to support the designation. This means that residents' questions, comments and concerns could not have possibly been a factor in the commission's decision-making process. Making a choice of this magnitude without at least consulting residents is simply wrong. Commissioners voted to support the original boundaries at a meeting that had not been properly noticed to the public as required by law and during which only two of the potentially impacted households were represented. Both of those households later testified in opposition to the original boundaries

before the Historic Preservation Review Board (HPRB). 2. Our neighborhood has many seniors and other homeowners of modest means whose homes are in need of repair. Purchasing materials that meet the design guidelines of the historic district would have been expensive for many people who already feel the burden of repair costs. Those are very personal concerns that could and should have been respectfully and honestly addressed by our commissioner prior to making a decision. Although grants can be made available to help low-income homeowners, the ANC took no steps to request grant funding. 3. The draft design guidelines are too prohibitive of solar panels. The current requirement that solar panels not be visible from the street makes it difficult to generate sufficient power to be cost-effective on townhouses with small roofs (like the ones in my neighborhood). I have already been working for years to make neighbors aware of opportunities for homeowners in all income brackets aware of the many programs available to help increase solar in the city and save money on electricity. This design criteria doesn't make solar impossible, but it does make it more of a challenge for homeowners with small roofs to participate in programs with minimum square foot requirements for solar panels. With all of that said, a compromise was reached by scaling back the boundaries. The compromise balances the desire of my neighborhood to honor its place in history without making it more difficult for low- and moderate-income residents to keep up with maintenance costs. Even though most homeowners in the neighborhood had not been consulted before ANC 5D voted, residents of Langston Terrace Dwellings had been engaged throughout the historic designation process and approved the proposal overwhelmingly. Langston Terrace Dwelling has already been designated historic and there are grants available to help with repairs for their buildings which was simply not the case for homeowners. For Langston Terrace Dwellings, being included in the final boundaries was a reasonable and popular choice that I support.

**If there were a way to improve bus transit or bike infrastructure in your neighborhood, but it required removing on-street parking, how would you approach the situation? Give a specific example if possible.**

I would consult my neighbors to make sure that their concerns are a part of the decision-making process from day one. Improved public transportation has been an ongoing conversation in our neighborhood. My neighbors are very reasonable people who recognize the need for better transit especially as it pertains to job access and safety. I have a firm belief in our ability as a community to have a robust dialogue and examine each situation to find smart solutions with the help of professional planners. On major thoroughfares like Benning Rd. and Maryland Ave., residents have already taken the lead in pushing for the removal of some parking spaces. This has been a long-standing suggestion on Maryland Ave NE so that the X8 can make additional stops in well-lit areas closer to people's homes. My neighbors take a much more nuanced view of these issues than some other neighborhoods and I think that by examining the needs of those living nearby and the very real desire of my neighbors to have better, more and safer options to get in and out of the neighborhood, we could work together to come up with some smart solutions.

**Where would you like to see new bicycle lanes, sidewalks, or other infrastructure to make it safer for residents, families, and seniors to walk and bike? What are the top Vision Zero priorities for your community?**

I've already made a lot of progress on infrastructure in the community by requesting sidewalks near Bennett Place and other streets be made handicap-accessible, requesting that the city install new speed bumps (20th St), repair sidewalks (18th, 19th and I St.) and repave streets with dangerous potholes (I St.). There is still so much more that needs to be done to have infrastructure that is designed for safe, multi-modal transit. Maryland Ave. needs additional bicycle infrastructure. Only one block on Maryland Ave (within ANC 5D) currently has a bike lane and that lane is not connected to any of the nearby bike trails along the Anacostia or those in the Trinidad neighborhood. A bike path that is not connected to the places where people want to go, serves no real purpose. Additionally the street needs repaving and clear markings to make it safe for motorists, cyclists and pedestrians alike. There are several intersections within ANC 5D05 where I have been working with the DC Dept. of Transportation (DDOT) to address neighborhood concerns about pedestrian visibility and speeding including: 19th and Benning Rd. NE, 19th and I St. NE, 17th and H St. NE as well as 17th and I St. NE

**What role do you think your ANC could play in addressing housing affordability challenges? How can your neighborhood contribute its fair share of the housing our growing city needs?**

ANC5D05 can contribute by maintaining smart zoning and encouraging developers to create larger affordable dwelling units (ADU) at lower AMIs. This area is already zoned RA-2 and higher. Adding density is a strategy for meeting demand and lowering costs, our area has already done and will continue to do its part in contributing to newer, more affordable housing. Another idea to consider is the smart use of inclusionary zoning. Residents tend to talk about affordable housing more broadly than the way some policymakers have used the term. Residents speak about the quality of the housing and the affordability of the overall neighborhood as well as the social networks in place that make it less expensive for them to get childcare or find a ride to work. So when we are having conversations about affordability, there needs to be a broader discussion about keeping people in their neighborhoods. This way, people can continue to benefit from the neighbors who support them when they need it. One of the ways ANC's can help keep people in their neighborhoods is by negotiating with developers providing ADUs to give preference for qualified residents living nearby on their waiting lists. Prospective tenants for ADU rentals must have their income certified in order to verify that they are within the income limits for a property's program. Many people are unaware that the entity responsible for certifying household income varies from project to project, and can be the developer or management company -- not just the Department of Housing and Community Development. In the instances where developers and their management companies are administering the program, it would be smart for the ANC to request that new projects offer a preference to current residents within a set geographic area on the company's waiting list. This would only put a small dent in the issue of affordable housing, but it is something tangible and within the power of the ANC.



**What is the biggest controversy in your neighborhood not already listed on this questionnaire, and what is your position on it?**

The major issues in my community are not controversial. Our community has a lot of very basic shared goals including addressing infrastructure repairs, blight, crime and job access. We need some more creative approaches to addressing these issues and time to see the needed changes come to fruition.

**Why do you think you are the best person to represent your SMD? What's your vision for your ANC in 2 years?**

Not only do I genuinely care about my community, I have the organizational skills and experience to make sure that we get the resources we deserve. After years of complaints that had not been properly filed or followed up, I stepped in as the civic association president to make sure that we got improved streets and sidewalks around the neighborhood. I have gotten more resources for kids in our community by making sure they have backpacks, school supplies and out-of-school time programming. I have forged partnerships to restock the community food bank, hosted educational boat tours, worked to stop litter as well as illegal dumping and partnered with any organization that can bring new amenities and opportunities to our area. These initiatives and more have all improved the lives of people living in Carver/Langston and offer a proven record of results. I'm also the best candidate to help ANC 5D05 raise the bar on transparency, ethics and professional standards. When elected, I will use the publicly provided ANC email address in keeping with open government recommendations given by the Office of the Attorney General. I will work with colleagues to offer proper notice for all ANC meetings, provide sign-language interpreting at all meetings and support the creation of ANC committees to keep neighbors involved in decisions while also creating a pipeline of future civic leaders. In addition, I will be working with my colleagues to ensure that the ANC website has accurate and up-to-date information.

**Sometimes community members advocate for a position that is in their narrow interest, but is counter to broader city-wide interests and is highly problematic position if all communities across DC were to act that way. How will you lead in such a situation? Give a local example if possible.**

The key issue in my community is not small groups advocating their narrow interest, it is that some people have seen so many broken promises that they no longer see the benefit in advocating for resources they think will never come. The primary thing I'd like to see in my community is people feeling like they have a real reason to speak up about their concerns. I want people to know that their ideas have value and that I care about them and will listen to them. For any major issue, the most important first step is making sure that people are informed. Once everyone is operating with the same set of basic facts, productive and open conversations are a lot easier to manage. My neighbors have shown a real proclivity toward collaborative decision-making and armed with accurate information and knowledge of additional resources, I trust that neighbors who don't always agree will at least feel comfortable

if decisions are made in a more open, and equitable way. It has been my experience that my neighbors are more willing to accept a result, even one they don't like, as long as the process is fair and inclusive.

Name: **Jason Burkett**

ANC and Single Member District: **5D06**

**What are your hopes and/or concerns with the ongoing development at Union Market? How can we better support our neighborhood's connectivity to that area?**

As we develop Union Market, my hope is that we take a strategy that encompasses all aspects of urban living (transportation, communications, environmental, social and economic factors, etc). We don't want to end up with a concrete jungle that is not functional. Two areas that stick out as potential problems is traffic and green space. These two issues also spill out and are shared with nearby NoMa, a neighborhood that I believe should smoothly flow and connect with Union Market. The traffic on Florida Ave is horrific, especially during rush hour. Union Market and NoMo's continued growth will only further congest traffic as at least a portion of new residents will inevitably own vehicles. Additional retail and restaurants will also contribute to more traffic. We need to continue pushing city officials to rethink the Florida Ave NE and New York Ave NE intersection to ease traffic congestion that spills over into the Union Market area. Additionally, we cannot forget about addressing parking. While we can develop the area to encourage car-free living, we must also not ignore the challenges associated with vehicles. With regards to green space, there is little to none at Union Market. We need incorporate more parks and green space into the landscape. Oh, and one more concern I have with Union Market, Chris Otten. Our community should do what we can to minimize his, and others like his, destructive campaign against developing functional, urban centers. Union Market is very close to Trinidad but unfortunately our residents are required to walk around Gallaudet University to get access. I would very much like to explore the options of opening the campus us to allow people to flow through, especially as crime continues to trend downward. This would allow Union Market, Gallaudet, Ivy City and Trinidad to better connect as a whole community rather than separate pockets area.

**What is your vision for Starburst Plaza? How would you work to improve both the Benning Road and Bladensburg Road corridors?**

A year or ago, I was excited to see on my twitter feed an article and images that hinted at redeveloping this area but was then disappointed to find out that the landlords of the properties there show no indication of a desire to redevelop or sell. If done right, the Starburst Plaza could be a strong anchor for the East side of H Street Corridor and a great resource for Trinidad! The current retail is not well maintained and there is so much wasted space with parking lots that are not even fully used. H Street Main Street (in partnership with Great Streets DC and the Department of Small and Local Business Development) has developed a strong vision and plan of what the Starburst Plaza could become; improved safety, additional options for walking and biking, green space, public spaces and new retail are all possible at the Starburst Plaza. I am certainly supportive of this vision and hope that we can one day move forward to execute. The plan offers four options to improve the Benning and Bladensburg Road

corridors, and I am in favor of the two options that would reposition Maryland Ave to create a public park at the intersection that would extend to Neal and I Streets.

**ANC 5D voted this year to support the controversial Kingman Park Historic District. What is your stance on the issue?**

Given that the majority of residents who live in Kingman Park did not support, I would have voted against the historic designation. The feedback provided to the Historic Preservation Review Board was largely not in favor and there were four times more public testimony against the designation. The public opinion seemed to be overwhelmingly against this initiative, yet the board voted to move forward. My personal opinion would have been skeptical of receiving the designation as it could have contributed to increased housing costs and placed unnecessary regulation on home owners.

**If there were a way to improve bus transit or bike infrastructure in your neighborhood, but it required removing on-street parking, how would you approach the situation? Give a specific example if possible.**

Before making any changes to the neighborhood that could impact residents' living conditions, it is important and necessary to first hear from the neighborhood and have a clear understanding of the impact to their lives. To do this, we would need to use a well-developed communication strategy to first make sure everyone knows of the potential change (website, flyers, community meeting(s), door knocking on the impacted street(s) etc.). I do not believe the current commission has a communication strategy in place and this could lead to situations where major neighborhood changes are made without input from the majority of residents. Many proposals are only brought up at Single Member District meetings where attendance is just a handful (5-10 residents). People either do not know about these meetings or they do not have the time to attend. ANC5D really needs to rethink and improve how information is reaching residents and then how feedback is collected. Once that feedback is gathered and consolidated, then the ANC can give its recommendation to move forward or not to city officials. Parking in Trinidad is challenging, especially for residents who rely solely on street parking. As H Street continues to develop, many residents are already dealing parking overflow from non-residents. Some of the streets in Trinidad are not zoned either, presenting another challenge for residents who park on the street. West Virginia NE is a good candidate that could be further explored as the Gallaudet side on-street parking is not fully used. That is a pretty busy street that has a lot of bike traffic making for a dangerous situation, and a bike lane could help. We could also reach out to DC DOT and request an updated bike lane feasibility study for our area.

**Where would you like to see new bicycle lanes, sidewalks, or other infrastructure to make it safer for residents, families, and seniors to walk and bike? What are the top Vision Zero priorities for your community?**

The main streets that surround Trinidad (West Virginia, Florida, Bladensburg and Mt. Olive) could benefit from bike lanes. There have been numerous cases where I've seen bicyclers nearly hit on these busy streets and it is not safe. DC DOT's previous long-range transportation plan already identified three projects in the Trinidad area. First, West Virginia Ave NE from Montana Ave NE to K St NE was identified as a good candidate for a bike lane with estimated cost of \$140K. Second, Bladensburg Rd NE from Eastern Ave NE to H St NE was identified as a good candidate for a cycle track with estimated costs of \$6M. Lastly, Mt Olivet Rd NE from Capital Ave NE to 9th St NE was also identified as a good candidate for a cycle track with estimate cost of \$1.8M. ANC5D should continue pushing these options with DC DOT and make these top Vision Zero priorities. As far as sidewalks, nothing sticks out within the Trinidad area but nearby on Florida Ave NE, there are sidewalks that could be widen.

**What role do you think your ANC could play in addressing housing affordability challenges? How can your neighborhood contribute its fair share of the housing our growing city needs?**

Every day I look out the front of my house and have a view of a 4-unit apartment building that has been abandoned for over 2.5 years after a fire. Whomever owns the building decided to not renovate or sell after the fire and has just boarded up the windows and doors. This is not uncommon in Trinidad and surrounding areas. There are many abandoned buildings in our neighborhood and they could be used to supplement affordable housing. We should encourage the city to do more with addressing the issue of abandoned housing and maybe even develop a program that invest in these properties as affordable housing opportunities.

**What is the biggest controversy in your neighborhood not already listed on this questionnaire, and what is your position on it?**

The biggest controversy and challenge with all the neighborhoods within ANC5D is the lack of a unified, well-functioning commission that collaboratively works together to improve our community. Single Member District (SMD) commissioners can only get so much accomplished on their own, so it is imperative that they work with other commissioners to move forward with an agenda that meets the needs of our community. Attending ANC meetings, it is obvious that some commissioners communicate very little with others. This lack of collaboration has caused bickering between commissioners during public meetings, has roadblocked community initiatives and has prevented financial investment in our community. The last ANC Annual Financial Report shows that ANC5D only spent \$50 of its funds in the last fiscal year. The current balance of ANC5D's funds was last reported at approximately \$105K with about \$4-5K of funds coming from the city each quarter. ANC5D needs to vote in a collaborative commission this November so that community progress can be made.

**Why do you think you are the best person to represent your SMD? What's your vision for your ANC in 2 years?**

As a former military officer, I will bring leadership and organizational management that will improve the functionality of the commission. I also worked a few years as a strategy and operations management consultant at nationally recognized consulting firm, so I have the experience needed to improve business processes. Throughout my professional career, I've been a part of collaborative teams of all sizes and that experience has taught me the value of being a team player. This job requires someone who is a leader and a team player. This job also requires a person who cares for the community and has a passion to serve. I am that person. My vision is to have an engaged and informed community that collaborates with fellow residents, commissioners, and city officials to improve the safety and functionality of our neighborhood. ANC5D needs to develop and implement a communication strategy that improves information dissemination and encourages more resident engagement. By communicating better, more residents are likely to participate in neighborhood meetings and events. As more residents become active, the sense of community will also likely increase. An engaged community is a safer community. This vision is achievable but can only be done if we come together as one community.

**Sometimes community members advocate for a position that is in their narrow interest, but is counter to broader city-wide interests and is highly problematic position if all communities across DC were to act that way. How will you lead in such a situation? Give a local example if possible.**

There are many resources available through the city government with numerous departments and agencies covering a wide variety of issues. If a community member is advocating for a particular issue, these resources should be used to ensure the community as a whole understands the full picture. It is easy for us to focus only on how a certain issue is impacting our individual lives and lose sight of the city-wide impact. As a commissioner, it is important in these situations to show leadership and bring light to the full issue at hand. With all the facts, then the issue can be fully debated to understand all implications of the position and then explore if there are any ways to mitigate concerns or impact on either side. As leaders, commissioners need to make sure that all of their constituents' voices are heard and then objectively work to determine the best solution for the community member, commission and city.

Name: *Romello Goodman*

ANC and Single Member District: *5D06*

**What are your hopes and/or concerns with the ongoing development at Union Market? How can we better support our neighborhood's connectivity to that area?**

My hope is that as development continues, the number of affordable units in new apartment buildings increases. I would also like to see preferential treatment go to neighborhood residents as businesses open retail spaces. Additionally, some amount of the surrounding land should be turned into a public gathering place, like a park. My hope is that this would increase interactions between new and long term residents in the area. Lastly, Union Market can be better connected with the use of dedicated bike and bus lanes. The space is relatively close to two metro stations already and by creating dedicated spaces for bikes, bike shares, and scooter shares, we can decrease congestion in the area while also increasing the number of people coming through to benefit the surrounding neighborhood.

**What is your vision for Starburst Plaza? How would you work to improve both the Benning Road and Bladensburg Road corridors?**

My vision for Starburst Plaza is the same as for Union Market. I see it as an opportunity to get more people familiar with and traveling to Ward 5. Its biggest draw is the proximity to the street car and we can leverage this to create less congested lanes along with the dedicated bike lanes. It is also the opportunity for DC to develop an area without displacement. If we can guarantee a number of affordable units in any dwelling built in the Plaza, then we can create places for people to live while also combating rising home prices with a steady supply.

**ANC 5D voted this year to support the controversial Kingman Park Historic District. What is your stance on the issue?**

I disagree with this decision. First, members of the actual community disagreed with it and it seems as though majority of the support came from people who do not live there or do not understand the history of this community. Second, I disagree with the notion that a historical designation is the right tool to fight gentrification. I would much rather see an offensive tactic that involves mixed use housing and alternative forms of home ownership than the preservation of buildings. There are also alternative ways to historically appreciate a neighborhood with plaques and statues that can educate people and, in addition, to preserve the history of the neighborhood.

**If there were a way to improve bus transit or bike infrastructure in your neighborhood, but it required removing on-street parking, how would you approach the situation? Give a specific example if possible.**

I would approach the situation by understanding the needs of each street and block and how that fits into that area's traffic pattern. For example, the streets bordering busy and congested areas should remove street parking to improve the infrastructure for bikes and buses. However, in neighborhood dense areas, I find no need to remove on-street parking to improve bus transit. This would create more problems for car-owning constituents in the area.

**Where would you like to see new bicycle lanes, sidewalks, or other infrastructure to make it safer for residents, families, and seniors to walk and bike? What are the top Vision Zero priorities for your community?**

My top Vision Zero priorities would be putting Florida Avenue on a road diet and introducing some combination of wider sidewalks, dedicated bus lanes, and designated bike lanes on the street. Currently, it is a 6 lane street with sidewalks that are only big enough for one person in certain areas. This creates situations where disabled individuals in wheelchairs may find it difficult to navigate. Additionally, the crowded lanes and constant lane-changing make it extremely dangerous for commuters on bikes to ride down the street. Often, bikers feel unsafe and will ride on the sidewalk, which creates more pedestrian traffic in such a small area. Florida Ave is the main road connecting my SMD to other parts of the city and, by making it safer and more efficient, I believe we can help reach the Vision Zero commitment. Additionally, Bladensburg Road can be used as a testing ground for many of these policies. It shares many of the same characteristics of Florida, but is not as inhabited and will make it a perfect testing ground for a road diet pilot program.

**What role do you think your ANC could play in addressing housing affordability challenges? How can your neighborhood contribute its fair share of the housing our growing city needs?**

ANC is the front line for our constituents so, as the price of living increases, we are the first to know. We can take this information to our Council Members and make sure they understand what types of development their constituents want. We can contribute our share of affordable housing by instituting % mandates on buildings and building more mixed use buildings instead of the default luxury. Building new housing is important for the development of all areas, however, there should always be a limit on how many units can be built in a specific area to decrease the rapid-growth of gentrification.



**What is the biggest controversy in your neighborhood not already listed on this questionnaire, and what is your position on it?**

The biggest controversy is increasing cost of living as H St and Union Market development increases. My position is that development is beneficial for any area, but development at the expense of current residents ultimately hinders a city's ability to create a unified and connected civic experience for its citizens.

**Why do you think you are the best person to represent your SMD? What's your vision for your ANC in 2 years?**

I am the best person to represent my SMD because I want to be a commissioner that works for the people. All decisions that are made will be made with the community in mind and ensure that it benefits both new and long term residents. Also as a Web Developer, I possess the skills needed to build and manage tools that can foster communication and transparency between the ANC and the community. My vision is that in 2 years, the ANC will be more prepared to mitigate issues that are important to the constituents of Ward 5.

**Sometimes community members advocate for a position that is in their narrow interest, but is counter to broader city-wide interests and is highly problematic position if all communities across DC were to act that way. How will you lead in such a situation? Give a local example if possible.**

I believe that the input from constituents is the biggest factor in how a decision is made. But, I also understand that if the constituents elect me, they have decided to take a chance on my decisions, beliefs and values. I am confident that a middle ground can always be reached by consensus and that any disagreement can be settled by examining all angles. In the rare occasion that this is not the case then, I will use the trust that the community has bestowed in me to make a decision that benefits them in the long run.