

ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 3E
TENLEYTOWN • AMERICAN UNIVERSITY PARK • FRIENDSHIP
HEIGHTS

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Washington, DC 20016

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Resolution to Revise Block Party Permitting Process

WHEREAS, in order to secure a permit to close a street in the District of Columbia for the purpose of holding a block party, residents must go through an unnecessarily arduous process requiring five visits to four DC agencies located throughout the city. An applicant must first go to the DC Department of Homeland Security (DHS) located in Southeast Washington, to hand in an application that must be accompanied by a petition containing the signatures of more than 50% of the residents on the block. Then the application must be brought to DC Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs (DCRA), then to the DC Department of Tax and Revenue, and then it must be brought back to DHS. After those visits are complete, the applicant must then go to the DC Department of Transportation (DDOT) to pick up “no-parking” signs to be posted on the block the day of the event. This process can take fifteen hours to complete.

WHEREAS, the District should be in the business of encouraging community building through simple events like block parties.

WHEREAS, this arduous process should be revised so that it can be completed electronically online or streamlined through local police precincts so that residents need not travel all over the city for this simple permit.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, ANC 3E urges that the process for securing a block party permit be revised to make it easy, rather than difficult.

ANC 3E approved this resolution at its regularly scheduled meeting on September 11, 2008, which was properly noticed and at which a quorum was present. The resolution was approved by a vote of 4-0. Commissioners Lucy Eldridge, Anne Sullivan, and Matthew Frumin were present.

Lucy Eldridge, Vice-chair, ANC 3E