



ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 3E

TENLEYTOWN AMERICAN UNIVERSITY PARK FRIENDSHIP HEIGHTS
c/o Lisner-Louise-Dickson-Hurt Home 5425 Western Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20015
www.anc3e.org

WHEREAS, Councilmembers Cheh and Wells are working on a bill that will address the responsibilities of businesses, home owners, and institutions as it relates to the maintenance of safe walkways during snow events (such as the ones we recently experienced) and the manner in which fines may be imposed upon those entities that do not comply, and

WHEREAS, DC law already requires businesses, home owners, and institutions to maintain safe walkways along those sidewalks that abut their property, and

WHEREAS, the current mechanism for enforcement has proven not to be viable, and

WHEREAS, the snow events of this past month provided a clear picture of both the generous and community-minded efforts of many members of this community, but also the failings of many homeowners, businesses, and institutions, and

WHEREAS, said failings resulted in dangerous conditions for pedestrians, and

WHEREAS, this ANC believes public safety is of the utmost importance,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, ANC 3E supports the Councilmembers for their action to address this issue, and would like to encourage that provisions be written into this bill that clearly indicate where the proceeds of any fines will be directed and hope it will also include mechanisms to give realistic effect to the current option of having the City facilitate the clearing of sidewalks in front of homes where the owners have not done so. The owner in such cases should be be charged market rate for such a service as well as potentially be subject to a penalty sufficient to deter further violations. If and when a new system for subjecting residents to fines is created, we would hope citizens will be given full notice of that fact at the time of the next major storm and a clear indication at that time of at what point owners may be subject to such fines. We would likewise hope that the City would provide a mechanism by which those who might be unable to clear the sidewalk could receive assistance.

ANC 3E approved this resolution at its meeting on February 25, 2010, which was properly noticed and at which a quorum was present. The resolution was approved by a vote of 3-0-2. Commissioners Jon Bender, Mathew Frumin, Sam Serebin voted for the resolution. Commissioners Beverly Sklover and Lucy Eldridge abstained.

Matthew Frumin, Chair, ANC 3E