



February 2021 Virtual Meeting Highlights & Next Steps

February 8, 2021

What you can do to help!

- Please **join the ECA or renew your membership** for 2021 and consider a one-time or recurring donation to the ECA! Visit the [Eckington Civic Association website](#) and click “Register.” Resident membership – the kind of membership that applies to individuals living in Eckington – is free, but you are welcome to donate to support our efforts if you wish.
- The ECA is **seeking a Certified Public Accountant** to provide approx. 5-10 pro bono hours annually to advise the ECA (e.g., for IRS filings). If you – or an accountant you know – are willing to consider providing this service, please contact ECA Treasurer Neil Shah at imneilshah@gmail.com.
- The ECA is planning a **Public Safety Strategy Forum** to develop a strategy for reducing violence in the neighborhood—a top priority we identified in our recent resident survey. **If you are a concerned resident and willing to spend a little time brainstorming concerns and solutions with us, please [sign up here](#)**. We’ll collect interest into early March and will aim to confirm a date in mid-March. Please get in touch with Taylor Kennedy (taylor.eckingtoncivic@gmail.com) with any questions or suggestions.
- We are also exploring how the ECA might distribute periodic written updates to neighbors who don’t have regular internet access. **Volunteer to join and/or lead committee to get this started by [signing up here](#)**.
- There are several near-term opportunities to participate in DC’s FY 2022 budget planning:
 - Complete Ward 5 Councilmember McDuffie’s Budget Advocacy Survey [HERE](#)
Suggested asks: Eckington/Edgewood DCPL Library; DDOT concept study for North Capitol Street redesign; improvements to Harry Thomas Recreation Center; continued funding of violence interruption program in/near Eckington
 - Ward 5 for All petition for an Edgewood/Eckington Library: fill it out [HERE](#)

ECA Updates:

- We shared results from the **ECA’s recent resident survey**. Check out the [slides](#) for a summary of over 100 resident views on the most important issues in the neighborhood (slides 9-12), ideas for promoting inclusivity (slides 13-16), and more. We are already taking steps to address your feedback, including establishing a public safety strategy forum and exploring ways to distribute written materials to residents who we don’t reach online. Our survey showed that neighbors are an important source of information sharing, so please tell your neighbors about ECA, and please pass on information that you think they may find useful.
- The ECA board will connect with Shoshana Sommer (President, Eckington Parks & Arts) and Denise Wright (ANC 5E03) about ways to coordinate outreach and key discussions.
- Community cleanups, cohosted with Eckington Parks & Arts, take place on the – 1st & 3rd Saturday of each month. While social distancing, this is an independent activity, but folks are encouraged to share photos online.

- Eckington Yards PUD banner: ECA is working with McKinley Tech to get images of school (they are very excited); NoMA BID agreed to lighter touch on BID branding; final design/procurement in works.
- DDOT proceeding with changes to Todd Place and T street NE soon. One small change to previous proposal--Todd place Westbound conversion will now extend all the way to North Capitol Street.
- DC has [acquired](#) Wendy's at Dave Thomas Circle via eminent domain. Designs expected to be completed this year and construction to start in 2022.
- The Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) released a [Draft Environmental Impact Statement](#) regarding the Washington to Baltimore Maglev. Public comments are due April 22, 2021. ECA is considering whether to comment on potential local impacts (e.g.. the potential expansion of PEPCO substation into newly built Tanner Park; use of nearby land for massive parking facilities instead of housing/retail and the induced congestion it would create)

Other News and Updates:

- [Silas Grant](#), Constituent Analyst, [Office of Ward 5 Councilmember Kenyan McDuffie](#), shared the following updates
 - DC Department of Parks and Recreation hosted a Ready2Play session on Feb 8 to discuss the recreational needs and desires of the different neighborhoods within Ward 5. There was some commentary on Harry Thomas Rec Center, and interest in promoting safety conditions (and lawn care) on site. Silas will share notes.
 - The DC Council recently passed the Fair Meals Delivery Emergency Act, which requires 3rd party delivery services to obtain consent from restaurants before listing them on their site. This also puts a cap on what 3rd parties can charge.
 - On MLK Day, the council launched an **Office on Racial Equity** via the Racial Equity Achieves Results Act. The office (to be known as CORE) will provide equity impact scores for future council legislation and include a racial equity statement on all pieces of legislation. It will also create a tool to help eliminate disparities in city agencies and government offices.
 - Councilmember McDuffie has advocated for racial equity in vaccination, which has resulted in the prioritization of specific zip codes (who are eligible to register one day before additional appointments open for all zip codes).
 - The council will be holding a series of public hearings and are inviting testimony on:
 - Agency Performance (about how agencies have previously performed – whether something they've done well or a challenge you've experienced). A comprehensive list of the scheduled hearings and how to participate is [available here](#).
 - Budget and financial planning (for budget priorities moving forward). A comprehensive list of the various meetings, by committee, and how to participate is [available here](#).
- [Nokomis Hunter](#), Ward 5 Liaison, [Mayor Bowser's Office of Community Relations & Services](#) provided the following updates:
 - The Mayor will be holding several Fair Shot Budget Engagement Forums (see [overall schedule here](#)).
 - Vaccination appointments will be released on Thursdays at 9 for [priority zipcodes](#). More appointments made available on Friday. Zip codes include 20002. No in-home vaccinations are available at this time.
 - The Mayor's office has been working to streamline vaccination registration processes and have increased the number of call takers available to make appointments on Thursday and Friday.

- The CDC is currently advising that those receiving the vaccine should avoid other vaccinations for 14 days prior to the first dose, the period between the two doses, and for 14 days following the second dose (a total window of approx. 6-7 weeks).
- Shoshana Sommer, Eckington Parks &Arts, encouraged neighbors to join that organization. Fees have been reduced this year to be more inclusive, and there is an option to volunteer in place of membership dues. More information is available on the [website](#). For residents particularly concerned about environmental issues, consider joining the Greenways Committee, which is working to address litter and illegal dumping.

Upcoming Meetings & Events

- Saturday, February 20: [community cleanup with Eckington Parks & Arts](#)
- Monday, March 8: Next ECA Meeting

About the Eckington Civic Association

The Eckington Civic Association meets the first Monday of each month (unless otherwise noted). You do not need to be a member to attend. If you are interested in becoming a member of the association, which allows you to vote at meetings and serve on committees, please register [HERE](#). Membership is free for residents (your participation is your most valuable contribution!), but we welcome donations [HERE](#).

Website: <https://eckingtoncivicassociation.com>

Twitter: [@EckingtonCivic](#)

Email: eckingtoncivic@gmail.com

Join the Eckington Google Group [HERE](#).

You can also follow us on NextDoor!

2021 ECA Officers

Conor Shaw, President

Dana Samuels, Daniel Agold, & Taylor Kennedy, Vice Presidents

Neil Shah, Treasurer

Ben Colbert, Communications Director

Other contact information

DC 311 (this is where you should file city service requests, like rodent abatement, tree planting, etc.)

Contact: File a request for city services at <https://311.dc.gov/citizen/home>, on their smartphone app (search DC 311) or on twitter [@311DCgov](#).

If you are having an issue with city services, please begin by filing a service request to see if it resolves your issue. If contacting 311 does not or cannot resolve your issue, please consult the list below to contact the appropriate office.

Advisory Neighborhood Commissioners (contact your ANC commissioners about zoning, permitting, and related matters)

Contacts: Denise Wright, ANC 5E03 (East Eckington) Commissioner: 5E03@anc.dc.gov or Sylvia Pinkney ANC 5E04 (West Eckington) Commissioner: 5E04@anc.dc.gov or (202) 269-4180

Eckington's ANC commissioners should be your first point of contact for zoning, permitting, and other ANC matters. The ECA endeavors to coordinate with our ANC officials on other matters when possible. ANC 5E

typically meets on the 3rd Tuesday of every month at 7pm at Friendship-Armstrong Public Charter School, 1400 1st Street NW, Washington, DC. More information here: <https://anc5edc.blogspot.com/p/home.html>

The Mayor's Office of Community Relations & Services (Mayor Bowser's constituent services office)

Contact: Nokomis Hunter Ward 5 Liaison, MOCRS: Nokomis.Hunter@dc.gov or (202) 340-7526.

MOCRS serves as the Mayor's primary constituent services organization by responding to constituent requests, complaints, and questions. If you are experiencing issues with a city agency, MOCRS may be able to help resolve the matter.

Ward 5 Councilmember Kenyan McDuffie (your Ward CM)

Contacts: Silas Grant, Constituent Analyst: shgrant@dccouncil.us or (202) 727-8274; Kelley Cislo, Constituent Services Director: kcislo@dccouncil.us or (202) 724-8172

Council Member McDuffie's office should be your primary point of contact regarding legislative matters, and his office can also be a resource to navigate issues with city agencies. Council Member McDuffie represents Ward 5, which includes Eckington. Keep in mind that you also have 5 other representatives on the DC Council who hold at-large seats and also may be able to assist you. They are currently: Chairman Phil Mendelson; Anita Bonds; Christina Henderson; Elissa Silverman; and Robert White, Jr.

Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) 5th District

Contacts: Call 911 for any emergencies. Otherwise, contact William Fitzgerald, 5th District Commander: william.fitzgerald@dc.gov or (202) 698-0150 for inquiries about our local police district. You can also contact

Frances Penn, who is the Chair of the 5th District Citizens' Advisory Council: chair@the5dcac.org

Murder Free DC Violence Interruptors in Eckington/Truxton Circle

Contact: Sean Magruder at seanmagruder@murderfreedc.org or +1 (202) 578-1450

District Department of Transportation (DDOT)

Contact: Kelly Jeong-Olson, DDOT Ward 5 liaison: Kelly.Jeong-Olson1@dc.gov