



March 2021 Virtual Meeting Highlights & Next Steps

March 8, 2021

Decisions Taken

- The ECA will submit a letter advocating for funding of a DCPL Library in Eckington, Edgewood, or Stronghold. Members approved the [draft letter](#), which may be slightly revised in consultation with civic associations in Edgewood and Stronghold.

What You Can Do To Help!

- The ECA is looking for volunteers to assist in coordinating events, sponsors, and participants for Eckington Day 2021. Eckington Day has historically been a weekend event where neighborhood businesses, non-profits, and others can “show and tell.” Members expressed interest in featuring informational tables, live music, food vendors, and possible prizes. Outreach should include potential business sponsors and participants, local community organizations, the local arts community, student organizations, and residents. Please [sign up to help plan Eckington day here](#).
- ECA is planning a Public Safety Strategy Forum for late March to discuss strategies for reducing violence in the neighborhood. If you are a concerned resident and willing to spend a little time brainstorming concerns and solutions with us, please [sign up here](#).

ECA Updates

- Two April 22 hearings will examine proposed map amendments to rezone [a number of properties along Rhode Island Avenue NE](#) between 5th Avenue NE and the Metropolitan Branch Trail. One hearing will review a map amendment from Jair Lynch/LDP Acquisitions for mixed-use development. The city is proposing a separate amendment pertaining to 2255 5th Street NE (currently DC Engine 12).
- Murder Free DC Truxton/Eckington has begun a second year of its [Violence Interruption Program](#), with new parent organization [Cure the Streets](#). With funding from the DC Attorney General’s office, the program identifies and engages with individuals who are at high risk for involvement with violence in order to reduce their risk factors and connect these individuals with needed services, such as housing, counseling, and employment assistance.
- The ECA shared [updated banner designs](#) for Eckington Place and Harry Thomas Way.
- We are still considering commenting on the [Draft Environmental Impact Statement](#) regarding the Washington to Baltimore Maglev--especially opposing any impacts to Tanner Park. We are in touch with NoMA BID/Parks to coordinate.
- Do any places in Eckington need bike racks? DDOT has a bunch, so please submit 311 requests if you see a location that could use one.

Other News & Updates

- Silas Grant, Constituent Analyst, Office of Ward 5 Councilmember Kenyan McDuffie, shared the following updates:
 - New Samaritan Baptist Church and FiveMedicine have come together to support vaccination and vaccine awareness in Wards 5, 7, and 8. FiveMedicine has an additional partnership with Learning Undefeated, which has mobile labs that go into communities to promote health awareness related to COVID, as well as other health issues. The hope for these partnerships is that folks will come to this site to get vaccinated and also receive other information to promote community health.
 - Councilmember McDuffie has released his 2021 budget request letter. It is expected that the Mayor will send the budget down on April 22.
 - Councilmember McDuffie recently held a series of meetings across the 5th district to hear requests and concerns. One common interest is to convene a discussion around long-term effects of COVID, as well as vaccination.
 - Councilmember McDuffie is also working on a social equity framework to complement the new cannabis legislation that will regulate cultivation, processing, and commercial sale of recreational cannabis in the city. Part of the social equity framework focuses on ensuring that Black Washingtonians who were targeted by the war on drugs can participate in the legal industry. A town hall about the comprehensive legislation and social equity framework will be convened in coming weeks.
 - Councilmember McDuffie recently posted a Washington Post op-ed: D.C.'s racial equity agenda demands action now.
- Nokomis Hunter, Ward 5 Liaison, Mayor Bowser's Office of Community Relations & Services, shared the following updates:
 - The city's vaccination registration system will switch over to a pre-registration system for vaccination appointments beginning on Wednesday (March 10). Individuals will be able to pre-register; as appointments are made available, those who are pre-registered and eligible will receive an email, phone call, and/or text message to alert them to their opportunity to make an appointment within 24 hours. Priority zip codes will continue to receive additional appointments. For more, and to pre-register, please visit vaccinate.dc.gov.
 - Several new sites available with Johnson & Johnson vaccines.
 - The city has launched a new gun violence prevention program called Building Blocks DC, which will target the 151 blocks in DC that represent about 2% of all the blocks in the District, but comprise 41% of violent offenses with shots fired. A short presentation of the program is available [here](#).

Upcoming Meetings & Events

- Saturday, March 6: [community cleanup with Eckington Parks & Arts](#)
- Saturday, March 20: [community cleanup with Eckington Parks & Arts](#)
- Saturday, April 3: [community cleanup with Eckington Parks & Arts](#)
- Monday, April 12: 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 (619) 956-6065

District Department of Transportation (DDOT)

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