



# May 2021 Virtual Meeting Highlights

May 10, 2021

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## What You Can Do to Help

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- Reinstatement of Eckington Amendments!
  - Eckington's proposed amendments to the Comprehensive Plan were proposed by the civic association in 2017, received support from ANC 5E in 2017 and 2020, and were adopted by Mayor Bowser's Office of Planning in May 2020.
  - Nevertheless, the Eckington Amendments were taken out of the Comprehensive Plan Act of 2021 by the D.C. Council in April 2021.
  - The Eckington Amendments would change the designation of industrial land that currently occupies a large amount of land in the eastern half of the neighborhood that is directly adjacent to the Metropolitan Branch Trail and the red line Metro stops. By changing the designation of this land from production, distribution and repair ("PDR") to "mixed use", our amendments would encourage and allow for more residential and commercial uses that would benefit Eckington by:
    - Offering opportunities to build new housing, especially affordable housing
    - Promoting environmental justice by encouraging property owners to phase-out sources of pollution like the asphalt plant and construction lots for diesel vehicles
    - Providing opportunities to expand city services and bring jobs and neighborhood-facing businesses to Eckington.
  - More information about Eckington's Comprehensive Plan Amendments:
    - [May 10 ECA Presentation](#)
    - Letters from [ECA to Chairman Mendelson](#) & [ECA to Councilmember McDuffie](#) (April 28, 2021)
    - Alex Baca, Shelley Vinyard, and Conor Shaw, [A Vision for an affordable and accessible Eckington deferred](#), *Greater Greater Washington* (May 5, 2021)
    - Jon Banister, [Council Giveth, Council Taketh Away From Housing Goals In Land Use Plan Vote](#), *Bisnow* (May 5, 2021)
  - **Please contact DC Councilmembers before May 18 to ask that they reinstate our amendments.**
    - Councilmember Kenyan McDuffie (Ward 5, representing Eckington) - Email: [kmcduffie@dccouncil.us](mailto:kmcduffie@dccouncil.us) | Phone: (202) 724-8028
      - On the call, Councilmember McDuffie indicated that he is not opposed to more housing but wants to ensure that new development promotes objectives of racial and economic inclusion. The ECA developed the Eckington Amendments with these objectives in mind and is hoping to work with the Councilmember to reinsert the Eckington Amendments with additional language to make these objectives more explicit.
    - D.C. Council Chair Phil Mendelson - Email: [pmendelson@dccouncil.us](mailto:pmendelson@dccouncil.us) | Phone: (202) 724-8032
      - On the call, Councilmember Mendelson indicated his concern that PDR-zoned land is diminishing and that the city needs land for warehouses, asphalt plants, etc. He argued that the city needs a study on the best use of PDR space. Civic association members made the point that PDR-zoned land is heavily located in Wards 5, 7, and 8 – which are composed of majority Black residents – and not in other parts of the city that have predominantly white residents. Industrial uses bring higher environmental and health burdens to residents and limit opportunities for our neighborhoods to benefit from more

affordable and Metro/bike path adjacent housing, neighborhood-facing businesses, and additional city services such as libraries. It is not racial, economic, or environmental justice to ask these neighborhoods to carry the burden for the city. Further, the proposed amendment of these parcels to mixed use zoning would not preclude industrial uses that are compatible with other businesses and housing.

- Councilmembers McDuffie and Mendelson are the most critical to reach, but DC's At-Large Councilmembers also serve all District Residents
  - Anita Bonds | [abonds@dccouncil.us](mailto:abonds@dccouncil.us); (202) 724-8064
  - Christina Henderson | [chenderson@dccouncil.us](mailto:chenderson@dccouncil.us); (202) 724-8105
  - Elissa Silverman | [esilverman@dccouncil.us](mailto:esilverman@dccouncil.us); (202)-724-7772
  - Robert C. White | [rwhite@dccouncil.us](mailto:rwhite@dccouncil.us); (202)-724-8174
- **Save the Date: Saturday, October 2, 2021** -- Eckington Day at Tanner Park

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## Upcoming Meetings & Events

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- Monday, May 17 at 6:30 pm: [DDOT presentation on latest Dave Thomas Circle plans](#)
- Saturday, May 22: [community cleanup with Eckington Parks & Arts](#)
- Tuesday, May 25 at 6pm: Second Eckington Day Planning Meeting (contact [eckingtoncivic@gmail.com](mailto:eckingtoncivic@gmail.com))
- Tuesday, May 26 at 7pm: Quarterly Eckington Parks & Arts Members Meeting
- Monday, June 14: Next ECA Meeting
- Saturday, October 2: Eckington Day (Tanner Park)

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## About the Eckington Civic Association

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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](https://twitter.com/EckingtonCivic)

Email: [eckingtoncivic@gmail.com](mailto:eckingtoncivic@gmail.com)

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

You can also follow us on NextDoor!

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## 2021 ECA Officers

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Conor Shaw, President

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

Neil Shah, Treasurer

Ben Colbert, Communications Director

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## Other contact information

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**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](https://twitter.com/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](mailto:5E03@anc.dc.gov) or Sylvia Pinkney ANC 5E04 (West Eckington) Commissioner: [5E04@anc.dc.gov](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:shgrant@dccouncil.us) or (202) 727-8274; Kelley Cislo, Constituent Services Director: [kcislo@dccouncil.us](mailto: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) 5<sup>th</sup> District**

Contacts: Call 911 for any emergencies. Otherwise, contact William Fitzgerald, 5th District Commander: [william.fitzgerald@dc.gov](mailto: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 5<sup>th</sup> District Citizens' Advisory Council: [chair@the5dcac.org](mailto:chair@the5dcac.org)

**Murder Free DC Violence Interruptors in Eckington/Truxton Circle**

Contact: Sean Magruder at [seanmagruder@murderfreedc.org](mailto: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](mailto:Kelly.Jeong-Olson1@dc.gov)