



District of Columbia Government
Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6A
PO Box 15020
Washington, DC 20003



November 20, 2022

Dr. Lewis D. Ferebee
Chancellor, District of Columbia Public Schools
1200 First Street, NE
Washington, DC 20002

Mr. Keith Anderson
Director, Department of General Services
2000 14th Street NW, 8th Floor
Washington, DC 20009

Re: ANC6A Support for Eastern HS Athletic Facilities Improvements

Dear Chancellor Ferebee and Director Anderson,

At a regularly scheduled and properly noticed meeting¹ on November 10, 2022, our Commission voted 7-0-0 to request urgent support for repairs and improvements to the athletic facilities at Eastern Senior High School, located at 1700 East Capitol Street, NE.

Eastern Senior High School, “the Pride of Capitol Hill” and one of the oldest continually operating schools in the District, is celebrating its centennial anniversary having been established in its present location in 1923. The campus was fully renovated between 2009 and 2010 as part of a revitalization project to preserve the classical building while simultaneously providing a modern learning environment that could accommodate up to 1,100 students. The reconstructed Eastern re-opened /in 2011.² Eastern is an anchor and constituent institution of our community and this Commission and at its heart the receiving “feeder pattern” high school for many of our Capitol Hill DCPS rising middle schoolers. It has come to our attention through the advocacy of faculty, students, and staff and through the input of our community members that there is an immediate need for a number of athletic facility repairs or replacements to be carried out at Eastern. It is also our understanding some of these items are longstanding requests which, if carried out, could appreciably improve safety or provide a more complete educational experience for students.

¹ANC 6A meetings are advertised electronically on anc-6a@googlegroups.com, and newhilleast@groups.io, at www.anc6a.org, on Twitter (@ANC6A) and through print advertisements in the Hill Rag.

²https://dgs.dc.gov/sites/default/files/dc/sites/dgs/page_content/attachments/July_2011_Monthly_Report.pdf

These items include:

- Reconstruction of the turf football field due to safety concerns as well as functional wear and age³;
- Repair of the malfunctioning football scoreboards (work order #710600);
- Repair of the malfunctioning football PA system (work order #723489)
- Re-setting of the crooked football goal posts;
- Replacement of a large number (~20) of burnt-out spotlights around the basketball and tennis courts;
- Repair and regrading to the baseball/softball field; and
- Replacement of deteriorating trash and recycling receptacles and dumpsters throughout the campus due to rodent and dumping issues. We recommend moving the dumpsters at 17th and A Streets NE inside the fence to reduce illegal dumping.

We are also including a copy of an October 17, 2022 letter from Ward 7 Councilmember Vincent Gray that details several other athletic- and building-related repairs that appear to be needed at Eastern, following a school visit with the Ward 7 State Board of Education Representative. We ask that you give the items on the Councilmember's expanded list similar priority consideration.

I can be contacted at 6A04@anc.dc.gov and Brian Alcorn, whose single-member district includes Eastern High School can be contacted at 6a08@anc.dc.gov should you have any questions.

On behalf of the Commission,



Amber Gove
Chair, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6A

Cc: The Honorable Robert C. White, Jr, At-Large Councilmember
The Honorable Vincent C. Gray, Ward 7 Councilmember
The Honorable Charles Allen, Ward 6 Councilmember
Ebony-Rose Thompson, Ward 7 State Board of Education Representative
Julia Irving, Director, Mayor's Office of Community Relations and Services (MOCRs)

³ We appreciate that DGS conducts and discloses the results of annual GMAX testing on fields it maintains to assess where maintenance may be required: <https://dgs.dc.gov/page/gmax-reports-2022>. Many sources point to a 10-12 year lifespan of a synthetic turf field. GMAX assessments conducted for Eastern High School show a field installation date of "unknown."