

**Minutes**  
**ANC 6A Community Outreach Committee (COC) of Advisory Neighborhood  
Commission (ANC) 6A**  
**Virtual Meeting via Zoom**  
**Regular Meeting - July 24, 2023**

Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm.

Quorum present.

COC members present: Adina Wadsworth (Chair), Gail Sullivan, Stephanie Myers, Elizabeth Corinth, Angelique Dorazio Sanders, Clare Dougherty

COC members absent: Kelsey Grimes, Jessica Clarke

Commissioners present: Robb Dooling, Roberta Shapiro, Mike Valasquez, Steve Moilanen

Panelists: Lieutenant Araz Alali, Metropolitan Police Department (MPD); Ward 6 Councilmember Charles Allen; Julia Irving, Office of Neighborhood Engagement and Safety, Executive Office of the Mayor (EOM)

**Discussion:**

Lieutenant Araz Alali started off the discussion detailing a closed case of armed robbery. He said police patrols focused on heavy crime areas (hot spots.)

Ward 6 Councilmember Charles Allen told the audience of fifty (50) community members that public safety is issue #1, and the Council is working closely with the Mayor's office in 3 main areas:

gun violence (which is up), robberies (armed, which is also up), and auto thefts/car-jackings. He spoke of efforts to intervene before there is a crime (focused deterrence) and listed the Emergency Crime Bill's major tenets:

- Holds adults and juveniles pre-trial for violent crimes;
- Private security camera rebate program expansion;
- Enables GPS records to be submitted as evidence at trial;
- Whole of government/focused deterrence approach;
- Changes in pursuit guidelines; and
- 911 call center assistance.

Julia Irving discussed the "Person of Promise" program that engages with vulnerable people who may commit violent crime or become victims of violent crime. The program works with Violence Interrupters, points enrollees towards social programs and Pathway programs. It is a 9-week journey that also offers family survivor support and access to the leadership academy. Graduates of the program are less likely to turn to crime.

**Committee/ANC Comments:**

Gail Sullivan asked if there is an age limit on juveniles to send to court. It varies and depends on charges. The United States Attorney's Office (USAO) decides charges.

Commissioner Steve Moilanen asked for an update on the case of Mr. Nasrat, the Lyft driver murdered on 11<sup>th</sup> Street NE. Progress is being made in the investigation, but the MPD is not able to discuss ongoing case.

Elizabeth Corinth asked how citizens can know about a crime as it is taking place. Community members are encouraged to check NextDoor and other listservs.

Community Questions/Comments:

Q: Can MPD stop cars with paper tags as those are usually stolen?

A: No, cannot stop for that reason alone.

Q: Why are youth recreation centers closing at 8:00 pm instead of 9:00 pm?

A: Will need to speak to the Department. of Parks and Recreation (DPR) and General Services

Q: Update on homicide near Chik-fil-a, open air drug markets at 8<sup>th</sup> and H Streets NE and the Starburst Plaza?

A: Crime suppression teams do address open air drug use, but gun violence is the top priority now.

Q: How can some streets (Wiley Street NE) get lighting?

A: The District Department of Transportation (DDOT) will need to address.

Q: Conviction rates are down. Why does the United States Attorney's Office (USAO) decline to charge, or "no paper" violent crimes?

A: Arrests are up, but sometimes there are multiple arrests associated with one firearm. Citizens are encouraged to reach out to the USAO to participate in the MPD's Citizens Advisory Council (CAC).

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.