



**GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**  
**Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2B**

December 21, 2016

Councilmember Mary Cheh  
Chair, Committee on Transportation and the Environment  
Council of the District of Columbia  
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Suite 108  
Washington, DC 20004  
[mcheh@dccouncil.us](mailto:mcheh@dccouncil.us)

RE: Proposal by the Downtown DC Public Restroom Initiative to Install and Maintain Clean, Safe Public Restrooms in Downtown DC

Dear Councilmember Cheh,

At its regular meeting on December 14, 2016, the Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission (“ANC 2B” or “Commission”) considered the above-referenced matter. With 9 of 9 Commissioners in attendance, a quorum at a duly-noticed public meeting, the Commission approved the following resolution by a vote of (7-0-1):

WHEREAS, many individuals need access to clean, safe, available public restrooms, including tourists, families with young children, women who are pregnant, the elderly, individuals with bowel incontinence, and people without housing,

WHEREAS, a study conducted by the People for Fairness Coalition (PFC) revealed that there are very few public restrooms in downtown Washington, DC, some establishments do not allow people to use restrooms unless they first purchase something, and in most downtown neighborhoods there are no restrooms available late at night or early in the morning,

WHEREAS, most capital cities in Europe and Asia have clean, safe public restrooms that are easily accessible at any time of night or day, while this is not the case in our Nation’s Capital,

WHEREAS, a number of large cities in the U.S. have begun to experiment with a variety of restroom options, including self-cleaning restrooms, restrooms with attendants, and the Portland, Oregon Loo, a 24-hour sustainable public restroom, while in London there is a government program that provides incentives to private establishments if they put up signs indicating their restroom is open to all, and

WHEREAS, if a person cannot find a restroom in DC and has no other option than to relieve themselves in a public space, the penalty is a ticket of up to \$500 or a jail term up to 90 days.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2B asks the DC government to explore and identify options for installing and maintaining clean, safe public restrooms available 24/7 in needed areas of downtown DC.

Commissioner Nicole Mann ([nicole.mann@dupontcircleanc.net](mailto:nicole.mann@dupontcircleanc.net)) is the Commission's representative in this matter.

ON BEHALF OF THE COMMISSION.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nicole Mann", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Nicole Mann  
Chair