CLEVELAND PARK
SMART GROWTH

2020 ANC Candidate Questionnaire

Thank you for running for Advisory Neighborhood Commissioner! ANCs play a key role in our neighborhoods and we are fortunate for those of you willing to dedicate volunteer service to making our communities better. This year, Cleveland Park Smart Growth is asking all candidates running in ANCs 3C and 3F to respond to our Candidate Questionnaire below. We will publish your responses on our website so voters can learn more about you.

There is no space limit to your responses so use as much space as you need under each question. Please use this document to enter your responses, save it with you last name in file name, and return it (ideally as a PDF) via email to cpsmartgrowth@gmail.com by **5pm on October 5th**.

Name: **Stan Wall**
SMD: **ANC 3F 04**

1)   As you may know, DDOT is studying the future operations of Connecticut Ave from Chevy Chase through Woodley Park. As an ANC Commissioner, what would your priorities be for the future configuration of Connecticut Ave?

As a cyclist myself (for recreation, fitness, and commuting on occasion) I would be extremely happy for the community to have a dedicated, safe, direct bicycle connecting the communities along the Connecticut Ave corridor. I would personally use such new facilities to enable a safer commute by bike from my home in the Van Ness area to my office near McPherson Square.

I believe that reallocation of a car lane is reasonable enable provision of this new infrastructure. Given the fact that Metrorail runs directly below Connecticut Ave for much of its length, reallocating a lane from cars to bike use could have the additional positive benefit of directing some drivers to shift to Metrorail.

I do, however, think that some degree of off-peak parking needs to be maintained in any scenario to mitigate potential negative impacts to the commercial corridors along Connecticut Avenue. However, in any scenario, first priority should be on truly protecting the bike lane from being blocked/impeded by parking or deliveries.

2)   What policies should the city pursue that you would support as an ANC Commissioner to help reduce car-dependency?

Potential examples could include (but not be limited to) the following:
-   **Continuing to invest in safer infrastructure for biking and walking**
-   **Continuing to invest in expand bikeshare and other human-powered mobility**
-   **Ensuring that existing infrastructure is fully maintained and accessible (i.e. trimming back hedges intruding on sidewalks, fixing broken or impassable sidewalks, ensuring curb cuts are accessible, re-striping crosswalks, etc.)**
-   **Shifting balance and prioritization away from moving high volumes of cars to enabling safe passage of pedestrians and bicycles; such as adjusting traffic signal timing to provide adequate crossing times and reduced wait times for pedestrians.**
-   **Providing ongoing support to WMATA to enable the agency to maintain/expand rail and bus services along the Connecticut Avenue corridor.**
-   **Exploring new/expanded incentives to support community-oriented retail and services to minimize the distance that people residents need to travel for basic/routine needs (Paris Mayor Anne Hidalgo's 15-Minute City initiative is an interesting example worth exploring)**

3)   Should this part of the city be contributing more new housing as the city grows?   Why?

Yes. Doing so helps enables people of all incomes to live in area that has a significant base of amenities and proximity/access to job centers along the Red Line corridor.   Further, welcoming new residents would bring the additional the benefit of providing an increased base of customers to help bring more vibrancy to the existing retail/commercial corridors along Connecticut Ave. And finally, adding new housing and new residents helps to continue to shore up the City's fiscal condition and provide funding for those services and amenities and investments a great place to live for current residents as well as any new residents.

3a)   If yes, what are some of the ways in which your Single Member District and your broader Advisory Neighborhood Commission area can add housing?

There remain a number of single-use, 1- or 2-story commercial properties on Connecticut Avenue near the Metro Station, including the former Walgreens, the strip of shops including Golds Gym, the parking lot next to Day's Inn, and others. Given the immediate proximity of the properties to the Metrorail Station, they could be ideal candidates for redevelopment into residential/retail mixed-use projects.

4)   ANC 3C includes the Woodley Park Historic District and most of the Cleveland Park Historic District, while 3F includes part of the Cleveland Park HD (Sedgwick & Tilden Gardens).

How will you approach Historic Preservation applications in your SMD (if applicable) and in your ANC generally?

Without having any specific cases to refer to, I would approach Historic Preservation applications in a manner that balances understanding what specific aspects of a building or area is under threat, understanding of who is making the nomination and why, ensuring that such applications aren't being pursued purely to impede projects that would benefit the communities, weighing the pros/cons of a nomination to the broader community, and ensuring that applications don't intentionally or unintentionally result in the exclusion of any segment of people from having an opportunity to live in the community.

5)   What steps would you take to make your ANC more transparent, inclusive and engaged with your community?

I would want to make sure that residents are aware that the ANC exists and aware of what the ANC can do provide support, assistance, or advocacy. Toward this goal, I want to make sure that the ANC's online presence is both robust as well as well-maintained with current information about issues facing the community and, most importantly, what specific actions the ANC is taking to address those issues.

While I look forward to the ability to convene in person meetings in the future when it's safe to do, I actually believe that there could be a place for keepings some form of virtual meetings on a permanent basis. Such meetings may enable those who aren't mobile to better participate and engage in ANC issues. Further, the use of such technology can better ensure that all voices have a chance to be heard and that louder voices don't dominate or drown out others.

6)   What else do you want neighbors to know about you and why you are running to represent them?

Van Ness / Forest Hills has a combination of tremendous access to Rock Creek Park, a Metrorail station, and a walkable main street.   I look forward to working with my future ANC 3F colleagues, along with the City, UDC, Van Ness Main St. and other stakeholders to advance strategies to better activate and revitalize the commercial district that sits at the heart of our community including making Connecticut Avenue safe for bicyclists and exploring opportunities to attract new residents to better support our retail district.

Use as much space as needed in your responses. Please save your responses to PDF format, include your last name in the file name, and email to cpsmartgrowth@gmail.com by 5pm, October 5th. Thank you!

About Cleveland Park Smart Growth
CP Smart Growth is a community of over 500 Cleveland Park-area residents who share an interest in promoting and discussing urbanist issues. Our mission is to advance smart growth policies in Cleveland Park to ensure an economically vibrant, environmentally sustainable, and socially inclusive neighborhood. We do this through education, organizing, and advocacy.

Learn more at cpsmartgrowth.com