



January 17, 2021

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(Sent via email and resolutions.anc.dc.gov)

Mayor Bowser and Members of the Council of the District of Columbia,

At a regularly scheduled, properly noticed meeting on January 11, 2022, with a quorum present Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) 6B voted 6 in favor and 4 opposed to write to you to support additional funding for the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD).

MPD currently has approximately 3,550 officers – the lowest in more than two decades. Last year, an \$11 million emergency appropriation request was sent to the DC Council to allow for the hiring and training of 20 additional officers in FY21 and 150 additional officers in FY22. Sadly, the DC Council only funded \$5 million to support only half the number of officers called for in your plan.

While the number of MPD officers is at an all-time low, violent crime has increased significantly in Washington, DC. In three short weeks in October 2021, three men were murdered on Capitol Hill, one at an elementary school playground. In December, an unprovoked incident occurred when a mother was viciously shoved to the ground while walking with her young child near Eastern Market, resulting in lost teeth. Mere days before Christmas, a father was deliberately hit with a brick resulting in eight staples to his head and then watched helplessly as his eleven-month-old daughter was brutally assaulted, leaving her with nineteen stitches stretching from her chin to her forehead and fracturing two orbital bones. She almost lost an eye and is still undergoing tests to rule out potential brain damage. Right before our January ANC meeting there was a shootout between two



suspects on the corner on the 500 block of 11th Street SE. While one of the shooters turned up at an area hospital with a gunshot wound to his leg, the other shooter is still at large.

MPD officers are valuable members of the Capitol Hill community and their ranks are at an all-time low. The depletion of our MPD resources is having a direct impact on the uptick in crime in every Ward in DC. Current MPD resources are overworked and stretched thin. This is not sustainable. MPD investigates crimes including murder, rape, armed carjacking, robberies, and assaults and ANC6B supports Mayor Bowers request to add MPD officers to our streets.

According to the revised revenue estimates from the Office of Chief Financial Officer (OCFO) raising DC revenue by a quarter of a Billion Dollars, there is now funding to easily cover these costs without any detriment to other programs such as the Violence Interrupter Program. In the interim we would like to see more bicycle police officers on our streets. They proved to be an effective deterrent in the past, and because of the cut funding from the DC Council, this highly successful program was put on hold. Simply put, MPD needs additional funding now to increase their ranks and put back in place many of the community policing programs that were cut as a result of lack of funding and resources.

Please contact Chairperson Corey Holman at 6B06@anc.dc.gov or 301-664-4132 if you have any questions about this letter.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Corey Holman". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Corey Holman
Chair, ANC 6B