RESOLUTION SUPPORTING SURPLUS OF SQUARE 2890; LOT 0894
(FORMER BRUCE-MONROE SCHOOL SITE)

WHEREAS; The Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development (DMPED) provided public notice of the District's intent to surplus Square 2890, Lot 0894, on February 19, 2016; which was followed by a public meeting on March 21, 2016, to receive public comments on the proposed surplus.

WHEREAS; Advisory Neighborhood Commissions 1A and 1B held a joint meeting on March 30, 2016, focused solely on the issue of the surplus and disposition of the Site;

WHEREAS; The property formerly supported the Bruce Monroe Elementary School, which was consolidated with Park View Elementary and relocated to Warder Street at the end of the 2008 school year. The former school building was razed in 2009-2010 and Mayor Gray stated on May 6, 2014, at the Ward 1 Budget Town Hall meeting that the District has no intention of building a new school on the Site.

WHEREAS; The property is currently controlled by DMPED and all other District agencies have determined that the property is unneeded for operation;

WHEREAS; The District proposed to convert the Site into a temporary parking lot in 2010, but instead developed a portion of the Site to support “temporary urbanism” in the form of open green space, ball courts, and a community garden until such time as the property would be developed;

WHEREAS; The District informed the Park Morton Steering Committee of its intent to use Square 2890; Lot 0894 as the “Build First” site in the New Communities Initiatives - Park Morton redevelopment effort on October 14, 2015;

WHEREAS; DMPED Deputy Mayor Brian T. Kenner issued an open letter on November 23, 2015, providing information related to the selection of the Site for the Park Morton Development, outlining next steps for community engagement, and stating that any redevelopment of the Site would include public green or recreational space similar current uses;

WHEREAS; The results of ANC 1A’s Bruce Monroe Site Community Survey (acknowledging its limitations) indicated that 1) publicly accessible green space (i.e. park space, recreation space, community garden, etc.) is highly valued by the community, and 2) there is significant support for half of the Site being something other than a park or recreation site;

WHEREAS; Members of the 700 Hobart-Columbia-Harvard yahoogroup, a neighborhood block group on the south-side of the property, have voiced opposition to the redevelopment and support for maintaining a green space;

WHEREAS; There have been no fewer than 24 public meetings at which the redevelopment of Park Morton and future use of Square 2890; Lot 0849 have been discussed; and,

WHEREAS; The Code of the District of Columbia § 10-801 (a)(1) states that “… the Mayor is authorized and empowered, in [their] discretion, for the best interests of the District of Columbia ("District"), and with the approval of the Council by resolution, to sell, convey, lease (inclusive of options) for a period of greater than 20 years, exchange, or otherwise dispose of real property, in whole or in part, now or hereafter owned in fee simple by the District, whether purchased with appropriated, grant, or other funds, the proceeds of general obligation bonds or tax revenue anticipation notes issued by the District government, or United States Treasury Notes, or obtained by any other means including exchange,
condemnation, eminent domain, gift, dedication, donation, devise or assignment, for municipal, community development, or other public purpose, which the Council finds to be no longer required for public purposes”.

**Therefore, be it resolved that:** Advisory Neighborhood Commission 1B supports the District’s surplus of Square 2890; Lot 0849 with the understanding that:

1. the Commission will consider the Disposition and Planned Unit Development aspects of the property as separate issues at subsequent meetings respectively;
2. the future use of the site must result in a large public green space consisting of half of the developed property. Furthermore, the resulting green space must serve the entire community, and outreach efforts must be inclusive of all residents;
3. the companion redevelopment property at Georgia Avenue and Morton Street, known as Park Morton, shall also have open green space serving the entire community;
4. the redevelopment of the space should maximize the opportunity to excavate and use the space for additional parking for immediate neighborhood residents, explore windowed office or community space below the green space area, use of green roofs, alternative energy production and storage, increased noise abatement construction, and water management options;
5. the resulting green space must be protected in perpetuity to dedicated recreational uses. The Commission is flexible to how the District acts in this regard – it could retain partial ownership of the lot or establishing a covenant that runs with the land restricting use of the green space to recreation purposes – but the Commission is resolved that this protection must be established.

**And be it finally resolved that:** The Chair or any Commissioner as delegate of the Chair, shall be authorized to communicate this resolution to DMPED and testify before the members of the Council of the District of Columbia.

### Certification:

After providing sufficient notice for and with a quorum of 9 Commissioners present at its April 7, 2016, meeting, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 1B voted, with 9 Yeas, 0 Nays, and 0 Abstentions, to adopt the above resolution.

James A. Turner  
Chair ANC 1B, Commissioner SMD 1B09

LaKisha Brown  
Secretary ANC 1B, Commissioner SMD 1B04