



CAG

CITIZENS ASSOCIATION OF GEORGETOWN

Newsletter

SUMMER 2018

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CAG KICKS OFF SUMMER WITH CONCERT AT ROSE PARK JULY 15TH!

With the monsoon-like weather that forced the cancellation of the June 4th concert (hopefully) behind us, CAG and the Concerts in the Parks committee look forward to seeing friends and neighbors at Rose Park on Sunday, July 15th, 5:30-7pm for our first (and only!) concert of the season. Sponsored by CAG community partner Compass, it will feature the southern rock band EP Jackson and The Last Well. We'll have treats and activities for the whole family, including free Sprinkles cupcakes and Häagen-Dazs ice cream. Order a picnic dinner from Via Umbria and pick it up at the concert, or rock the BBQ at the Rocklands food truck. Bring your blanket, neighbors and friends for a great community event.

CAG's Concerts in the Parks, everyone's favorite summer concert series that is free and open to the public in Georgetown's beautiful parks, is made possible thanks to the generosity of our loyal sponsors and the dedication of our hard-working Chairs: Amy Looney, Erin Mullen and Erin Sobanski and their equally dedicated committee: Jennifer Axmacher, Renee Esfandiary, Jessica Heywood, Azali Kassum, Michelle Korsmo, Amy Kuhnert, Elizabeth Miller, Tina Nadler, Ginny Poole, and Trish Yan.

See cagtown.org/concerts and facebook.com/georgetowncitizens for Concerts information and updates.



COMPASS



John D. Richardson



2018 ANNUAL MEETING, COMMUNITY AWARDS AND ELECTIONS

Despite the heavy rainfall, nearly one hundred friends and neighbors joined CAG at Dumbarton House to honor community leaders, elect a new Board and Directors and celebrate CAG's accomplishments in 2017 at our May 22nd Annual Meeting. Outgoing Board President Bob

vom Eigen welcomed the community, gave opening remarks and thanked the board and committee chairs before yielding the floor to Ward 2 Councilman Jack Evans.

Evans spoke on the important work he has accomplished for Georgetown and the greater D.C. area, lightheartedly reminding residents that if elected for another term he would become the longest serving municipal official in D.C. The Honorable Eleanor Holmes Norton took the podium to discuss legislation she has gotten passed by a historically divided Congress, vowing to focus on reducing aircraft noise over Georgetown by continuing her work on the Quiet Skies Caucus endeavoring to reduce airplane noise nationwide.

Public Safety Committee Chair John Rentzepis reminded attendees about the importance of volunteer block captains

to the Public Safety Program. Historic Preservation and Zoning Committee Chair Elsa Santoyo updated residents on potential changes coming in 2018, including brighter street lamps and new "small cell" cellphone equipment in public space. Bob Laycock spoke for Trees for Georgetown with a reminder to water street trees weekly during the dry summer months. CAG's General Council Richard Hinds provided residents with an excellent summary of the challenges facing the DC Fair Skies Coalition in the coming months. The current court case is not expected to overturn the original ruling, but the efforts of the Fair Skies Coalition have been an essential challenge to the national issue of excessive airplane noise.

See page 8 for continued coverage of the 2018 Annual Meeting.



CAG President Pam Moore

“GOODNESS IS THE ONLY INVESTMENT THAT NEVER FAILS.”

- Henry David Thoreau

As a leader in Georgetown’s real estate community, our firm proudly supports the Georgetown community. We are proud to sponsor the following events and organizations:

Citizens Association of Georgetown
Concerts in the Park
Dumbarton Oaks Park Conservancy
Friends of Book Hill Park Reception
Friends of Montrose Park
Friends of Rose Park

Friends of Volta Park
Georgetown House Tour (St. John’s)
Georgetown Jingle
(Georgetown University Hospital)
Hyde-Addison Elementary School Gala
Tudor Place



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President's LETTER

Dear CAG Community,
If you have lived in Georgetown for a while and, particularly if you are a member of CAG, my name might be familiar. I had the privilege of serving as CAG's president from 2013-2015. In May of this year I was again elected president.

From 2015 to 2018, the organization had the benefit of Bob vom Eigen's leadership. All of us thank him for his care and attention in keeping the organization on a strong track to meet our mission of preserving the historic character, quality of life and aesthetic values of Georgetown.

The big news this month is the strong board that is now in place. Our officers are Cheryl Gray, vice president; Jerry Libin, treasurer; and Tara Sakraida Parker, secretary. The board welcomes Jennie Buehler and welcomes back Cookie Cruse, Jennifer Romm, John Rentzepis, Florence Auld, Elsa Santoyo, Topher Mathews and Hazel Denton, as well as General Counsel, Richard deC. Hinds.

However, along with looking forward to working with this talented board, we say good bye to some dear friends who have given so much to CAG – Victoria Rixey, Barbara Downs, John Richardson and Hannah Isles. Fortunately for us, a CAG Advisory Board will be in place to capture their expertise.

As a community resource available to residents, the business community, the DC government and university students, CAG plays a key role in educating, informing and finding solutions that benefit our historic district. The organization needs and wants your participation. We have committees that will welcome you in whatever capacity you wish. In newsletters to follow, we will highlight the work of each committee. Until then, please go to our web site www.cagtown.org and see where you want to serve.

This issue of the newsletter welcomes summer. Read a book in your garden, take a cup of coffee to a park on a cool morning, fill your kitchen with fruit, vegetables and



flowers from our neighborhood farmer's markets, call on a new neighbor and introduce yourself, make sure the trees in front of your home have plenty of water, and frequent the stores and restaurants on and off M Street and Wisconsin.

And don't forget the CAG Concerts in the Park at Rose Park July 15th.

Sincerely,
Pam Moore

THANKING FORMER CAG PRESIDENT BOB VOM EIGEN



The Citizens Association of Georgetown would like to thank our past president Bob vom Eigen who has been a strong community leader before and after becoming CAG's president in 2015. Bob championed community projects such as the West Heating Plant and was instrumental in the formation of the DC Fair Skies Coalition, advocating to add our voice to the growing chorus of requests for a Georgetown free of airplane noise. Bob will stay on the Board and will be an essential voice directing the needs and operations of CAG for years to come.

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REMEMBERING BETSY COOLEY

1945-2018

Betsy McGregor Cooley, a Washington artist who served as Executive Director of the Georgetown Citizens Association from 2002 until her retirement in 2016, died peacefully at her home on April 25. She was 73. The cause was brain cancer.

Betsy was born in Indiana, Pennsylvania, the daughter of Jane and Paul McGregor. She graduated from Chatham College in 1966, after which she worked at the Peace Corps central office in Washington, DC. In 1968, she taught English at Thammasat University in Bangkok, Thailand, and returned home to earn a Masters Degree in Counseling at the University of Maryland in 1971.

Betsy helped launch the Federal Women's Program for the Civil Service Commission in the early 1970's. She continued her work on women's issues with Wider Opportunities for Women, a non-profit organization. In 1982, she established a fabric design business, Brushworks, creating tabletop linens for high-end boutiques throughout the United States.



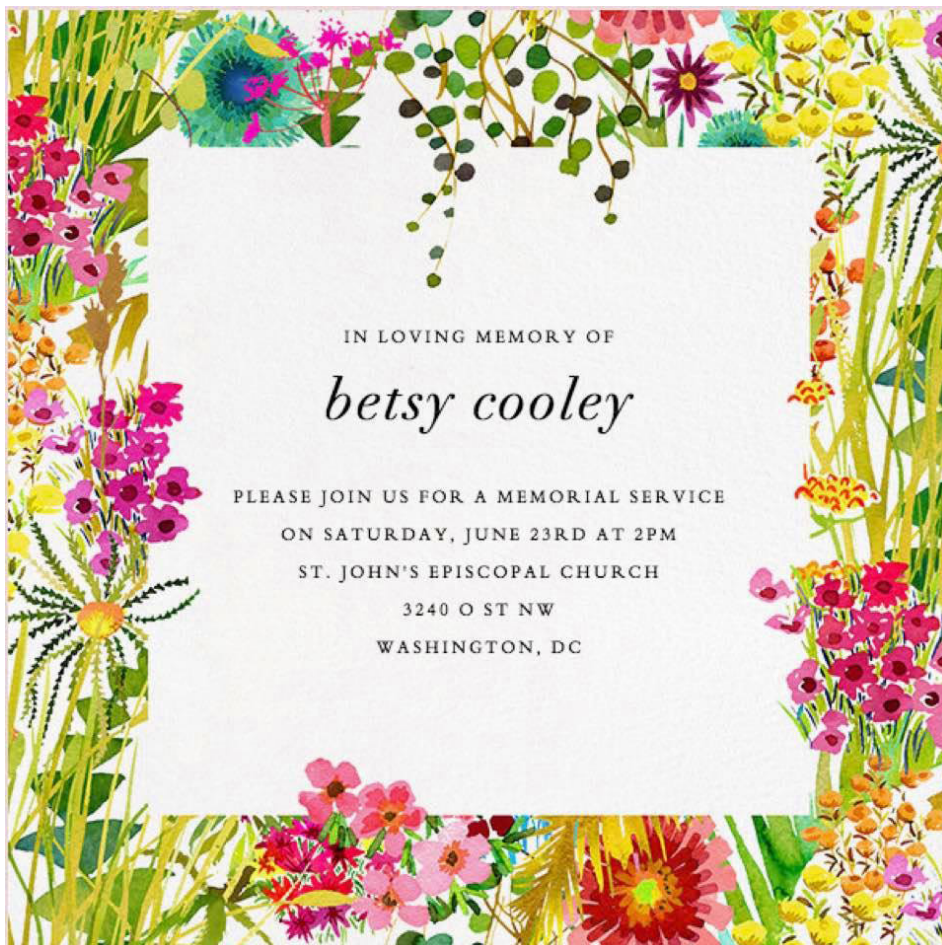
In 2002, Betsy became Executive Director of the Citizens Association of Georgetown, expanding the scope of the organization's events and initiatives.

Betsy Cooley was a skilled artist, and exhibited her Plein Air works at the Yellow Barn Studio and Gallery in Glen Echo, Maryland.

She is survived by two daughters, Alison Hall Cooley of Easton, Maryland and Meredith McGregor Cooley, of Exeter, New Hampshire, and three grandchildren, Finley Simons, Gustav Mertz and Giselle (Gigi) Mertz. She is also survived by her sisters, Judy McGregor Bollinger of Alexandria, Virginia and Naples, Florida and Kathryn McGregor of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

A memorial celebration of Betsy's life will be held at 2 p.m. on June 23rd at St. John's Episcopal Church in Georgetown. Please join us in wearing Betsy's favorite colors, lime and coral, to celebrate her shining spirit.

The family requests that in lieu of flowers, donations be sent to the Betsy McGregor Cooley '66 Memorial Scholarship Fund, Office of Advancement, Chatham University, Woodland Road, Pittsburgh PA, 15232.



EcoTip

SIMPLE THOUGHTS

Replace disposables wherever possible with reusable ones, (i.e. razor, food storage, paper napkins and towels, plastic straws, batteries, ink cartridges (buy refill ink), coffee filters, furnace filters, etc.). In the words of Dr. Seuss: "Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better. It's not!"

— LEE CHILD
Georgetown Garden Club

RECOLLECTIONS OF GEORGETOWN: CAG ORAL HISTORY PANEL A GREAT SUCCESS

On Thursday, April 26th the City Tavern Club hosted CAG's annual Recollections of Georgetown Oral History panel discussion. Tom Birch, a former Oral History participant and retired ANC Commissioner, moderated a fascinating discussion with panelists Edith Schafer, Gunther Stern, and Keith Lipert. A large crowd of friends, family and neighbors gathered in celebration of significant Georgetowners who shared their vivid memories and timeless stories of our wonderful community.

Edith Schafer, a long time Georgetown resident and CAG newsletter contributor, set the room alight with laughter with her light-hearted stories about raging cocktail parties of

decades past. Gunther Stern, recently retired as Director of the Georgetown Ministry Center and Georgetowneer of the Year, shared his deep understanding of homelessness in Georgetown and spoke about the importance of including our homeless neighbors into the greater Georgetown community. Keith Lipert, proprietor of the well-known fashion boutique on M Street, shared heartfelt stories of his experiences in the Georgetown business community, including an amusing anecdote about the time he sought professional advice from the former Secretary of State Madeleine Albright for his son's middle school essay.

The Oral History project had an extremely active fall collecting and recording a "living" history as seen through the eyes of Georgetown residents. Thank you to residents Carey Rivers, Janet Kandel, Richard Christal, Hazel Denton, Samantha

Herrell, Tom Birch, and Henry Courtney for interviewing the panelists and several of our neighbors: Richard Hinds, long-serving General Counsel of CAG; Neville Waters, 5th generation Georgetowneer, currently active in the restoration of Mount Zion Cemetery; Ambassador Dayton Mak (recently deceased), a centenarian career diplomat and long-time resident of Georgetown, and Chris Addison, a tireless promoter of the arts community of Georgetown and founder of one of the oldest art galleries in Georgetown, the Addison/Ripley Fine Art Gallery.

Many thanks to The City Tavern Club for generously providing refreshments as well as the historic venue.

For more information on the Oral History Program and to view all archived interviews visit www.cagtown.org/oralhistory.



Tom Birch



Gunther Stern, Edith Schafer, Keith Lipert



Edith Schafer, Oral History Chair Cathy Farrell, Keith Lipert, Gunther Stern

OH TO BE IN GEORGETOWN

V V Harrison

Oh To be in Georgetown
Oh To be in Georgetown
now that summers here.
To see the green emerge again,
To feel the sun's embrace.
To watch the parks fill up with kids,
and dogs and baseball games.

To hear the sweet birds singing as they
Nestle in the trees, and smell the rain-
soaked grass when it's lifted by the breeze.
To watch the silent flowers grow in gardens
Deep and small, to catch the summer shadows,
As the dusk begins to fall. To walk along the
Old Canal, eat supper out of doors, smell
Charcoal on the grill next door....
All of this is ours, and more

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THE ONGOING SAGA OF THE WEST HEATING PLANT: WHEN REJECTION MEANS PROGRESS

Walter Groszyk

On April 26, 2018, after a hearing that lasted well over three hours, the District's Historic Preservation Review Board (HPRB) voted that the proposed demolition of the West Heating Plant (WHP) would be inconsistent with the District's historic preservation law.

So how does this "rejection" equate with progress for this proposed re-development?

Under DC law, the West Heating Plant is characterized as a contributing building in a historic district. Demolition of such a building is prohibited.

Unless.

--unless the Mayor's Agent makes an exception, and allows a demolition to proceed because the proposed project meets one or more criteria set out in the law. Under the law, only the Mayor's Agent can make such a determination. The HPRB's finding and

vote can be characterized as a bit of procedural quirkiness in the historic preservation law; i.e., one can't get to the Mayor's Agent and a public hearing without a "no" vote by the HPRB.

At the Mayor's Agent's public hearing on the proposed demolition, proponents and opponents of the demolition testify or provide statements. The public hearing is conducted under the District's Administrative Procedures Act, and is a more formal, legal-type review than the previous hearings and reviews of the WHP by several Federal and District agencies.

The Mayor's Agent public hearing is scheduled for mid-July

At the April 26th hearing, the board also voted approval of three recommendations in the DC Historic Preservation Office's staff report, and voted not to approve two other recommendations.

The three approved recommendations will be

complemented by specific, often detailed suggestions offered by various Board members with respect to the proposed design. Generally, there was consensus that the owner, if possible, should try to preserve more of the building. There was also consensus that because a detailed assessment of the plant's condition has not yet been done, the practicality of preserving more of the plant cannot be presently determined. The full record of the HPRB comments and suggestions will be provided to the Mayor's Agent.

Bob vom Eigen and Victoria Rixey, representing CAG, testified in support of the development and the proposed design. The ANC, several other Georgetown-based community groups, and a number of Georgetown residents spoke in favor of the development. The DC Preservation League, the Committee of 100 on the Federal City, and the Art Deco Society of Washington spoke in opposition to the proposed demolition.

Stay tuned.

Garden Tour Draws Record Crowds

Victoria Rixey, Co-Chair, Georgetown Garden Tour 2018

The 90th Annual Georgetown Garden Tour was held Saturday, May 12th on a glorious spring day. More than 1,200 visitors toured eight very special gardens, six in the West Village, and two in the East. Organized by the Georgetown Garden Club, the tour provides visitors access to private gardens that otherwise are not open to the public. Prospect House, at 35th and Prospect Street was on the tour for the first time ever, as was Marbury House on N Street. Marbury House was the former house of John and Jackie Kennedy, and the home they left when they moved to the White House in 1961.

The Georgetown Garden Tour included refreshments at Christ Church, which this year showcased a choral recital and flower show in the

sanctuary. A boutique organized by garden club members in the church courtyard featured microgreens grown for the event.

A patron party honoring the eight garden owners was held at the home of the Honorable C. Boyden Gray on May 9th. Attendees enjoyed the elegant home, lush garden and wonderful food from Design Cuisine.

Next year's tour will be held Saturday, May 11th. For more information visit the Club's website at www.georgetowngardenclubdc.org, or to be added to the invitation list for the Patron Party, please email us at georgetowngardentour@gmail.com. All proceeds from the tour and patron party are returned to the greening of Georgetown through grants. Past recipients include Rose Park, Volta Park, Montrose Park, Book Hill Park, the Georgetown Waterfront Park, Tudor Place, Trees for Georgetown, and more.

JULIA DIAZ-ASPER

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ASPECTS OF GEORGETOWN

Edith Schafer

So many thoughts about Georgetown, some of which got aired at the panel discussion, some not. The French have an expression “l’esprit de l’escalier,” which translates as thoughts from the stairs as you leave an event, or even more loosely translated, regrets at amusing things forgotten or left unsaid. These can be painful, all those opportunities missed, so much cleverness gone to waste.

Moving right along: the recent panel dis-

cussion was fun for the panelists and informative for the audience. Gunther Stern talked about the problem of homelessness. If you have been reading the newspapers you are aware that it is not getting any better across the country. Keith Lipert talked about retailing woes, particularly as seen in the empty stores in Georgetown. That too is being talked about everywhere. I confessed that initially I wanted to move out of Georgetown, but I soon saw the light and decided to immerse myself in life in our little historic district instead. Whew! That was a close call. (I might still be on the

GW Parkway if we had moved to Virginia.)

Kudos for DC in general and Georgetown in particular. There is a lot going on. We had the French Market, which everybody enjoys. We have popup stores galore. Too many? Lending a feeling of impermanence. . . the sands shifting uneasily under our feet.

Finally, if you need to be in touch with the zeitgeist, there is the Burning Man show at the Renwick. Wow, that will get your attention! Wrap your head around any of its concepts and avoid FOMO. (Fear of Missing Out.)

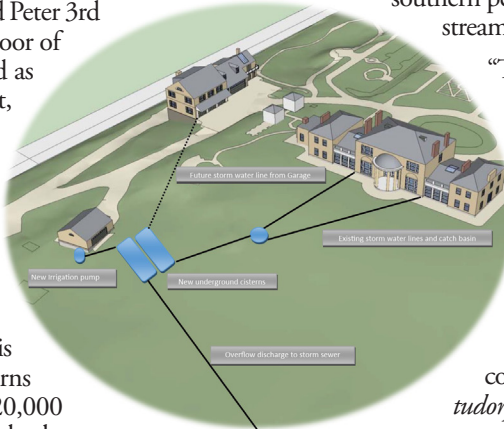
TUDOR PLACE IS SAVING WATER ONE RAINDROP AT A TIME

Mark Hudson, Tudor Place Executive Director

In his 1969 book, *Tudor Place*, Armistead Peter 3rd described a cistern that lay beneath the floor of the house’s kitchen: “This water was used as the entire supply for the house and, in fact, many, many years ago, at the time of a shortage in Georgetown, many people in Georgetown came here for their water until the regular supply was put back into service.” Capturing rainwater from Tudor Place’s gutters and downspouts, therefore, is nothing new.

This summer, Tudor Place will revive this practice with the installation of two cisterns in the South Lawn that will hold up to 20,000 gallons of rainwater from the roof of the house.

The water in the cistern will then be available to irrigate the lawn and adjacent plantings. The project will reduce erosion from the site’s southern perimeter, keeping runoff and sediment out of nearby streams, while also saving thousands of gallons of water.



“The project reflects our larger commitment to site-wide and global sustainability that includes energy conservation, native plant restoration, composting of yard waste, and beekeeping,” said Tudor Place Executive Director Mark Hudson. “It aligns well with our primary mission as stewards of a nationally significant historic landmark and provides opportunities to share these ideals with the public,” he added.

To learn more about Tudor Place’s sustainability efforts and the South Lawn Cistern project, please contact Mark Hudson at mhudson@tudorplace.org or tudorplace.org/third-century/restore-the-historic-landscape.



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STAY SAFE THIS SUMMER WITH CAG'S TIPS AND TRICKS

Jacob Schmidt

Summer is right around the corner, which makes it a perfect time to remember to take safety seriously while planning your various summer activities. Whether you are leaving the house to grab an ice cream cone or packing up for a relaxing trip to the beach, the Public Safety Program wants you to have a safe and happy summer.

Staying in Town?

- Do not leave personal, sensitive, or valuable items in your car.
- Lock your car, even if you are only running a quick errand.
- Use an anti-theft device to deter car thieves. Consider buying car "club", it is very effective and visible through the window.
- When buying expensive items, dispose of the box in a discreet manner.

Going Out of Town?

- Check your locks! Make sure you lock all doors, including the garage. Leaving doors unlocked invites intruders.
- Ask a family member, friend or neighbor to keep a watchful eye on your home.

- Several indoor and outdoor lights on timers give the impression that someone is home.
- Call your U.S. Post Office and ask them to hold all mail/packages until you return.

See Something?

- To report an incident in progress dial 911 immediately.
- Make sure the behavior is dangerous or illegal: do not call MPD with a suspicion.
- When reporting a crime, be specific and clearly explain the actions and situation.
- Text (50411) texting is anonymous and you can send pictures.

The Public Safety Program works to keep Georgetown safe by informing residents on the best safety practices through the Block Captain initiative. We also hire a patrol officer to make Georgetown a safer and more comfortable neighborhood for everybody.

The Public Safety Program depends on contributions from our community. If you have not already, consider donating today! For more safety information visit us online at cagtown.org/publicsafety.

2018 ANNUAL MEETING, COMMUNITY AWARDS AND ELECTIONS (CONTINUED)

Richard Hinds, as Chair of the nominating committee, conducted the election of CAG's 2018-2019 slate of officers and directors: President Pamla Moore, Vice President Cheryl Gray, Secretary Tara Sakradda Parker, Treasurer Jerry Libin, and directors Jennifer Romm, Jennie Buehler, Florence Auld and John Rentzepis were unanimously confirmed.

Jack Evans and newly elected President Pamla Moore presented CAG's prestigious awards to outstanding community leaders for 2017.

Betsy Cooley, former CAG Executive Director, was posthumously awarded the "Belin



Councilmember Jack Evans, Neville Waters III, and CAG President Pam Moore

Award for Distinguished Service to the Georgetown Community." Betsy's longtime friend and former CAG Board member Robert Laycock received the award on behalf of Betsy's family. Neville Waters & Mt. Zion Female Union Band Society were awarded the "William A. Cochran Community Service Award for Exceptional Efforts to Protect and Enhance the Community's Parkland and Architectural Resources." Georgetown Exxon and Georgetown Shell together were awarded the "Martin-Davidson Award for Outstanding Businesses That Have Contributed Significantly to the Community."

Special Appreciation Awards were given

to V.V. Harrison and Robert Laycock for their dedicated support and commitment to keeping our community safe and connected. Outgoing board members Hannah Isles, John Richardson, Barbara Downs and Victoria Rixey were commended for their service to CAG and the community.

CAG extends a very special thank you to Stachowski's Market for the generous donation of the charcuterie platters, and to Dumbarton House (and its Director Karen Daly), for hosting our annual meeting for the third consecutive year and continuing to be an invaluable community partner to CAG.



CAG President Pam Moore with outgoing Board members Hannah Isles, John Richardson, and Barbara Downs



The Honorable Eleanor Holmes Norton Speaks to Annual Meeting Attendees

Photo credit: The Georgetown

DDOT to Install Antennas – “Small Cells” - on Streetlight Poles

Landscape features such as streets and alleys, street furnishings and light poles, gardens and yards, open space and parks, and noteworthy views and visual relationships are important in defining the overall historic character of Georgetown. Altering those features diminishes that character.

Preserving the historic character and aesthetic values of Georgetown is a fundamental part of CAG’s mission. That is why CAG advocates that DDOT use LED bulbs in our streetlights to cast the warm white light resembling the incandescent lighting used during Georgetown’s period of significance.

When we became aware that DDOT is awarding contracts to multiple data providers to install a “small cell” network, we educated ourselves about what is being proposed. The intent of the contracts is for multiple carriers to supplement the city’s existing wireless infrastructure – “small cells” - to handle large amounts of data as consumption continues to ramp up. They are envisioned to pave the way for next-generation networks such as 5G and “smart city” innovations, for example, autonomous vehicles and citywide data sharing. Crown Castle and Verizon have already been awarded contracts.

These “small cells” will supplement the existing antennas mounted on rooftops throughout Georgetown. “Small cell” antennas, visually similar to the rooftop antennas, are not to exceed 28 cubic feet in size. They will be connected by fiber optic cables, and powered by equipment concealed in “street furniture” that resembles mailboxes in scale and shape. Each carrier will design its own antenna and equipment. Antennas will be installed on streetlight and utility poles, with power equipment located nearby. The number of poles per block that will carry this equipment is as yet unspecified, but each carrier will require its own pole and power source.

We are very concerned about the variety and density of antennas and associated “street furniture” and their visual impact on our streets. CAG requested that DDOT require its contractors to make applications to the Old Georgetown Board and Commission of Fine Arts for design review. We have stressed the importance of obtaining approval prior to installation in Georgetown.

Newspaper articles about the type of equipment being installed in other cities paint a picture of a potential streetscape inconsistent with the images provided by DDOT. It is important that the project that results be one consistent with our historic character and mission. (http://www.crowncastle.com/Communities/casset_upload_file30489_11431_e.pdf)



Images courtesy of Crown Castle/DDOT

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COMMUNITY EVENTS AND CALENDAR

June 6 –
Aug 29

Sunset Fitness in the Park. Every Wednesday starting June 6 through August 29, attend FREE outdoor fitness classes hosted by different Georgetown studios. The hour-long sessions begin at 6pm in Georgetown Waterfront Park near the intersection of Potomac Street and K/Water Street.

June 12

Chamber Music Concert – 7:30pm – 9pm – Free concert held in the Belle Vue Room of Dumbarton House. 2715 Q St NW

June 21

Dumbarton at Dusk – 5:30pm – 8:00pm – Tour the museum after hours. Cash bar, food, music, and pop-up history activities. Dumbarton House 2715 Q St NW

June 30

Independents Day Georgetown – Celebrate the spirit of small business. Participating merchants are hosting special events and promotions.

PLANNING AHEAD

July 10 –
Aug 7

Sunset Cinema on the Waterfront every Tuesday night at sunset. The 2018 theme is Movies That Rock, featuring iconic movies with a musical storyline.

July 13

Art in the Garden: Outdoor Art Class with botanical artist and horticulturist Kellie Cox. 12:30 – 2:30

July

Concerts in the Parks featuring EP Jackson and The Last Well 5:30-7pm. Join neighbors and friends from the Georgetown community and beyond for great bands, fun family activities, free treats, and food trucks.

Aug 23

Georgetown Twilight Shop 5pm – 9pm. Enjoy shopper's lounges, entertainment, free Pedicab rides, red carpets with Instagram-worthy moments, and end-of-summer discounts for one night only.

September 23

Taste of Georgetown – Eat your way through some of the neighborhood's best restaurants while supporting the important homeless services work of the Georgetown Ministry Center.

2018 DONOR WALL

Many thanks to our 2018 Community Partners

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- Georgetown Exxon/Shell
- Martin's Tavern
- Kenny Kraft
- Peter and Cherry Baumbusch
- Powell and Pam Moore
- Sachiko Kuno

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