

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
 OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY MAYOR  
 FOR PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

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KENNEDY STREET, NW ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
 AND SMALL BUSINESS REVITALIZATION  
 ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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TUESDAY  
 FEBRUARY 18, 2020

+ + + + +

The meeting convened at 145 Kennedy  
 Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20011 at 6:30 p.m.,  
 Loretta Caldwell, Chairperson, presiding.

MEMBERS PRESENT

LORRETTA CALDWELL, Chairperson  
 RENEE BOWSER  
 KRYSTAL BRANTON  
 DEREK FORD  
 ERKIN OZBERK  
 JACQUELINE NOISETTE  
 CHARLES PARET  
 DOLLY TURNER

ALSO PRESENT

BRANDON T. TODD, Ward 4 Councilmember  
 PHILLIP MCAULEY, DC DMPED  
 KANYI MASEMBWA  
 EDMOND MOSS  
 PAUL RUPPERT

C-O-N-T-E-N-T-S

Call to Order. . . . . 3

Introduction of New Committee Members. . . . . 3

Roll Call. . . . . 3

Remarks, the Honorable Ward 4 Councilmember  
Brandon T. Todd. . . . .17

Chairperson's Remarks. . . . . 6

Review and Approve Minutes of  
Last Two Meetings. . . . .14

Review of Committee Objectives . . . . .57

Advisory Sub-Committee Reports

    a. Clean and Safe. . . . .58

    b. Economic Development. . . . .59

    c. Housing . . . . .80

    d. Collaboration & Strategic Partnerships. . . . .81

    e. Transportation & Public Space . . . . .99

New Business

    a. Neighborhood Surveys

    b. Announcements

        i. 3rd Annual Ward 4 Business Summit . . . .98

Adjournment. . . . . 106

1 P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S

2 6:35 p.m.

3 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: It is now 6:35.

4 I'd like to call the meeting of the Kennedy  
5 Street, NW Economic Development and Small  
6 Business Revitalization Advisory Committee to  
7 order.

8 Today is Tuesday, February 18th. The  
9 meeting will begin at 6:30 -- has begun at 6:35,  
10 and it will end at, if not before, 8:00 p.m.

11 Let me start off by first saying I  
12 want to of course thank Phi Beta Sigma on the  
13 record for allowing us to utilize their facility.  
14 We appreciate that every time we're able to  
15 utilize their space.

16 I don't believe we have any new  
17 members here present today. However I would like  
18 to take a roll call.

19 Phillip, could you please take a roll  
20 call?

21 MR. MCAULEY: Yes, Chairwoman Loretta  
22 Caldwell?

1 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: Present.

2 MR. MCAULEY: Dolly Turner?

3 MEMBER TURNER: Present.

4 MR. MCAULEY: Erkin Ozberk?

5 MEMBER OZBERK: Present.

6 MR. MCAULEY: Jacqueline Noisette?

7 MEMBER NOISETTE: Present.

8 MR. MCAULEY: Krystal Branton?

9 MEMBER BRANTON: Present.

10 MR. MCAULEY: Charles Paret?

11 Not present.

12 Lamont Atkins?

13 Not present.

14 Derek Ford?

15 Not present.

16 David Gottfried?

17 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: David was -- did

18 call and he's unable to make it. We do expect,

19 as a matter of fact, Derek to come. He'll just

20 be a little late. As well as Charles to come.

21 MR. MASEMBWA: Here they come walking

22 in now.

1                   MEMBER TURNER: Councilmember Todd and  
2 Mr. Ford and --

3                   (Simultaneous speaking.)

4                   CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: We are pleased  
5 to see that our councilmember has arrived. We  
6 were just taking a roll call, and we'll just keep  
7 going for a few minutes. Is that all right with  
8 you?

9                   COUNCILMEMBER TODD: Absolutely.

10                  CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: All right, would  
11 you back up, please, to where you were asking for  
12 the attendance of Mr. Derek Ford?

13                  MR. MCAULEY: Derek Ford?

14                  MEMBER FORD: Present.

15                  MR. MCAULEY: Renee Bowser?

16                  MEMBER BOWSER: Present.

17                  MR. MCAULEY: Charles Paret?

18                  MEMBER TURNER: Mr. Administrator, we  
19 just need to make one, I think, adjustment.  
20 Well, we can make the adjustment at the end.

21                  CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: What is the  
22 adjustment? Attendance? With reference to

1 attendance?

2 MEMBER TURNER: Yes, we can make it  
3 later --

4 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: Okay. All  
5 right. We have acknowledged all into the roll  
6 call, the committee members. Let me just stop  
7 and ask those people whose names were not called  
8 who are guests to please give their names. We'll  
9 acknowledge their presence here.

10 MR. RUPPERT: I'm Paul Ruppert.

11 MR. MASEMBWA: Kanyi Masembwa.

12 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: And we thank you  
13 both for being here, two very very important  
14 people in our community, and we are pleased and  
15 blessed to have you here.

16 (Simultaneous speaking.)

17 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: So I'm glad that  
18 you are here. I'm going to keep going for a  
19 moment and just say that there's a lot of work  
20 that needs to be done on Kennedy Street.

21 One announcement that I want to make,  
22 it's not necessarily a good announcement but one

1 that we should be aware of, because I'm trying to  
2 think if I corrected the -- I think I did, the  
3 agenda.

4 Starsha Valentine, who was head of our  
5 Main Street, is no longer with us. I don't mean  
6 in a bad way; I mean that she's no longer in this  
7 position. Usually when people say that, they say  
8 she -- no, she's just not in this position. I  
9 don't kind of know where Starsha went, but  
10 hopefully she's gone to a much -- got a promotion  
11 or another --

12 MEMBER TURNER: She's going to be  
13 consulting. I think she's starting her own  
14 business.

15 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: Oh, okay. All  
16 right. Well in the meanwhile, we do have a  
17 temporary person who is acting as executive  
18 director. I have not met her, and I'm sorry, I  
19 did not bring her name with me.

20 MEMBER TURNER: Janet Lugo.

21 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: That's it.

22 Janet Lugo is the acting executive director. I'm

1 going to send an email around to each one of you  
2 in case there's some information that you need  
3 that Main Street has, because it is that time  
4 right now when all of the grants for Main Street  
5 are up, as well as you are all aware, that the  
6 applications are now open up until -- well as a  
7 matter of fact, some applications change February  
8 7, but there are still -- the retail grant is  
9 still up and running till March 15, and we'll  
10 talk about another one up till March 31.

11 So I'll go over those a little bit  
12 later, but I wanted to make sure that everybody  
13 was aware of that. I started to talk about, in  
14 fact, the agenda for this week's meeting.

15 The last time that we met, we talked  
16 about a lot of work to be done. Dolly has since  
17 given me some great ideas about things that we  
18 should be doing that possibly we're not, and I'll  
19 take full responsibility for not passing those  
20 things on.

21 There are things that are happening in  
22 each one of your committees, and we'll hear from



1 each one of the committees tonight, but I'd like  
2 to encourage each one of the committees to  
3 possibly just look at doing a survey of the  
4 community and find out what they want. Because  
5 we're not the end-all.

6 We certainly don't know everything  
7 that the business and residences need along the  
8 Kennedy Street corridor. And if we were in fact  
9 to embark upon a simple survey, something that,  
10 you know, SurveyMonkey can do, something we can  
11 send out to people, perhaps find out some ideas  
12 that they want to happen in terms of economic  
13 development, in terms of housing, in terms of the  
14 traffic, the parking, the issues that we have on  
15 Kennedy Street,

16 So kind of mull that over in your  
17 minds about as we -- you meet with your  
18 committees, if in fact you don't have all the  
19 ideas. Sometimes if you're not in the community  
20 as much as you can be, there -- the smallest  
21 things make the biggest difference.

22 Someone remarked to me that the

1 short-term family multi-housing facility on 5th  
2 Street, that there was no place for kids to go.  
3 They said they were complaining that the kids  
4 were hanging outside on the street on the corner.

5 And so I made it a point two nights to  
6 go around. One night I didn't see anything, but  
7 the second night it wasn't quite so cold. I  
8 think that might have made a difference. It  
9 wasn't quite so cold, and there were a lot of  
10 young people hanging out, and it just dawned on  
11 me maybe there's no place, like you said to me,  
12 there's no place for them to go.

13 So perhaps we need to start looking at  
14 -- and my daughter remarked to me, she says why  
15 can't they go to the recreation center, you know,  
16 the recreation center's only ten blocks or so  
17 away. I said look, you know, ten blocks or so  
18 away in the evening time for a kid is a lot, if  
19 mom and dad can't take you. So what do we do?

20 So perhaps there's something that we  
21 can -- and that would really be an effective  
22 thing along Kennedy Street for us to look at if

1 there was some place for kids to go that was  
2 nearby that short-term family multi-housing  
3 facility for kids to go, that have something to  
4 do, in particular as it relates to during the  
5 winter time.

6 Yes, ma'am, Ms. Bowser?

7 MEMBER BOWSER: I fully agree, and in  
8 ANC 4D, when we submitted our proposed amendments  
9 to the Comprehensive Plan, we had a section,  
10 because we're in Rock Creek East, that proposed a  
11 multi-generational center that has not only  
12 recreation, library, other services, but job  
13 training, including skillcraft training and  
14 entrepreneurship training.

15 Former Commissioner David Sheon had --  
16 it was called Community Carry, and it was  
17 entrepreneurship training for youth. It could be  
18 a lot of things, that if we could get some space  
19 on Kennedy Street that was big enough to house a  
20 facility with those.

21 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: Now do you know,  
22 Ms. Bowser, what a big impact that would have if

1 this group were able to actually be able to pull  
2 that off? To be able to recommend to the  
3 Councilmember if there is some space there or  
4 even existing space that somebody's not using in  
5 the evening time or if there's a vacant home,  
6 perhaps we can do some renovations.

7 You know, the Economic Development  
8 Committee works with contractors, I work with  
9 contractors, we have a developer here that comes  
10 with us all the time, Mr. Masembwa is a  
11 developer.

12 And let me just stop for a second. We  
13 were joined by our -- one of the host members of  
14 Phi Beta Sigma. Would you introduce yourself  
15 please, sir?

16 MR. MOSS: Hello, Edmond Moss, I'm an  
17 accountant here at headquarters, a risk manager  
18 of our insurance, and the property manager.

19 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: Earlier when we  
20 got started, Mr. Moss, I thanked Phi Beta Sigma  
21 for allowing us the utilization of their space  
22 consistently, so you didn't hear that, it will be

1 in the minutes, but I want to thank you  
2 personally as well.

3 So we're talking about things, again,  
4 that could impact Kennedy Street. That's one,  
5 and if you think about it, for something like  
6 that, and that's one idea that came about as a  
7 result of somebody saying, actually complaining  
8 about kids being on the street. But look at the  
9 impact.

10 If in fact we were able to impact,  
11 that's kids or -- that we're able to help get off  
12 the street. If in fact contractors helped us,  
13 that would be some economic development. If in  
14 fact that were able to help parents to keep track  
15 of their kids while they go to work, you know,  
16 then that also -- another piece of economic  
17 development. So there are so many things that  
18 can be impacted by one thing that we're doing.

19 But I really would like to see this  
20 committee to choose a one -- something -- not  
21 just individually but a one something we can  
22 collectively work on that we can actually say at

1 the end of the year that we had an impact that  
2 the Councilmember can shout praises that we did,  
3 something that we, this committee, did. We're a  
4 small group but some of the finest minds are  
5 sitting at this table.

6 And we have -- we brainstorm and we  
7 talk about all the things that need to be done,  
8 and what we do is really, really very valuable,  
9 and I take it back to the Councilmember, and  
10 Dolly takes it back to the Councilmember, but I'd  
11 like to be able to put my finger or my thumb on  
12 something that we have done, and I think you all  
13 would too. Because we're not just all sitting  
14 here missing part of our dinners and our families  
15 so that we can say we came out to a meeting. I  
16 don't like to meet to meet.

17 So with that in mind, before we get  
18 started with our meeting -- our review of the  
19 subcommittee reports, the review and approve of  
20 minutes of our last two meeting minutes. I don't  
21 think anyone here received the last two meeting  
22 minutes.

1 MR. MCAULEY: I sent it -- I emailed  
2 it directly to you.

3 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: I saw you  
4 emailed to me about a week ago.

5 MR. MCAULEY: Yeah.

6 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: And I did not  
7 send it out to each one of you. The time that  
8 was had to review those 100 page documents, I  
9 don't think was going to happen, so I did not.  
10 So I will ask, however, as I send them to you,  
11 that you please review them, and our next  
12 committee meeting, which has already been posted.

13 MR. MCAULEY: Mm-hmm.

14 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: And so everyone  
15 should be aware of the next full meeting. That  
16 meeting is in -- does somebody have that in front  
17 of them? Phillip, do you have it.

18 MR. MCAULEY: It's April --

19 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: While he's  
20 looking, and he'll pipe in and let us know the  
21 next date, but it's already been posted, so we do  
22 not have to worry about trying to get 30 days to

1 get days on the books. It's already been posted.  
2 And if our stenographer would please make sure  
3 that we can get the meeting minutes within 30  
4 days of tonight's meeting?

5 THE COURT REPORTER: Yes, ma'am.

6 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: That is a  
7 commitment?

8 THE COURT REPORTER: Yes, ma'am.

9 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: Okay, then what  
10 I will do is as soon as I get them, which would  
11 be no more than 30 calendar days of tonight's  
12 meeting, then I will forward them immediately to  
13 you all. If you would please look at those and  
14 make any amendments while it's fresh in your mind  
15 and send it back, I will then forward the prior  
16 two meetings to you just as an FYI so we can get  
17 approval of those meeting minutes.

18 Yes, Mr. McAuley?

19 MR. MCAULEY: Yes, the meeting will  
20 take place April 23.

21 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: April 23, same  
22 place, 6:30 to 8:00.



1 MR. MCAULEY: Okay, I'm sorry.

2 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: No? He is  
3 checking again. Okay. While he is --

4 MR. MCAULEY: April 28.

5 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: April 28, so we  
6 have to make that three into an eight. And from  
7 6:30 to 8:00 here again hosted by Phi Beta Sigma.

8

9 With that I'm going to turn it over to  
10 our illustrious Councilmember. We're very  
11 pleased, Councilmember Todd, that you took time  
12 out of your schedule to come here with us this  
13 evening. We really, really are. Thank you so  
14 much. We know how busy that you are. We like to  
15 see your smiling face.

16 COUNCILMEMBER TODD: At least somebody  
17 wants to see my smiling face. I'll take that.  
18 Well thank you, Chairwoman Caldwell. I  
19 appreciate certainly your leadership of this  
20 committee over the last better part of  
21 two-and-a-half years now, I think. Has it been  
22 two-and-a-half years?

1 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: Maybe  
2 one-and-a-half.

3 COUNCILMEMBER TODD: One-and-a-half,  
4 a year-and-a-half maybe.

5 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: Yeah.

6 COUNCILMEMBER TODD: Okay.

7 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: Has it been two  
8 and a half?

9 COUNCILMEMBER TODD: It's been at  
10 least two years now, at least two for sure. Time  
11 flies. So I certainly -- I appreciate your  
12 leadership.

13 You know, when I introduced the  
14 legislation to create this committee, it was  
15 really to make sure that we have a number of  
16 levels and government agencies, people who are  
17 helping to move the ball forward on Kennedy  
18 Street. You know, I am a firm believer that if  
19 we tick off a list as often as possible, that's  
20 how we get results, and I'm really pleased that I  
21 believe that we're seeing the exact intended  
22 results on and along Kennedy Street with the 10

1 or 11 million dollar investment we made in  
2 streetscape improvement.

3 We're starting to see the type of  
4 economic opportunity come to Kennedy Street,  
5 whether it be housing, whether it be  
6 neighborhood-serving retail, whether it be  
7 government investments.

8 I'm really excited, and I invite the  
9 committee to join us on March 6 at 12 p.m. at 809  
10 Kennedy Street, which has been a long vacant and  
11 blighted property. We will break ground on 38  
12 units of senior affordable housing, which is a  
13 huge deal because that parcel has been vacant for  
14 a long time.

15 The government awarded that  
16 development project to a developer probably the  
17 better part of two years ago, and it's just taken  
18 some time to get things moving. So I'm just  
19 thrilled that we'll celebrate breaking ground on  
20 38 units and probably in about 18 months or less  
21 we'll have 38 seniors who need affordable housing  
22 have the ability to live on Kennedy Street, which

1 is a huge deal.

2 And certainly I appreciate this  
3 committee's work on making sure that we and the  
4 entire government are looking at how we continue  
5 to move the ball forward on Kennedy Street.

6 I'm really -- was really pleased to  
7 see a number of Kennedy Street businesses be able  
8 to take part in Main Street grants.

9 This year I know Midtown Barbers where  
10 I get my hair cut is getting one, which is a huge  
11 deal. It's a business that's been on Kennedy  
12 Street for 25 years, and we want to make sure,  
13 and the owner of that business, Kevin, wants to  
14 be a part of the economic prosperity that we're  
15 seeing on Kennedy Street. So that \$50,000 grant  
16 that he will get is going to be a real  
17 game-changer for his business and his business  
18 model and for his ability to attract new  
19 clientele.

20 So I feel really good about the  
21 trajectory Kennedy Street is on. We're having,  
22 and I'm sure this committee has talked about,

1 some very acute public safety challenges,  
2 primarily around 7th and Kennedy. I think we've  
3 been able, over the last 12 months now, been able  
4 to deal with the issues we were having at 5th and  
5 Kennedy, which is a good thing. But now we have  
6 some very acute challenges at 7th and Kennedy  
7 that I think, working with MPD and a number of  
8 other government agencies, that we'll be able to  
9 address those.

10 I have convened a government-wide task  
11 force to help focus on public safety issues so  
12 that we're not only relying on the Metropolitan  
13 Police Department, but so that we're working with  
14 our partners at DCRA, the Office of the Attorney  
15 General, the Office of Tax and Revenue, the  
16 Department of Public Works, the Department of  
17 Behavioral Health, Human Services.

18 So we brought all of those agencies,  
19 representatives from all of those agencies  
20 together in November of last year, and we'll do  
21 it again in, I think, two Fridays from now, to  
22 strategize and talk about very concrete measures

1 that we can take as a government to make sure  
2 that we're not only looking at MPD to help solve  
3 our public safety issues, but that we're really  
4 looking across a number of agencies to get that  
5 work done.

6 So I really wanted to be here to  
7 provide a quick update, take any questions and  
8 concerns, anything, and I know your Chairwoman  
9 wants the Committee to come up with very tangible  
10 things that we can accomplish together, and I'm  
11 happy to be a part of that conversation and make  
12 sure that we're thinking about those things. But  
13 the Committee, I believe, has done an amazing job  
14 since it's been -- since its inception, since you  
15 all have been meeting, in really making sure that  
16 the ball is moving forward.

17 And as most of you know, many of you  
18 work in the government, so you know things don't  
19 happen overnight. It takes time, and it takes  
20 just continuing to tick off that list. That's  
21 what I do every day, go down to my office and,  
22 you know, I'm a very simple person, just put it

1 on the wall and check off the box, are we getting  
2 things done on Kennedy Street, on Georgia Avenue.

3 And I'm proud that the second half of  
4 the streetscape improvement will happen at  
5 Kennedy and the -- on the western side of Kennedy  
6 Street, which is going to be great for the  
7 businesses and residents there to also be a part  
8 of the economic prosperity. So for me right now,  
9 public safety is a huge priority for Kennedy  
10 Street. We've come a long way in the last 13  
11 plus years, 13 years or so, and I'm committed to  
12 making sure that we don't stop seeing that type  
13 of public safety progress. And so we will -- I  
14 will use every tool that's available in our  
15 government's toolbox to make sure that businesses  
16 can continue to thrive, that neighbors feels safe  
17 and secure in their communities, and that we're  
18 really looking at public safety as a -- from a  
19 government-wide approach. And so we'll continue  
20 to do just that.

21 This is an amazing time for the  
22 Committee to think about some of our priorities

1 as we enter into budget season. We're wrapping  
2 up oversight in March; we'll start talking about  
3 the budget in earnest, and so now if the  
4 Committee has any recommendations on things that  
5 we would like to see on Kennedy Street, this will  
6 be a good time to start thinking through those  
7 things, whether it's art installation somewhere,  
8 whether it is investing in, you know, a small  
9 park along the corridor or on an offshoot of the  
10 corridor. I think this is a good time to figure  
11 that out, and we can make sure to advocate for  
12 that when the budget comes to the Council.

13           Since we've opened our short-term  
14 family housing facility at 5th and Kennedy,  
15 myself and my time have been working very closely  
16 with the Department of Human Services to make  
17 sure the families have everything that they need.  
18 We have heard that there is need for more  
19 relaxation space, if you will, for the kids,  
20 playground, you know, they have a very small  
21 playground. You know, I think we did the best we  
22 could with what we had, but we have to figure out



1 some more opportunities for the young people to  
2 be able to live like kids, right? Go outside and  
3 run around, find a nearby park, and be safe while  
4 doing it. So we'll continue to work with Human  
5 Services Department, and that's why I think, you  
6 know, if we can think of something that we can do  
7 nearby, you know, I'm happy to figure out how we  
8 make it happen in the budget. So we'll give that  
9 some thought on our end, and if the Committee has  
10 any recommendations that'd be helpful as well.

11 So with that I'm happy to take any  
12 questions, any concerns, suggestions, and I do  
13 thank you for the invitation, and will come back  
14 as often as I need to and make sure we're moving  
15 the ball forward.

16 MEMBER FORD: Well first off thank you  
17 for your leadership -- when I say emerging  
18 neighborhood this falls in line. But what I  
19 think we can do, I like the Neighborhood Fund, so  
20 in your oversight with DMPED, it's just something  
21 that, you know, to -- Main Street works very  
22 well, but the Neighborhood Prosperity Fund, that

1 inclusion of funds, which could be 250 or 300,  
2 really really can take a business to the next  
3 level.

4 So I think keeping that funded,  
5 keeping flexibility for any business to apply to  
6 go to the next level, because one thing we've  
7 learned if -- we just had noticed that a Ward 4  
8 restaurant is moving to Ward 7. We've learned  
9 that in so many emerging areas, it takes local  
10 companies. We talk to a lot of national  
11 retailers, but when you look at -- when you look  
12 at the local companies, this is where like --  
13 government with the Neighborhood Prosperity Fund,  
14 should the team invest in, that's what's going to  
15 really take Kennedy Street to the next level. So  
16 I thank you for leadership, thank you for your  
17 support, and fund the Neighborhood Prosperity.

18 COUNCILMEMBER TODD: Okay, no, that's  
19 great. Thank you for that.

20 MR. MASEMBWA: I want to thank you for  
21 being here to share your vision and where you  
22 want to continue to see things go for this ward.

1 Being a, you know, long-time Washingtonian, it's  
2 always good to have someone from the government  
3 here because we want to be able to say a lot of  
4 things and you're not able to make those  
5 connections, so thanks for being here.

6 One of the things that I was thinking  
7 as you were speaking -- well two things. You  
8 mentioned west of Kennedy Street. Where is that  
9 next phase for the streetscape I think you were  
10 talking about. Is that on -- from Georgia Avenue  
11 --

12 COUNCILMEMBER TODD: So it is from  
13 Georgia Avenue to Colorado.

14 MR. MASEMBWA: Got you. Okay. And  
15 then the second -- thank you for that. And then  
16 the second thing I wanted to -- is I was  
17 brainstorming about locations -- because I'm  
18 familiar with the area, when I was a kid up to  
19 fifth grade I used to go to Nativity before it  
20 became a charter school and it was only Catholic,  
21 but I'm very familiar with this area.

22 There's a park off Missouri Avenue.

1 Have you all looked at that, and who owns that  
2 park? Is that a national park? Because that's  
3 right off of 5th Street.

4 MEMBER OZBERK: Yeah, that's NPS.

5 COUNCILMEMBER TODD: Is that NPS?

6 MEMBER OZBERK: All the fields along

7 --

8 MR. MASEMBWA: Yeah, my mother used to  
9 live right across the street --

10 (Simultaneous speaking.)

11 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: Who owns it?

12 MR. MASEMBWA: National Parks. But  
13 the -- it's been there forever, and no one's  
14 doing anything, and maybe there's some -- a  
15 memorandum could be provided or agreed upon.

16 COUNCILMEMBER TODD: And I would say  
17 that probably is not not possible. It isn't not  
18 possible. Am I saying that? It's possible, and  
19 I would say, you know, over the last, my time  
20 I've been in D.C. government in one or another  
21 for the past 13 years, and I'll tell you that  
22 National Park Service is far more amenable to

1 working with the D.C. government than they ever  
2 have been.

3 We used to have Rock Creek  
4 superintendents that were like we are National  
5 Park Service, you are D.C., that is the extent of  
6 our relationship.

7 MR. MASEMBWA: And all they knew was  
8 no.

9 COUNCILMEMBER TODD: Right, that's all  
10 they knew. However the last two park  
11 superintendents and National Park Service  
12 officials, I meet with them every 90 days, I make  
13 it a point to make sure that they're hearing  
14 exactly what I'm hearing from my residents, and  
15 that I have the best information to report out  
16 on, and they are really ready, willing, and able  
17 to be partners in so many ways.

18 There's a playground at Grant Circle  
19 that I think we're going to ask them if we can  
20 make the investment in a playground, and they'll  
21 -- I mean it's their playground, but it's falling  
22 apart and they don't have the funding to fix it,

1 so we should fix it because our families use it  
2 exclusively. And so I think that that is in the  
3 realm of being able to happen, and happy to  
4 explore what makes sense.

5 One thing that I'll be pursuing in the  
6 budget, we -- two years ago we got funding to  
7 build a meditation park at 13th and Kansas, you  
8 know, it's so funny because neighbors were like  
9 well, what is that, we don't want it, it's just  
10 going to cause people to sit there. But people  
11 love it, right? People love it. Every time I  
12 drive by I see families having a picnic, I see  
13 seniors sitting down having a glass of water or  
14 reading a book. And I think that getting another  
15 one of those somewhere in the ward and that it  
16 could be there or somewhere -- could really help  
17 this area that is somewhat  
18 under-recreationalized, right? So definitely can  
19 take a look at that.

20 MR. MASEMBWA: Yeah, and that could be  
21 one of the catalysts that brings the other side  
22 of Missouri Avenue over towards Kennedy Street.

1       Because I mean, again, being here all my life, I  
2       mean you don't see that. There's nothing to go  
3       to; there are no destinations. And if you want  
4       to have something that's more social, what's more  
5       social than a park -- something that can be  
6       created that all can use.

7                   And not just a dog park, and I love  
8       animals, but something more.

9                   COUNCILMEMBER TODD: Sure, no, I  
10       agree.

11                   CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: That is  
12       something that would have -- we talked about  
13       committees tagging on to something. Let me just  
14       stop, and so we've been joined by another  
15       Committee member. You want to identify yourself,  
16       Mr. Paret?

17                   MEMBER PARET: How's everybody doing?  
18       I apologize -- my dress, I just got off of an  
19       airplane. I was attending a conference in Puerto  
20       Rico, so I apologize. Actually on opportunity  
21       zones, so we had a nice little discussion about  
22       Ward 4 and what's happening here, but I apologize

1 for being late.

2 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: So that is  
3 Charles Paret. He is another Committee member.  
4 So we have a good full house here for you,  
5 Councilmember.

6 COUNCILMEMBER TODD: Yes, thank you.

7 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: You should come  
8 more often, we'd get this kind of --

9 COUNCILMEMBER TODD: I will.

10 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: The idea of that  
11 park coalescing together I think is an excellent  
12 idea, and it is something that a good  
13 collaboration, Collaboration and Strategic  
14 Committee, and that is you, Mr. Paret, as well as  
15 our Transportation & Public Space, that's you,  
16 Mr. Ozberk.

17 So perhaps the two of you might want  
18 to collaborate and look into that space --

19 MEMBER PARET: Where is that location?  
20 It was modeling after the Kansas --

21 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: The location  
22 that you're speaking of is where --



1                   MR. MASEMBWA: Missouri Avenue on the  
2                   -- actually the -- yeah, the north side of  
3                   Missouri Avenue -- Yeah, if you go 5th Street to  
4                   Missouri Avenue from there, and it's to the left.  
5                   There's actually another one over on to the right  
6                   behind a couple of the houses that are --

7                   MEMBER PARET: It's like a triangle,  
8                   right?

9                   MR. MASEMBWA: There's a couple of  
10                  them.

11                  MEMBER OZBERK: There's a series of  
12                  fields and parks connecting Fort Stevens to Fort  
13                  Slocum.

14                  MR. MASEMBWA: Yeah, it's not just  
15                  one.

16                  CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: Do you think --  
17                  would you like to work on another one of those  
18                  committees as well, I mean you brought it, would  
19                  you like to work on that as well?

20                  MR. MASEMBWA: By all means, feel  
21                  free, because I'm an architect, too, so I look at  
22                  urban development. By all means I don't have a

1 problem being called upon, it's just that I'm  
2 working with Mr. Ford, and depending on the  
3 availability, but I -- yes, I'll give you, I'll  
4 share -- I'll coordinate with you guys afterward,  
5 give you my number, and then --

6 MEMBER PARET: Did you guys ever see  
7 that -- the dog park that's over in -- and I'm  
8 not familiar if there's any in the location, but  
9 the dog park was put in near Logan Circle on Swan  
10 Street and Rhode Island Avenue? Know what I'm  
11 talking about?

12 MR. MASEMBWA: 11th and -- my brother  
13 and I used to live one block from there. My  
14 brother still has his house there.

15 MEMBER PARET: No, it's not --

16 MR. MASEMBWA: Rhode Island Avenue.

17 MEMBER PARET: But it's Rhode Island  
18 and Swan, so like more towards like 18th Street.  
19 It's a triangle shaped lot very similar to the  
20 lot that's off of Missouri. I've just seen that  
21 place flourish, like the amount of people there  
22 that are on a regular basis.

1 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: Is that in Ward  
2 4?

3 MEMBER PARET: It's not in Ward 4, but  
4 as an example of how -- of one that's -- becomes  
5 -- because people use it as like a meeting  
6 location, they bring their kids there, and it's  
7 fenced in.

8 MR. MASEMBWA: Next to -- not to cut  
9 you off, but the skateboard park, next to --  
10 where they took the store down --

11 MEMBER PARET: That's on 9th or 11th.  
12 I know what you're talking about.

13 MR. MASEMBWA: Well it's 11th and  
14 Rhode Island.

15 MEMBER PARET: So this is further in  
16 towards --

17 MEMBER OZBERK: 17th, New Hampshire,  
18 and --

19 MEMBER PARET: That's exactly right,  
20 yeah. I would go and look at that just because  
21 it's an excellent example. You go there on a  
22 Saturday, I swear there's like 30 people.

1                   CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: Well then  
2 perhaps the three of you, or at least two of you  
3 get together and look at that and pursue that.  
4 Could I honestly ask you to pursue looking at  
5 that as potential space for Ward 4 and report  
6 back out on that at our next meeting? But  
7 certainly prior to that, it doesn't -- you know,  
8 subcommittees can get together on the telephone  
9 because everybody here has a busy agenda. I  
10 don't expect you to do face-to-face.

11                   But when we have Skype and Facetime  
12 and all these other tools, there's no reason in  
13 the world -- texts -- why you can't get together  
14 and get some work done. In the interim -- so  
15 I'm going to make it a note, it will be in our  
16 notes that you're going to report back on out,  
17 but I'll certainly expect to -- please invite me  
18 to your subcommittee meeting, so just to kind of  
19 keep the ball rolling on that space. I think  
20 that's an excellent idea and something that's  
21 needed to have a space for those young people who  
22 are in the short-term facility on --

1                   MEMBER PARET: Do we want to -- while  
2 all of us are here, do we want to look at a time  
3 that works, and then we could just put it in a  
4 schedule?

5                   CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: So I want to --

6                   MR. MASEMBWA: We'll do it offline  
7 just so we don't --

8                   CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: In the interest  
9 of saving the Councilmember's time --

10                  MEMBER TURNER: So, Phillip, do you  
11 want to tell them about your idea that you shared  
12 with me last week? Which was a really great  
13 idea.

14                  MR. MCAULEY: Which one?

15                  MEMBER TURNER: The mobility piece.  
16 I don't -- multi-modal transportation.

17                  MR. MCAULEY: Oh, you're talking about  
18 in terms of workforce development?

19                  MEMBER TURNER: No, the access here.  
20 The scooters, the --

21                  MR. MCAULEY: Oh, yeah, so DMPED,  
22 we've had previous conversations with Uber, Lyft,

1 Spin, and --- It's only the ones that have  
2 recently received permits, as it relates to some  
3 of the scooters, but we've -- we are working  
4 hand-in-hand with DOES, with some of the mobility  
5 companies, but a lot them are -- want to be more  
6 infused with D.C., and some of them, including  
7 like Spin, would like to maybe do some type of  
8 partnership efforts, like CSR social impact work  
9 where they'll sponsor an event or, you know,  
10 provide some type of funding as it relates to a  
11 particular event in which they would, you know,  
12 provide more scooters in a certain area during  
13 some type of event and maybe in a neighborhood.

14 So we're in touch with them to try to  
15 see if we can do more collaboration, whether  
16 that'd be in Ward 4, in Ward 8, around the St.  
17 Elizabeths campus. We're looking at exploring  
18 multiple options, but that's just an idea that  
19 came through conversation that we had last week  
20 in terms of trying to get more companies to do  
21 more work in the District. So it was an initial  
22 conversation that we had.

1                   CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: I don't know,  
2                   there certainly is an issue in Ward 4,  
3                   particularly on Kennedy Street, with reference to  
4                   space issues as it relates to parking. We  
5                   certainly have a lot of discourse about the lack  
6                   of parking in the area, and if they're interested  
7                   in possibly putting more various mobility  
8                   facilities in Ward 4. Personally I hate them, but  
9                   that -- no one asked my opinion.

10                   But that is certainly something to  
11                   consider that perhaps that's something we can  
12                   ask. I talked earlier about doing a survey.  
13                   Perhaps we can ask if the residents in Ward 4  
14                   along Kennedy Street are interested. We have a  
15                   lot of seniors along Kennedy Street, and those  
16                   scooters don't really lend themselves to people  
17                   over the age of 30.

18                   I think you see a lot more younger on  
19                   it, on the scooters, and ironically, you see a  
20                   lot of seniors on bicycles but not necessarily on  
21                   scooters, so I don't know if Kennedy Street is a  
22                   good target area for that, but I'd love to -- if

1 they are, then it's certainly something we should  
2 explore.

3 MR. MCAULEY: It would be bikes as  
4 well because there's Jump, which is a  
5 Uber-related company. We have had conversations  
6 with them as well as a new bike company, I think  
7 it's called Helbiz. Yeah they -- we're supposed  
8 to have a conversation with them next week, so  
9 we're just exploring options right now.

10 MEMBER PARET: It also is a great  
11 alternative for a lot of the development that's  
12 taking place. It helps offset all the people  
13 that are moving into those places knowing that  
14 they have those alternatives versus having to  
15 bring in parking, I think would appease some of  
16 the people on Kennedy if they say hey, listen, we  
17 know that this development is coming and taking  
18 place here, but we have solutions to help remedy  
19 it.

20 So I think that's an interesting --  
21 something to -- there's a lot of development  
22 that's taking place on Kennedy Street, and



1 there's going to be a lot of transportation needs  
2 that are going to be able to -- need to be met,  
3 and if people know that they can get from Kennedy  
4 Street to the Metro and we communicate that,  
5 they're not going to buy a car because nobody  
6 wants to have cars.

7 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: Absolutely.

8 MEMBER PARET: Right, and that's sort  
9 of the key thing.

10 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: That is, again,  
11 how a younger generation than I think is here  
12 along Kennedy Street, but we're -- with the  
13 housing that's coming in, you're getting younger  
14 and younger people, the age range is slowly  
15 dropping with a lot of the newer houses coming  
16 in, so I think it's a -- certainly worth  
17 exploring to see the interest along Kennedy  
18 Street. Unfortunately, and fortunately, this  
19 also falls under Transportation & Public Space.  
20 I'm not going to drop all this on your lap.

21 MEMBER OZBERK: No, that's fine, and  
22 actually everything that's been mentioned

1 piggybacks on -- so really the main comment I was  
2 going to make which is our committee, Public  
3 Space & Transportation, has been really trying to  
4 talk about how to get more activation on Kennedy  
5 Street, how to get more eyes on the street, how  
6 to get people to and through the corridor.

7           And so there's really three things.  
8 One of them is making sure we keep our transit  
9 service at the level it's at now and even  
10 enhancing it if possible, As you're probably  
11 aware, Councilmember Todd, there's -- Metro's  
12 budget looks at cutting the 50 lines, or the 59  
13 or the 54, I can't remember. So that's a  
14 priority. Also if there are going to be more  
15 people on bikes or scooters, ensuring that  
16 there's safe and comfortable infrastructure that  
17 supports them on our streets is important. And  
18 because that's how you get more people of  
19 different kinds of abilities wanting to be able  
20 to ride, whether they're younger or older, if  
21 they don't feel safe, they're not going to do it.  
22 Even if the bikes are there.

1           And then the third thing is thinking  
2           about our sidewalks and our public space and  
3           potentially figuring out if there's any  
4           regulatory barriers to activating that space in a  
5           more interesting and fun way. I know,  
6           Councilmember Todd, this has been something  
7           you've legislated recently with the lemonade  
8           stands in terms of figuring out ways people can  
9           just, in a very community grassroots way, use  
10          their public space, which is a huge network that  
11          we have in the District.

12                 So those are really three things that  
13          our community had been thinking about in terms  
14          of, again, getting people to and through here,  
15          getting more people on the street, kind of like  
16          your point, Chairwoman Caldwell, about the kids  
17          outside at the -- on 5th Street. So there are  
18          creative ways we can think about how we can use  
19          our streets and assets that we do have, as well  
20          as partnering with NPS or things like that. I  
21          think those are where we need to be focusing, so.

22                         CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: Well you

1 mentioned Clean and Safe, and I don't know, and  
2 perhaps if the police do not wish us to know, but  
3 I don't know where the cameras are, the security  
4 cameras, but I would love to see where they are  
5 and also to hear their plan on increasing the  
6 presence of security cameras along Kennedy  
7 Street, also cameras as we start to expand into  
8 neighborhoods to make sure that there are cameras  
9 as the neighborhood's expanding, that cameras are  
10 being placed as well. Now it's one thing to, and  
11 we certainly have the security program --

12 COUNCILMEMBER TODD: The camera rebate  
13 program.

14 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: Right, which is  
15 excellent, and most people don't use it, so I  
16 really would like to see us have a greater push  
17 and see what kind of impact we can have, a  
18 greater push to encourage individuals along  
19 Kennedy Street, the businesses, to have every  
20 business with a camera, and to have all the homes  
21 there in the peripheral neighborhoods to have  
22 cameras, because it's free, and perhaps it's

1 something that we're not doing that we can  
2 collectively think to do, and that's David  
3 Gottfried's committee, Clean and Safe, that we're  
4 not doing to encourage people to get those  
5 cameras.

6 What does it take for us to say, you  
7 have to bring the camera to your house and  
8 install it. I mean, what do they need to do?  
9 It's free.

10 MEMBER NOISETTE: Maybe that could be  
11 part of the survey.

12 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: Maybe that could  
13 be a part of the survey --

14 MEMBER NOISETTE: To find out the  
15 reason why.

16 MR. MASEMBWA: One of the things I  
17 think goes on, because my mom has that in, you  
18 know, I have contractors, so we've implemented  
19 and put it in, and she just didn't do it, but  
20 that's neither here nor there. One of the things  
21 in just noting that I've kind of learned, unless  
22 you have somebody that installs it, because it's

1 a rebate, that's a challenge. My mother's up  
2 there in age, so she has me, which was fortunate.  
3 Most people don't have contractors --

4 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: So is the issue  
5 to install or the issue the rebate?

6 MR. MASEMBWA: I think it's both.  
7 Contractors that they can trust to come in their  
8 homes, to install it, and maybe that's secondary,  
9 but then they need the upfront money because even  
10 though you get a rebate, you still got to lay out  
11 the money up front.

12 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: So maybe there's  
13 a pool of dollars that we can try and massage out  
14 of the Councilmember's budget that is a temporary  
15 pool that's the upfront money to put, and the  
16 upfront money wouldn't necessarily go to the  
17 person, have to trust them, it goes to the store.

18 MR. MASEMBWA: A CBE that could do  
19 this --

20 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: And get some  
21 CBES who are willing to install, that have a  
22 security clearance. So if we can come up with a

1 program, and I'm going to put that on David's lap  
2 at Clean and Safe. If we can come up with the  
3 program, and if we can have the upfront money  
4 that would go directly to the store so they don't  
5 have to put the money, do you think that might be  
6 something we could talk --

7 MEMBER PARET: You also got to make  
8 sure that they spend it, right, got to make sure  
9 --

10 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: We're saying  
11 that the money would go to the store, it would be  
12 spent, so that's -- I'm sorry.

13 COUNCILMEMBER TODD: So we could  
14 probably model it after -- so if you're a senior  
15 within a certain income threshold and you  
16 participate in Safe at Home, part of that program  
17 is the installation of the security camera, and  
18 so seniors get a grant to do things like a stair  
19 lift, and the government will send a company out  
20 to do this work, and seniors get the camera.

21 So we can take a look at what that  
22 model looks like and maybe work with DSLBD to

1 figure out how that will work for small  
2 businesses, because it could be cost prohibitive  
3 for a lot of the smaller businesses.

4 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: You know, I did  
5 not know until a cousin of mine, who has gotten  
6 old and incapacitated, was telling me about  
7 Seniors Safe at Home. She got a chair lift, she  
8 got a -- and her bathtub because and that was  
9 always something my mom, before she passed, she  
10 loved tub baths, and before she was in a senior  
11 home, she couldn't take one because we just  
12 didn't have, you know, the sit-in tub, and those  
13 are popular now, but those things were thousands  
14 of dollars at the time, you know, and thousands  
15 now, but she got a chair lift in her tub to get  
16 in and out of the tub.

17 They put a platform on her front step  
18 because she could no longer, you know, raise her  
19 leg up, that stuff, they put a platform there,  
20 they put -- they weather-proofed her house. I  
21 mean, Safe at Home is something that our seniors  
22 don't know about. This is one of the best-kept



1 secrets around, and your Ward 4 constituents --  
2 because I didn't know. I'm a senior; I didn't  
3 know about it.

4 COUNCILMEMBER TODD: I talk about it  
5 all the time. We've got to make sure --

6 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: I've got to  
7 start listening better.

8 MR. MASEMBWA: Well, Councilmember, if  
9 I can also, Councilmember Todd, add, because I  
10 sat in for my mom and took the class, a lot of  
11 people don't realize that it's a free class,  
12 they'll walk you through all the things that you  
13 can do to qualify, because I'm like, wow.

14 MEMBER TURNER: They'll come to your  
15 home, too.

16 MR. MASEMBWA: I mean, so that is a --  
17 that was a big barrier for some -- I think may be  
18 a barrier for some people.

19 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: So perhaps in  
20 our survey we can -- it can also be information.  
21 It can be an info survey.

22 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: Does anyone have

1 more questions? I don't want to stop the  
2 discourse, I just want to make sure that you have  
3 any questions or comments you want to get to the  
4 Councilmember that you get those out as we  
5 continue talking about information and things  
6 that can occur along Kennedy Street.

7 MR. MASEMBWA: One last thing if I  
8 may, I don't mean to monopolize, but I just come  
9 up with a lot of different things, have you ever  
10 thought about, and I know it's going to be  
11 costly, but since we're talking about budgets  
12 coming up, the new budget, Kennedy Street is very  
13 limited in space, sidewalk and everything. One  
14 thing we could look at is doing something with  
15 Pepco to put these overhead power lines  
16 underground. It's expensive, but is that  
17 something that could be explored?

18 COUNCILMEMBER TODD: Well I'm  
19 disappointed that when we did the streetscape  
20 that that wasn't a part of the plan. Pepco's  
21 undergrounding is not slated for Kennedy Street  
22 anytime soon, actually at all at this point.

1 That doesn't --

2 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: Why?

3 COUNCILMEMBER TODD: Because we're  
4 doing it in neighborhoods where the reliability  
5 is worse. So a lot of those neighborhoods are  
6 actually in Ward 7 is where some of the first --  
7 is that Project Plug, what is that?

8 MEMBER TURNER: DC PLUG.

9 (Simultaneous speaking.)

10 COUNCILMEMBER TODD: And a lot of the  
11 -- they're starting a lot of that work in Ward 7  
12 and parts of Ward 3, and soon some parts of Ward  
13 4, but the -- they usually do it for reliability  
14 purposes. However I think that when we tore up  
15 the entire ground that that would have maybe been  
16 a good opportunity, but when, you know, we didn't  
17 do it. So I don't think it's out of the realm of  
18 the possibility. It just won't happen probably  
19 in the next ten years.

20 MR. MASEMBWA: And I know we already  
21 did the sidewalk, but the street hasn't been done  
22 yet.

1 (Simultaneous speaking.)

2 COUNCILMEMBER TODD: We've repaved  
3 Kennedy Street, now it's been --

4 MR. MASEMBWA: I'm sorry, because I  
5 come through when it's dark, and I don't see so  
6 --

7 COUNCILMEMBER TODD: So we've repaved  
8 the street, we did all -- repaved the sidewalk,  
9 we put up new lighting --

10 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: Well that -- I  
11 was going to ask about lighting because that is  
12 -- the lighting is not --

13 COUNCILMEMBER TODD: On Kennedy  
14 Street?

15 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: Yeah, the  
16 lighting along Kennedy Street is, the entirety of  
17 Kennedy Street, is not the best, and go ahead,  
18 Renee.

19 MEMBER BOWSER: No, I was going to say  
20 I asked for a safety assessment last -- I mean,  
21 fall of 2018 for 5th and Kennedy, and they told  
22 me that it was adequate lighting, and I asked

1       them to redo it, and they told us -- because it  
2       was dark, and came out of a special meeting  
3       because there had been a shooting. I mean there  
4       were several of us that were commenting how dark  
5       it was, but --

6                   CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: Well you know,  
7       when you look at Kennedy Street and compare it to  
8       U Street, I mean there's no comparison. U Street  
9       is lit -- in terms of partying, I mean it's lit,  
10      as opposed to Kennedy Street, it's lighting, but  
11      it's dim lighting, and that's one thing I've  
12      always thought about, it would be wonderful if  
13      Kennedy -- to have these nice bright overhang  
14      lighting, so like Chinatown in Chicago has these  
15      wonderful overhead lighting, it's just beautiful  
16      and it lights the street up and gives a whole new  
17      perspective.

18                   It really makes such a big difference.  
19      It is really not that expensive when you think  
20      about -- it is a cost for the lighting, but  
21      there's a savings in terms of life, there's an  
22      increase in terms of activity along that corridor

1 because the businesses are getting more business,  
2 people feel quite more comfortable walking around  
3 the streets at night time, just like they do if  
4 you look at U Street. I don't think I have to  
5 sell the people here at this table about it, but  
6 lighting makes such a significant difference.

7 MEMBER BOWSER: And there are two bus  
8 stops at 5th and Kennedy, and that's what I  
9 raised, but they said it wasn't --

10 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: Well, I don't  
11 know, is that something that would be a  
12 consideration, Councilmember, to change the  
13 lighting to a different brighter --

14 COUNCILMEMBER TODD: So we can see  
15 what -- we can talk -- we'll see what the  
16 lighting is currently, and then we can talk to  
17 DDOT about I'm sure they're LED lighting, but  
18 maybe there's a brighter light that we could use  
19 --

20 MEMBER PARET: You can increase the  
21 lumens, so depending on the bulb size, you can  
22 increase it. A lot of times because of the load

1 that comes to each block, depending on what that  
2 load is, they'll -- they can change it typically  
3 by going to the box, so that's the first  
4 question, just ask them if they could turn up the  
5 brightness.

6 The other thing is, not to be deceived  
7 by U Street, but as a consumer who goes down to U  
8 Street and doesn't know -- remember U Street is  
9 flanked by a lot of commercial buildings that are  
10 operated, have a lot of light. So the density of  
11 that creates a glow that makes the street seem a  
12 lot lighter. Kennedy Street actually has a lot  
13 of lights. The problem is none of the buildings  
14 have lights. So like, you know --

15 MEMBER TURNER: There's no light  
16 attached to the building that could hang over to  
17 illuminate --

18 MR. MASEMBWA: Well you can do the  
19 lighting from anything, from inside the windows,  
20 anything --

21 MEMBER PARET: It could be anything  
22 that creates -- and that's going to create a glow

1 in scale.

2 MEMBER TURNER: But the -- maybe, you  
3 know, the Uptown Main Street does have a design  
4 committee, so perhaps you all could talk to them  
5 and maybe through some of the small grants --

6 MEMBER PARET: I'm on that committee  
7 though, so --

8 MEMBER TURNER: Maybe they would be  
9 willing to provide some money for lights, you  
10 know, with some sort of thematic design in mind.

11 MEMBER PARET: You may not have to  
12 give money. I think that there could be an  
13 incentive to a developer for like, hey, maybe you  
14 offer, you know, maybe we'll let you a bike rack  
15 here if you put lighting, like there could be a  
16 give-and-take there where the city doesn't have  
17 to spend money, and the developer has a little  
18 bit of an incentive --

19 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: I like that.

20 MEMBER PARET: -- and going back to  
21 what you were saying earlier based on the  
22 transportation sort of needs, that does -- maybe



1       there's a parking credit, maybe there's a  
2       partnership with some of the people that you've  
3       talked to, and maybe, you know, throw in lighting  
4       or something.

5                   I think there's plenty of ways to get  
6       the developer to pay to do -- because there's a  
7       lot of these developers that are putting up stuff  
8       I don't think are -- they're just -- if you throw  
9       up a building, it's all dark, it doesn't really  
10      look that good.

11                   CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL:  Yeah, and it's  
12      safe for them.

13                   (Simultaneous speaking.)

14                   CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL:  Well, as we move  
15      on with ideas, I think a lot more will flow.  I  
16      don't think I need to talk about to review this  
17      Committee's objectives because we kind of all  
18      were talking about what the objectives are.  You  
19      all know in fact what the objectives are, and  
20      that's to improve Kennedy Street, and the  
21      objectives of your individual committees are to  
22      come up with different ideas.

1 David is not here with regard to Clean  
2 and Safe. Let me stop and say that if you must  
3 leave us, Councilmember, we want to thank you for  
4 being here, and I'd like to see if you want any  
5 final remarks that you'd like to say to the --

6 COUNCILMEMBER TODD: I would just,  
7 one, thank you all. I really appreciate  
8 everyone's work towards the betterment of Kennedy  
9 Street. Thank you for your leadership, Madam  
10 Chairwoman, and, you know, together we will, and,  
11 you know, it just takes ticking off these lists  
12 every -- as often as we can. So I really  
13 appreciate everyone's commitment to not only our  
14 ward and this corridor, but the entire city, so  
15 thank you all so much. Thank you for having me  
16 here tonight.

17 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: I'm not supposed  
18 to say this, but everybody vote because June 4 is  
19 coming.

20 COUNCILMEMBER TODD: June 2.

21 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: June 2.

22 (Simultaneous speaking.)

1 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: We support him  
2 and want him to continue, yes. Thank you so  
3 much.

4 COUNCILMEMBER TODD: All right, thank  
5 you, everybody.

6 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: Economic  
7 Development, Mr. Ford.

8 (Simultaneous speaking.)

9 MR. MCAULEY: Madam chair, I apologize  
10 but April 15 is the actual meeting. I was  
11 looking at the last email, so this is the final,  
12 April 15. Tax day.

13 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: It is posted on  
14 the website.

15 MEMBER FORD: Is that a Wednesday,  
16 sir?

17 MR. MCAULEY: Yes.

18 MEMBER FORD: Because Emancipation Day  
19 is the next day, and D.C. government is closed,  
20 correct? On the 16th?

21 (Simultaneous speaking.)

22 MEMBER FORD: All right, Madam Chair,

1 the Economic Development Subcommittee, we had a  
2 meeting last month, yourself, Jackie, Erkin,  
3 Kanyi, and Krystal were all present on the phone.  
4 We did about 15 to 30 minute conversation, just  
5 to get everybody together to find out, you know,  
6 what we're going to try to do. We want to have a  
7 tangible delivery of some type of services.

8 So from that meeting we talked about  
9 obtaining some information from DCRA to describe  
10 the types of businesses on this corridor, and we  
11 know that the Main Street has some of that  
12 information. So we were going to reach out to  
13 the Main Street, but of course they have a little  
14 change of leadership and everything, so we are  
15 going to keep moving forward with that as well.

16 I did put a call out and waiting on  
17 some information back from Courtney Strong  
18 (phonetic) because I have been steadfast in  
19 believing that that's one of the biggest plots of  
20 land, so besides Charles, all his properties,  
21 Horton actually has a nice piece of property  
22 that's in that corridor right there between, I

1 think, 7th and 8th, 5th and 6th Street, that if  
2 properly developed will give us density.

3 And we're talking about lighting, we  
4 need housing. But we also -- there's nothing  
5 wrong with affordable housing, which we're going  
6 to have 38 new units, but if we can get some  
7 market rate housing as well, or enough affordable  
8 housing, that can really help push retail as  
9 well.

10 MEMBER PARET: I have -- have you ever  
11 met Martin Ditto for Horton?

12 MEMBER FORD: Yes.

13 MEMBER PARET: So I'm talking to  
14 Martin about he's very interested --

15 MEMBER FORD: So that property right  
16 there, unfortunately I'm trying to get the  
17 Hortons to find a for-profit developer who can  
18 kind of move this along the line because they  
19 keep going with a non-profit developer which you  
20 have to get rounds of funding, and if you don't  
21 get the Housing Production Trust Fund this year,  
22 it moves to next year, and the costs -- just

1 moves down the road.

2 MEMBER PARET: But Martin's new  
3 concept is focused primarily on affordable  
4 housing.

5 MEMBER FORD: He's made his money off  
6 of market, so of course everybody moves from  
7 market to affordable --

8 MEMBER PARET: No, but he's come up  
9 with a really neat concept that I've been working  
10 with him on and been trying to bring him to  
11 Kennedy Street. I have -- obviously have my  
12 hands full, but I'm also trying to -- I'm  
13 partnering, working with other developers that  
14 see the same sort of vision and trying to have  
15 them be more optimistic.

16 If they increase their affordable  
17 housing, I'm sure the city will work with them to  
18 either maybe increase some form of density or  
19 increase something in exchange for that at a  
20 larger scale. So he's very interested. I've  
21 mentioned the Horton site to him, but we should  
22 discuss that at another time --

1 MEMBER FORD: We will because --

2 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: What's the  
3 location of the Horton site?

4 MEMBER FORD: Is it 708?

5 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: 8th and what?

6 MEMBER FORD: It's something like 708  
7 Kennedy Street, that --

8 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: The Horton --  
9 the funeral parlor?

10 (Simultaneous speaking.)

11 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: Oh, that's a  
12 great --

13 MEMBER FORD: Yeah, that's the  
14 biggest, if when you look at land --

15 (Simultaneous speaking.)

16 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: He's not ready  
17 to sell that, is he?

18 MEMBER FORD: Well he was in  
19 conversation with MANNA for years about kind of  
20 co-developing.

21 MEMBER BRANTON: So quick update, so  
22 I do apologize to the Economic Committee, but

1 I've had an opportunity to have a conversation  
2 with Mrs. Horton, but they do not want to go on  
3 record right now. Let's just say that the  
4 property will not be used for housing. That's  
5 all I can say about that. But I told her, you  
6 know, it's best, she have -- this conversation  
7 with you directly, but I can confirm that it's  
8 not going to be --

9 MEMBER FORD: Because I know at some  
10 point they wanted to --

11 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: -- commercial  
12 space though --

13 MEMBER BRANTON: We'll get more, yeah,  
14 into that, but --

15 MEMBER FORD: At one point they wanted  
16 to --

17 MEMBER BRANTON: -- the housing piece  
18 she's -- they've remove that from the table.

19 MEMBER FORD: Right, one of the things  
20 they want to do is rebuild the funeral home and  
21 put housing above, but -- that was what I  
22 originally heard years ago. But anyway, moving



1 on for next -- but we will continue to talk to  
2 them. And then what I did hear today is a  
3 survey, and in my mind I'm thinking is there  
4 listservs, I was going to ask Dolly or the people  
5 in Ward 4, what is the best way for a survey? Is  
6 it through the ANCs or through a listserv? What  
7 do you think would be the best way to --

8 MEMBER BOWSER: Well listservs are  
9 good; ANCs are good, but you're going to miss --  
10 if it's only electronic, online, you're going to  
11 miss certain people, you're going to miss certain  
12 groups of people, so it's not going to be really  
13 inclusive.

14 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: So does it need  
15 to be done door-to-door or mail or all of the  
16 above?

17 MEMBER FORD: Don't have no money for  
18 mail.

19 MEMBER BOWSER: I mean it would be  
20 great if we could get some -- either  
21 door-to-door, that could be a job for somebody.

22 (Simultaneous speaking.)

1 MEMBER FORD: Well maybe just --

2 MEMBER BOWSER: Or, yeah, phone, land  
3 lines, older people have land lines.

4 MEMBER FORD: Or maybe this is  
5 something for the Main Street since they receive  
6 government money. Maybe we can push it off to  
7 the Main Street. Once they get a new director,  
8 maybe we'll --

9 MEMBER PARET: They just got --

10 MEMBER FORD: Okay well let's let her  
11 get her feet wet a little bit before I -- he or  
12 she --

13 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: Has there been  
14 a new director?

15 MEMBER PARET: Yes.

16 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: There's an  
17 interim director.

18 MEMBER PARET: Oh, there's an interim.  
19 I was just emailed today about how --

20 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: I wrote her name  
21 down.

22 MEMBER PARET: Janet Lugo.

1 (Simultaneous speaking.)

2 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: That's the  
3 interim director. That's interim while they're  
4 interviewing for a new director.

5 MEMBER FORD: So whenever that person  
6 gets into position, I make a recommendation that  
7 we, you know, since we don't have any funds, I  
8 think the Main Street would be perfect for that  
9 because I remember they did a pamphlet where they  
10 identified some of the type of businesses anyway,  
11 so this might be a project for them --

12 (Simultaneous speaking.)

13 MEMBER FORD: That they could engage  
14 some of the youth in the community.

15 MEMBER BOWSER: Or phone would be good  
16 because they, most of the older people have land  
17 lines.

18 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: You know we did  
19 two things. One is that Erkin put together a  
20 huge piece that we've worked on, and, yeah, and  
21 really, really good and it fills across the  
22 board, and we brought it to a meeting, and we

1 started putting the names of every business along  
2 Kennedy Street, and we feel we -- as a matter of  
3 fact I believe we have more. We certainly added  
4 all the ones that the original Main Streets had  
5 done.

6 We've got more of them now, and that  
7 was such a good concept for us, and we really  
8 need to finish it. As a matter of fact, I  
9 mentioned it to Charles and his brother when I  
10 met with them down at their facility, and --  
11 wonderful facility, by the way. But I met with  
12 -- and his brother suggested they could put that  
13 electronically online for us, and we can just  
14 feed into it data as we --

15 MEMBER PARET: We have it. I think we  
16 have that data now. We actually generated it, so  
17 what it is it's the name of the business, the  
18 owner of the business, phone number, cell phone,  
19 email address, and then typically their home  
20 address as well. So it includes all of that  
21 information. We have that for every address on  
22 Kennedy Street.

1                   MEMBER FORD: Do you have the type of  
2 business it is as well?

3                   CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: Maybe not.

4                   MEMBER PARET: Maybe not. That could  
5 be -- you could easily get virtually through  
6 streetscape or something like that.

7                   CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: And the new  
8 director can get that. A lot of businesses you  
9 don't know who they are until you actually, you  
10 know --

11                   MEMBER PARET: That should also be on  
12 file with OTR.

13                   MEMBER FORD: That would probably --  
14 the type of business would be DCRA.

15                   (Simultaneous speaking.)

16                   CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: It's on file  
17 with them if they have a general business  
18 license, but we all know that a lot of folks  
19 don't have a general business license, if you  
20 listened to the hearings last week.

21                   MEMBER FORD: And now there's that new  
22 law out here if you start a new LLC, you can't

1 use -- if you got ten percent more interest you  
2 have to disclose who you are.

3 MR. MASEMBWA: All the ownership --

4 MEMBER FORD: Yes.

5 MR. MCAULEY: Madam chair?

6 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: Yes, sir?

7 MR. MCAULEY: What's the timeframe  
8 with the surveys? Because if you wait to do all  
9 that -- I'm just saying you're not going to reach  
10 everybody.

11 MEMBER FORD: Anyway.

12 MR. MCAULEY: Yeah, like in the  
13 interest of time you may just want to create a  
14 survey, make sure the ANCs know, make sure to  
15 post them on listservs, post them on Facebook or  
16 whatever.

17 (Simultaneous speaking.)

18 MR. MCAULEY: -- We're not going to be  
19 able to knock on everybody's door.

20 MEMBER FORD: No, no, but I do think  
21 this is probably best with the -- it would help  
22 the new director of the Main Street to get

1 herself or himself familiar with --

2 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: Let me make a  
3 suggestion about --

4 MEMBER BOWSER: Phone would be good  
5 because particularly with people in apartment  
6 buildings, they're not going to -- sometimes you  
7 can't even get in the building, and you don't  
8 know who they are. It's easy to get somebody if  
9 they have a -- they're a regular home, you can  
10 get to them by flyer, but in a apartment  
11 building, some buildings you can't even --

12 MR. MCAULEY: Have you called to do a  
13 survey, though, before?

14 MEMBER BOWSER: Have what?

15 MR. MCAULEY: Have you called to do a  
16 survey before?

17 MEMBER BOWSER: I've called people,  
18 yeah.

19 (Simultaneous speaking.)

20 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: Let me make a  
21 suggestion about the survey first, because the  
22 logistics of getting the survey instrument is one

1 thing, and then the logistics of getting out is  
2 another. If we stick first with just the --  
3 getting the instrument together, I'd like to ask  
4 each committee, subcommittee, to put together a  
5 list of no more than --

6 MEMBER OZBERK: Two, yeah, there's  
7 five subcommittees. That's ten questions, it's  
8 --

9 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: I was going to  
10 say no more than five because I think -- some  
11 committees, especially Transportation, that's  
12 you, would have more --

13 MEMBER OZBERK: Well it's for everyone  
14 else, but I can get five.

15 (Simultaneous speaking.)

16 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: You could each  
17 put together no more than five questions, and you  
18 can send them to me. I'll take the  
19 responsibility of collecting them and putting the  
20 survey instrument together.

21 MEMBER FORD: Okay, so two questions.

22 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: So no more than



1 five questions from Clean & Safe, Economic  
2 Development --

3 (Simultaneous speaking.)

4 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: And I'm going to  
5 ask Mr. Masembwa to be responsible for getting me  
6 the Housing questions since he -- Lamont Akins is  
7 not here. I will talk to David. I'm sure that  
8 he will come up with some Clean & Safe questions.  
9 The Collaboration & Strategic Partnerships, Mr.  
10 Paret, Charles, want to give me no more than  
11 five, Transportation & Public Space -- remember,  
12 everybody, no more than five.

13 And I'll ask that you give them to me  
14 no more than -- give yourself a deadline. Give  
15 yourself a deadline. You either suggest a  
16 deadline or I'll give one.

17 MEMBER FORD: End of the month,  
18 February -- what's the last?

19 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: 29th.

20 MEMBER FORD: 29th.

21 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: Okay, no later  
22 than February 29th everyone will please send me

1 five questions, no more than five questions, for  
2 the survey. And I'm going to ask Committee  
3 member Bowser to come up with a logistics plan  
4 for coming up with how to distribute the survey.  
5 In other words, and nothing that complicated,  
6 Renee, but you're very familiar with the  
7 community, and it could be ANCs, go with ANCs, go  
8 with -- associations

9 MEMBER FORD: We have to look at the  
10 boundaries too, right? Is it -- there has to be  
11 some, like, eight blocks. Got to be some kind of  
12 way --

13 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: Well I'm going  
14 to ask Erkin to go with logistics -- or I mean  
15 with the parameter because he is more familiar  
16 with the planning, transportation planning. So,  
17 Erkin, if you will give me the boundaries?

18 MEMBER OZBERK: Sure.

19 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: And, Renee, if  
20 you will give me how to distribute? Every  
21 Committee chair, including you, Mr. Masembwa, but  
22 give me no more than five questions.

1                   MEMBER PARET: There are a lot of  
2 businesses that -- on Kennedy Street that  
3 actually people don't speak English, so it would  
4 be good to have it Spanish as well.

5                   MEMBER BOWSER: And maybe Amharic

6                   MEMBER PARET: Yes --

7                   CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: All right, well  
8 that's probably distribution, Economic  
9 Development, and I'm going to ask Mr. Ford to be  
10 responsible making sure you get it translated.  
11 Can I ask you to do that? Or is that a Phillip  
12 McAuley?

13                   MEMBER FORD: I think that's a  
14 government issue right there because of funding.

15                   CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: I think you're  
16 right. Phillip, can I ask you to do that, Mr. --  
17 McNelly?

18                   MR. MCAULEY: McAuley.

19                   CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: I was right,  
20 McAuley. Can I ask you to do that? Can you get  
21 it translated into Amharic and into Spanish? Do  
22 you have the resources for that?

1                   MR. MCAULEY: Yes and no. We have  
2 agencies that handle that, but I'm not sure we  
3 are able to use it for this particular --

4                   CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: So maybe this is  
5 a Dolly. Why don't I go to Dolly and see how she  
6 can address this? I'm sure the Councilmember has  
7 some resources, so that's back on me, okay, once  
8 the -- I have all of the questions from all of  
9 you, then that survey, and I don't know why I'm  
10 taking that responsibility. That actually should  
11 go to Derek Ford. This is really Economic  
12 Development, isn't it, Derek?

13                  MEMBER FORD: It doesn't make a  
14 difference. It's about the funding right now.  
15 It's about who's going to pay for the language.

16                  CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: For the  
17 language? Well we may not have to pay for the  
18 language. I have someone in my office that can  
19 do Spanish translations as long as she's working  
20 there. But I don't have access to anybody doing  
21 Amharic, I don't think, that can do it properly.

22                               (Simultaneous speaking.)

1                   MEMBER PARET: I have somebody who  
2 could do the -- a former pastor, Amharic is  
3 Ethiopian, right? So the former pastor of the  
4 large Ethiopian church which is in Ward 4 --

5                   CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: So you've got  
6 Amharic?

7                   MEMBER BOWSER: They still would want  
8 to pay -- he would --

9                   MEMBER PARET: Yeah, but he's a local  
10 pastor, he may -- he might be a catalyst to  
11 identifying somebody who could possibly do it.  
12 I'll introduce you to him, Loretta, and I just --  
13 you know, as like a sort of social good thing.

14                   MEMBER BOWSER: There's a small  
15 business, they used to be on Kennedy Street and  
16 now they've moved to Northeast, Washington  
17 Digital Media. They do an excellent job. I have  
18 them translate my newsletter into Spanish.

19                   CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: We don't have a  
20 lot of money, so we're looking for --

21                   MEMBER BOWSER: But they're like \$45  
22 a page.

1 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: We don't have  
2 any money.

3 MEMBER BOWSER: Okay, because that's  
4 cheap, \$45 a page is very cheap. And they're  
5 good too.

6 MEMBER PARET: Washington Digital  
7 what?

8 MEMBER BOWSER: Washington Digital  
9 Media.

10 MEMBER PARET: Why don't just get a  
11 small -- why don't we get a local business or  
12 something that could sponsor --

13 MEMBER NOISETTE: Yeah, because like  
14 a lot of times, people -- some businesses --

15 (Simultaneous speaking.)

16 MEMBER NOISETTE: -- passion about  
17 doing something for the community. If they know  
18 what you're doing and the purpose of it, they  
19 might --

20 MEMBER FORD: If you run this through  
21 the Main Street, then the --

22 (Simultaneous speaking.)

1                   MEMBER PARET: Loretta, Uptown Main  
2 Street should do that. I think that's -- there  
3 you go, Derek.

4                   CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: Who should do  
5 it?

6                   MEMBER NOISETTE: He said Uptown Main  
7 Street.

8                   MEMBER PARET: I think that's a  
9 perfect thing, we give --

10                   (Simultaneous speaking.)

11                   MR. RUPPERT: They'll probably be  
12 happy to be a part of the survey anyway.

13                   MEMBER NOISETTE: I think so, and then  
14 you put their logo on it.

15                   MEMBER BOWSER: I know for the ANCs,  
16 we now can pay for it if we need to have  
17 simultaneous translation or need to translate  
18 text, we can submit that, and that's a  
19 reimbursable bill for ANC.

20                   CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: Let me ask this.  
21 We have our -- you --

22                   MR. MASEMBWA: Scribe.

1                   CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL:  Yeah, scribe.  
2                   If someone was hear that only spoke Spanish and  
3                   they had to see the meeting minutes, would your  
4                   company translate them into Spanish?

5                   THE COURT REPORTER:  I'm not entirely  
6                   sure.  We may have that capability, but it's not  
7                   something that we do often.

8                   CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL:  Oh, okay, well  
9                   I'm just wondering.  I was getting ready to lay  
10                  all this on you --

11                  (Simultaneous speaking.)

12                  CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL:  In the interest  
13                  of time, the survey, Erkin's going to do the  
14                  boundaries of survey.  Renee's going to do the  
15                  distribution.  Each committee is going to come up  
16                  with five questions, and I've got him, Kanyi,  
17                  you're going to do the Housing.  I'll get in  
18                  touch with David about the Clean & Safe.

19                  I'm going to -- I'm going to put  
20                  together the survey, and then I will distribute  
21                  it to everybody, and I expect to get some  
22                  immediate feedback yea or nay, okay?  So we can



1 try and get these surveys out, I don't know if we  
2 will get them out before our next committee  
3 meeting. We should be able to. We should be  
4 able to.

5 So if we get a consensus by everyone  
6 that the questions are good, if we have the --  
7 where they're going to go out to, we have a way  
8 to distribute them, and that's the big piece is  
9 the distribution. That will be a big piece in  
10 terms of how to distribute this because none of  
11 you, myself included, are going to knock on  
12 doors.

13 (Simultaneous speaking.)

14 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: Now, Charles did  
15 say that he had everybody's email address along  
16 Kennedy Street. So he has everybody's email  
17 address, and we also ask the ANCs to be  
18 responsible for pushing, and whatever other  
19 distribution channels you come up with, then  
20 we'll have a deadline.

21 If we get approval of the survey, then  
22 let's give the survey 30 days, and we'll ask them

1 to return it -- you know, Main Street, return it  
2 to them, they have a public address. We can  
3 return it to them.

4 MEMBER PARET: And Uptown Main Street  
5 can't do this survey? Is that something we  
6 talked about?

7 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: I don't know if  
8 they can. I don't what their charter fully is to  
9 do. I really don't.

10 MEMBER PARET: That seems like that  
11 would be a very logical thing.

12 MEMBER OZBERK: I think the issue is  
13 just that they're like in a transition right now.

14 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: Yeah, they don't  
15 even have a director right now, so that seems  
16 kind of rudderless for us to put all our eggs in  
17 that basket.

18 MEMBER NOISETTE: But does the Main  
19 Streets -- because I know they focus on  
20 businesses, but what about, you know, the  
21 residents in --

22 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: They don't focus

1 on them.

2 MEMBER NOISETTE: They're very focused  
3 on the business side.

4 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: But the ANCs do  
5 focus on residents as well, and whatever local  
6 organizations, and so that might be how we hit  
7 the residents, but I would not like to leave them  
8 out of this. So we -- I don't know.

9 I'd like to push ahead to get this  
10 done, but I don't know that we'll get it done as  
11 quickly as we all want it done, because we do  
12 want to make sure that we have a representative  
13 sampling of everybody along Kennedy Street, not  
14 just businesses but the residents, not just  
15 English-speaking but non-English-speaking, not  
16 just black, not just white, not just Hispanic or  
17 Asian, but a representative sampling of everybody  
18 including not-for-profits. We have  
19 not-for-profits, and professional services.

20 Charles, I don't know what your  
21 database looks like. Can you -- is -- provide  
22 information in terms of if your database --

1 whether it includes, there's a breakdown of  
2 professional service, vendors, retail, is there  
3 -- can you give us a breakdown?

4 MEMBER PARET: Yeah, I can do that.

5 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: Okay, also the  
6 numbers, if you have numbers, because I'm sure  
7 your database has more than ten people, but if  
8 you only have 12, you know, that still wouldn't  
9 be good, so I'm putting you down, Charles --

10 MEMBER PARET: It's every business  
11 that's in any four --

12 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: In Ward 4?

13 (Simultaneous speaking.)

14 MEMBER PARET: No, on 1st Street to  
15 9th Street.

16 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: So you're going  
17 to provide a breakdown of the Kennedy Street  
18 business database that you have.

19 MEMBER PARET: Yes.

20 MEMBER BOWSER: How far west on  
21 Kennedy Street are we going? To Georgia Avenue?

22 MEMBER PARET: Just to Georgia Avenue,

1 it's North Capitol to Georgia. That's all the  
2 information that I have. I think I have a little  
3 bit down Georgia as well.

4 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: Okay, well we  
5 spent a lot of time on this survey. Is there  
6 anything you want to talk about before we move on  
7 to -- any more for you, Derek?

8 MEMBER FORD: No, ma'am.

9 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: Okay, Housing,  
10 again Lamont Akins -- may change very shortly.  
11 Collaboration & Strategic Partnerships. Charles?

12 MEMBER PARET: Yes.

13 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: Do you have a  
14 report for us, any updates for us?

15 MEMBER PARET: Yes, I have a few  
16 things. I worked with a couple of the local  
17 small businesses, and we've produced a video,  
18 like a short film on Kennedy Street, which I'd  
19 like to share with you guys at some point,  
20 something I can send around.

21 And we've started doing a series of  
22 short films to sort of highlight a lot of the

1 small businesses, like the grocery store that's  
2 opening up, the coffee shop that's about to open  
3 up in a couple weeks, I'm not sure if you're  
4 aware, 5505 1st Street, where there's a little  
5 bungalow, La Coop Coffee is opening, which will  
6 be really, really nice.

7 They'll have sandwiches and coffee, so  
8 they'll be open in a couple weeks. But just to  
9 show videos of the different small businesses  
10 here, and that was paid for by a grant that -- or  
11 that my company put out there, but that video can  
12 be used however people would like to use.

13 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: Can you send  
14 that video around to -- if you send it to me I  
15 can distribute it to everybody on the committee  
16 with your approval. Okay, yes.

17 MEMBER BOWSER: What is your business?

18 MEMBER PARET: I'm -- I do historic  
19 preservation, but I also -- I'm a developer, but  
20 I'm what you call a -- I like to build things  
21 around -- create storytelling around the  
22 properties and communities I'm building, and I

1 only really build here in Ward 4. I've been in  
2 Kennedy Street for four years, really believe in  
3 the community. I'm not really a competitive  
4 developer.

5 I try to bring a lot of people  
6 together, and I care about preserving the history  
7 of this corridor. It's something that's really  
8 important. A lot of corridors have been lost, so  
9 I'm very passionate about it, and I also like  
10 working with small businesses and creating --  
11 keeping out big box retailers, trying to empower  
12 small business owners, help them with the tools  
13 and things that they need. So, but yeah, to  
14 answer your question. But my background is in  
15 like historic, old building preservation.

16 Other partnerships. I've spoken with  
17 the group that does the Eastern Market farmers  
18 market, and I have gotten permission from another  
19 developer named Mohammad Sikder, District  
20 Properties, great guy, I've done a lot of work  
21 with him over the years, about doing a farmers  
22 market at 22 and 24 Kennedy. I'm not sure if you

1 know the address. It's the church over here.

2 So we're working in trying to do a  
3 farmers market there on Saturday in partnership  
4 with the group. We haven't really had one that's  
5 been long-going, but I think it would be a great  
6 location to do it until that property is  
7 developed.

8 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: Where?

9 MEMBER PARET: At 22 to 24 Kennedy,  
10 directly, it's like two blocks down on the right  
11 across from the charter school. There's a large  
12 parking lot.

13 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: Right next to  
14 charter school.

15 MEMBER PARET: It's across the street.  
16 Not where the tire shop is, but across the  
17 street, closer to here.

18 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: Where the church  
19 is?

20 MEMBER PARET: It's for one of the  
21 churches, yes. So we're working to do a farmers  
22 market, though, on Saturday because they have



1 service on Sunday. Something I've been pushing  
2 for for a while. The problem is we've got to get  
3 Uptown behind it, you have to get the community  
4 around it, we have to get behind it, because  
5 we've got to promote it, right?

6 So vendors don't want to come and not  
7 sell produce and not have us support it, so what  
8 I told them that we would do is think of  
9 something that we could do to get everybody out  
10 there to sort of say hey, listen, we're going to  
11 be doing this. How do we communicate that  
12 message to the residents of Kennedy Street?

13 This is more for the residences, not  
14 just for the small businesses, which I think that  
15 we're doing a lot for the small businesses, what  
16 can we do for the residents. And also catering  
17 to, because of the seniors in some of the areas,  
18 and the seniors would like to come, but they need  
19 help maybe bringing some of the groceries or some  
20 of the things to their house. They still want to  
21 be outside.

22 There's actually a group in Eastern

1 Market that actually delivers the groceries to  
2 seniors, delivers things. So they can come, they  
3 buy everything that they want, and at the end of  
4 the farmers market, they come and they drop it  
5 off at their house.

6 So I'm working with them to try to  
7 develop a timeline that would start. Obviously  
8 we're gearing up for spring, and all of these  
9 people plan. So if it's something that we're  
10 interested in, I believe we can get them to  
11 execute on it.

12 It would be probably about ten to 15  
13 different vendors. It would be free for the  
14 first, you know, we would just let them do it,  
15 come, and then they would, you know, next season  
16 they would pay like a -- if they can do it next  
17 season, but ideally the money would go to the  
18 city if we had to close down the street, similar  
19 to what they did in Bloomingdale. They closed  
20 down the street; the money goes to a local ANC or  
21 whatever the -- however the community would  
22 structure it, but ideally it would be a free

1 thing. The developer would let them use the  
2 space. So just an idea, something I thought  
3 would be beneficial, but something that could  
4 happen in early spring.

5 MEMBER NOISETTE: If that does happen,  
6 just let me know so as far as licensing. Is that  
7 public space or private space?

8 MEMBER PARET: It's private.

9 MEMBER NOISETTE: It's private.

10 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: But to close  
11 down the streets is -- that is a cost.

12 MEMBER PARET: We don't have to close  
13 down the street. They have -- 22 to 24 is about  
14 12,000, 14,000 square feet of parking lot.

15 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: If it's that  
16 parking lot --

17 MEMBER PARET: Yeah, it's the parking  
18 lot.

19 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: -- it's huge.

20 MEMBER PARET: It's huge, more than  
21 enough to do a farmers market, and it's a great  
22 location for it. It's all fenced in. It's

1 perfect, so being able to create that community,  
2 it's right across the street from where the new  
3 coffee shop, right behind where the brewery has  
4 opened up, an art show -- so I think it would be  
5 really good, a really good addition. But it  
6 would start like in spring, and if somebody --  
7 I'm just packaging all together, so whoever -- I  
8 guess would it be me sort of leading the  
9 initiative because I put it together, or is there  
10 -- which is totally fine.

11 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: Well you are  
12 Collaboration & Strategic --

13 MEMBER PARET: Partnerships, so yes.

14 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: Economic  
15 Development, I would --

16 (Simultaneous speaking.)

17 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: -- also want to  
18 participate, because it is economic development,  
19 it's creating economic development for the  
20 community, and so we certainly work with Derek  
21 Ford on that -- yes, Mr. Masembwa?

22 MR. MASEMBWA: I have a question,

1 Charles. Did you -- have you collaborated with I  
2 think it's a small farming area right there off  
3 of North Capitol Street, right before you get to  
4 -- right before it becomes Blair Road?

5 MEMBER PARET: The coop?

6 MR. MASEMBWA: I don't know if it's a  
7 coop, I just know it's always been there --

8 MEMBER OZBERK: The community garden  
9 off of Blair?

10 MR. MASEMBWA: Yeah, it's some type of  
11 garden or farmers garden, small. It's been there  
12 forever. So but I've never gone over there.  
13 I've always seen it passing by. And that's right  
14 around the corner.

15 MEMBER PARET: No, I've never done --  
16 no, I wouldn't know -- typically those are all  
17 private individuals that want a place that they  
18 can garden. There wouldn't be any  
19 commercialization, farming, that could -- that  
20 you could grow stuff and then bring it to the  
21 farmers market.

22 MR. MASEMBWA: Yeah, I didn't know if

1 there was something that --

2 MEMBER PARET: No, it's all regulated.

3 MR. MASEMBWA: Because it's in the  
4 area, the same neighborhood, so. Something to  
5 look at.

6 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: Thank you,  
7 Charles. You have a lot of information tonight.  
8 I appreciate that, and I really like the idea of  
9 a new farmers market. Please keep us updated.  
10 Let us know how we can work on that, but I would  
11 certainly expect you to be in touch with Mr.  
12 Ford, who has a great mind at putting and working  
13 on things like this.

14 MEMBER FORD: That's correct.

15 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: Moving right  
16 along to Transportation & Public Space. Mr.  
17 Ozberk.

18 MEMBER OZBERK: Sure, so our committee  
19 had a meeting or phone meeting in January, and I  
20 shared actually our three kind of main takeaways  
21 with Councilmember Todd earlier. I guess the  
22 only two additions I will make to that, just

1 based on the conversation around parks and public  
2 space, that there's a playable art feature that  
3 should be installed at 5th and Kennedy this  
4 calendar year, so in the summer.

5 The intention behind that, just sort  
6 of to your point about the kids at the short-term  
7 family housing facility, the point behind  
8 choosing that location was because this part of  
9 the city, there is a need for more sort of  
10 playground or active spaces for young people in  
11 particular.

12 That installation will not meet that  
13 need fully, but it's intended to try to think  
14 creatively about how we can use our streets to be  
15 a little bit more playful and exciting and less  
16 scary and dangerous and cars and things like  
17 that. So that's coming, which is really  
18 exciting, and the Commission of Arts and  
19 Humanities is working with an artist to install  
20 it, and so we're probably hear more about it  
21 soon.

22 The other thing is the Department of

1 Parks and Recreation is also kicking off kind of  
2 a planning process to think more about parks and  
3 recreation across the city. I think they're  
4 having some public meetings in March.

5 So it could be a good way to tie in  
6 this conversation about the National Park Service  
7 land along Missouri and if there's opportunities  
8 to be partnering with -- the problem with  
9 National Park Service, you'll often -- it's just  
10 a field usually, it's like all the fields in D.C.  
11 are just owned by NPS because they don't -- they  
12 do like buffalo and Yellowstone, they don't  
13 really do city parks.

14 So increasingly DPR or some of the  
15 other agencies or groups in the city are trying  
16 to use National Park Service land for city park  
17 kind of functions, like Franklin Park downtown  
18 and things like that. So there's maybe an  
19 opportunity for some of those parks along  
20 Missouri to be more community-oriented if there's  
21 an ability for investment to be made by the  
22 District to install something and then DPR to



1 maintain and operate it.

2 But that takes time and gears, but if  
3 this committee can identify that need or  
4 highlight a -- that might be a good thing to see  
5 some movement.

6 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: It would be  
7 excellent if this were to be a recommendation to  
8 this committee, to the Councilmember, that we  
9 need to make sure and identify all the National  
10 Park area spaces because we are indeed barren of  
11 parks and recreation activity spaces in Ward 4.

12 We just -- we don't have any, and  
13 there are certainly none along the Kennedy Street  
14 corridor, and the development that, and the  
15 Councilmember sees this as the next U Street, the  
16 next H Street, and I think with what's going on  
17 in terms of the economic development, in terms of  
18 the commercial space and the housing, it's not  
19 within the realm of impossibility within the next  
20 five to ten years this will be a really bubbling  
21 hub, and we have an opportunity to do something  
22 about it.

1                   And what we don't want to do is have  
2                   our kids squeezed out. We don't want seniors to  
3                   be squeezed out and it's just to be a metropolis  
4                   of tight spaces where people live and -- vertical  
5                   housing. So that's why we're together as a  
6                   group, to do something about it, to identify  
7                   issues and do something about it to make sure  
8                   that we have good retail spaces.

9                   I'd like to see Paul open a restaurant  
10                  on the Kennedy Street corridor. You all don't  
11                  know that Paul Ruppert is a restaurateur who has  
12                  a number of restaurants around the city, and I'd  
13                  love if Paul were to see a space, because his  
14                  restaurants are always very nice, to have a space  
15                  here on Kennedy Street. So if you see something,  
16                  let us know and we can support your having some  
17                  space here, Paul, to be on Kennedy Street.

18                  So with that said, is there anything  
19                  else in Transportation & Public Space?

20                  MEMBER OZBERK: That's it.

21                  CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: We have some  
22                  homework that we all have to do. I think the

1 survey we have is a good idea. We also talked  
2 about some public spaces for our kids to look at,  
3 to identify some public space. That wasn't just  
4 lip service, I hope that we did have individuals  
5 going to be looking at potential public spaces  
6 for kids. Who was that?

7 MR. MASEMBWA: I think Kanyi and  
8 Charles were going to talk afterwards, at least  
9 collaborate and put our names together so we can  
10 meet, talk, or however they want to do it.

11 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: And Charles.

12 MR. MASEMBWA: Yes, I mentioned  
13 Charles.

14 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: Got you down.  
15 Okay, and we talked about the survey. Everybody  
16 has their assignments on that. Have I missed  
17 anything? Housing we don't really have. I'm  
18 going to suggest to the Councilmember that should  
19 be a -- look at housing very carefully for you,  
20 Mr. Masembwa.

21 MR. MASEMBWA: Yes, ma'am.

22 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: Okay, so I don't

1 think I have anything else other than to say that  
2 -- to remind you all you need to make sure to  
3 vote on June 2. Also the third annual Ward 4  
4 Business Summit is coming, which hopefully will  
5 be held on Roosevelt, Roosevelt School. If you  
6 are not aware of what the business summit, it is  
7 not just for retail or professional services, all  
8 businesses --

9 MEMBER BOWSER: What is the date?

10 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: It's going to be  
11 during spring break, and Dolly should have pegged  
12 this, I thought I --

13 (Simultaneous speaking.)

14 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: -- to announce  
15 tonight. It is in April, but I'm not sure what  
16 day it's going to be because spring break is a  
17 whole week. So I'm not sure what day it is, but  
18 it will be during spring break, hopefully over at  
19 Roosevelt.

20 MEMBER BOWSER: And that's for people  
21 who are seeking jobs as well?

22 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: It is not. It

1 is not job-related. They -- the business summit  
2 is about -- it's probably every -- not probably  
3 -- almost every single city agency is able to  
4 provide a resource or something to a business  
5 owner, whether it's security cameras, whether  
6 it's getting permits or licenses, whether it's  
7 transportation-related, whether you're having  
8 problems with the police, whether the kids on  
9 your block -- every business service, every  
10 agency is there, including all the major  
11 utilities, Pepco is there, and Washington Gas,  
12 and DC Water and Sewer, so if you're having a  
13 problem with a pipe, if you're having a problem  
14 with utilities, if it's an overhanging wire, the  
15 tree service is there, every single service is  
16 there that a business could possibly want for you  
17 to actually not just talk to them, but they'll  
18 say what is wrong, okay let's take down your name  
19 and let's get it resolved.

20 And so that is the purpose. It is to  
21 provide businesses with an opportunity to not  
22 just come back but to get it done on that day.

1 In addition to that, there are also workshops to  
2 give you information about, and it's not just  
3 related to just developers or construction, it  
4 could be bonding, it could be insurance, it could  
5 be succession planning, it could be anything --  
6 they usually pick maybe four or five specific  
7 topics of interest that could be to businesses.

8 I believe this year it's going to be  
9 a -- I'm not going to say who the motivational  
10 speaker is, and he's really really good, and so  
11 he will --

12 MEMBER BOWSER: When does the notice  
13 go out? I mean has it gone out?

14 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: It has not gone  
15 out yet. It has gone out. It will go out, and  
16 breakfast is served, free breakfast is served.  
17 So come early -- and I don't mean continental  
18 breakfast. I mean some grits and eggs and  
19 sausage and some biscuits and --

20 (Simultaneous speaking.)

21 MEMBER NOISETTE: It was a great  
22 turnout last year. It was a great turnout.

1 (Simultaneous speaking.)

2 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: I think it was  
3 in -- I want to say March --

4 (Simultaneous speaking.)

5 MEMBER FORD: And it was at the  
6 church.

7 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: It was at  
8 Peoples Congregational Church, and it really  
9 really is, even if you just come have breakfast,  
10 take what you need from it and keep going. You  
11 know, you don't have to stay there all day, but  
12 it is indeed a wonderful, wonderful resource for  
13 all -- and it's just for Kennedy Street  
14 businesses. It's not for other people.

15 And one woman walked away said I've  
16 had difficulty with that meter, it's been broken,  
17 and this woman's telling me she gave me a tag to  
18 put in my car -- worry about the meter. I hadn't  
19 heard of that before, somebody give you a tag to  
20 put in your car, you don't have to worry about  
21 the meter until it was fixed. So I was real  
22 happy to hear about --

1 (Simultaneous speaking.)

2 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: That meter had  
3 been broken for a long time, and she kept getting  
4 tickets, and she always appealed them, and they  
5 -- she was given a tag. Anyway, but so people  
6 walk out of there with a lot of different things  
7 that they're able to get, and not just retail  
8 businesses but professional services as well.

9 Permits, find out about getting a  
10 permit or getting rid of a ticket, so it really  
11 is a very, very good venue. It's for half a day;  
12 it's not all day. Nobody's wants you to come  
13 and, you know, and stay. So --

14 MEMBER NOISETTE: We did one of the  
15 breakout sessions, DCRA, the Small Business  
16 Resource Center, and we had a lot of follow-ups  
17 as a result of that, businesses on Kennedy  
18 Street, they were able to come back and do  
19 one-on-one sessions with us for questions that  
20 wasn't addressed during the time, because  
21 everybody kind of asks the questions then, but it  
22 was good connections for them. So it was good.



1 MR. MASEMBWA: And you said Roosevelt  
2 this year --

3 (Simultaneous speaking.)

4 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: They're  
5 attempting to do Roosevelt High School this year,  
6 but notices will start going out probably the  
7 next couple weeks because it will be in April.  
8 So with that, it is now 8:00. I did -- 8:04, we  
9 started at -- five minutes late. I took my  
10 entire five minutes. Is there anything that  
11 anybody would like to say?

12 MEMBER PARET: I know we touched on  
13 this, I was like making some notes, but do we  
14 ever talk about doing parking meters on Kennedy  
15 Street?

16 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: We did as a  
17 matter of fact, Erkin --

18 MEMBER OZBERK: Yeah, we can chat  
19 after. We had a conversation about a year last  
20 summer --

21 MEMBER PARET: Yeah, last summer. I  
22 just wasn't sure where it went with that.

1 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: And we even had  
2 DOT come out and do a walk-through looking at --  
3 did a walk-through looking at the various parking  
4 meters --

5 MEMBER BOWSER: So should we discuss  
6 whether that's a good idea or not?

7 MEMBER OZBERK: So the way we left it  
8 with DDOT was if we want --

9 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: Erkin, stop for  
10 a second. It is now 8:05. This -- may have I  
11 motion for the meeting --

12 MEMBER FORD: So moved.

13 MEMBER OZBERK: Second.

14 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: Properly moved  
15 and seconded. All in favor?

16 (Chorus of aye.)

17 CHAIRWOMAN CALDWELL: The meeting is  
18 over.

19 (Whereupon, the above-entitled matter  
20 went off the record at 8:04 p.m.)

21

22

**A**

**abilities** 42:19  
**ability** 19:22 20:18  
 96:21  
**able** 3:14 12:1,1,2 13:10  
 13:11,14 14:11 20:7  
 21:3,3,8 25:2 27:3,4  
 29:16 30:3 41:2 42:19  
 70:19 76:3 81:3,4  
 92:1 101:3 104:7,18  
**above-entitled** 106:19  
**Absolutely** 5:9 41:7  
**access** 37:19 76:20  
**accomplish** 22:10  
**accountant** 12:17  
**acknowledge** 6:9  
**acknowledged** 6:5  
**acting** 7:17,22  
**activating** 43:4  
**activation** 42:4  
**active** 95:10  
**activity** 53:22 97:11  
**actual** 59:10  
**acute** 21:1,6  
**add** 49:9  
**added** 68:3  
**addition** 92:5 102:1  
**additions** 94:22  
**address** 21:9 68:19,20  
 68:21 76:6 81:15,17  
 82:2 88:1  
**addressed** 104:20  
**adequate** 52:22  
**Adjournment** 2:22  
**adjustment** 5:19,20,22  
**Administrator** 5:18  
**Advisory** 1:6 2:10 3:6  
**advocate** 24:11  
**affordable** 19:12,21  
 61:5,7 62:3,7,16  
**afterward** 34:4  
**age** 39:17 41:14 46:2  
**agencies** 18:16 21:8,18  
 21:19 22:4 76:2 96:15  
**agency** 101:3,10  
**agenda** 7:3 8:14 36:9  
**ago** 15:4 19:17 30:6  
 64:22  
**agree** 11:7 31:10  
**agreed** 28:15  
**ahead** 52:17 83:9  
**airplane** 31:19  
**Akins** 73:6 85:10  
**allowing** 3:13 12:21  
**alternative** 40:11  
**alternatives** 40:14  
**amazing** 22:13 23:21  
**amenable** 28:22

**amendments** 11:8  
 16:14  
**Amharic** 75:5,21 76:21  
 77:2,6  
**amount** 34:21  
**ANC** 11:8 79:19 90:20  
**ANCs** 65:6,9 70:14 74:7  
 74:7 79:15 81:17 83:4  
**animals** 31:8  
**announce** 100:14  
**announcement** 6:21,22  
**Announcements** 2:19  
**annual** 2:20 100:3  
**answer** 87:14  
**anybody** 76:20 105:11  
**anytime** 50:22  
**anyway** 64:22 67:10  
 70:11 79:12 104:5  
**apart** 29:22  
**apartment** 71:5,10  
**apologize** 31:18,20,22  
 59:9 63:22  
**appealed** 104:4  
**appease** 40:15  
**applications** 8:6,7  
**apply** 26:5  
**appreciate** 3:14 17:19  
 18:11 20:2 58:7,13  
 94:8  
**approach** 23:19  
**approval** 16:17 81:21  
 86:16  
**approve** 2:7 14:19  
**April** 15:18 16:20,21  
 17:4,5 59:10,12  
 100:15 105:7  
**architect** 33:21  
**area** 27:18,21 30:17  
 38:12 39:6,22 93:2  
 94:4 97:10  
**areas** 26:9 89:17  
**arrived** 5:5  
**art** 24:7 92:4 95:2  
**artist** 95:19  
**Arts** 95:18  
**Asian** 83:17  
**asked** 39:9 52:20,22  
**asking** 5:11  
**asks** 104:21  
**assessment** 52:20  
**assets** 43:19  
**assignments** 99:16  
**associations** 74:8  
**Atkins** 4:12  
**attached** 55:16  
**attempting** 105:5  
**attendance** 5:12,22 6:1  
**attending** 31:19

**Attorney** 21:14  
**attract** 20:18  
**availability** 34:3  
**available** 23:14  
**Avenue** 23:2 27:10,13  
 27:22 30:22 33:1,3,4  
 34:10,16 84:21,22  
**awarded** 19:15  
**aware** 7:1 8:5,13 15:15  
 42:11 86:4 100:6  
**aye** 106:16

**B**

**b** 2:12,19  
**back** 5:11 14:9,10 16:15  
 25:13 36:6,16 56:20  
 60:17 76:7 101:22  
 104:18  
**background** 87:14  
**bad** 7:6  
**ball** 18:17 20:5 22:16  
 25:15 36:19  
**Barbers** 20:9  
**barren** 97:10  
**barrier** 49:17,18  
**barriers** 43:4  
**based** 56:21 95:1  
**basis** 34:22  
**basket** 82:17  
**baths** 48:10  
**bathtub** 48:8  
**beautiful** 53:15  
**begun** 3:9  
**Behavioral** 21:17  
**believe** 3:16 18:21  
 22:13 68:3 87:2 90:10  
 102:8  
**believer** 18:18  
**believing** 60:19  
**beneficial** 91:3  
**best** 24:21 29:15 52:17  
 64:6 65:5,7 70:21  
**best-kept** 48:22  
**Beta** 3:12 12:14,20 17:7  
**better** 17:20 19:17 49:7  
**betterment** 58:8  
**bicycles** 39:20  
**big** 11:19,22 49:17  
 53:18 81:8,9 87:11  
**biggest** 9:21 60:19  
 63:14  
**bike** 40:6 56:14  
**bikes** 40:3 42:15,22  
**bill** 79:19  
**biscuits** 102:19  
**bit** 8:11 56:18 66:11  
 85:3 95:15  
**black** 83:16

**Blair** 93:4,9  
**blessed** 6:15  
**blighted** 19:11  
**block** 34:13 55:1 101:9  
**blocks** 10:16,17 74:11  
 88:10  
**Bloomington** 90:19  
**board** 67:22  
**bonding** 102:4  
**book** 30:14  
**books** 16:1  
**boundaries** 74:10,17  
 80:14  
**Bowser** 1:14 5:15,16  
 11:6,7,22 52:19 54:7  
 65:8,19 66:2 67:15  
 71:4,14,17 74:3 75:5  
 77:7,14,21 78:3,8  
 79:15 84:20 86:17  
 100:9,20 102:12  
 106:5  
**box** 23:1 55:3 87:11  
**brainstorm** 14:6  
**brainstorming** 27:17  
**Brandon** 1:19 2:5  
**Branton** 1:15 4:8,9  
 63:21 64:13,17  
**break** 19:11 100:11,16  
 100:18  
**breakdown** 84:1,3,17  
**breakfast** 102:16,16,18  
 103:9  
**breaking** 19:19  
**breakout** 104:15  
**brewery** 92:3  
**bright** 53:13  
**brighter** 54:13,18  
**brightness** 55:5  
**bring** 7:19 35:6 40:15  
 45:7 62:10 87:5 93:20  
**bringing** 89:19  
**brings** 30:21  
**broken** 103:16 104:3  
**brother** 34:12,14 68:9  
 68:12  
**brought** 21:18 33:18  
 67:22  
**bubbling** 97:20  
**budget** 24:1,3,12 25:8  
 30:6 42:12 46:14  
 50:12  
**budgets** 50:11  
**buffalo** 96:12  
**build** 30:7 86:20 87:1  
**building** 55:16 57:9  
 71:7,11 86:22 87:15  
**buildings** 55:9,13 71:6  
 71:11

**bulb** 54:21  
**bungalow** 86:5  
**bus** 54:7  
**business** 1:5 2:17,20  
 3:6 7:14 9:7 20:11,13  
 20:17,17 26:2,5 44:20  
 54:1 68:1,17,18 69:2  
 69:14,17,19 77:15  
 78:11 83:3 84:10,18  
 86:17 87:12 100:4,6  
 101:1,4,9,16 104:15  
**businesses** 20:7 23:7  
 23:15 44:19 48:2,3  
 54:1 60:10 67:10 69:8  
 75:2 78:14 82:20  
 83:14 85:17 86:1,9  
 87:10 89:14,15 100:8  
 101:21 102:7 103:14  
 104:8,17  
**busy** 17:14 36:9  
**buy** 41:5 90:3

---

**C**

---

**c** 2:13  
**C-O-N-T-E-N-T-S** 2:1  
**calendar** 16:11 95:4  
**call** 2:2,4 3:4,18,20 4:18  
 5:6 6:6 60:16 86:20  
**called** 6:7 11:16 34:1  
 40:7 71:12,15,17  
**camera** 44:12,20 45:7  
 47:17,20  
**cameras** 44:3,4,6,7,8,9  
 44:22 45:5 101:5  
**campus** 38:17  
**capability** 80:6  
**Capitol** 85:1 93:3  
**car** 41:5 103:18,20  
**care** 87:6  
**carefully** 99:19  
**Carry** 11:16  
**cars** 41:6 95:16  
**case** 8:2  
**catalyst** 77:10  
**catalysts** 30:21  
**catering** 89:16  
**Catholic** 27:20  
**cause** 30:10  
**CBE** 46:18  
**CBEs** 46:21  
**celebrate** 19:19  
**cell** 68:18  
**center** 10:15 11:11  
 104:16  
**center's** 10:16  
**certain** 38:12 47:15  
 65:11,11  
**certainly** 9:6 17:19

18:11 20:2 36:7,17  
 39:2,5,10 40:1 41:16  
 44:11 68:3 92:20  
 94:11 97:13  
**chair** 48:7,15 59:9,22  
 70:5 74:21  
**Chairperson** 1:11,14  
**Chairperson's** 2:6  
**challenge** 46:1  
**challenges** 21:1,6  
**change** 8:7 54:12 55:2  
 60:14 85:10  
**channels** 81:19  
**Charles** 1:17 4:10,20  
 5:17 32:3 60:20 68:9  
 73:10 81:14 83:20  
 84:9 85:11 93:1 94:7  
 99:8,11,13  
**charter** 27:20 82:8  
 88:11,14  
**chat** 105:18  
**cheap** 78:4,4  
**check** 23:1  
**checking** 17:3  
**Chicago** 53:14  
**Chinatown** 53:14  
**choose** 13:20  
**choosing** 95:8  
**Chorus** 106:16  
**church** 77:4 88:1,18  
 103:6,8  
**churches** 88:21  
**Circle** 29:18 34:9  
**city** 56:16 58:14 62:17  
 90:18 95:9 96:3,13,15  
 96:16 98:12 101:3  
**class** 49:10,11  
**Clean** 2:11 44:1 45:3  
 47:2 58:1 73:1,8  
 80:18  
**clearance** 46:22  
**cliente** 20:19  
**close** 90:18 91:10,12  
**closed** 59:19 90:19  
**closely** 24:15  
**closer** 88:17  
**co-developing** 63:20  
**coalescing** 32:11  
**coffee** 86:2,5,7 92:3  
**cold** 10:7,9  
**collaborate** 32:18 99:9  
**collaborated** 93:1  
**collaboration** 2:14  
 32:13,13 38:15 73:9  
 85:11 92:12  
**collecting** 72:19  
**collectively** 13:22 45:2  
**Colorado** 27:13

**COLUMBIA** 1:1  
**come** 4:19,20,21 17:12  
 19:4 22:9 23:10 25:13  
 32:7 46:7,22 47:2  
 49:14 50:8 52:5 57:22  
 62:8 73:8 74:3 80:15  
 81:19 89:6,18 90:2,4  
 90:15 101:22 102:17  
 103:9 104:12,18  
 106:2  
**comes** 12:9 24:12 55:1  
**comfortable** 42:16 54:2  
**coming** 40:17 41:13,15  
 50:12 58:19 74:4  
 95:17 100:4  
**comment** 42:1  
**commenting** 53:4  
**comments** 50:3  
**commercial** 55:9 64:11  
 97:18  
**commercialization**  
 93:19  
**Commission** 95:18  
**Commissioner** 11:15  
**commitment** 16:7  
 58:13  
**committed** 23:11  
**committee** 1:6 2:3,9 3:6  
 6:6 12:8 13:20 14:3  
 15:12 17:20 18:14  
 19:9 20:22 22:9,13  
 23:22 24:4 25:9 31:15  
 32:3,14 42:2 45:3  
 56:4,6 63:22 72:4  
 74:2,21 80:15 81:2  
 86:15 94:18 97:3,8  
**committee's** 20:3 57:17  
**committees** 8:22 9:1,2  
 9:18 31:13 33:18  
 57:21 72:11  
**communicate** 41:4  
 89:11  
**communities** 23:17  
 86:22  
**community** 6:14 9:4,19  
 11:16 43:9,13 67:14  
 74:7 78:17 87:3 89:3  
 90:21 92:1,20 93:8  
**community-oriented**  
 96:20  
**companies** 26:10,12  
 38:5,20  
**company** 40:5,6 47:19  
 80:4 86:11  
**compare** 53:7  
**comparison** 53:8  
**competitive** 87:3  
**complaining** 10:3 13:7

**complicated** 74:5  
**Comprehensive** 11:9  
**concept** 62:3,9 68:7  
**concerns** 22:8 25:12  
**concrete** 21:22  
**conference** 31:19  
**confirm** 64:7  
**Congregational** 103:8  
**connecting** 33:12  
**connections** 27:5  
 104:22  
**consensus** 81:5  
**consider** 39:11  
**consideration** 54:12  
**consistently** 12:22  
**constituents** 49:1  
**construction** 102:3  
**consulting** 7:13  
**consumer** 55:7  
**continental** 102:17  
**continue** 20:4 23:16,19  
 25:4 26:22 50:5 59:2  
 65:1  
**continuing** 22:20  
**contractors** 12:8,9  
 13:12 45:18 46:3,7  
**convened** 1:10 21:10  
**conversation** 22:11  
 38:19,22 40:8 60:4  
 63:19 64:1,6 95:1  
 96:6 105:19  
**conversations** 37:22  
 40:5  
**coop** 86:5 93:5,7  
**coordinate** 34:4  
**corner** 10:4 93:14  
**correct** 59:20 94:14  
**corrected** 7:2  
**corridor** 9:8 24:9,10  
 42:6 53:22 58:14  
 60:10,22 87:7 97:14  
 98:10  
**corridors** 87:8  
**cost** 48:2 53:20 91:11  
**costly** 50:11  
**costs** 61:22  
**Council** 24:12  
**councilmember** 1:19  
 2:5 5:1,5,9 12:3 14:2  
 14:9,10 17:10,11,16  
 18:3,6,9 26:18 27:12  
 28:5,16 29:9 31:9  
 32:5,6,9 42:11 43:6  
 44:12 47:13 49:4,8,9  
 50:4,18 51:3,10 52:2  
 52:7,13 54:12,14 58:3  
 58:6,20 59:4 76:6  
 94:21 97:8,15 99:18

**Councilmember's** 37:9  
46:14  
**couple** 33:6,9 85:16  
86:3,8 105:7  
**course** 3:12 60:13 62:6  
**COURT** 16:5,8 80:5  
**Courtney** 60:17  
**cousin** 48:5  
**create** 18:14 55:22  
70:13 86:21 92:1  
**created** 31:6  
**creates** 55:11,22  
**creating** 87:10 92:19  
**creative** 43:18  
**creatively** 95:14  
**credit** 57:1  
**Creek** 11:10 29:3  
**CSR** 38:8  
**currently** 54:16  
**cut** 20:10 35:8  
**cutting** 42:12

---

**D**

---

**d** 2:14  
**D.C** 1:11 28:20 29:1,5  
38:6 59:19 96:10  
**dad** 10:19  
**dangerous** 95:16  
**dark** 52:5 53:2,4 57:9  
**data** 68:14,16  
**database** 83:21,22 84:7  
84:18  
**date** 15:21 100:9  
**daughter** 10:14  
**David** 4:16,17 11:15  
45:2 58:1 73:7 80:18  
**David's** 47:1  
**dawned** 10:10  
**day** 22:21 59:12,18,19  
100:16,17 101:22  
103:11 104:11,12  
**days** 15:22 16:1,4,11  
29:12 81:22  
**DC** 1:20 51:8 101:12  
**DCRA** 21:14 60:9 69:14  
104:15  
**DDOT** 54:17 106:8  
**deadline** 73:14,15,16  
81:20  
**deal** 19:13 20:1,11 21:4  
**deceived** 55:6  
**definitely** 30:18  
**delivers** 90:1,2  
**delivery** 60:7  
**density** 55:10 61:2  
62:18  
**Department** 21:13,16  
21:16 24:16 25:5

95:22  
**depending** 34:2 54:21  
55:1  
**DEPUTY** 1:2  
**Derek** 1:15 4:14,19 5:12  
5:13 76:11,12 79:3  
85:7 92:20  
**describe** 60:9  
**design** 56:3,10  
**destinations** 31:3  
**develop** 90:7  
**developed** 61:2 88:7  
**developer** 12:9,11  
19:16 56:13,17 57:6  
61:17,19 86:19 87:4  
87:19 91:1  
**developers** 57:7 62:13  
102:3  
**development** 1:3,5 2:12  
3:5 9:13 12:7 13:13  
13:17 19:16 33:22  
37:18 40:11,17,21  
59:7 60:1 73:2 75:9  
76:12 92:15,18,19  
97:14,17  
**difference** 9:21 10:8  
53:18 54:6 76:14  
**different** 42:19 50:9  
54:13 57:22 86:9  
90:13 104:6  
**difficulty** 103:16  
**Digital** 77:17 78:6,8  
**dim** 53:11  
**dinners** 14:14  
**directly** 15:2 47:4 64:7  
88:10  
**director** 7:18,22 66:7  
66:14,17 67:3,4 69:8  
70:22 82:15  
**disappointed** 50:19  
**disclose** 70:2  
**discourse** 39:5 50:2  
**discuss** 62:22 106:5  
**discussion** 31:21  
**distribute** 74:4,20  
80:20 81:8,10 86:15  
**distribution** 75:8 80:15  
81:9,19  
**District** 1:1 38:21 43:11  
87:19 96:22  
**Ditto** 61:11  
**DMPED** 1:20 25:20  
37:21  
**documents** 15:8  
**dog** 31:7 34:7,9  
**doing** 8:18 9:3 13:18  
25:4 28:14 31:17  
39:12 45:1,4 50:14

51:4 76:20 78:17,18  
85:21 87:21 89:11,15  
105:14  
**dollar** 19:1  
**dollars** 46:13 48:14  
**Dolly** 1:17 4:2 8:16  
14:10 65:4 76:5,5  
100:11  
**door** 70:19  
**door-to-door** 65:15,21  
**doors** 81:12  
**DOT** 106:2  
**downtown** 96:17  
**DPR** 96:14,22  
**dress** 31:18  
**drive** 30:12  
**drop** 41:20 90:4  
**dropping** 41:15  
**DSLBD** 47:22

---

**E**

---

**e** 2:15  
**earlier** 12:19 39:12  
56:21 94:21  
**early** 91:4 102:17  
**earnest** 24:3  
**easily** 69:5  
**East** 11:10  
**Eastern** 87:17 89:22  
**easy** 71:8  
**economic** 1:3,5 2:12  
3:5 9:12 12:7 13:13  
13:16 19:4 20:14 23:8  
59:6 60:1 63:22 73:1  
75:8 76:11 92:14,18  
92:19 97:17  
**Edmond** 1:21 12:16  
**effective** 10:21  
**efforts** 38:8  
**eggs** 82:16 102:18  
**eight** 17:6 74:11  
**either** 62:18 65:20  
73:15  
**electronic** 65:10  
**electronically** 68:13  
**Elizabeths** 38:17  
**email** 8:1 59:11 68:19  
81:15,16  
**emailed** 15:1,4 66:19  
**Emancipation** 59:18  
**embark** 9:9  
**emerging** 25:17 26:9  
**empower** 87:11  
**encourage** 9:2 44:18  
45:4  
**end-all** 9:5  
**engage** 67:13  
**English** 75:3

**English-speaking**  
83:15  
**enhancing** 42:10  
**ensuring** 42:15  
**enter** 24:1  
**entire** 20:4 51:15 58:14  
105:10  
**entirely** 80:5  
**entirety** 52:16  
**entrepreneurship**  
11:14,17  
**Erkin** 1:16 4:4 60:2  
67:19 74:14,17  
105:17 106:9  
**Erkin's** 80:13  
**especially** 72:11  
**Ethiopian** 77:3,4  
**evening** 10:18 12:5  
17:13  
**event** 38:9,11,13  
**everybody** 8:12 31:17  
36:9 58:18 59:5 60:5  
62:6 70:10 73:12  
80:21 83:13,17 86:15  
89:9 99:15 104:21  
**everybody's** 70:19  
81:15,16  
**everyone's** 58:8,13  
**exact** 18:21  
**exactly** 29:14 35:19  
**example** 35:4,21  
**excellent** 32:11 35:21  
36:20 44:15 77:17  
97:7  
**exchange** 62:19  
**excited** 19:8  
**exciting** 95:15,18  
**exclusively** 30:2  
**execute** 90:11  
**executive** 7:17,22  
**existing** 12:4  
**expand** 44:7  
**expanding** 44:9  
**expect** 4:18 36:10,17  
80:21 94:11  
**expensive** 50:16 53:19  
**explore** 30:4 40:2  
**explored** 50:17  
**exploring** 38:17 40:9  
41:17  
**extent** 29:5  
**eyes** 42:5

---

**F**

---

**face** 17:15,17  
**face-to-face** 36:10  
**Facebook** 70:15  
**Facetime** 36:11

**facilities** 39:8  
**facility** 3:13 10:1 11:3  
 11:20 24:14 36:22  
 68:10,11 95:7  
**fact** 4:19 8:7,14 9:8,18  
 13:10,12,14 57:19  
 68:3,8 105:17  
**fall** 52:21  
**falling** 29:21  
**falls** 25:18 41:19  
**familiar** 27:18,21 34:8  
 71:1 74:6,15  
**families** 14:14 24:17  
 30:1,12  
**family** 10:1 11:2 24:14  
 95:7  
**far** 28:22 84:20 91:6  
**farmers** 87:17,21 88:3  
 88:21 90:4 91:21  
 93:11,21 94:9  
**farming** 93:2,19  
**favor** 106:15  
**feature** 95:2  
**February** 1:8 3:8 8:7  
 73:18,22  
**feed** 68:14  
**feedback** 80:22  
**feel** 20:20 33:20 42:21  
 54:2 68:2  
**feels** 23:16  
**feet** 66:11 91:14  
**fenced** 35:7 91:22  
**field** 96:10  
**fields** 28:6 33:12 96:10  
**fifth** 27:19  
**figure** 24:10,22 25:7  
 48:1  
**figuring** 43:3,8  
**file** 69:12,16  
**fills** 67:21  
**film** 85:18  
**films** 85:22  
**final** 58:5 59:11  
**find** 9:4,11 25:3 45:14  
 60:5 61:17 104:9  
**fine** 41:21 92:10  
**finest** 14:4  
**finger** 14:11  
**finish** 68:8  
**firm** 18:18  
**first** 3:11 25:16 51:6  
 55:3 71:21 72:2 90:14  
**five** 72:7,10,14,17 73:1  
 73:11,12 74:1,1,22  
 80:16 97:20 102:6  
 105:9,10  
**fix** 29:22 30:1  
**fixed** 103:21

**flanked** 55:9  
**flexibility** 26:5  
**flies** 18:11  
**flourish** 34:21  
**flow** 57:15  
**flyer** 71:10  
**focus** 21:11 82:19,22  
 83:5  
**focused** 62:3 83:2  
**focusing** 43:21  
**folks** 69:18  
**follow-ups** 104:16  
**for-profit** 61:17  
**force** 21:11  
**Ford** 1:15 4:14 5:2,12  
 5:13,14 25:16 34:2  
 59:7,15,18,22 61:12  
 61:15 62:5 63:1,4,6  
 63:13,18 64:9,15,19  
 65:17 66:1,4,10 67:5  
 67:13 69:1,13,21 70:4  
 70:11,20 72:21 73:17  
 73:20 74:9 75:9,13  
 76:11,13 78:20 85:8  
 92:21 94:12,14 103:5  
 106:12  
**forever** 28:13 93:12  
**form** 62:18  
**former** 11:15 77:2,3  
**Fort** 33:12,12  
**fortunate** 46:2  
**fortunately** 41:18  
**forward** 16:12,15 18:17  
 20:5 22:16 25:15  
 60:15  
**four** 84:11 87:2 102:6  
**Franklin** 96:17  
**free** 33:21 44:22 45:9  
 49:11 90:13,22  
 102:16  
**fresh** 16:14  
**Fridays** 21:21  
**front** 15:16 46:11 48:17  
**full** 8:19 15:15 32:4  
 62:12  
**fully** 11:7 82:8 95:13  
**fun** 43:5  
**functions** 96:17  
**fund** 25:19,22 26:13,17  
 61:21  
**funded** 26:4  
**funding** 29:22 30:6  
 38:10 61:20 75:14  
 76:14  
**funds** 26:1 67:7  
**funeral** 63:9 64:20  
**funny** 30:8  
**further** 35:15

FYI 16:16

---

**G**

---

**game-changer** 20:17  
**garden** 93:8,11,11,18  
**Gas** 101:11  
**gearing** 90:8  
**gears** 97:2  
**general** 21:15 69:17,19  
**generated** 68:16  
**generation** 41:11  
**Georgia** 23:2 27:10,13  
 84:21,22 85:1,3  
**getting** 20:10 23:1  
 30:14 41:13 43:14,15  
 54:1 71:22 72:1,3  
 73:5 80:9 101:6 104:3  
 104:9,10  
**give** 6:8 25:8 34:3,5  
 56:12 61:2 73:10,13  
 73:14,14,16 74:17,20  
 74:22 79:9 81:22 84:3  
 102:2 103:19  
**give-and-take** 56:16  
**given** 8:17 104:5  
**gives** 53:16  
**glad** 6:17  
**glass** 30:13  
**glow** 55:11,22  
**gotten** 48:5 87:18  
**Gottfried** 4:16  
**Gottfried's** 45:3  
**government** 1:1 18:16  
 19:7,15 20:4 21:8  
 22:1,18 26:13 27:2  
 28:20 29:1 47:19  
 59:19 66:6 75:14  
**government's** 23:15  
**government-wide**  
 21:10 23:19  
**grade** 27:19  
**grant** 8:8 20:15 29:18  
 47:18 86:10  
**grants** 8:4 20:8 56:5  
**grassroots** 43:9  
**greater** 44:16,18  
**grits** 102:18  
**groceries** 89:19 90:1  
**grocery** 86:1  
**ground** 19:11,19 51:15  
**group** 12:1 14:4 87:17  
 88:4 89:22 98:6  
**groups** 65:12 96:15  
**grow** 93:20  
**guess** 92:8 94:21  
**guests** 6:8

---

**H**

---

**H** 97:16  
**hair** 20:10  
**half** 18:8 23:3 104:11  
**Hampshire** 35:17  
**hand-in-hand** 38:4  
**handle** 76:2  
**hands** 62:12  
**hang** 55:16  
**hanging** 10:4,10  
**happen** 9:12 15:9 22:19  
 23:4 25:8 30:3 51:18  
 91:4,5  
**happening** 8:21 31:22  
**happy** 22:11 25:7,11  
 30:3 79:12 103:22  
**hate** 39:8  
**he'll** 4:19 15:20  
**head** 7:4  
**headquarters** 12:17  
**Health** 21:17  
**hear** 8:22 12:22 44:5  
 65:2 80:2 95:20  
 103:22  
**heard** 24:18 64:22  
 103:19  
**hearing** 29:13,14  
**hearings** 69:20  
**Helbiz** 40:7  
**held** 100:5  
**Hello** 12:16  
**help** 13:11,14 21:11  
 22:2 30:16 40:18 61:8  
 70:21 87:12 89:19  
**helped** 13:12  
**helpful** 25:10  
**helping** 18:17  
**helps** 40:12  
**hey** 40:16 56:13 89:10  
**High** 105:5  
**highlight** 85:22 97:4  
**Hispanic** 83:16  
**historic** 86:18 87:15  
**history** 87:6  
**hit** 83:6  
**home** 12:5 47:16 48:7  
 48:11,21 49:15 64:20  
 68:19 71:9  
**homes** 44:20 46:8  
**homework** 98:22  
**honestly** 36:4  
**Honorable** 2:5  
**hope** 99:4  
**hopefully** 7:10 100:4,18  
**Horton** 60:21 61:11  
 62:21 63:3,8 64:2  
**Hortons** 61:17  
**host** 12:13  
**hosted** 17:7

**house** 11:19 32:4 34:14  
45:7 48:20 89:20 90:5  
**houses** 33:6 41:15  
**housing** 2:13 9:13 19:5  
19:12,21 24:14 41:13  
61:4,5,7,8,21 62:4,17  
64:4,17,21 73:6 80:17  
85:9 95:7 97:18 98:5  
99:17,19  
**How's** 31:17  
**hub** 97:21  
**huge** 19:13 20:1,10  
23:9 43:10 67:20  
91:19,20  
**Human** 21:17 24:16  
25:4  
**Humanities** 95:19

---

**I**


---

**idea** 13:6 32:10,12  
36:20 37:11,13 38:18  
91:2 94:8 99:1 106:6  
**ideally** 90:17,22  
**ideas** 8:17 9:11,19  
57:15,22  
**identified** 67:10  
**identify** 31:15 97:3,9  
98:6 99:3  
**identifying** 77:11  
**illuminate** 55:17  
**illustrious** 17:10  
**immediate** 80:22  
**immediately** 16:12  
**impact** 11:22 13:4,9,10  
14:1 38:8 44:17  
**impacted** 13:18  
**implemented** 45:18  
**important** 6:13 42:17  
87:8  
**impossibility** 97:19  
**improve** 57:20  
**improvement** 19:2 23:4  
**incapacitated** 48:6  
**incentive** 56:13,18  
**inception** 22:14  
**included** 81:11  
**includes** 68:20 84:1  
**including** 11:13 38:6  
74:21 83:18 101:10  
**inclusion** 26:1  
**inclusive** 65:13  
**income** 47:15  
**increase** 53:22 54:20  
54:22 62:16,18,19  
**increasing** 44:5  
**increasingly** 96:14  
**individual** 57:21  
**individually** 13:21

**individuals** 44:18 93:17  
99:4  
**info** 49:21  
**information** 8:2 29:15  
49:20 50:5 60:9,12,17  
68:21 83:22 85:2 94:7  
102:2  
**infrastructure** 42:16  
**infused** 38:6  
**initial** 38:21  
**initiative** 92:9  
**inside** 55:19  
**install** 45:8 46:5,8,21  
95:19 96:22  
**installation** 24:7 47:17  
95:12  
**installed** 95:3  
**installs** 45:22  
**instrument** 71:22 72:3  
72:20  
**insurance** 12:18 102:4  
**intended** 18:21 95:13  
**intention** 95:5  
**interest** 37:8 41:17 70:1  
70:13 80:12 102:7  
**interested** 39:6,14  
61:14 62:20 90:10  
**interesting** 40:20 43:5  
**interim** 36:14 66:17,18  
67:3,3  
**interviewing** 67:4  
**introduce** 12:14 77:12  
**introduced** 18:13  
**Introduction** 2:3  
**invest** 26:14  
**investing** 24:8  
**investment** 19:1 29:20  
96:21  
**investments** 19:7  
**invitation** 25:13  
**invite** 19:8 36:17  
**ironically** 39:19  
**Island** 34:10,16,17  
35:14  
**issue** 39:2 46:4,5 75:14  
82:12  
**issues** 9:14 21:4,11  
22:3 39:4 98:7

---

**J**


---

**Jackie** 60:2  
**Jacqueline** 1:16 4:6  
**Janet** 7:20,22 66:22  
**January** 94:19  
**job** 11:12 22:13 65:21  
77:17  
**job-related** 101:1  
**jobs** 100:21

**join** 19:9  
**joined** 12:13 31:14  
**Jump** 40:4  
**June** 58:18,20,21 100:3

---

**K**


---

**Kansas** 30:7 32:20  
**Kanyi** 1:20 6:11 60:3  
80:16 99:7  
**keep** 5:6 6:18 13:14  
36:19 42:8 60:15  
61:19 94:9 103:10  
**keeping** 26:4,5 87:11  
**Kennedy** 1:5,10 3:4  
6:20 9:8,15 10:22  
11:19 13:4 18:17,22  
19:4,10,22 20:5,7,11  
20:15,21 21:2,5,6  
23:2,5,5,9 24:5,14  
26:15 27:8 30:22 39:3  
39:14,15,21 40:16,22  
41:3,12,17 42:4 44:6  
44:19 50:6,12,21 52:3  
52:13,16,17,21 53:7  
53:10,13 54:8 55:12  
57:20 58:8 62:11 63:7  
68:2,22 75:2 77:15  
81:16 83:13 84:17,21  
85:18 87:2,22 88:9  
89:12 95:3 97:13  
98:10,15,17 103:13  
104:17 105:14  
**kept** 104:3  
**Kevin** 20:13  
**key** 41:9  
**kicking** 96:1  
**kid** 10:18 27:18  
**kids** 10:2,3 11:1,3 13:8  
13:11,15 24:19 25:2  
35:6 43:16 95:6 98:2  
99:2,6 101:8  
**kinds** 42:19  
**knew** 29:7,10  
**knock** 70:19 81:11  
**knowing** 40:13  
**Krystal** 1:15 4:8 60:3

---

**L**


---

**La** 86:5  
**lack** 39:5  
**Lamont** 4:12 73:6 85:10  
**land** 60:20 63:14 66:2,3  
67:16 96:7,16  
**language** 76:15,17,18  
**lap** 41:20 47:1  
**large** 77:4 88:11  
**larger** 62:20  
**late** 4:20 32:1 105:9

**law** 69:22  
**lay** 46:10 80:9  
**leadership** 17:19 18:12  
25:17 26:16 58:9  
60:14  
**leading** 92:8  
**learned** 26:7,8 45:21  
**leave** 58:3 83:7  
**LED** 54:17  
**left** 33:4 106:7  
**leg** 48:19  
**legislated** 43:7  
**legislation** 18:14  
**lemonade** 43:7  
**lend** 39:16  
**let's** 64:3 66:10 81:22  
101:18,19  
**level** 26:3,6,15 42:9  
**levels** 18:16  
**library** 11:12  
**license** 69:18,19  
**licenses** 101:6  
**licensing** 91:6  
**life** 31:1 53:21  
**lift** 47:19 48:7,15  
**light** 54:18 55:10,15  
**lighter** 55:12  
**lighting** 52:9,11,12,16  
52:22 53:10,11,14,15  
53:20 54:6,13,16,17  
55:19 56:15 57:3 61:3  
**lights** 53:16 55:13,14  
56:9  
**limited** 50:13  
**line** 25:18 61:18  
**lines** 42:12 50:15 66:3,3  
67:17  
**lip** 99:4  
**list** 18:19 22:20 72:5  
**listen** 40:16 89:10  
**listened** 69:20  
**listening** 49:7  
**lists** 58:11  
**listserv** 65:6  
**listservs** 65:4,8 70:15  
**lit** 53:9,9  
**little** 4:20 8:11 31:21  
56:17 60:13 66:11  
85:2 86:4 95:15  
**live** 19:22 25:2 28:9  
34:13 98:4  
**LLC** 69:22  
**load** 54:22 55:2  
**local** 26:9,12 77:9 78:11  
83:5 85:16 90:20  
**location** 32:19,21 34:8  
35:6 63:3 88:6 91:22  
95:8

**locations** 27:17  
**Logan** 34:9  
**logical** 82:11  
**logistics** 71:22 72:1  
 74:3,14  
**logo** 79:14  
**long** 19:10,14 23:10  
 76:19 104:3  
**long-going** 88:5  
**long-time** 27:1  
**longer** 7:5,6 48:18  
**look** 9:3 10:17,22 13:8  
 16:13 26:11,11 30:19  
 32:18 33:21 35:20  
 36:3 37:2 47:21 50:14  
 53:7 54:4 57:10 63:14  
 74:9 94:5 99:2,19  
**looked** 28:1  
**looking** 10:13 15:20  
 20:4 22:2,4 23:18  
 36:4 38:17 59:11  
 77:20 99:5 106:2,3  
**looks** 42:12 47:22  
 83:21  
**Loretta** 1:11 3:21 77:12  
 79:1  
**LORRETTA** 1:14  
**lost** 87:8  
**lot** 6:19 8:16 10:9,18  
 11:18 26:10 27:3  
 34:19,20 38:5 39:5,15  
 39:18,20 40:11,21  
 41:1,15 48:3 49:10  
 50:9 51:5,10,11 54:22  
 55:9,10,12,12 57:7,15  
 69:8,18 75:1 77:20  
 78:14 85:5,22 87:5,8  
 87:20 88:12 89:15  
 91:14,16,18 94:7  
 104:6,16  
**love** 30:11,11 31:7  
 39:22 44:4 98:13  
**loved** 48:10  
**Lugo** 7:20,22 66:22  
**lumens** 54:21  
**Lyft** 37:22

---

**M**


---

**ma'am** 11:6 16:5,8 85:8  
 99:21  
**Madam** 58:9 59:9,22  
 70:5  
**mail** 65:15,18  
**main** 7:5 8:3,4 20:8  
 25:21 42:1 56:3 60:11  
 60:13 66:5,7 67:8  
 68:4 70:22 78:21 79:1  
 79:6 82:1,4,18 94:20

**maintain** 97:1  
**major** 101:10  
**making** 20:3 22:15  
 23:12 42:8 75:10  
 105:13  
**manager** 12:17,18  
**MANNA** 63:19  
**March** 8:9,10 19:9 24:2  
 96:4 103:3  
**market** 61:7 62:6,7  
 87:17,18,22 88:3,22  
 90:1,4 91:21 93:21  
 94:9  
**Martin** 61:11,14  
**Martin's** 62:2  
**Masembwa** 1:20 4:21  
 6:11,11 12:10 26:20  
 27:14 28:8,12 29:7  
 30:20 33:1,9,14,20  
 34:12,16 35:8,13 37:6  
 45:16 46:6,18 49:8,16  
 50:7 51:20 52:4 55:18  
 70:3 73:5 74:21 79:22  
 92:21,22 93:6,10,22  
 94:3 99:7,12,20,21  
 105:1  
**massage** 46:13  
**matter** 4:19 8:7 68:2,8  
 105:17 106:19  
**MAYOR** 1:2  
**McAULEY** 1:20 3:21 4:2  
 4:4,6,8,10 5:13,15,17  
 15:1,5,13,18 16:18,19  
 17:1,4 37:14,17,21  
 40:3 59:9,17 70:5,7  
 70:12,18 71:12,15  
 75:12,18,18,20 76:1  
**McNelly** 75:17  
**mean** 7:5,6 29:21 31:1  
 31:2 33:18 45:8 48:21  
 49:16 50:8 52:20 53:3  
 53:8,9 65:19 74:14  
 102:13,17,18  
**means** 33:20,22  
**measures** 21:22  
**Media** 77:17 78:9  
**meditation** 30:7  
**meet** 9:17 14:16,16  
 29:12 95:12 99:10  
**meeting** 1:10 3:4,9 8:14  
 14:15,18,20,21 15:12  
 15:15,16 16:3,4,12,17  
 16:19 22:15 35:5 36:6  
 36:18 53:2 59:10 60:2  
 60:8 67:22 80:3 81:3  
 94:19,19 106:11,17  
**meetings** 2:8 16:16  
 96:4

**members** 1:13 2:3 3:17  
 6:6 12:13  
**memorandum** 28:15  
**mentioned** 27:8 41:22  
 44:1 62:21 68:9 99:12  
**message** 89:12  
**met** 7:18 8:15 41:2  
 61:11 68:10,11  
**meter** 103:16,18,21  
 104:2  
**meters** 105:14 106:4  
**Metro** 41:4  
**Metro's** 42:11  
**metropolis** 98:3  
**Metropolitan** 21:12  
**Midtown** 20:9  
**million** 19:1  
**mind** 14:17 16:14 56:10  
 65:3 94:12  
**minds** 9:17 14:4  
**mine** 48:5  
**minute** 60:4  
**minutes** 2:7 5:7 13:1  
 14:20,20,22 16:3,17  
 80:3 105:9,10  
**missed** 99:16  
**missing** 14:14  
**Missouri** 27:22 30:22  
 33:1,3,4 34:20 96:7  
 96:20  
**mobility** 37:15 38:4  
 39:7  
**model** 20:18 47:14,22  
**modeling** 32:20  
**Mohammad** 87:19  
**mom** 10:19 45:17 48:9  
 49:10  
**moment** 6:19  
**money** 46:9,11,15,16  
 47:3,5,11 56:9,12,17  
 62:5 65:17 66:6 77:20  
 78:2 90:17,20  
**monopolize** 50:8  
**month** 60:2 73:17  
**months** 19:20 21:3  
**Moss** 1:21 12:16,16,20  
**mother** 28:8  
**mother's** 46:1  
**motion** 106:11  
**motivational** 102:9  
**move** 18:17 20:5 57:14  
 61:18 85:6  
**moved** 77:16 106:12,14  
**movement** 97:5  
**moves** 61:22 62:1,6  
**moving** 19:18 22:16  
 25:14 26:8 40:13  
 60:15 64:22 94:15

**MPD** 21:7 22:2  
**mull** 9:16  
**multi-generational**  
 11:11  
**multi-housing** 10:1  
 11:2  
**multi-modal** 37:16  
**multiple** 38:18

---

**N**

---

**name** 7:19 66:20 68:17  
 101:18  
**named** 87:19  
**names** 6:7,8 68:1 99:9  
**national** 26:10 28:2,12  
 28:22 29:4,11 96:6,9  
 96:16 97:9  
**Nativity** 27:19  
**nay** 80:22  
**near** 34:9  
**nearby** 11:2 25:3,7  
**neat** 62:9  
**necessarily** 6:22 39:20  
 46:16  
**need** 5:19 8:2 9:7 10:13  
 14:7 19:21 24:17,18  
 25:14 41:2 43:21 45:8  
 46:9 57:16 61:4 65:14  
 68:8 79:16,17 87:13  
 89:18 95:9,13 97:3,9  
 100:2 103:10  
**needed** 36:21  
**needs** 6:20 41:1 56:22  
**neighborhood** 2:18  
 25:18,19,22 26:13,17  
 38:13 94:4  
**neighborhood's** 44:9  
**neighborhood-serving**  
 19:6  
**neighborhoods** 44:8,21  
 51:4,5  
**neighbors** 23:16 30:8  
**neither** 45:20  
**network** 43:10  
**never** 93:12,15  
**new** 2:3,17 3:16 20:18  
 35:17 40:6 50:12 52:9  
 53:16 61:6 62:2 66:7  
 66:14 67:4 69:7,21,22  
 70:22 92:2 94:9  
**newer** 41:15  
**newsletter** 77:18  
**nice** 31:21 53:13 60:21  
 86:6 98:14  
**night** 10:6,7 54:3  
**nights** 10:5  
**Nobody's** 104:12  
**Noisette** 1:16 4:6,7



45:10,14 78:13,16  
79:6,13 82:18 83:2  
91:5,9 102:21 104:14  
**non-English-speaking**  
83:15  
**non-profit** 61:19  
**north** 33:2 85:1 93:3  
**Northeast** 77:16  
**not-for-profits** 83:18,19  
**note** 36:15  
**notes** 36:16 105:13  
**notice** 102:12  
**noticed** 26:7  
**notices** 105:6  
**noting** 45:21  
**November** 21:20  
**NPS** 28:4,5 43:20 96:11  
**number** 18:15 20:7 21:7  
22:4 34:5 68:18 98:12  
**numbers** 84:6,6  
**NW** 1:5,11 3:5

**O**

**objectives** 2:9 57:17,18  
57:19,21  
**obtaining** 60:9  
**obviously** 62:11 90:7  
**occur** 50:6  
**offer** 56:14  
**office** 1:2 21:14,15  
22:21 76:18  
**officials** 29:12  
**offline** 37:6  
**offset** 40:12  
**offshoot** 24:9  
**old** 48:6 87:15  
**older** 42:20 66:3 67:16  
**once** 66:7 76:7  
**one's** 28:13  
**one-and-a-half** 18:2,3  
**one-on-one** 104:19  
**ones** 38:1 68:4  
**online** 65:10 68:13  
**open** 8:6 86:2,8 98:9  
**opened** 24:13 92:4  
**opening** 86:2,5  
**operate** 97:1  
**operated** 55:10  
**opinion** 39:9  
**opportunities** 25:1 96:7  
**opportunity** 19:4 31:20  
51:16 64:1 96:19  
97:21 101:21  
**opposed** 53:10  
**optimistic** 62:15  
**options** 38:18 40:9  
**order** 2:2 3:7  
**organizations** 83:6

**original** 68:4  
**originally** 64:22  
**OTR** 69:12  
**outside** 10:4 25:2 43:17  
89:21  
**overhang** 53:13  
**overhanging** 101:14  
**overhead** 50:15 53:15  
**overnight** 22:19  
**oversight** 24:2 25:20  
**owned** 96:11  
**owner** 20:13 68:18  
101:5  
**owners** 87:12  
**ownership** 70:3  
**owns** 28:1,11  
**Ozberk** 1:16 4:4,5 28:4  
28:6 32:16 33:11  
35:17 41:21 72:6,13  
74:18 82:12 93:8  
94:17,18 98:20  
105:18 106:7,13

**P****P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S**

3:1  
**p.m** 1:11 3:2,10 19:9  
106:20  
**packaging** 92:7  
**page** 15:8 77:22 78:4  
**paid** 86:10  
**pamphlet** 67:9  
**parameter** 74:15  
**parcel** 19:13  
**parents** 13:14  
**Paret** 1:17 4:10 5:17  
31:16,17 32:3,14,19  
33:7 34:6,15,17 35:3  
35:11,15,19 37:1  
40:10 41:8 47:7 54:20  
55:21 56:6,11,20  
61:10,13 62:2,8 66:9  
66:15,18,22 68:15  
69:4,11 73:10 75:1,6  
77:1,9 78:6,10 79:1,8  
82:4,10 84:4,10,14,19  
84:22 85:12,15 86:18  
88:9,15,20 91:8,12,17  
91:20 92:13 93:5,15  
94:2 105:12,21  
**park** 24:9 25:3 27:22  
28:2,2,22 29:5,10,11  
30:7 31:5,7 32:11  
34:7,9 35:9 96:6,9,16  
96:16,17 97:10  
**parking** 9:14 39:4,6  
40:15 57:1 88:12  
91:14,16,17 105:14

106:3  
**parks** 28:12 33:12 95:1  
96:1,2,13,19 97:11  
**parlor** 63:9  
**part** 14:14 17:20 19:17  
20:8,14 22:11 23:7  
45:11,13 47:16 50:20  
79:12 95:8  
**participate** 47:16 92:18  
**particular** 11:4 38:11  
76:3 95:11  
**particularly** 39:3 71:5  
**partnering** 43:20 62:13  
96:8  
**partners** 21:14 29:17  
**partnership** 38:8 57:2  
88:3  
**partnerships** 2:14 73:9  
85:11 87:16 92:13  
**parts** 51:12,12  
**partying** 53:9  
**passed** 48:9  
**passing** 8:19 93:13  
**passion** 78:16  
**passionate** 87:9  
**pastor** 77:2,3,10  
**Paul** 1:21 6:10 98:9,11  
98:13,17  
**pay** 57:6 76:15,17 77:8  
79:16 90:16  
**pegged** 100:11  
**people** 6:7,14 7:7 9:11  
10:10 18:16 25:1  
30:10,10,11 34:21  
35:5,22 36:21 39:16  
40:12,16 41:3,14 42:6  
42:15,18 43:8,14,15  
44:15 45:4 46:3 49:11  
49:18 54:2,5 57:2  
65:4,11,12 66:3 67:16  
71:5,17 75:3 78:14  
84:7 86:12 87:5 90:9  
95:10 98:4 100:20  
103:14 104:5  
**Peoples** 103:8  
**Pepco** 50:15 101:11  
**Pepco's** 50:20  
**percent** 70:1  
**perfect** 67:8 79:9 92:1  
**peripheral** 44:21  
**permission** 87:18  
**permit** 104:10  
**permits** 38:2 101:6  
104:9  
**person** 7:17 22:22  
46:17 67:5  
**personally** 13:2 39:8  
**perspective** 53:17

**phase** 27:9  
**Phi** 3:12 12:14,20 17:7  
**Phillip** 1:20 3:19 15:17  
37:10 75:11,16  
**phone** 60:3 66:2 67:15  
68:18,18 71:4 94:19  
**phonetic** 60:18  
**pick** 102:6  
**picnic** 30:12  
**piece** 13:16 37:15 60:21  
64:17 67:20 81:8,9  
**piggybacks** 42:1  
**pipe** 15:20 101:13  
**place** 10:2,11,12 11:1  
16:20,22 34:21 40:12  
40:18,22 93:17  
**placed** 44:10  
**places** 40:13  
**plan** 11:9 44:5 50:20  
74:3 90:9  
**planning** 1:3 74:16,16  
96:2 102:5  
**platform** 48:17,19  
**playable** 95:2  
**playful** 95:15  
**playground** 24:20,21  
29:18,20,21 95:10  
**please** 3:19 5:11 6:8  
12:15 15:11 16:2,13  
36:17 73:22 94:9  
**pleased** 5:4 6:14 17:11  
18:20 20:6  
**plenty** 57:5  
**plots** 60:19  
**Plug** 51:7,8  
**plus** 23:11  
**point** 10:5 29:13 43:16  
50:22 64:10,15 85:19  
95:6,7  
**police** 21:13 44:2 101:8  
**pool** 46:13,15  
**popular** 48:13  
**position** 7:7,8 67:6  
**possibility** 51:18  
**possible** 18:19 28:17  
28:18,18 42:10  
**possibly** 8:18 9:3 39:7  
77:11 101:16  
**post** 70:15,15  
**posted** 15:12,21 16:1  
59:13  
**potential** 36:5 99:5  
**potentially** 43:3  
**power** 50:15  
**praises** 14:2  
**presence** 6:9 44:6  
**present** 1:13,18 3:17  
4:1,3,5,7,9,11,13,15

5:14,16 60:3  
**preservation** 86:19  
 87:15  
**preserving** 87:6  
**presiding** 1:11  
**previous** 37:22  
**primarily** 21:2 62:3  
**prior** 16:15 36:7  
**priorities** 23:22  
**priority** 23:9 42:14  
**private** 91:7,8,9 93:17  
**probably** 19:16,20  
 28:17 42:10 47:14  
 51:18 69:13 70:21  
 75:8 79:11 90:12  
 95:20 101:2,2 105:6  
**problem** 34:1 55:13  
 89:2 96:8 101:13,13  
**problems** 101:8  
**process** 96:2  
**produce** 89:7  
**produced** 85:17  
**Production** 61:21  
**professional** 83:19  
 84:2 100:7 104:8  
**program** 44:11,13 47:1  
 47:3,16  
**progress** 23:13  
**prohibitive** 48:2  
**project** 19:16 51:7  
 67:11  
**promote** 89:5  
**promotion** 7:10  
**properly** 61:2 76:21  
 106:14  
**properties** 60:20 86:22  
 87:20  
**property** 12:18 19:11  
 60:21 61:15 64:4 88:6  
**proposed** 11:8,10  
**prosperity** 20:14 23:8  
 25:22 26:13,17  
**proud** 23:3  
**provide** 22:7 38:10,12  
 56:9 83:21 84:17  
 101:4,21  
**provided** 28:15  
**public** 2:15 21:1,11,16  
 22:3 23:9,13,18 32:15  
 41:19 42:2 43:2,10  
 73:11 82:2 91:7 94:16  
 95:1 96:4 98:19 99:2  
 99:3,5  
**Puerto** 31:19  
**pull** 12:1  
**purpose** 78:18 101:20  
**purposes** 51:14  
**pursue** 36:3,4

**pursuing** 30:5  
**push** 44:16,18 61:8  
 66:6 83:9  
**pushing** 81:18 89:1  
**put** 14:11 22:22 34:9  
 37:3 45:19 46:15 47:1  
 47:5 48:17,19,20  
 50:15 52:9 56:15  
 60:16 64:21 67:19  
 68:12 72:4,17 79:14  
 80:19 82:16 86:11  
 92:9 99:9 103:18,20  
**putting** 39:7 57:7 68:1  
 72:19 84:9 94:12

---

**Q**


---

**qualify** 49:13  
**question** 55:4 87:14  
 92:22  
**questions** 22:7 25:12  
 50:1,3 72:7,17,21  
 73:1,6,8 74:1,1,22  
 76:8 80:16 81:6  
 104:19,21  
**quick** 22:7 63:21  
**quickly** 83:11  
**quite** 10:7,9 54:2

---

**R**


---

**rack** 56:14  
**raise** 48:18  
**raised** 54:9  
**range** 41:14  
**rate** 61:7  
**reach** 60:12 70:9  
**reading** 30:14  
**ready** 29:16 63:16 80:9  
**real** 20:16 103:21  
**realize** 49:11  
**realm** 30:3 51:17 97:19  
**reason** 36:12 45:15  
**rebate** 44:12 46:1,5,10  
**rebuild** 64:20  
**receive** 66:5  
**received** 14:21 38:2  
**recommend** 12:2  
**recommendation** 67:6  
 97:7  
**recommendations** 24:4  
 25:10  
**record** 3:13 64:3 106:20  
**recreation** 10:15,16  
 11:12 96:1,3 97:11  
**redo** 53:1  
**reference** 5:22 39:3  
**regard** 58:1  
**regular** 34:22 71:9  
**regulated** 94:2

**regulatory** 43:4  
**reimbursable** 79:19  
**related** 102:3  
**relates** 11:4 38:2,10  
 39:4  
**relationship** 29:6  
**relaxation** 24:19  
**reliability** 51:4,13  
**relying** 21:12  
**remarked** 9:22 10:14  
**remarks** 2:5,6 58:5  
**remedy** 40:18  
**remember** 42:13 55:8  
 67:9 73:11  
**remind** 100:2  
**remove** 64:18  
**Renee** 1:14 5:15 52:18  
 74:6,19  
**Renee's** 80:14  
**renovations** 12:6  
**repaved** 52:2,7,8  
**report** 29:15 36:5,16  
 85:14  
**REPORTER** 16:5,8 80:5  
**reports** 2:10 14:19  
**representative** 83:12  
 83:17  
**representatives** 21:19  
**residences** 9:7 89:13  
**residents** 23:7 29:14  
 39:13 82:21 83:5,7,14  
 89:12,16  
**resolved** 101:19  
**resource** 101:4 103:12  
 104:16  
**resources** 75:22 76:7  
**responsibility** 8:19  
 72:19 76:10  
**responsible** 73:5 75:10  
 81:18  
**restaurant** 26:8 98:9  
**restauranteur** 98:11  
**restaurants** 98:12,14  
**rest** 13:7 104:17  
**results** 18:20,22  
**retail** 8:8 19:6 61:8 84:2  
 98:8 100:7 104:7  
**retailers** 26:11 87:11  
**return** 82:1,1,3  
**Revenue** 21:15  
**review** 2:7,9 14:18,19  
 15:8,11 57:16  
**Revitalization** 1:5 3:6  
**Rhode** 34:10,16,17  
 35:14  
**Rico** 31:20  
**rid** 104:10  
**ride** 42:20

**risk** 12:17  
**road** 62:1 93:4  
**Rock** 11:10 29:3  
**roll** 2:4 3:18,19 5:6 6:5  
**rolling** 36:19  
**Roosevelt** 100:5,5,19  
 105:1,5  
**rounds** 61:20  
**rudderless** 82:16  
**run** 25:3 78:20  
**running** 8:9  
**Ruppert** 1:21 6:10,10  
 79:11 98:11

---

**S**


---

**safe** 2:11 23:16 25:3  
 42:16,21 44:1 45:3  
 47:2,16 48:7,21 57:12  
 58:2 73:1,8 80:18  
**safety** 21:1,11 22:3  
 23:9,13,18 52:20  
**sampling** 83:13,17  
**sandwiches** 86:7  
**sat** 49:10  
**Saturday** 35:22 88:3,22  
**sausage** 102:19  
**saving** 37:9  
**savings** 53:21  
**saw** 15:3  
**saying** 3:11 13:7 28:18  
 47:10 56:21 70:9  
**says** 10:14  
**scale** 56:1 62:20  
**scary** 95:16  
**schedule** 17:12 37:4  
**school** 27:20 88:11,14  
 100:5 105:5  
**scooters** 37:20 38:3,12  
 39:16,19,21 42:15  
**scribe** 79:22 80:1  
**season** 24:1 90:15,17  
**second** 10:7 12:12 23:3  
 27:15,16 106:10,13  
**secondary** 46:8  
**seconded** 106:15  
**secrets** 49:1  
**section** 11:9  
**secure** 23:17  
**security** 44:3,6,11  
 46:22 47:17 101:5  
**seeing** 18:21 20:15  
 23:12  
**seeking** 100:21  
**seen** 34:20 93:13  
**sees** 97:15  
**sell** 54:5 63:17 89:7  
**send** 8:1 9:11 15:7,10  
 16:15 47:19 72:18

73:22 85:20 86:13,14  
**senior** 19:12 47:14  
 48:10 49:2  
**seniors** 19:21 30:13  
 39:15,20 47:18,20  
 48:7,21 89:17,18 90:2  
 98:2  
**sense** 30:4  
**sent** 15:1  
**series** 33:11 85:21  
**served** 102:16,16  
**service** 28:22 29:5,11  
 42:9 84:2 89:1 96:6,9  
 96:16 99:4 101:9,15  
 101:15  
**services** 11:12 21:17  
 24:16 25:5 60:7 83:19  
 100:7 104:8  
**sessions** 104:15,19  
**Sewer** 101:12  
**shaped** 34:19  
**share** 26:21 34:4 85:19  
**shared** 37:11 94:20  
**Sheon** 11:15  
**shooting** 53:3  
**shop** 86:2 88:16 92:3  
**short** 85:18,22  
**short-term** 10:1 11:2  
 24:13 36:22 95:6  
**shortly** 85:10  
**shout** 14:2  
**show** 86:9 92:4  
**side** 23:5 30:21 33:2  
 83:3  
**sidewalk** 50:13 51:21  
 52:8  
**sidewalks** 43:2  
**Sigma** 3:12 12:14,20  
 17:7  
**significant** 54:6  
**Sikder** 87:19  
**similar** 34:19 90:18  
**simple** 9:9 22:22  
**simultaneous** 5:3 6:16  
 28:10 51:9 52:1 57:13  
 58:22 59:8,21 63:10  
 63:15 65:22 67:1,12  
 69:15 70:17 71:19  
 72:15 73:3 76:22  
 78:15,22 79:10,17  
 80:11 81:13 84:13  
 92:16 100:13 102:20  
 103:1,4 104:1 105:3  
**single** 101:3,15  
**sir** 12:15 59:16 70:6  
**sit** 30:10  
**sit-in** 48:12  
**site** 62:21 63:3

**sitting** 14:5,13 30:13  
**size** 54:21  
**skateboard** 35:9  
**skillcraft** 11:13  
**Skype** 36:11  
**slated** 50:21  
**Slocum** 33:13  
**slowly** 41:14  
**small** 1:5 3:5 14:4 24:8  
 24:20 48:1 56:5 77:14  
 78:11 85:17 86:1,9  
 87:10,12 89:14,15  
 93:2,11 104:15  
**smaller** 48:3  
**smallest** 9:20  
**smiling** 17:15,17  
**social** 31:4,5 38:8 77:13  
**solutions** 40:18  
**solve** 22:2  
**somebody** 13:7 15:16  
 17:16 45:22 65:21  
 71:8 77:1,11 92:6  
 103:19  
**somebody's** 12:4  
**somewhat** 30:17  
**soon** 16:10 50:22 51:12  
 95:21  
**sorry** 7:18 17:1 47:12  
 52:4  
**sort** 41:8 56:10,22  
 62:14 77:13 85:22  
 89:10 92:8 95:5,9  
**space** 2:15 3:15 11:18  
 12:3,4,21 24:19 32:15  
 32:18 36:5,19,21 39:4  
 41:19 42:3 43:2,4,10  
 50:13 64:12 73:11  
 91:2,7,7 94:16 95:2  
 97:18 98:13,14,17,19  
 99:3  
**spaces** 95:10 97:10,11  
 98:4,8 99:2,5  
**Spanish** 75:4,21 76:19  
 77:18 80:2,4  
**speak** 75:3  
**speaker** 102:10  
**speaking** 5:3 6:16 27:7  
 28:10 32:22 51:9 52:1  
 57:13 58:22 59:8,21  
 63:10,15 65:22 67:1  
 67:12 69:15 70:17  
 71:19 72:15 73:3  
 76:22 78:15,22 79:10  
 80:11 81:13 84:13  
 92:16 100:13 102:20  
 103:1,4 104:1 105:3  
**special** 53:2  
**specific** 102:6

**spend** 47:8 56:17  
**spent** 47:12 85:5  
**Spin** 38:1,7  
**spoke** 80:2  
**spoken** 87:16  
**sponsor** 38:9 78:12  
**spring** 90:8 91:4 92:6  
 100:11,16,18  
**square** 91:14  
**squeezed** 98:2,3  
**St** 38:16  
**stair** 47:18  
**stands** 43:8  
**Starsha** 7:4,9  
**start** 3:11 10:13 24:2,6  
 44:7 49:7 69:22 90:7  
 92:6 105:6  
**started** 8:13 12:20  
 14:18 68:1 85:21  
 105:9  
**starting** 7:13 19:3 51:11  
**stay** 103:11 104:13  
**steadfast** 60:18  
**stenographer** 16:2  
**step** 48:17  
**Stevens** 33:12  
**stick** 72:2  
**stop** 6:6 12:12 23:12  
 31:14 50:1 58:2 106:9  
**stops** 54:8  
**store** 35:10 46:17 47:4  
 47:11 86:1  
**storytelling** 86:21  
**Strategic** 2:14 32:13  
 73:9 85:11 92:12  
**strategize** 21:22  
**streets** 42:17 43:19  
 54:3 68:4 82:19 91:11  
 95:14  
**streetscape** 19:2 23:4  
 27:9 50:19 69:6  
**Strong** 60:17  
**structure** 90:22  
**stuff** 48:19 57:7 93:20  
**Sub-Committee** 2:10  
**subcommittee** 14:19  
 36:18 60:1 72:4  
**subcommittees** 36:8  
 72:7  
**submit** 79:18  
**submitted** 11:8  
**succession** 102:5  
**suggest** 73:15 99:18  
**suggested** 68:12  
**suggestion** 71:3,21  
**suggestions** 25:12  
**summer** 95:4 105:20,21  
**summit** 2:20 100:4,6

101:1  
**Sunday** 89:1  
**superintendents** 29:4  
 29:11  
**support** 26:17 59:1  
 89:7 98:16  
**supports** 42:17  
**supposed** 40:7 58:17  
**survey** 9:3,9 39:12  
 45:11,13 49:20,21  
 65:3,5 70:14 71:13,16  
 71:21,22 72:20 74:2,4  
 76:9 79:12 80:13,14  
 80:20 81:21,22 82:5  
 85:5 99:1,15  
**SurveyMonkey** 9:10  
**surveys** 2:18 70:8 81:1  
**Swan** 34:9,18  
**swear** 35:22

---

**T**


---

**T** 1:19 2:5  
**table** 14:5 54:5 64:18  
**tag** 103:17,19 104:5  
**tagging** 31:13  
**takeaways** 94:20  
**taken** 19:17  
**takes** 14:10 22:19,19  
 26:9 58:11 97:2  
**talk** 8:10,13 14:7 21:22  
 26:10 42:4 47:6 49:4  
 54:15,16 56:4 57:16  
 65:1 73:7 85:6 99:8  
 99:10 101:17 105:14  
**talked** 8:15 20:22 31:12  
 39:12 57:3 60:8 82:6  
 99:1,15  
**talking** 13:3 24:2 27:10  
 34:11 35:12 37:17  
 50:5,11 57:18 61:3,13  
**tangible** 22:9 60:7  
**target** 39:22  
**task** 21:10  
**Tax** 21:15 59:12  
**team** 26:14  
**telephone** 36:8  
**tell** 28:21 37:11  
**telling** 48:6 103:17  
**temporary** 7:17 46:14  
**ten** 10:16,17 51:19 70:1  
 72:7 84:7 90:12 97:20  
**terms** 9:12,13,13 37:18  
 38:20 43:8,13 53:9,21  
 53:22 81:10 83:22  
 97:17,17  
**text** 79:18  
**texts** 36:13  
**thank** 3:12 6:12 13:1

17:13,18 25:13,16  
 26:16,16,19,20 27:15  
 32:6 58:3,7,9,15,15  
 59:2,4 94:6  
**thanked** 12:20  
**thanks** 27:5  
**that'd** 25:10 38:16  
**thematic** 56:10  
**themselves** 39:16  
**things** 8:17,20,21 9:21  
 11:18 13:3,17 14:7  
 19:18 22:10,12,18  
 23:2 24:4,7 26:22  
 27:4,6,7 42:7 43:12  
 43:20 45:16,20 47:18  
 48:13 49:12 50:5,9  
 64:19 67:19 85:16  
 86:20 87:13 89:20  
 90:2 94:13 95:16  
 96:18 104:6  
**third** 43:1 100:3  
**thought** 25:9 50:10  
 53:12 91:2 100:12  
**thousands** 48:13,14  
**three** 17:6 36:2 42:7  
 43:12 94:20  
**threshold** 47:15  
**thrilled** 19:19  
**thrive** 23:16  
**throw** 57:3,8  
**thumb** 14:11  
**tick** 18:19 22:20  
**ticket** 104:10  
**tickets** 104:4  
**ticking** 58:11  
**tie** 96:5  
**tight** 98:4  
**till** 8:9,10  
**timeframe** 70:7  
**timeline** 90:7  
**times** 54:22 78:14  
**tire** 88:16  
**today** 3:8,17 65:2 66:19  
**Todd** 1:19 2:5 5:1,9  
 17:11,16 18:3,6,9  
 26:18 27:12 28:5,16  
 29:9 31:9 32:6,9  
 42:11 43:6 44:12  
 47:13 49:4,9 50:18  
 51:3,10 52:2,7,13  
 54:14 58:6,20 59:4  
 94:21  
**told** 52:21 53:1 64:5  
 89:8  
**tonight** 9:1 58:16 94:7  
 100:15  
**tonight's** 16:4,11  
**tool** 23:14

**toolbox** 23:15  
**tools** 36:12 87:12  
**topics** 102:7  
**tore** 51:14  
**totally** 92:10  
**touch** 38:14 80:18  
 94:11  
**touched** 105:12  
**track** 13:14  
**traffic** 9:14  
**training** 11:13,13,14,17  
**trajectory** 20:21  
**transit** 42:8  
**transition** 82:13  
**translate** 77:18 79:17  
 80:4  
**translated** 75:10,21  
**translation** 79:17  
**translations** 76:19  
**transportation** 2:15  
 32:15 37:16 41:1,19  
 42:3 56:22 72:11  
 73:11 74:16 94:16  
 98:19  
**transportation-related**  
 101:7  
**tree** 101:15  
**tried** 33:7 34:19  
**trust** 46:7,17 61:21  
**try** 38:14 46:13 60:6  
 81:1 87:5 90:6 95:13  
**trying** 7:1 15:22 38:20  
 42:3 61:16 62:10,12  
 62:14 87:11 88:2  
 96:15  
**tub** 48:10,12,15,16  
**Tuesday** 1:8 3:8  
**turn** 17:9 55:4  
**Turner** 1:17 4:2,3 5:1  
 5:18 6:2 7:12,20  
 37:10,15,19 49:14  
 51:8 55:15 56:2,8  
**turnout** 102:22,22  
**two** 2:8 6:13 10:5 14:20  
 14:21 16:16 18:7,10  
 18:10 19:17 21:21  
 27:7 29:10 30:6 32:17  
 36:2 54:7 67:19 72:6  
 72:21 88:10 94:22  
**two-and-a-half** 17:21  
 17:22  
**type** 19:3 23:12 38:7,10  
 38:13 60:7 67:10 69:1  
 69:14 93:10  
**types** 60:10  
**typically** 55:2 68:19  
 93:16

---

**U**


---

**U** 53:8,8 54:4 55:7,7,8  
 97:15  
**Uber** 37:22  
**Uber-related** 40:5  
**unable** 4:18  
**under-recreationalized**  
 30:18  
**underground** 50:16  
**undergrounding** 50:21  
**unfortunately** 41:18  
 61:16  
**units** 19:12,20 61:6  
**update** 22:7 63:21  
**updated** 94:9  
**updates** 85:14  
**upfront** 46:9,15,16 47:3  
**Uptown** 56:3 79:1,6  
 82:4 89:3  
**urban** 33:22  
**use** 23:14 30:1 31:6  
 35:5 43:9,18 44:15  
 54:18 70:1 76:3 86:12  
 91:1 95:14 96:16  
**usually** 7:7 51:13 96:10  
 102:6  
**utilities** 101:11,14  
**utilization** 12:21  
**utilize** 3:13,15

---

**V**


---

**vacant** 12:5 19:10,13  
**Valentine** 7:4  
**valuable** 14:8  
**various** 39:7 106:3  
**vendors** 84:2 89:6  
 90:13  
**venue** 104:11  
**versus** 40:14  
**vertical** 98:4  
**video** 85:17 86:11,14  
**videos** 86:9  
**virtually** 69:5  
**vision** 26:21 62:14  
**vote** 58:18 100:3

---

**W**


---

**wait** 70:8  
**waiting** 60:16  
**walk** 49:12 104:6  
**walk-through** 106:2,3  
**walked** 103:15  
**walking** 4:21 54:2  
**wall** 23:1  
**wanted** 8:12 22:6 27:16  
 64:10,15  
**wanting** 42:19  
**wants** 17:17 20:13 22:9

41:6 104:12  
**ward** 1:19 2:5,20 26:7,8  
 26:22 30:15 31:22  
 35:1,3 36:5 38:16,16  
 39:2,8,13 49:1 51:6  
 51:11,12,12 58:14  
 65:5 77:4 84:12 87:1  
 97:11 100:3  
**Washington** 1:11 77:16  
 78:6,8 101:11  
**Washingtonian** 27:1  
**wasn't** 10:7,9 50:20  
 54:9 99:3 104:20  
 105:22  
**water** 30:13 101:12  
**way** 7:6 23:10 43:5,9  
 65:5,7 68:11 74:12  
 81:7 96:5 106:7  
**ways** 29:17 43:8,18  
 57:5  
**weather-proofed** 48:20  
**website** 59:14  
**Wednesday** 59:15  
**week** 15:4 37:12 38:19  
 40:8 69:20 100:17  
**week's** 8:14  
**weeks** 86:3,8 105:7  
**went** 7:9 105:22 106:20  
**west** 27:8 84:20  
**western** 23:5  
**wet** 66:11  
**white** 83:16  
**willing** 29:16 46:21 56:9  
**windows** 55:19  
**winter** 11:5  
**wire** 101:14  
**wish** 44:2  
**woman** 103:15  
**woman's** 103:17  
**wonderful** 53:12,15  
 68:11 103:12,12  
**wondering** 80:9  
**words** 74:5  
**work** 6:19 8:16 12:8  
 13:15,22 20:3 22:5,18  
 25:4 33:17,19 36:14  
 38:8,21 47:20,22 48:1  
 51:11 58:8 62:17  
 87:20 92:20 94:10  
**worked** 67:20 85:16  
**workforce** 37:18  
**working** 21:7,13 24:15  
 29:1 34:2 38:3 62:9  
 62:13 76:19 87:10  
 88:2,21 90:6 94:12  
 95:19  
**works** 12:8 21:16 25:21  
 37:3

**workshops** 102:1  
**world** 36:13  
**worry** 15:22 103:18,20  
**worse** 51:5  
**worth** 41:16  
**wouldn't** 46:16 84:8  
 93:16,18  
**wow** 49:13  
**wrapping** 24:1  
**wrong** 61:5 101:18  
**wrote** 66:20

---

**X**


---



---

**Y**


---

**yea** 80:22  
**year** 14:1 20:9 21:20  
 61:21,22 95:4 102:8  
 102:22 105:2,5,19  
**year-and-a-half** 18:4  
**years** 17:21,22 18:10  
 19:17 20:12 23:11,11  
 28:21 30:6 51:19  
 63:19 64:22 87:2,21  
 97:20  
**Yellowstone** 96:12  
**young** 10:10 25:1 36:21  
 95:10  
**younger** 39:18 41:11,13  
 41:14 42:20  
**youth** 11:17 67:14

---

**Z**


---

**zones** 31:21

---

**0**


---



---

**1**


---

**10** 18:22  
**100** 15:8  
**106** 2:22  
**11** 19:1  
**11th** 34:12 35:11,13  
**12** 19:9 21:3 84:8  
**12,000** 91:14  
**13** 23:10,11 28:21  
**13th** 30:7  
**14** 2:8  
**14,000** 91:14  
**145** 1:10  
**15** 8:9 59:10,12 60:4  
 90:12  
**16th** 59:20  
**17** 2:5  
**17th** 35:17  
**18** 1:8 19:20  
**18th** 3:8 34:18  
**1st** 84:14 86:4

---

**2**


---

**2** 58:20,21 100:3  
**20011** 1:11  
**2018** 52:21  
**2020** 1:8  
**22** 87:22 88:9 91:13  
**23** 16:20,21  
**24** 87:22 88:9 91:13  
**25** 20:12  
**250** 26:1  
**28** 17:4,5  
**29th** 73:19,20,22

---

**3**


---

**3** 2:2,3,4 51:12  
**30** 15:22 16:3,11 35:22  
 39:17 60:4 81:22  
**300** 26:1  
**31** 8:10  
**38** 19:11,20,21 61:6  
**3rd** 2:20

---

**4**


---

**4** 1:19 2:5,20 26:7 31:22  
 35:2,3 36:5 38:16  
 39:2,8,13 49:1 51:13  
 58:18 65:5 77:4 84:12  
 87:1 97:11 100:3  
**45** 77:21 78:4  
**4D** 11:8

---

**5**


---

**50** 42:12  
**50,000** 20:15  
**54** 42:13  
**5505** 86:4  
**57** 2:9  
**58** 2:11  
**59** 2:12 42:12  
**5th** 10:1 21:4 24:14  
 28:3 33:3 43:17 52:21  
 54:8 61:1 95:3

---

**6**


---

**6** 2:6 19:9  
**6:30** 1:11 3:9 16:22 17:7  
**6:35** 3:2,3,9  
**6th** 61:1

---

**7**


---

**7** 8:8 26:8 51:6,11  
**708** 63:4,6  
**7th** 21:2,6 61:1

---

**8**


---

**8** 38:16  
**8:00** 3:10 16:22 17:7

105:8

**8:04** 105:8 106:20  
**8:05** 106:10  
**80** 2:13  
**809** 19:9  
**81** 2:14  
**8th** 61:1 63:5

---

**9**


---

**90** 29:12  
**98** 2:20  
**99** 2:15  
**9th** 35:11 84:15

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