



CLEVELAND PARK  
SMART GROWTH

**2020 ANC Candidate Questionnaire**

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

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

Name: Ryan Keefe  
SMD: 3F05

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

My priority for a future configuration of Connecticut Ave is one that includes protected bike lanes, bulb outs for pedestrians and bus stop islands as well as bus signal priority wherever possible. Getting rid of the rush hour lane switch is also a priority for me because it puts drivers as well as vulnerable road users at significant risk. Maintaining space for pick-ups, drop-offs and deliveries is also necessary for both residents as well as the many businesses along this corridor.

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

A network of protected bike lanes should be moved forward with all due haste, our sidewalk network must be expanded to allow for safe pedestrian access everywhere and we must increase the frequency of bus service, particularly the L2, as well as places served in the longer term. I believe strongly that adding housing near transit must be a priority and doing so without minimum parking requirements is one of the best ways to both lower housing costs as well as promote transit ridership. I would also strongly support the expansion of neighborhood retail to allow for shorter and more walkable trips for household goods.

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

Yes, Ward 3 must do our fair share to welcome our growing population and newcomers alike that will also make our neighborhoods more diverse and resilient. We have a moral obligation to allow for more market rate and affordable housing to be built in our neighborhood and across Ward 3 to welcome new neighbors, including many needing a safer place to live either due to sexual orientation or strife where they were living, and allow for the expansion of families within the District. Growth can not only can strengthen our neighborhood social and cultural ties but our local business community as well that have struggled in past years even before Covid-19 as Ward 3 has become less of a regional destination. Allowing more growth can not only have a positive impact on our neighborhood but help to relieve the housing crisis regionally and displacement that has been happening across the rest of DC. I vociferously supported The Brooks short-term family shelter in ANC 3C and will push to add more supportive and income restricted units within ANC 3F to address the large deficit in Ward 3 through Housing Production Trust Fund projects as well as Inclusionary Zoning.

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

The best place to expand housing options in my SMD is to allow for mixed use buildings including apartments to be built on the 5000 block of Connecticut Ave. I argued for an upFLUM of this block and the adjacent one to OP and the ANC and that is in the draft proposal before the Council now. Within the ANC additional housing would be ideal and allowed by-right in the MU-7 zone around Van Ness on several low-rise buildings between Windom Place and Albemarle St as well as where the former Walgreens that UDC is now leasing as well as 4111-4123 Connecticut Ave. Larger changes to single-family zoning outside the ANCs control to allow duplex-fourplex housing throughout the neighborhood should also be moved forward with study given to making an affordable unit(s) included in those projects along the lines of what the Oregon State Legislature passed.

4) ANC 3C includes the Woodley Park Historic District and most of the Cleveland Park Historic District, while 3F includes part of the Cleveland Park HD (Sedgwick & Tilden Gardens). How will you approach Historic Preservation applications in your SMD (if applicable) and in your ANC generally?

I generally do not believe that Historic Districts are an equitable or necessary way to proceed with historic preservation, particularly with how they have been pursued in DC with regards to Cleveland Park and more recently to Kingman Park. Too often these applications have had little to do with preservation of worthy sites and more to do with stopping any redevelopment in our wealthy neighborhoods. I do however support individual applications if there is particular merit to the application and the adverse effects on the neighborhood aren't too damaging. This may be in the form of a historic estate, place of particularly notable accomplishment or residence such as Hillwood, Reno City site, Uptown etc. I do not foresee this being a particularly large issue in 3F05 in particular however, but I will keep an open mind to

applications brought before ANC 3F. I hope to see a HPRB membership that is more willing to compromise for our larger goals in sustainability and to make sure that DC Home Rule extends to this board as well as the Zoning Commission membership particularly in the event of statehood.

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

I would like to first and foremost see an updated website for the ANC that includes clearer links and calendars with regards to the ANC's business and events taking place within 3F. I would also like to see full resolutions posted in advance of meetings and print outs of these to be available as well. Clearly labeled financial documents and grant recipients should be highlighted as well.

I believe the online format in many ways has gone well and when the commission starts to meet in person I would like to keep the ability to not only watch a stream (or listen by phone) but also participate with virtual questions/comment if that is at all possible. Investigating the accessibility measures that commissions such as ANC 2B and ANC 6C have taken to allow for the deaf & hard hearing to participate through interpretation and speech-to-text reporters should be done and offered to anyone who needs it.

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

I've been a Ward 3 residents for about two decades, growing up here and absolutely loving our community. I'm running because I believe that we must be a more inclusive neighborhood that works for all types of lifestyles and income ranges. That we deserve a vibrant and safe place to live in that works for all ages regardless of transportation mode and that we must encourage as much environmentally friendly living and use best practices to enhance our community. I have spent years attending ANC meetings across DC to advocate for better projects and policies as well as to learn many of the best practices in how the diverse set of commissions operates in all 8 of our Wards. I hope to use my passion for advocacy and knowledge of DC Government to make government work better for our current residents and for those who will come after us.

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

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

Learn more at [cpsmartgrowth.com](http://cpsmartgrowth.com)