



CLEVELAND PARK
SMART GROWTH

2022 ANC Candidate Questionnaire

Name: Hayden Gise (haydengise.com) SMD: 3C01

1) What are the main issues you hope to address as an ANC Commissioner?

- My hope is to make progress on housing affordability in the neighborhood. When possible I will advocate for policies and proposals that in-effect would increase the supply of housing, codify tenant rights and protections, and diversity within the neighborhood.
- It is imperative that we support urban infrastructure that centers the safety and happiness of working people. People are more important than any car, building, or statue. Our policy approach should reflect that. I concur with my colleagues within the Woodley Park area that the circulator route ought to be extended and the L1 bus line be reinstated.
- When presented with any position of leverage, I believe we should use all power at our disposal as a Commission to place sanctions on businesses that commit unfair labor practices or otherwise infringe on workers' rights to organize. When workers within 3C voice their desire to organize, I believe a Commissioner's place is on the picket line standing in support.

2) The Cleveland Park and Woodley Park commercial areas on Connecticut Ave are now allowed to be zoned for greater residential density. What will be your priorities and approach to any rezoning requests for the area that come before the ANC?

When reviewing rezoning requests, the significant factors that will inform my vote are the effects it will have on housing supply and affordability. Another factor being whether or not the company or organization making the request plans to employ union labor to complete the project.

3) How will you incorporate racial equity in your approach as an ANC Commissioner?

Redlining did not take place in ancient history, it's a key part of the story of DC's neighborhoods and how Washingtonians are segregated to this day. The effects of redlining must be undone, along with a long list of policies and systems including capitalism that were put in place with the explicit goal of further subjecting people with marginalized identities. My approach will be to support and listen to the policy demands of organizations, activists, and neighbors who have the lived experience necessary to make progressive policy prescriptions to advance racial equity.

4) ANC 3C includes the Woodley Park Historic District, most of the Cleveland Park Historic District and several historic landmarks. How will you approach Historic Preservation applications in your SMD (if applicable) and in ANC 3C generally?

I recognize the deep harm to marginalized communities that has been caused across the District in the name of 'Historic Preservation.' I believe each application should be considered on a case-by-case basis, with the primary consideration being the effect it will have on working

people. We should never be prioritizing buildings and landmarks ahead of the needs of people. I am sure that most Historic Preservation issues will boil down to nothing more than an aesthetic choice, in those instances I will take a listening role at first and defer to my colleagues who have become experts at navigating this process.

5) Are you committed to supporting the Connecticut Ave reconfiguration approach known as Concept C? (Yes or No), and what will be your priorities when it comes to the reconfiguration of Connecticut Ave?

I am committed to supporting the Connecticut Ave reconfiguration. I believe the most important thing to consider and my absolute #1 priority is saving lives. We know bike lanes save lives and build healthier communities. Too many cyclists have died because there was no protection. There is no 'neighborhood character' or parking spot more important than saving lives. If possible, I'd love to be able to save some street parking for residents who, like myself, must drive to work but that is far lower on the list of my priorities in the Connecticut Ave reconfiguration. If saving parking can't happen, the world won't come to an end. We cannot afford to delay this process further. I would support Concept C. We must get protected bike lanes and incentivize folks to take public transit when possible. We must lower speed limits and increase the time pedestrians get to cross the street. My SMD is walking distance to the world famous Woodley Park/Adams Morgan/National Zoo metro stop, folks from everywhere walk through our neighborhood, and frankly it is ableist to assume someone can cross Connecticut Ave in 30 seconds. We have to fix that.

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

Ultimately, I'm just some girl who likes living in the neighborhood and wants to help make it better. I'm friendly and I care about people. I will always try to hear people out.

About Cleveland Park Smart Growth

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