

Citizens Coordinating Committee on Friendship Heights

April 12, 2018

Council President Reimer
Council Vice President Navarro
Councilmember Berliner
Councilmember Elrich
PHED Chair Nancy Floreen
Councilmember Hucker
Councilmember Katz
Councilmember Leventhal
Councilmember Rice

Re: Citizens Coordinating Committee on Friendship Heights in Opposition to any Reduction in "Park Refresher" Program Funding

Dear Council members:

The Citizens Coordinating Committee on Friendship Heights testified at the Council hearing on the MNCPPC Capital Improvements Program. We urged full funding for the "Park Refresher" program.

It is through this new program that funds can be made available for such relatively small projects such as converting to public park use land that MNCPPC purchased more than 20 years ago to be made part of the existing Willard Ave. Park. This land was purchased to service the densely populated Friendship Heights Village and the nearby single family residential communities. It has remained unused by the public awaiting its conversion to park use.

We have been advised by Park and Planning that the "Parks Refresher" would be a source of funding for such a conversion. We now understand that further cuts to the Parks Dep't funding are under consideration.

We believe we have been more than patient in waiting for the Council to fulfill its promise made in the 1990s of converting the land purchased for a park into a park. On behalf of our members, Friendship Heights Village and 17 other communities, we urge the Council to fully fund the "Parks Refresher" program.

Thank you for your consideration of this important matter.

Sincerely,



Harold Pfohl, Chair
Citizens Coordinating Committee on Friendship Heights

c. Casey Anderson, MNCPPC

Representing the Citizens Associations of Brookdale, Drummond, Chevy Chase Village, Chevy Chase West, Friendship Heights, Glen Echo Heights, Kenwood, Kenwood Condominium, Kenwood House Cooperative, Somerset, Somerset House, Springfield, Sumner Village Condominium, Westmoreland, Westbard Mews, Westwood Mews, and Wood Acres