

ward3vision

smart growth • vibrant neighborhoods

Ward3Vision, a group of residents who can imagine our neighborhoods as **even better** urban places - **more walkable, sustainable, and vibrant**. DC is growing and we think that growth should be **environmentally and socially responsible**, positive and progressive, while **protecting the character of our existing neighborhoods** and bringing the vitality of **urban life** to our commercial corridors.

American University Law School relocation to the Tenley Campus



Ward 3 Vision continues to be engaged with American University (AU) and is pressing the university to further refine its design of the law school to better utilize the front lawn of Capital Hall to help enliven Wisconsin Avenue at Tenley Circle.

Davenport Street Safeway



Ward3Vision opposed the expansion of this store unless it was part of a mixed-use development befitting its transit-oriented development location. Numerous meetings were held with neighbors, the ANC, Councilmember Cheh and the development team. Although a consensus was reached on the appropriate type of development for this important site, the project is currently on hold and we hope to see it again this year.

Babe's/The Bond at Tenley



Advisory Neighborhood Commission 3E voted to support [the proposed PUD](#) at 4600 Wisconsin Avenue NW at its October meeting. The Zoning Commission held public hearings on the case and Ward 3 Vision was a party in support at these hearings. Construction is expected to commence in early 2014.

Cleveland Park Giant



Ward 3 Vision is excited that construction has finally begun on the new Giant in Cleveland Park.

Capital Bikeshare



The District's Department of Transportation (DDOT) [announced 78 new Capital Bikeshare \(CABI\) stations](#), including several along Wisconsin, Connecticut and Massachusetts Avenues in Ward 3. Ward3Vision also participated in several meetings regarding expanded on-street bicycle facilities in Ward 3 with a focus on pressing DDOT to implement recommendations in the [DC Bicycle Master Facilities Plan](#).

City Council Hearings



Members of Ward3Vision testified before the City Council (or one of its committees) about the Zoning Re-write and proposed changes to the Residential Parking Permit program. Ward3Vision also testified in opposition to some components of the Historic Preservation Application for AU's Tenley Campus when it came before the Historic Preservation Review Board.

Dialogues on Development

Ward3Vision is committed to the kind of open dialogue about Smart Growth that will dispel the misinformation that sometimes threatens to undermine the progressive goals of walkable urbanism we have for our neighborhoods.

We hosted a discussion entitled Implementing Smart Growth in DC and Ward3 featuring a high profile panel including:
Cheryl Cort, Policy Director at Coalition for Smarter Growth
Chris Leinberger, professor at the George Washington University School of Business and a senior fellow at the Brookings Institution
Roger Lewis, architect and author of the Shaping the City column in the Post
Harriet Tregoning, Director of the DC Office of Planning



October, 2012 saw two dialogues.

First, *In the Trenches – Advocating for Smart Growth* with David Alpert, founder and Editor-in-Chief of the Greater Greater Washington blog

Jeff Davis, citizen activist involved in the Cleveland Park Giant drama
Ellen McCarthy, Director of Land Use and Planning at Arent Fox, and former Director of the DC Office of Planning



Later in October, Ward3Vision joined the Coalition for Smarter Growth in sponsoring a very well-attended walking tour and discussion of the past failures, and future hopes for the Van Ness Metro neighborhood. We stressed the point that density is not enough to create walkable urbanism absent thoughtful design choices.

Changes to the Zoning Ordinance:

Greater Greater Washington
The Washington, DC area is great. But it could be **greater**.

Get ready for fireworks at 8 zoning update meetings
in Ward 3, starting November 26, 2013 at 6pm

DC's Office of Planning has announced plans for public meetings around the zoning update. These forums will be ground zero for some eye-bro, as they have in Montgomery County, even for complaints that have nothing to do with the zoning update. Around the Washington region, we've been arguing for years now about a fundamental question: Should our communities keep growing, adding people and restaurants and shops, and making it easier to get around without driving? Or should existing neighborhoods remain static, with little change in buildings, people or transportation?

The DC Office of Planning (DCOP) has submitted recommendations for updating the District's Zoning Ordinances to the Zoning Commission. Much of the noise about and opposition to the proposed changes to the zoning ordinances have been coming from Ward 3 so it is important that pro smart growth members of the community be engaged in this process.

Upcoming Ward3Vision activities include:

Zoning Rewrite: We will testify in support of the Office of Planning's modest but positive changes that could provide more choice and diversity in housing (ADU reform), changes to parking regulations in transit-rich locations, and revival of the traditional 'corner store.'

Parking Reform: We support reforming the way District manages curbside parking to complement changes in Zoning and respond to reductions in car ownership and use, improved alternatives such as car sharing and bike facilities, and technology.

Tenley Planning Workshop: This Fall, in collaboration with Catholic University, Ward3Vision will be sponsoring a community planning workshop to look at the problems and opportunities in Tenleytown, focusing on Wisconsin Avenue.

Development in Ward 3

It is anticipated that in 2014 development proposals will be unveiled for the Martens site at 4800 Wisconsin Avenue.



and the [Safeway store](#) across 42nd Street at Davenport Street.



So just when we think we are making some progress promoting the environmental imperative of Smart Growth and the joys of urbanism we find there are still many who just don't get it. The owners of the vacant lot at Military Road and Connecticut Avenue are proposing an apartment building on their land, and the opposition is out in force, claiming this is the wrong site for a big building – that's right, Connecticut Avenue. Even though this is a 'matter-of-right' building there has been a challenge from the immediate neighbors.



Ward3Vision anticipates participating in these meetings and will be urging all of our supporters to turn out to speak up for good development in Ward 3.

Thank you again for your support and willingness to get involved this past year. As always please encourage like minded neighbors to get on [our email list](#) and if you are interested in being more actively involved with the group please feel free to email us at abc@ward3vision.org.

Please follow us on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#).