

IV-R2-060703 Resolution on PSAs, ANCs, and “Neighborhood Clusters”

Whereas the Chief of Police is planning to reduce the number of Police Service Areas (PSAs) and vary their staffing, and has been advised by the Office of Planning to align their boundaries with those of the 39 “neighborhood clusters” rather than the 37 Advisory Neighborhood Commissions (ANCs);

Whereas ANCs have existed since the mid-70s, are authorized and regulated by District law, consist of elected Commissioners (by more than 95,000 voters in November 2002), and have boundaries, based on the recommendations of broad-based ward task forces, that respect natural boundaries and neighborhood cohesion;

Whereas ANC boundaries are not only established by law, but based on the recommendations of citizen task forces;

Whereas “neighborhood clusters” were created in January 2000 by the Office of Neighborhood Action, with boundaries running across ANCs and with seeming intent to undercut ANCs;

Whereas community policing would be more effective if aligned with ANCs rather than clusters, since ANCs are accountable to neighborhood residents and oriented toward neighborhood interests and values in ways that clusters are not;

Now, therefore, be it resolved, that the CPCA calls upon the Chief of Police to align the boundaries of PSA 204 with those of ANC3C, and the boundaries of PSAs with those of ANCs citywide, not with “clusters”.