



Government of the District of Columbia Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B

RESOLUTION #4B-22-0103

Requesting the District of Columbia Provide High-Quality Masks to Schools and Other Communities in Need

Adopted January 24, 2022

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B (Commission) takes note of the following:

- The [Centers for Disease Control has said](#) that “masking is a critical public health tool for preventing the spread of COVID-19 [the novel coronavirus],” and that well-fitting high-quality masks like KN95, KF-94 and N-95 masks (“high-quality masks”) provide the greatest level of protection and disease prevention.
- Mask [experts report](#) that disposable high-quality masks can be re-used, but recommend rotating them to ensure maximum protection – imposing an additional ongoing cost to ensure health and safety.
- While [neighboring jurisdictions](#) have efforts to widely distribute free, high-quality masks, the District of Columbia has not engaged in a systemic effort to distribute these masks to our communities.
- Despite requests for increased masking in schools, District of Columbia Public Schools has reportedly provided [a single KN-95 mask](#) for school teachers and school nurses have reportedly [had difficulty](#) getting properly fitted N-95 masks. Schools and child care centers are particularly important for high-quality mask usage as they [contain concentrations](#) of unvaccinated or unable-to-be-vaccinated children.
- The Commission has previously recognized the importance of encouraging mask use through “free, ubiquitous mask distribution. In addition to allowing emergency services workers to distribute free masks, free masks should be readily available at public transportation hubs, on transit vehicles, at libraries, recreation centers, schools and other public buildings, through meal and grocery distribution sites, through senior meal delivery and through community-based service organizations and non-profits.” [Resolution 4B-20-0701](#), Request for Mandatory Use of Masks During the COVID-19 Pandemic (July 27, 2020).

RESOLVED:

- That Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B requests the District of Columbia engage in a program of ubiquitous, free high-quality mask distribution.
- That Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B requests that the program begin by providing free high-quality masks to students and staff at schools and child care centers before expanding to other distribution points.
- That Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B requests the prioritization of vulnerable populations such as people without housing, incarcerated persons, persons living in congregate settings, and communities with lower vaccination rates for free high-quality mask distribution.
- That Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B requests that free high-quality mask distribution be continued on an ongoing basis until the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention no longer recommends indoor mask use.

FURTHER RESOLVED:

That the Commission designates Commissioners Evan Yeats, ANC 4B01, and Tiffani Nichole Johnson, ANC 4B06, to represent the Commission in all matters relating to this Resolution.

FURTHER RESOLVED:

That, in the event the designated representative Commissioners cannot carry out their representative duties for any reason, the Commission authorizes the Chair to designate another Commissioner to represent the Commission in all matter relating to this Resolution.

FURTHER RESOLVED:

That, consistent with DC Code § 1-309, only actions of the full Commission voting in a properly noticed public meeting have standing and carry great weight. The actions, positions, and opinions of individual commissioners, insofar as they may be contradictory to or otherwise inconsistent with the expressed position of the full Commission in a properly adopted resolution or letter, have no standing and cannot be considered as in any way associated with the Commission.

ADOPTED by voice vote at a regular public meeting (notice of which was properly given, and at which a quorum of __ members was present) on January 24, 2022, by a vote of ___ yes, ___ no, ___ abstentions.

DRAFT