



**GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 5B
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RESOLUTION TO CORRECT ONLINE MAPPING SERVICES TO REFLECT THE ACTUAL NORTHEASTERN BOUNDARY OF WASHINGTON, DC

WHEREAS, the original boundaries of the District of Columbia were established by the Residence Act of 1790 and surveyed in 1791–1792 by Major Andrew Ellicott, assisted by Benjamin Banneker, and marked with 40 boundary stones placed at one-mile intervals around the original 100-square-mile federal district;

WHEREAS, the boundary stones are among the oldest federal monuments in the United States and are listed on the National Register of Historic Places, representing a significant part of the District's and the nation's historical and cultural heritage;

WHEREAS, the northeastern boundary of Washington, DC, as defined by these boundary stones, remains legally and historically valid, and is physically marked by stones such as Northeast No. 3, Northeast No. 4, Northeast No. 5 and Northeast No. 6;

WHEREAS, several widely used online mapping services, including Google Maps, Apple Maps, MapQuest, and OpenStreetMap, currently display inaccurate representations of the northeastern boundary of Washington, DC, making it appear the eastern side of Eastern Avenue is in Maryland;

WHEREAS, Google Maps, for example, inaccurately displays the DC boundary line approximately 37 feet away from boundary stone

Northeast No. 5 located at 4609 Eastern Avenue NE;

WHEREAS, if this inaccuracy runs from Northeast No. 7 to the North Corner Boundary stone Google Maps has eliminated nearly 0.05 square miles from DC (1,373,366 square feet)¹;

WHEREAS, on March 17, 2023, a public walkthrough of Eastern Avenue NE was conducted to highlight (1) the historic and legal boundary between Washington, DC and Mt. Rainier, Maryland, (2) the difficulty Mt. Rainier has getting DC to service the eastern side of Eastern

¹ 7.03 miles x 37 feet

Avenue, and (3) the need for DC services to address illegally dumped trash, abandoned vehicles, and dangerous road conditions, which was attended by Councilmember Zachary Parker (Ward 5), Prince George's County Councilmember Wanika Fisher, three Councilmembers from Mt. Rainier and their Mayor, as well as ANC Commissioners and residents;²

WHEREAS, the District of Columbia Office of Planning, the DC Geographic Information System (DC GIS)³, and the National Capital Planning Commission (NCPC)⁴ maintain accurate geospatial data that reflects the true legal boundaries of the District, including the northeastern border;

WHEREAS, the misrepresentation of the District's boundary undermines public understanding of the city's geography, disrespects its historical integrity, and leads to confusion for residents, visitors, emergency services, and delivery providers;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) 5B formally requests that Google Maps, Apple Maps, MapQuest, OpenStreetMap, and all other major online mapping platforms update their maps to accurately reflect the northeastern boundary of Washington, DC;


BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that ANC 5B calls upon Mayor Bowser and the DC Council to compel Google Maps, Apple Maps, MapQuest, OpenStreetMap, and others to accurately reflect the northeastern boundary of Washington, DC and to work with relevant DC agencies;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that ANC 5B encourages other Advisory Neighborhood Commissions, historical preservation organizations, and civic associations to join in this effort to preserve and promote the historical and geographic integrity of the District of Columbia.

The Commission designates Commissioner Edward Borrego (5B01) and Commissioner Zahid Rathore (5B07) to represent the Commission in all matters relating to this resolution.

This resolution came before ANC 5B at a duly noticed public meeting on 11/19/2025. ANC 5B is composed of 7 Commissioners, so that 4 Commissioners constitute a quorum. With 6 Commissioners present, ANC 5B voted 6 Yea, 0 Nay, and 0 Abstain.

Edward Borrego, Vice-Chair (Acting Chair), ANC 5B


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Nandini Sen, Secretary, ANC 5B


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² <https://news.anc5b01.com/2023/03/eastern-avenue-walkthrough.html>

³ <https://www.arcgis.com/home/item.html?id=7241f6d500b44288ad983f0942b39663>

⁴ <https://www.ncpc.gov/maps/national-capital-region/>