



Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6D *Southwest, Buzzard Point, The Wharf*

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July 15, 2024

OFFICERS

Chair,
Fredrica Kramer

Vice Chair,
Bob Link

Secretary
Bruce Levine

Treasurer
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Donovan Anderson,
Chair
Alcohol Beverage Control Board
2000 14th Street, NW Suite 400 South
Washington, DC 20009

Transmitted via email: martha.jenkins@dc.gov | danette.walker@dc.gov

**RE: Applications for ABCA Licenses for Broccoli City Music Festival,
July 27-28, 2024 at Audi Field and Parcel B in Buzzard Point**

Dear Chairperson Anderson:

At a regularly scheduled and properly noticed public meeting on July 15, 2024 with a quorum being present, a quorum being 5 Commissioners, Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) 6D voted X_X_X to review the application for a one-day liquor license in connection with the Broccoli City Music Festival, July 27-28, 2024 in Buzzard Point and register our opposition to the issuance of the license(s) based on our deep concerns about the safety and security of the venue and ask that ABCA not approve the application until the issues noted below are resolved.

ANC 6D was contacted by the a representative of Broccoli City on July 2nd about the proposed Broccoli Music Festival scheduled for July 27th and 28th at Audi Field and the adjoining space in so-called Parcel B (east of Audi Stadium, between Potomac Avenue and S St. SW and First and Half streets). This was the first contact with our Commission had after plans had apparently been underway for months. ANC 6D has been attempting to get details on the program since then, including meeting with principals from DC United, Broccoli City and representatives of District agencies responsible for various aspects of traffic management, health, safety and security in and immediately around the venue and as it will be accessed from the greater Southwest community.

COMMISSIONERS

SMD 1 *Bob Link*
SMD 2 *Ronald Collins*
SMD 3 *Gail Fast*
SMD 4 *Andrea Pawley*
SMD 5 *Chearie Phelps-El*
SMD 6 *Bruce Levine*
SMD 7 *Fredrica Kramer*
SMD 8 *Rhonda Hamilton*

Based on these discussions and written requests, ANC 6D does not have assurances that the health, safety and security of both attendees and residents in Buzzard Point and Southwest will be ensured during this two-day event. Some of the issues are not typically ABCA concerns, but taken together would lead ANC 6D to protest the application on the basis of peace, order and quiet. Since this is a temporary license and since we are less than two weeks away from the event, we list our concerns so that ABCA has the benefit of the full impact of the event.

- The event is of a greater size and duration than any that has been previously held in these two combined venues (75,000 tickets sold, expecting perhaps 50,000 attending over the two days). Yet we have not received details on security plans—including checks and check points, and rules for cannabis and alcohol sale and consumption.

We have seen no plans for how the alcohol sales are going to be managed with the potential mix of alcohol and cannabis in an open area. The website noted that cannabis would be permitted, and although we are now told that this has been taken down, many if not most of the ticket purchasers would have purchased their tickets when the message about cannabis consumption was posted. Nor are we assured that the use of cannabis in this venue falls within the law.

We also note that the application for the One-Day Substantial Change Application, which we have just received, states an expected attendance in the Parcel B adjoining field of 10,000 and 50-60 security personnel for the event. Clearly, there are confusing discrepancies between attendance and location and the personnel that will be specifically deployed in each location.

- We were told that MPD will handle this event as they typically handle soccer matches, with three additional overtime officers even though this is a two-day all-day event. The event was not included in the TOPP nor is the event being handled by the Mayor's Special Event Task Force, although it poses special challenges because of the size, ages of participants and likely mix of alcohol and cannabis. In light of the recent uptick in gun violence and crime within the city, the event obviously creates concern about adequate police presence and crowd control.

We remain concerned about adequate coordination and oversight across agencies and in response to the particular challenges of the event.

- Although this is a music festival and will be heard well beyond the stadium, we have not received details on the sound systems—including hours of operation in each venue, output level, and direction they will project inside the stadium and Parcel B.
- The venue is located on a peninsula with limited ingress and egress that raises significant safety and security concerns, particularly for access of emergency vehicles. While traffic

control is not typically the concern of ABCA, we expect that ABCA would be as concerned as we are that the event ensures reasonable traffic flow for visitors, residents, and emergency responders.

- We have requested copies of all permit applications and approvals. While we have yet to receive any, we are particularly concerned about the details of the temporary license under consideration by ABCA and would greatly appreciate it being shared with our Commission.

Should ABCA schedule a hearing on July 24th following your consideration of the application this Wednesday, July 17th, we look forward to providing you with further testimony.

Thank you again for your responsiveness and consideration, and we request that as by law our concerns be given "Great Weight".

Please contact me at 6D07@anc.dc.gov or 202-352-0129 should you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Fredrica Kramer".

Fredrica Kramer
Chair, ANC 6D