

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 3A



Resolution in Support of Substantial Change with Entertainment Endorsement for Acqua Bistecca at 14 Ridge Square NW (ABCA-132936)

Acqua Bistecca, a new restaurant located at 14 Ridge Square NW, Washington, DC, 20016, has applied to the DC Alcoholic Beverage and Cannabis Administration (ABCA) for a Substantial Change to its Retailer Class C license to add an Entertainment Endorsement for Live Entertainment, Dancing, and a Cover Charge. At its duly noticed public meeting on January 19, 2026, at which the Acqua Bistecca application was on the proposed agenda, ANC 3A voted to support that request.

At its duly noticed public meeting on December 16, 2025, ANC 3A had voted to support a stipulated change to allow Acqua Bistecca to offer live entertainment, dancing by patrons, and cover charges immediately, while the request for a permanent change is under consideration by ABCA and the public. Since that time, the ANC Commissioners have paid attention to the operations of the establishment and the use of the new endorsement on a temporary basis. The ANC also invited public comments on the proposed change. We have not seen or heard comments about any problems or concerns from residents or nearby businesses, schools, or other institutions. The company Roadside, which manages the overall development, supports the Substantial Change the restaurant is requesting.

ANC 3A hosted a presentation by Acqua Bistecca about its plans for making use of the Entertainment Endorsement at the ANC 3A public meeting on December 16, 2025. The applicant explained that the entertainment would involve a small jazz band or other performer providing live music during dinner hours, generally on Fridays and Saturdays. The establishment does not intend to have late night operations or late night entertainment.

The restaurant is part of a new mixed use commercial and residential complex that opened in 2022 on the site of the former Fannie Mae headquarters in Northwest Washington. The restaurant is a high-quality dining establishment headed by chef Michael Mina and has been offering meal and beverage service to guests since early September. The location is within the City Ridge development, facing the street-level entrance to the Wegmans supermarket and across the street from the King Street Oyster Bar, Shinwa Izakaya, and Tatte Café and Bakery. There are no single family homes in the development.

The ANC Commissioners were satisfied that the proposed changes in the liquor license would not disrupt the peace, order and quiet of the community, and the ANC and constituents would have recourse if future operations did create issues of that kind, with the options to submit concerns to ABCA and also to protest when the establishment applies for license renewal.

Therefore, ANC 3A supports granting the requested Substantial Change requested by Acqua Bistecca. This resolution was approved by the ANC by a vote of 5-0-0 at its duly noticed public meeting on January 20, 2026, at which a quorum was participating. (Three of the five members constitute a quorum.) By the same vote, the Commission also designated the Chair to represent the Commission on this matter.

Thaddeus Bradley-Lewis, Chair

Ann Lane Mladinov, Secretary

Advisory Neighborhood Commissioners (January 1, 2025-December 31, 2026)

3A01

Thaddeus Bradley-Lewis

3A02

Gracemary Allen

3A03

Isaac Bowers

3A04

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Ann Lane Mladinov