



ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 1E

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

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RESOLUTION #: 1E-202605-03
INTRODUCED: MAY 24, 2026
SPONSOR(S): JACOBSON (1E06)
LATEST UPDATE: **ADOPTED** (05/27/2026)

RESOLUTION

Urging Department of Health Rodent and Vector Control to Partner with World Leading Experts in Fertility Management

On May 24, 2026, Commissioner Josh Jacobson (1E06), along with Commissioner Brad Howard (1E01), introduced the following resolution for consideration by Advisory Neighborhood Commission 1E:

WHEREAS, on April 29, 2026, Commissioner Jacobson convened a meeting between Department of Health's (DOH) Rodent and Vector Control Team, DOH Director of Government Relations, Dr. Giovanna Massei (Europe Director of the Botstiber Institute for Wildlife Fertility Control), and Dr. Jens Jacob (leader of the Rodent Research group at the Julius Kühn-Institut) to discuss DC's Rodent Control Pilot Program; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Bowser described this pilot as involving a three-pronged approach involving baiting, tracking powder, and fertility control¹; and

WHEREAS, fertility control is an established, peer-reviewed approach to managing overabundant rodent populations, advanced by dedicated scientific bodies including the Botstiber Institute for Wildlife Fertility Control; and

¹ https://x.com/mayorbowser/status/2039391877657411842?s=12&t=ojUB_AZuhYeyjU-ZVtai5A

WHEREAS, Dr. Giovanna Massei is among the leading international researchers in this field, whose work has been cited over 6,100 times, with more than 90 of her publications each cited at least ten times (i10-index = 91)²; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Massei authored a 2024 peer-reviewed framework specifically for rodent fertility control ("Developing fertility control for rodents: a framework for researchers and practitioners," Integrative Zoology³) and leads research on delivering oral contraceptives to rodent species; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Massei served as a guest editor of the journal Wildlife Research's 2024 special issue "Fertility Control for Wildlife in the 21st Century,"⁴ and has advised international bodies including the FAO and WHO on wildlife and animal-population management⁵; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Jens Jacob is likewise among the leading international researchers in rodent management, whose work has been cited over 8,000 times, with an h-index of 47 and more than 125 of his publications each cited at least ten times (i10-index = 128)⁶; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Jacob co-authored that same 2024 framework alongside Dr. Massei, as well as the 2022 review "The status of fertility control for rodents - recent achievements and future directions" (Integrative Zoology)⁷, and conducts research on integrating fertility control into ecologically-based rodent management; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Jacob serves as subject editor for vertebrates at the journals Pest Management Science and Journal of Plant Diseases and Protection, chairs national and international expert working groups on rodent management, and serves on the European and

² <https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=AkMR3W8AAAAJ&hl=en>. Access May 27, 2026.

³ <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/37277987/>

⁴ publish.csiro.au/WR/WR23142

⁵ <https://www.york.ac.uk/environment-geography/people/giovanna-massei/>

⁶ <https://scholar.google.de/citations?user=lr3yEvgAAAAJ> . Access May 27th, 2026.

⁷ <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/34549512/>

Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization (EPPO) Panel on Rodent Control⁸; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Massei and Dr. Jacob are recognized within the scientific community as leading experts in rodent control; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Massei and Dr. Jacob expressed concerns with the validity of the current fertility management trial and offered to enter into a partnership with the Department of Health Rodent Control team to advise on fertility management and rodent control best practices given the available evidence; and

WHEREAS, Department of Health representatives expressed that they would need to get permission from Director Bennett; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Jacobson, Dr. Massei, and Dr. Jacob have yet to get confirmation from the Department of Health on a partnership; NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that ANC 1E urges the Director to approve a partnership between Department of Health Rodent and Vector Control Division with world-leading rodent control experts Dr. Massei and Dr. Jacob; and

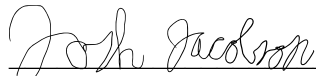
RESOLVED, that ANC 1E urges the Rodent and Vector Control team to work with Dr. Massei and Dr. Jacob to make improvements to the pilot that includes fertility management to achieve validity for future deployments; and

⁸ <https://www.julius-kuehn.de/en/ep/staff/p/jens-jacob>

RESOLVED, ANC 1E designates Commissioner Josh Jacobson to represent the Commission in all matters relating to this Resolution. In the event the designated representative Commissioner cannot carry out their representative duties for any reason, ANC 1E authorizes the Chair to designate another Commissioner to represent the Commission in all matters relating to this Resolution.

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CERTIFIED, that Advisory Neighborhood Commission 1E, on May 27, 2026, at a properly noticed regular meeting of the Commission, with a quorum present, voted 4 YEAS, 0 NAYS, and 0 ABSTENTIONS to approve this resolution.



COMMISSIONER JOSH JACOBSON
CHAIR, ANC 1E



COMMISSIONER BRAD HOWARD
SECRETARY, ANC 1E

FILING RECORD

ANC RESOLUTION PORTAL | OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

FILING ID: RES-6865
DATE TRANSMITTED: 5/30/2026 9:24:30 PM
TRANSMITTED BY: COMMISSIONER BRAD HOWARD, SECRETARY

DESCRIPTION: ANC 1E urges the Department of Health to approve a partnership between its Rodent and Vector Control Division and recognized international rodent-control experts Dr. Giovanna Massei and Dr. Jens Jacob. The resolution calls on DOH to work with these experts to improve the District's rodent fertility-management pilot and ensure the program is scientifically valid for future use.

PERMALINK:

<https://resolutions.anc.dc.gov/ViewResolution.aspx?Id=0RoAAA>

TRANSMISSION RECORD

DATE OF TRANSMISSION: 05/30/2026

TRANSMIT TO:

- ✓ Matteo Lieb, Director, Office of Government Relations at D.C. Department of Health, matteo.lieb@dc.gov
- ✓ Andre Pitman, Program Manager at Rodent and Vector Control Division, Andre.Pitman@dc.gov

COPIES TO:

- ✓ Councilmember Christina Henderson, Chair, DC Council Committee on Health, chenderson@dccouncil.gov
- ✓ Ayanna Bennett, Director, DC Department of Health, ayanna.bennett@dc.gov
- ✓ Wayne Turnage, Deputy Mayor for the District of Columbia Health and Human Services, wayne.turnage@dc.gov
- ✓ Councilmember Brianna Nadeau, Ward 1 Councilmember, bnadeau@dccouncil.gov
- ✓ Ona Balkus, Committee Director, DC Council Committee on Health, obalkus@dccouncil.gov
- ✓ Eliza-Roche Robinson, Constituent Services Specialist for ANC 1C and ANC 1E, Office of Councilmember Brianna K. Nadeau, errobins@dccouncil.gov