



GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2E

Representing the communities of Burleith, Georgetown, and Hillandale

3265 S Street, NW • Washington, DC 20007

(202) 724-7098 • anc2e@dc.gov

May 8, 2020

Mr. Will Handsfield
Bicycle Program Specialist
District Department of Transportation
55 M Street SE, Suite 500
Washington, DC 20003
will.handsfield@dc.gov

RE: The District Department of Transportation's Notice of Intent for the Installation of a Two-Way Bikeway, Sidewalks, a Traffic Roundabout, and Changes to On-Street Parking on the 3400 and 3500 Blocks of Water Street NW (NOI #20-63-PSD)

Dear Mr. Handsfield,

On May 4, 2020 ANC 2E held its regularly scheduled public meeting, which was properly noticed and attended by seven commissioners, constituting a quorum. At this meeting the Commission adopted the following resolution by a vote of (7-0-0) with regard to the above-referenced matter:

ANC 2E is pleased that the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) continues to study and make recommendations to improve the safety of Water Street NW. Over the last three years, the ANC has seen the successful installation of a major protected cycletrack, which over a recent period of time served an average of 1,600 trips per day at Wisconsin Avenue NW and K Street NW, and the successful installation of three speed bumps between Wisconsin Avenue NW and 34th Street NW. However, the area west of 34th Street NW continues to be unmarked and poorly lit, encouraging high speeding vehicles, illegal behavior in the roadway, including what residents note to be an open air drug sale market, instances of prostitution, illegal access to the Old Aqueduct Bridge which, last year, was the site of the death of two young adults, and prohibited vehicular traffic beyond the Washington Canoe Club onto the Capital Crescent Trail which has led to, among other things, a serious water rescue when a car traveled along the bike trail, which runs parallel to the C&O Canal, for about three miles before the individual's car wound up in the canal. Clearly, this area of the ANC needs the installation of additional safety and traffic calming measures and a design solution which provides physical and visual cues that serve to limit traffic beyond 34th Street NW.

COMMISSIONERS:

Kishan Putta, District 1 Joe Gibbons, District 2 Rick Murphy, District 3
Anna Landre, District 4 Lisa Palmer, District 5 Gwendolyn Lohse, District 6
Elizabeth Miller, District 7 Matias Burdman, District 8

With this in mind, ANC 2E supports the installation of a two-way bikeway, sidewalks, a traffic roundabout, and changes to on-street parking on the 3400 and 3500 blocks of Water Street NW. In addition, the ANC would like to see the following elements implemented as part of this work:

- Immediately boost the luminosity of the lights under the Whitehurst Freeway in this area to ensure pedestrians are safe while walking on the sidewalks at night and to minimize the pockets of darkness where illegal behavior frequently occurs,
- Quickly consider whether this increase in luminosity creates a safer environment and, if not, move to develop and implement a lighting plan which would include streetlights in this area, as this is a major safety concern,
- Change all crosswalks to raised crosswalks in an attempt to discourage speeding,
- Provide a missing crosswalk at the north leg of 34th Street NW,
- Change the center of the traffic circle to include a raised platform, to discourage speeding vehicles from driving through the center of the circle,
- Change the speed limit to 15 miles per hour and post speed limit signs accordingly,
- Include flexi-posts or some other physical barrier and increased lighting to ensure drivers do not accidentally drive west of the Washington Canoe Club unless they are authorized to do so,
- Pedestrian and cyclist movements should take priority at the west end of Water Street NW, with only limited parking provided west of 34th Street NW so as not to interfere with these movements,
- Turn Uber and Lyft at either the Georgetown Business Improvement District (BID) service area or at 34th Street NW,
- Work together at the appropriate time on a holistic signage package, indicating the speed limit, dead end, no turnarounds, etc.,
- Provide a physical design change in the roadway west of the 3400 block of Water Street NW to discourage through traffic, such as a mountable curb or additional turn-around point, and
- Provide openings in cycletrack infrastructure to allow entry into all boathouse sites.

ANC 2E notes that on September 6, 2017, ANC 2E submitted a resolution to DDOT (Attachment A), for which we have not yet received an official response, urging DDOT to implement the following on Water Street NW, west of 34th Street NW to the Capital Crescent Trail:

- Provide adequate lighting in this immediate area, and
- Manage the parking spaces on the north side of Water Street NW, west of 34th Street NW to the Capital Crescent Trail. Presently the spaces are free. The ANC requests that DDOT meters these spaces. At present there are approximately 20 to 25 cars parked in this area. Many of them appear to have been in this location for

an extended period of time. Improving the appearance of this area would contribute to addressing the safety concerns of the community.

The changes being made as part of NOI #20-63-PSD, plus the lighting amendments noted herein, would largely fulfill the resolution's request. As a result, ANC 2E supports the majority of the recommendations provided in this NOI and requests to continue to be part of the conversation as the plans for this area are moved closer to implementation. Finally, ANC 2E would like to affirmatively state our appreciation for DDOT's attention to this corridor of our community.

Commissioners Lisa Palmer (2E05@anc.dc.gov) and Rick Murphy (2E03@anc.dc.gov) are the Commission's representatives in this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Richard G. Murphy, Jr." The signature is written in a cursive style with a prominent initial "R".

Rick Murphy
Chair, ANC 2E

Attachment A

**ANC 2E's September 6th, 2017
Resolution Regarding Safety
Improvements to Water Street, West of
34th Street NW to the Capital Crescent
Trail**



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September 20, 2017

Mr. Richard Kenney
Deputy Chief Engineer
Project Delivery Administration
District Department of Transportation
55 M Street SE, Suite 400
Washington, DC 20003
richard.kenney@dc.gov

Mr. Evian Patterson
Associate Director
Parking and Ground Transportation Division
District Department of Transportation
55 M Street SE, Suite 400
Washington, DC 20003
Evian.Patterson@dc.gov

RE: Safety Improvements to Water Street, West of 34th Street NW to the Capital Crescent Trail

Dear Mr. Kenney and Mr. Patterson,

On September 6, 2017 ANC 2E held its regularly scheduled public meeting, which was properly noticed and attended by eight commissioners, constituting a quorum. At this meeting the Commission adopted the following resolution by a vote of (8-0-0) with regard to the above-referenced matter:

ANC 2E greatly appreciates the District Department of Transportation's efforts to address safety issues in the District of Columbia. We also support DDOT's efforts in working with District residents, leaders, and businesses.

As a result of three fatalities and numerous crimes, ANC 2E commissioners, community leaders, residents, and businesses have recently combined their efforts to address safety concerns on Water Street, west of 34th Street NW to the Capital Crescent Trail. To address community concerns, we urge DDOT to take the following actions:

1. Provide adequate lighting in this immediate area.
2. Manage the parking spaces on the north side of Water Street, west of 34th Street NW to the Capital Crescent Trail. Presently the spaces are free. We request that DDOT meter these spaces. At present there are approximately 20 to 25 cars parked in this area. Many of them appear to have been in this location for an extended period of time. Improving the appearance of this area would contribute to addressing the safety concerns of the community.

COMMISSIONERS:

Ed Solomon, District 1 Joe Gibbons, District 2 Rick Murphy, District 3
Mara Goldman, District 4 Lisa Palmer, District 5 Jim Wilcox, District 6
Monica Roaché, District 7 Zac Schroepfer, District 8

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joe Gibbons", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Joe Gibbons
Chair, ANC 2E