



GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2E

Representing the communities of Burleith, Georgetown, and Hillandale

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May 4, 2021

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

RE: Notice of Intent for Water Street NW Safety Improvements and Cycletrack Extension (NOI #21-135 PSD)

Dear Mr. Handsfield,

On May 3, 2021 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 has been working the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) for well over five years to improve safety along the Water Street NW corridor. Adding the protected cycletrack was a first step in providing order in the area. Adding speed bumps on Water Street NW has been another step to encourage slowed traffic. While they have been helpful, both neighbors who live along the street and the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) state that many vehicles continue to speed over the bumps because they are so low to the ground. As a result, the ANC continues to seek support from DDOT in developing more significant traffic calming solutions. With this in mind, the ANC has been working with DDOT to:

- develop an extension to the cycletrack so that bikes and cars have their own dedicated space on the roadway,
- connect bicycle and pedestrian facilities to the planned trailhead at the Aqueduct Bridge, providing a safer and significantly more pleasant environment for enjoying the public parks in the area,
- add a sidewalk so that many pedestrians who live on the corridor and the thousands of visitors who use Georgetown Waterfront Park on a weekly basis have a safe place to walk,

COMMISSIONERS:

Kishan Putta, District 1 Jenny Mitchell, 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

- add a raised pedestrian crossing so that pedestrians can safely cross the street and as a vehicular traffic calming measure,
- reconfigure and reduce public parking to mitigate the deleterious effects that come with drivers seeking free parking and making illegal and highly dangerous U-turns in the middle of the roadway or parking in the area and engaging in well documented illegal behavior ranging from illicit drug sales, deadly shootings, and prostitution, and
- lowering the speed limit from 20 miles per hour to 15 miles per hour, which will provide MPD with additional support for holding drivers to the posted speed limits.

ANC 2E is pleased that Notice of Intent (NOI) #21-135 PSD addresses each of the elements noted above and strongly requests that this much improved design for Water Street NW be brought to fruition as soon as possible. The ANC has been working on these plans for many years and the ANC needs to move this forward before there is another tragic outcome in our community. Furthermore, the ANC asks DDOT to be sure to include significant signage in the area to ensure that users of the roadway understand the rules and so that the appropriate authorities are best able to enforce the rules of conduct. Finally, the ANC continues to request that:

- DDOT works with the boathouses to provide limited access for their users to efficiently use the roadway for boathouse operations, and
- additional street level lighting be added to this area as it continues to feel unsafe to walk in the area during the night because the area is so poorly lit.

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

Respectfully submitted,



Rick Murphy
Chair, ANC 2E