

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



Office of the Director

July 2, 2014

Nicholas Alberti
Advisory Neighborhood Commissioner, 6A
P.O. Box 75115
Washington, DC 20013

Dear Commissioner Nicholas Alberti:

I am writing in response to your letter dated June 9, 2014, regarding safety at the intersection of 10th Street and Maryland Avenue, NE. I understand that George Branyan, the pedestrian program coordinator in our Policy, Planning and Sustainability Administration, addressed Maryland Avenue traffic safety and efficiency in a meeting with you and other concerned residents on May 21. While we proceed with examining your concerns as part of our Maryland Avenue Pedestrian Safety Corridor Study, I would like you to know that we have planned several interim safety measures.

We plan to install high-visibility crosswalk markings at 10th Street and Maryland Avenue, along with advance stop lines 30 feet before the crosswalks on each approach direction, with companion "Stop Here for Pedestrians" signs in the coming weeks.

In addition, DDOT will implement immediate, interim measures to increase pedestrian safety at the busier intersection of D Street, 7th Street and Maryland Avenue this summer. We will install plastic bollards to create curb extensions on six corners at this intersection. These expansions will create pedestrian-safety zones: buffers that are aimed at calming traffic speeds, shortening crossing distances and reducing conflicts between pedestrians, vehicles and cyclists. We also plan to install new crosswalks—including a raised crosswalk at the intersection of D Street and 7th Street—and to extend the median on Maryland Avenue.

In the fall DDOT plans to further improve safety in the area by surrounding the pedestrian-safety zones with large planters and layering them with a brick-colored paint. These same methods

have been used to successfully create “pedestrian plazas” in cities such as New York City, Baltimore and Philadelphia.

DDOT will install solar-powered beacons along Maryland Avenue NE—which feature flashing lights to warn motorists to look out for pedestrians—this fall as well.

I look forward to continuing to work together to improve pedestrian safety in this area.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Matthew T. Brown". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being the most prominent.

Matthew T. Brown
Acting Director
District Department of Transportation