



District of Columbia Government
Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6A
P. O. Box 75115
Washington, DC 20013



July 13, 2013

Mr. Terry Bellamy
Director, Department of Transportation
55 M Street, SE
Washington, DC 20003

Re: Changes to bike movement and bike traffic signs on G, H, and I Streets NE

Dear Director Bellamy:

The Commissioners of Advisory Neighborhood Commission(ANC) 6A voted unanimously to support the selection of Alternative 2 for bicycle infrastructure along G and I Streets NE within the boundaries of ANC 6A. Alternative 2 was presented by DDOT staff and is a contra-flow bicycle lane with parallel parking on both sides of the street plus a shared lane for cars and bicycles. We join our colleagues in ANC 6C in supporting this alternative.

We ask you and the Mayor to prohibit sidewalk bicycling along the length of H Street NE. The sidewalks are unusually narrow for such a busy commercial corridor. The reasons are precisely the same as those that have led the City to ban sidewalk biking in the center city commercial area. The pending provision of safe alternative bicycle lanes within one block both north and south of H Street makes this easily feasible. The dangerous tracks, the pending streetcars, and intensity of WMATA and commercial bus traffic make H Street unsafe for cyclists but the sidewalk is in no way a reasonable alternative.

We ask that DDOT develop additional and perhaps larger and more prominent bike hazard warning signs and street markings for H Street. The street car tracks make this corridor particular hazardous for bikes. There have been many accidents with personal injury due to wheels becoming caught in the gaps within the tracks. This is a very high priority. DDOT will find that these problems will be replicated wherever future streetcars run, so the time to solve them is now.

We ask in conclusion that the portions of G and I Streets that are in poor repair be fixed. The lanes will not perform their function if the road surface is so uneven that it causes accidents. Bikes are forced to weave around the worse bumps and holes, not appropriate behavior in the near presence of moving cars with the added possibility that car doors may open when cyclists are so distracted by the road surface. The signs painted directly on the street will be unclear with such an uneven road surface.

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6A adopted a motion authorizing this letter by 8-0-0 with five required for a quorum. The vote was taken at our regularly-scheduled and publicly-announced monthly¹ meeting.

On behalf of the Commission,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Holmes". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

David Holmes
Chair

cc: Vincent Gray, Mayor
Tommy Wells, Councilmember
Mike Goodno, DDOT
James Cheeks, DDOT

Motion:

ANC send a letter to DDOT expressing support for the Alternative 2 option for bicycle infrastructure (Contra-flow bicycle lane with parallel parking on both sides of the street) along G Street NE and I Street NE through our ANC. The letter will also express an interest in having the city prohibit sidewalk bicycling along the commercial corridor portion of H Street NE, request that DDOT develop additional bike hazard warning signs and street markings on and around H Street NE, and request street repaving where needed along portions of G Street NE and I Street NE prior to striping for bike lanes.

Adopted July 11, 2013, 8-0-0, all Commissioners present.

¹ ANC 6A meetings are advertised electronically on the anc6a-announce@googlegroups.com, ANC- 6A and NewHillEast yahoo groups, on the Commission's website, and through print advertisements in the *Hill Rag*.