

# District of Columbia Government Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6A Box 75115 Washington, DC 20013



March 25, 2008

Director Emeka C. Moneme District Department of Transportation 2000 14th St NW, 7th Floor Washington, DC 20009

RE: ANC 6A Outstanding District Department of Transportation Issues

#### Director Moneme:

At our regularly scheduled and properly noticed meeting on March 13, 2008, our Commission voted 7-0 (with five commissioners required for a quorum) to request that these outstanding issues be addressed by the District Department of Transportation (DDOT):

- 1. 1125 G St, NE public space violation (Oct 2006). Please see attachment #1.
- 2. 29 15th St, NE public space violation (Feb 2007). Please see attachment #2.
- 3. Request to allow parking on Florida Avenue outside of rush hour and consideration of taxi cab zone on H Street (May 2007). Please see attachment #3.
- 4. Traffic signal modification at Ninth Street, E Street and Maryland Avenue (June 2007). Please see attachment #4.
- 5. Public space violation concerns driveways, electric meters, parking on sidewalks (Oct 2007). Please see attachment #5.
- 6. Car sharing enforcement request (Oct 2007). Please see attachment #6.
- 7. Request to close abandoned curb cuts on 1400 Maryland Ave and 600 14<sup>th</sup> St with addition of curb side parking (Feb 2008). ). Please see attachment #7.

We would welcome a prompt and formal reply on these outstanding issues by April 25, 2008. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Omar Mahmud at (202) 546-1520.

On behalf of the Commission,

Joseph Fengler

Chair, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6A

Cc: Councilmember Tommy Wells



Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6A PO Box 75115 Washington, DC 20013



October 20, 2006

José L. Colón, Lead Civil Engineering Technician Public Space Permits and Records Branch District of Columbia Department of Transportation (Room 2104) 941 North Capitol Street, NE Washington, DC 20002

Denise L. Wiktor, Manager
Public Space Permitting Division
District of Columbia Department of Transportation (Room 2104)
941 North Capitol Street, NE
Washington, DC 20002

Re: 1125 G Street, NE electrical box

Mr. Colón and Ms. Wiktor,

At our regularly scheduled public meeting on September 12, 2006, our Commission voted unanimously to request that the District of Columbia Department of Transportation (DDOT) investigate a potential public space violation at 1125 G Street, NE. It appears that electrical wiring and a very large electrical utility box has been installed in public space without a permit. Based on initial conversations with DDOT employees, there is no public space permit for the electrical box and no "Application to Install Electrical Wiring in Public Space" had been submitted by the property owner.

This electrical box is illustrative of a growing problem in our community of contractors treating public space as private property to the detriment of the surrounding neighborhood. Our Commission requests that DDOT investigate this case and respond in writing to the following questions:

- 1. Does the owner have a proper public space permit for the electrical box on public space?
- 2. What actions will be taken to bring the property into compliance with public space regulations?
- 3. How long after the notification of a violation will the owner be able to obtain a permit?
- 4. If the property owner fails to obtain a permit, will an order be issued for its removal?
- 5. What mechanisms will be used (e.g. fines) to insure compliance with public space requirements?

We look forward to the results of the investigation and subsequent answers by November 8, 2006, so we can continue to work together to protect our city's public space. If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Dr. Drew Ronneberg, chair of our economic development and zoning committee, at (202) 431-4035 or by electronic mail at <a href="mailto:ronneberg6a02@gmail.com">ronneberg6a02@gmail.com</a>.

On behalf of the Commission.

Joseph Fengler

Joseph Fengler

Chair, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6A

cc: Christopher Delfs, Ward Six Transportation Coordinator



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



Fe bruary 28, 2007

José L., Colón, Lead Civil Engineering Technician, Public Space Permits and Records Branch Denise L. Wiktor, Manager, Public Space Permitting Division District of Columbia Department of Transportation (Room 2104) 94 I North Capitol Street, NE Washington, DC 20002

Re: 29 15th Street, NE electrical box

Mr. Colón and Ms. Wiktor.

At our regularly scheduled public meeting on February 8, 2007, our Commission voted to request that the District of Columbia Department of Transportation (DDOT) investigate a potential public space violation at 29 15th Street, NE. It appears that electrical wiring and a very large electrical utility box has been installed in public space without a permit (photos attached). To our knowledge, there is no public space permit for the electrical box and no "Application to Install Electrical Wiring in Public Space" had been submitted by the property owner.

This electrical box is illustrative of a growing problem of contractors treating public space as private property to the detriment of the surrounding neighborhood. Our Commission requests that DDOT investigate this case and respond in writing to the following questions:

- 1. Does the owner have a proper public space permit for the electrical box on public space?
- 2. What actions will be taken to bring the property into compliance with public space regulations?
- 3. How long after the notification of a violation will the owner be able to obtain a permit?
- 4. If the property owner fails to obtain a permit, will an order be issued for its removal?
- 5. What mechanisms will be used (e.g. fines) to insure compliance with public space requirements?

We look forward to the results of the investigation and subsequent answers by March 29, 2007, so we can continue to work together to protect our city's public spaces. If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Omar Mahmud, chair of our Transportation and Public Space Committee, at (202) 546-1520 or by electronic mail at familymahmud@yahoo.com.

On behalf of the Commission.

Joseph Fengler

Chair, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6A

ce: Christopher Delfs. Ward Six Transportation Coordinator



District of Columbia Government Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6A Bex 75115 Washington, DC 20013



May 31, 2007

Karimna Ricks, Great Streets Manager District of Columbia Department of Transportation 2000 14th Street, NW 7th Floor Washington, DC 20009

Re: H Street Transportation Management

Ms. Ricks.

At our regularly scheduled public meeting on May 10, 2007, our Commission voted unanimously to request that the District of Columbia Department of Transportation (DDOT) investigate the possibility of allowing parking on Florida Avenue and the designation of a taxi cab zone within the entertainment district.

It is our view that parking could be allowed on Florida Avenue during non-rush hour periods of the day to calm traffic and to increase the parking supply. With the upcoming reconstruction of H Street and the required loss of on street parking, we feel that it would greatly benefit the community if parking could be allowed during the evenings and on Saturday. This can help to maintain the parking supply for the businesses along H and to reduce the parking demands on the residents adjacent to H.

We also encourage DDOT to consider creating a dedicated taxi-cab zone somewhere within the entertainment district and to actively reach out to the DC taxicab companies to encourage them to utilize the zone. It is currently extremely difficult to hail a cab while standing on H. Many residents have experiences of cab drivers ignoring them as they drive by. Discussions with individual cab drivers have found that a perception of H Street as being unsafe permeates the cab community.

For H Street to succeed, the businesses must succeed. To prevent the neighborhood from being overwhelmed by business patron parking, we need to do all we can to encourage alternative modes of transportation and to provide parking where appropriate.

We look forward to continuing to explore opportunities to improve our community and the H Street Corridor with you. If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Omar Mahmud, Chair of our Transportation and Public Space Committee, at (202) 546-1520 or by electronic mail at familymahmud@yahoo.com.

On behalf of the Commission.

Joseph Fengler

Joseph Fengler

Chair, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6A

Christopher Delfs, Ward Six Transportation Coordinator Councilmember Tommy Wells, Ward 6

Anwar Saleem, H Street Main Street



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



hane 14, 2007

Department of Transportation Traffic Services Administration 2000 14th Street, NW Washington, DC 20009 (202) 671-2303

Atm: Chris Delfs, Ward & Planner

Derrick Hardy, Ward 6 Engineer

Re: Midblock Traffic Signal on Maryland Avenue between 9th and 10th Streets, NE

Mr. Delfs and Mr. Hardy:

At our May 10, 2007, Commission meeting, we voted unanimously to request that the existing midblock traffic signal, located on Maryland Avenue, between 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> Streets NE be assessed by DDOT for improvements. There have been a number of reported observations of eastbound Maryland Avenue motorists running the red light located 9<sup>th</sup> Street by residents and ANC Commissioners. See exhibit A for an aerial graphic of the intersection.

It appears that the midblock signal head directed towards eastbound motorists traveling on Maryland Avenue is unnecessary and is causing confusion for motorists. The signal is currently spaced less than 100 feet from the signal located at  $9^{th}$  Street, NE. The midblock signal is currently timed to provide a green light for right turning traffic from  $9^{th}$  onto Maryland Avenue, while the Maryland Avenue traffic stopped at  $9^{th}$  is given a red light. See exhibit B for a picture of the conflicting red/green light sequence.

The observations of the red light running occur when the motorists waiting at 9th (red signal) sees the midblock signal turn green (again, see exhibit A). A similar condition seems to exist for the other traffic movements in addition to this movement.

We are requesting that DDOT perform a field inspection of the existing signal timing and signal placement and report back to ANC 6A with a plan for improvements to this dangerous intersection. It appears this issue can be simply solved by removing the duplicative signals which are causing this confusion. To illustrate this point, if a motorist is turning right from 9th to Maryland, they don't need to see a signal to proceed straight. This signal should be removed. The signal facing the eastbound traffic (located on the same pole) for E Street traffic can remain and be phased for red which would be out of the view of the eastbound Maryland Avenue traffic.

We look forward to your response. If you have any questions, please contact ANC 6A Commissioner William Schultheiss at (202) 257-9994 or via email at schilthss@yahoo.com.

On behalf of the Commission.

Joseph Fengler

Chair, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6A

Ce: Omar Mahmud, Chair, ANC Transportation Committee Council Member Tommy Wells, Ward 6



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



October 29, 2007

Director Emeka C. Moneme District Department of Transportation 2000 14th St NW, 7th Floor Washington, DC 20009

Re:

ANC 6A Public Space Concerns

Director Moneme:

Please accept this letter as a follow up to our meeting earlier this year. At our regularly scheduled public meeting on September 14, 2007, our Commission voted unanimously to send you the following list of public space concerns impacting our ANC:

- Illegal Driveways We continue to be concerned about the prevalence of un-permitted curb cuts
  and the approval of driveways with excessive curb cut widths in our ANC. A prime example of
  this problem, and one that we have often cited for your office, exists at 701 10th Street NE.
- Illegal Parking in Public Space Public spaces in our ANC continue to be encroached upon by illegal parking. This typically takes the form of parking on areas used as sidewalks. Prime examples of this issue exist at 1401 Maryland NE, where a former used car lot (shut down after improperly using public space) is now overrun by abandoned vehicles and Horace & Dickies on 12<sup>th</sup> Street NE, between H and I Streets NE, where commercial vehicles and customers constantly park on the sidewalk creating a dangerous environment for pedestrians.
- Improper Utility Repair There are several instances in our ANC of utility companies failing to
  properly repair roads and sidewalks following utility repair work. Not only does this present a
  public safety hazard, it also impacts the aesthetic value of the neighborhood, lowering each
  neighborhood resident's quality of life.
- Electrical Boxes Installed on Public Space Far too many property owners have decided to
  install newer, much larger utility boxes on fences and walls in public space, as opposed to the
  side of buildings as is required by city code. Prime examples of this problem exist at 1319
  Constitution Avenue NE and 29 15th Street NE and 1125 G Street NE, locations off-cited by our
  ANC.

Although this list is by no means comprehensive, we thought it prudent to draw your attention to our most pressing concerns. Please let us know any way our ANC can work with your office to promote greater public space violation enforcement. If you would like to follow up on this matter, please contact the chair of our Commission's Transportation and Public Space Committee Chair, Omar Mahmud at (202) 546-1520 or familymahmud@yahoo.com.

On Behalf of the Commission.

bseph Fengler

Chair, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6A



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



October 9, 2007

Director Emeka C. Moneme District Department of Transportation 2000 14<sup>th</sup> St NW, 7th Floor Washington, DC 20009

Re: Car Share Parking Enforcement

Mr. Moneme:

At our regularly scheduled public meeting on October 12, 2006, our Commission voted to support your efforts to implement greater enforcement of car-share parking spaces. Neighbors using car share parking spaces in our ANC continue to raise concerns, and in particular the parking space located on 12<sup>th</sup> Street NE, just south of H Street owned by the District Department of Transportation. Since that time, eight months ago, we have observed no notable improvement to the situation.

Flexcar owns and manages the vehicle located at 12th Street NE, and continues to express frustration with removal of illegally parked vehicles in car share spaces. This is an enforcement problem that is District-wide. As noted in our previous letter, enforcement is far more problematic in the District than other jurisdictions in Virginia and Maryland. Therefore, we request your efforts to coordinate with other city agencies in working toward a creative solution to this problem.

In our previous letter to your department, we suggested the possibility of allowing private tow companies to tow illegally parked cars, as is done in Arlington County. Lacking true and continued enforcement by Parking Enforcement and the Metropolitan Police Department leads us again to look outside of existing mechanisms and to authorize private tow companies to remove illegally parked cars immediately. This may provide a greater deterrent to this illegal parking problem.

We look forward to assisting in resolving this issue. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Omar Mahmud at (202) 546-1520.

On behalf of the Commission.

Joseph Fungler

Joseph Fengier

Chair, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6A



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



February 19, 2008

District Department of Transportation 941 N. Capitol Street NE Washington, DC 20002 Attn: Ms. Karina Ricks

Re: Proposed Curb Cut Closings at 14th St and Maryland Ave NE

At our regularly scheduled public meeting on February 14, 2008, our Commission unanimously voted to request changes to 700 block of 14th Street and the 1400 block of Maryland Avenue NE as well as to the intersection of 14th with Maryland. Specifically, the ANC requests DDOT to take the following actions:

- Remove five curb cuts in front of vacant properties along the north side of the 1400 block of Maryland Avenue and the east side of 700 block of 14th Street.
- Relocate the westbound X8 bus stop on Maryland Avenue to the far (i.e., west) side of the
  intersection to improve efficiency and reduce the length of the stop (from 100 to 50 feet)
- Remove rush hour parking restrictions on the west side of 14th Street between H Street and Maryland Avenue.
- Allow parking along the east side of the 700 block of 14th Street which is currently prohibited.
- Remove parking restrictions and add parking along the north side of the 1400 block of Maryland Avenue

Vacant property owners should not be rewarded with curb cuts that come at the expense of the general public by eliminating curb side parking spaces. Further the curb cuts are located in an area that should place a priority on developing a pedestrian friendly environment. The attached photos represent the current state of the intersection, parking signage, and curb cuts. The five curb cuts labeled "Vacant Property with Curb Cuts to Street" are the curb cuts discussed above.

If you have any questions, please contact ANC 6A Transportation Committee Chair Omar Mahmud at (202) 546-1520 or via email at familymahmud@yahoo.com.

On behalf of the Commission.

Joseph Fongles

Joseph Fengler

Chair, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6A

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Onsar Mahmud, Chair, ANC Transportation Committee