



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



March 10, 2017

Members of the D.C. Council
Council of the District of Columbia
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20004

Re: B22-0125, the Small Business Parking Permit Act of 2017

Dear Members of the D.C. Council:

At a regularly scheduled and properly noticed meeting on March 9, 2017, our Commission voted 8-0 (with 5 Commissioners required for a quorum) to oppose B22-0125, a bill introduced in the Council titled, "Small Business Parking Permit Act of 2017."¹

This legislation proposes providing up to 10 parking permits for employees of certain small businesses to use in areas currently designated for residential parking. We believe this would not only place an undue burden on residents near commercial areas, but also encourage increased vehicular traffic, contradicting the District's laudable public policy efforts to promote more efficient methods of transportation, including bicycles and public transit options, such as metrobus and the DC Streetcar.

The communities of Capitol Hill and the H Street NE already experience heavy demand for parking along the H Street corridor. The significant growth in our community has brought more residents and visitors to our area, many of whom rely on residential street parking. While we support our many local small businesses, we strongly believe that it would be infeasible to make public parking, particularly that reserved for area residents, available as a fringe benefit for owners and employees of those businesses. Indeed, it may also have the unfortunate side effect of making it very difficult for patrons of those businesses to find short term parking available on adjacent residential side streets.

Based on our experience living in and representing the residential neighborhoods along the H Street commercial corridor and extensive input from our residents, we oppose this proposed legislation and urge the Council to take no action to advance it.

Thank you for considering our views.

On behalf of the Commission,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Phil Toomajian".

Phil Toomajian
Chair, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6A

¹ ANC 6A meetings are advertised electronically on the anc6a-announce@yahoogroups.com, anc-6a@yahoogroups.com, and newhilleast@yahoogroups.com, at www.anc6a.org, and through print advertisements in the Hill Rag.