

ANC 6A Transportation & Public Space Committee Meeting Minutes
Sherwood Recreation Center (10th Street and G Street NE)
April 15, 2013 at 7pm

I. Call meeting to order at 7:05 pm

II. Introductions

- A. In attendance were committee members Lara Levison, Benjamin Rosset, Jeff Fletcher, Todd Sloves, Christine Ennis, Andrea Adleman and Omar Mahmud; 6A Chairman David Holmes; Necothia Bowens from New Samaritan Baptist Church

III. Community Comment

- A. Chairman Holmes announced that Mayor Gray will be at ANC6A meeting on May 9, 2013 at 7pm at Miner Elementary School to discuss transportation issues. He has been told we would like to focus on the following transportation issues: Florida Avenue, 17th and 19th Streets, C Street and Maryland Avenue.

IV. Announcements

- A. Mr. Mahmud went to public meetings on the streetcar project. He has a copy of the executive summary and main report. They are leaning towards the Benning Road terminus, which he thinks is preferable to the Minnesota Ave. terminus. Turning up to Minn. Ave. as was originally planned would be difficult, but the problem with Benning Road is that it narrows. The website has the full reports.
- B. Energy Saving Trees program: People can get a free tree planted. Mr. Mahmud suggests committee members look into partaking in the program with neighbors.

V. New Business

- A. Dangers of the intersection at Florida Ave. NE and 11th Street NE
- i. Mr. Mahmud introduced Ms. Bowens and summarized the tragic events that occurred at Florida Ave and 11th Street NE. He reported that Mayor Gray came to the candlelight vigil for Ms. Whitfield. He said the city would do something right away, cut through the red tape and not wait for the wheels of bureaucracy. He also committed to a long-term transportation study on the Florida Avenue corridor. Mr. Mahmud said he was expecting short-term traffic calming measures within two weeks, but that action did not occur. **Mahmud would like to send a recommendation to the ANC to send a letter to the Mayor asking for calming measures (moved at completion of agenda item).**
 - ii. Ms. Bowens said MPD had placed markers to measure traffic flow. She also met with Councilman Tommy Wells and they are scheduling a meeting with the mayor. They have meetings in place next week with the Dept. of Transportation in order to push for swift, short-term traffic calming measures.
 - iii. In addition, they would prefer to look at the long range.

- iv. Short term measures: DDOT repainted the crosswalk stripes so they would be more visible. Flashing signs are an option but they only have a 50% stoppage rate.
 - v. They would prefer a traffic light and a lane reduction.
 - vi. Mayor Gray said he would name 11th Street in honor of Ms. Whitfield.
 - vii. Ms. Bowens asked the Commission to do an online petition through the listserv and was referred to the ANC secretary.
 - viii. Mr. Mahmud indicated that DDOT will not do a lane reduction analysis on Florida Ave. NE east of West Virginia Ave. They are still going to do a traffic study though and Mr. Mahmud asked if they could consider making the right lane a parking lane that opens up during peak times. DDOT said they will look at that.
 - ix. Ms. Bowens mentioned that Gallaudet students live in the area as well and are facing the same issues.
 - x. Another member of the church was hit in the same spot years ago but survived.
 - xi. Mr. Mahmud stressed that the strategy is not to rely on the short-term measures in the long-term and to push the mayor to do what he said he was going to do.
 - xii. Ms. Bowens said there was a study done 10 years ago and that they are now researching that.
 - xiii. Mr. Mahmud moved that the committee recommend to the full commission to send a letter to Mayor Gray and Commissioner Bellamy asking the mayor to do what he promised in the short term through better signage, better lighting and increased enforcement, and to push for long-term solutions including a traffic light at 11th Street NE and Florida Avenue NE and lane reduction through parking. The motion was approved without objection.**
 - xiv. Mr. Holmes moved that the committee recommend to the full commission to send a letter requesting immediate funding of at least temporary traffic calming measures for C Street NE, 17th Street NE, and Florida Avenue NE. In the case of C and 17th, temporary calming measures should be similar to those already planned by DDOT. The motion was approved without objection.**
- B. Mr. Mahmud moved to remove item V-B from the agenda because it required timely action and the commission already acted on it. The committee approved without objection. (The commission voted unanimously to ask the mayor to reverse his decision to send meter revenue to the general treasury rather than keep it for local use in our ANC.)**
- C. Mr. Mahmud provided an updated on the H Street Streetcar Sub-station at 12th Street NE.**
- i. Mr. Mahmud described background on the sub-station. It is a small building that DDOT will use to house the substation. The commission got a design over a year

ago. It had undesirable design features and the commission provided input. The commission received another set of designs and it was unchanged. Then they were talking about moving forward very quickly with construction, but Chairman Holmes and ANC6A asked about update to design. They are now clear on what the commission is asking for in terms of getting a new design. They have assured us that the work that began on April 3, 2013 is only conduit work, not on the substation, so there is still time to get a new design before the commission. They committed to getting a new rendering by the end of the month. Councilmember Wells and staff have been helping with this. We should know by the next meeting.

- ii. Mr. Holmes said the commission had asked for greenery, green roof, and a map of H Street put on the building. He is not sure if that will happen.
- iii. Mr. Mahmud said DDOT is reluctant to make changes because in their mind, they committed to putting it under the location of the AutoZone when that gets redeveloped, so they see this building as temporary. That never works as planned and the commission should push to get as much of what it wants now.

VI. Additional Community Comment

A. Mr. Holmes mentioned a business at 600 H Street NE will be a specialty grocery store.

- i. Ms. Adleman said that a baker is opening their first brick and mortar grocery store and asked if it was the same.
- ii. Ms. Bowens said there has been discussion of another grocery store on Florida Avenue NE.

VII. Meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm