

## AGENDA

ANC 6A Transportation & Public Space Committee Meeting  
Capitol Hill Towers, 900 G Street NE  
September 17, 2018 at 7:00 pm

- 1) Called meeting to order at 7:07 pm.
- 2) Introductions
  - A. Committee members in attendance: Chair Elizabeth Nelson, Marc Brumer, Jeff Fletcher, Andrea Adleman and Caitlin Rogger.
  - B. Commissioners in attendance: Mike Soderman (6A03), Amber Gove (6A04)
- 3) Announcements - none.
- 4) Community Comment - none.
- 5) New Business
  - A. Discussion with Rock and Roll Marathon representatives and MPD Special Operations Unit regarding the racecourse within ANC 6A for the 2019 event.
    - a) Diane Thomas represented Events DC (Rock & Roll Marathon); Lieutenant. Jason Bagshaw and Officer James Jaffe represented MPD.
    - b) Chair Elizabeth Nelson reminded event organizers that the ANC's approval for the 2018 event was contingent upon a commitment from the organizers to return to the TPS committee with a revised route for the 2019 event, in advance of their request for the support of said event.
    - c) The event organizers did not bring any proposed route changes with them, saying they did not recall that presenting a revision was the reason for the requirement that they come before the TPS committee. When Commissioners Gove and Soderman reinforced Ms. Nelson's statement, Ms. Thomas did acknowledge that requirement but Officer Jaffe said that there were no other possible routes - although he presented no evidence that any other possibilities were even considered. Jaffe further stated that the current map was "grandfathered in" (despite having been modified several times over the years) and that he did not anticipate that changes would be made, in particular, the start and end points.
    - d) Former ANC 6A Commissioner Nick Alberti, who had worked on racecourse modifications in the past, pointed out that there are large portions of the city that have never been traversed by the marathon and that it would be fair to residents, and more interesting for runners, to vary the route. He also noted, as did several others, that Ward 6 suffers more impact than any other, especially ANC 6A.
    - e) Officer Jaffe said that Ward 6 residents are not particularly inconvenienced as they have been accommodated by "bumps" at several intersections to allow drivers to cross the race route. He also suggested that residents could find some other way to get around during race hours and that other parts of the city are more seriously impacted. Ms. Nelson countered that these bumps are largely ineffective as the police will not close them to runners if any are present, forcing drivers to wait for a half hour or more before they can cross. Mr. Brumer pointed out that 6A residents have fewer alternate transportation options and that access to bikeshare, bus and metro rail are all severely limited by the street closures.

- f) There will be a far greater impact this year than in years past because all cars must be removed from the entirety of the racecourse not only during the race itself, but also several hours in advance. In highly residential areas, such as ANC 6A, it will be extraordinarily difficult to find spaces to park all those cars within reasonable walking distance of the residences. Several attendees suggested using streets that are not heavily used for residential parking.
  - g) Commissioner Soderman suggested use of Rock Creek Park, East Potomac Park or the National Mall. Officer Jaffe reiterated that changes are unlikely as the current route “is best for the District as a whole”.
  - h) Commissioner Gove noted that using the Anacostia River Walk (north from RFK Stadium to the Aquatic Gardens) for a portion of the course would allow shortening of the course as it passes through the residential areas in Ward 6. Initially, Officer Jaffe expressed skepticism, saying that it was incomplete, unsuitable for runners, and could not connect to the course at RFK Stadium. However, Commissioners Gove and Soderman and several other attendees pointed out that his information is out-of-date; the trail is indeed finished, twelve (12) feet wide and paved. At this point Officer Jaffe agreed to work with Events DC to consider alternate routes.
  - i) Ms. Nelson reinforced that the obligation to develop an acceptable route lies with the event planners and, as they did not bring a revision with them as required, they must still do so prior to requesting a letter of support. She suggested that they come to the TPS meeting two (2) months in advance -in November, if they will be asking for support in January.
- B. Request for renewed support of Legislation (B22-0351) introduced by Councilmember Charles Allen that would create a School Parking Zone Program, allowing the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) to issue permits for school staff to park in particular zones during school hours.
- a. Mr. Will Handsfield and Commissioner Gove made the presentation. Both Ms. Gove and Mr. Handsfield have children who attend Maury Elementary School, where increased student population is increasing the need for adequate play space. Mr. Handsfield worked with Councilmember Allen’s office in developing the legislation.
  - b. Renewed support is needed because there have been changes of substance to the legislation since ANC 6A’s initial letter of support.
  - c. The two main changes are:
    - 1. Elimination of a provision to charge for on-site parking and use the fees to fund additional transportation subsidies for faculty/staff who do not park on site (deemed too cumbersome to administer) and an increased role for ANCs (the original legislation called for zone requests to be initiated by the Mayor’s office).
    - 2. Mr. Handsfield reminded the Committee that the legislation is necessary because it will allow communities the option of offering school staff the option of street parking during school hours in lieu of parking in a lot (currently the teachers’ union contract includes parking). This would potentially enable school to reduce the space reserved for parking in favor of increased play space. A census of the blocks surrounding Maury (for example) reveal an ample number of available spaces during the day while most residents are away. Parking is really only a struggle during evening hours. Further, alternatives such as parking garages are exorbitantly expensive and not the best use of resources.

- d. Commissioner Gove emphasized that additional play space is needed at many schools, especially Maury. Children at this and other schools are at risk of having inadequate exercise, not meeting FDA guidelines, due to space constraints. This is unacceptable, especially given the availability of street parking during the school day.

***Recommendation: Mr. Fletcher moved that the Committee urge ANC 6A to send a letter to in support of CM Allen's legislation (B22-0351), as amended, that would create a School Parking Zone Program. The motion was seconded by Ms. Roggers and passed unanimously, 5-0.***

6) Additional Community Comments - none

7) Meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.