

ANC 6A Transportation & Public Space Committee Meeting Minutes  
Sherwood Recreation Center (10<sup>th</sup> Street NE and G Street NE)  
December 16, 2013

- I. Call meeting to order at 7:01 pm
- II. In attendance were: Thomas Perry and Sam Zimbabwe with DDOT; Jason Levine and Laura Marks with the Capitol Hill Classic race; ANC 6A Commissioners Nick Alberti, Sondra Phillips-Gilbert, David Holmes and Calvin Ward; Committee members Andrea Adleman, Jeff Fletcher, Lara Levison, Ben Rossett, Todd Sloves and Committee Chair J. Omar Mahmud; and several residents.
- III. Community Comment – None.
- IV. Announcements
  - A. Hotline for streetcar construction issues, including upcoming night work – (202) 210-3700.
- V. New Business
  - A. Request for support concerning 2014 Capitol Hill Classic race to be held on May 18, 2014 from 8:30 am to noon. Mr. Mahmud introduced Ms. Marks and Mr. Levine and asked them to provide information about the race:
    - i. There will be 10k, 3k and fun runs. Proceeds raised solely benefit the Capitol Hill Cluster School. Last year almost \$100,000 was raised.
    - ii. The route this year should be almost identical to last year's race, but there will be slight modifications around the Capitol due to a request from Capitol Police.
    - iii. The 10k starts at 8:30. MPD will then start street closures. Police will allow cross traffic when safe. The 3k will start at 10:30.
    - iv. There will be a water stop in front of Eastern HS which will be run by the Eastern track team.
    - v. Notification of the race and street closures will go out to local residents through local listservs, street signs and an ad in the Hill Rag. Organizers are also notifying local churches.
    - vi. Mr. Mahmud asked about cleaning the water station and the surrounding area near Eastern HS after the race. Ms. Marks informed him that race volunteers will clean up and then race organizers will do a check at the end to ensure all is clean before leaving.

- vii. Commissioner Holmes pointed out that race organizers must think of route contingencies in case Capitol Police need to close a street near the Capitol for security reasons.
  - viii. ***Mr. Mahmud made a motion that the committee recommend the ANC send a letter of support for the 2014 Capitol Hill Classic. Mr. Rosset seconded the motion, which passed without objection.***
- B. DDOT officials to update community and committee, and answer questions, regarding pending transportation projects that directly impact ANC 6A, including the C Street redesign, the 17<sup>th</sup>/19<sup>th</sup> Streets redesign, the Maryland Avenue redesign and the G & I Streets bicycle lanes/cycle track. Mr. Mahmud introduced Messrs. Perry and Zimbabwe and invited them to address the committee:
- i. Mr. Perry provided an update on the streetcar. He thanked the committee for the ANC's letter agreeing to night construction work. This allowed DDOT to do a dead wire test for the streetcar all along H Street. Residents should check the twitter handle @dcstreetcar for updates and pictures.
  - ii. 30 days after DDOT gets the safety certification, revenue service can begin. Mr. Perry believes the best case timeframe for that is 3 months, worst case 6-7 months. DDOT is going into the safety phase at this point given most construction work (other than the completed maintenance facility) has been completed. During this safety phase we will see streetcars going down the tracks, but just for testing purposes. The midline power station should be done and enclosed as late as april 1 (or early as January).
  - iii. Mr. Sloves asked about opening the intersection at H Street NE and 3<sup>rd</sup> Street NE. Mr. Thomas believes that should be about January 15, 2014.
  - iv. Sam Zimbabwe next provided an update on the G Street NE and I Street NE cycletrack/bikelane project. DDOT is done with the design so the next step is execution of the construction vendor's purchase order, which is pending. DDOT will make the plans available online soon. I street will be done first followed by G Street. DDOT will need to install a lot of signs to alert motorists of the contraflow lane. Weather plays a role in the construction schedule given a certain street temperature is needed to do the paintwork. Each street markings job should take a week to week and a half given good weather.
  - v. Mr. Mahmud asked about repairing or improving the asphalt as well in sections that are in particular need, but the current contract/funding does not include resurfacing work. This project will primarily include pavement striping and signs. There will be no pylons to protect the bicyclists. Commissioner Alberti suggested it would be best to install the

signs first to get motorists used to the new bike lanes ahead of project completion. Mr. Zimbabwe agreed to consider that idea in the planning.

- vi. Commissioner Holmes suggested DDOT also install signs on H Street alerting bicyclists to the alternative routes.
- vii. Mr. Zimbabwe next provided an update regarding the 17th and 19th streets redesign, which he believes is nearing implementation. 17th Street north of E. Capitol will also start in the spring. 17th south of E. Capitol requires a bit more analysis before work can begin. DDOT is close to bidding out the project, but there is no date set yet. DDOT will follow up with Mr. Mahmud once the bid date is set. Mr. Mahmud expressed frustration that the community heard basically the same update regarding the completion status a year ago. Mr. Zimbabwe again agreed to get back to Mr. Mahmud with a status update on the contract bid package status and the timeline for getting overall project done.
- viii. Mr. Zimbabwe next turned to Maryland Ave. NE. The original plan was to get the pilot (temporary street markings and barriers to replicate the street changes in the project design) in place by end of the year, but that has been delayed due to complications with the federal funding DDOT hopes to use for the pilot and overall project. DDOT is concerned about violating federal agreements so it is looking for ways to work around these issues before starting implementation of the pilot and future construction. Once a federal review process of the project design is completed this winter, DDOT will have a better idea of how to move forward. If DDOT does not go through this process before starting the pilot it could jeopardize access to future federal funds. The current hope is to do the pilot in Spring. The pilot does not have a set amount of time. DDOT is open to having the pilot last as long as needed. At least a 3-4 month pilot period at a minimum.
- ix. Next, Mr. Zimbabwe briefed the committee on the pending C Street project, which is still the furthest away of all these projects according to DDOT. DDOT is facing issues here with the federal review of the project, similar to that of Maryland Avenue. In addition, an impact analysis must first be done, but that is difficult to do currently because of streetcar construction on Benning Road NE and H Street NE. DDOT needs new impact data analysis since the prior impact analysis data it obtained is now dated. Commissioner Holmes expressed concern about the project stalling after all the years of effort to get this done. Mr. Zimbabwe explained that when construction is done on Benning Road DDOT will have a consultant on board to get started on the data analysis immediately. DDOT is not waiting for the streetcar construction to end before the project ramps up.
- x. The next Florida Avenue project meeting will be in February 2014.

VI. Additional Community Comment – None.

VII. Meeting adjourned at 8:31 pm.