



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



June 26, 2006

Christopher Delfs
Ward 6 Transportation Planner
District Department of Transportation
Transportation Policy and Planning Administration
2000 14th St NW, 7th Floor
Washington, DC 20009

Re: Tree boxes in the 100 block of 15th Street, NE

At our regularly scheduled public meeting on June 8, 2006, our Commission voted unanimously to request a change in the configuration of tree boxes along the 100 block of 15th St NE. We request that the new configuration be a continuous planting strip to run the length of the block. The current configuration is a series of small individual trees boxes alternating with expanses of concrete side walk. We ask this be done in conjunction with the planned 2006 sidewalk rehabilitation project on 15th Street, NE between East Capitol Street and Constitution Avenue.

On May 19, 2006, Commissioner Nicholas Alberti and residents of 15th Street, NE met with District Department of Transportation representatives Mr. Adullahi Mohamed and Mr. Christopher Delfs to discuss this matter. Mr. Mohamed advised us that a change in the configuration was possible if that change was agreeable to residents of the 100 block of 15th Street, NE. Residents of all address on that block have received notification and a majority has indicated their agreement with the change as documented in the attached survey results.

If you have any questions about this matter, please contact Commissioner Nicholas Alberti at (202) 543-3512.

On behalf of the Commission,

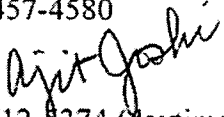
A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Joseph Fengler'.

Joseph Fengler
Chair, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6A

Memorandum

To Christopher Delfs, DDOT
Fax (202) 671-0617

Cc Nick Alberti, ANC 6A
Fax (301) 457-4580

From Ajit Joshi 
Tel (202) 712-3374 (daytime, M-F)
Fax (202) 216-3039 (daytime, M-F)

Date Friday, May 19, 2006

Twelve (12) pages total, including this cover memorandum

The residents of the 100 block of 15th St. NE in ANC 6A single member district 04 in PSA 103 responded to a survey on Sunday May 14 and on Tuesday May 16, 2006. On May 16, a letter was left at those houses on the block where no response was received after in-person two attempts for administration of the survey. The letter provided the deadline of Friday, May 19 for a response to the survey.

The purpose of the survey was to gauge interest in the creation of a continuous grassy knoll connecting existing and planned tree boxes and broken up, as appropriate, by existing and planned trees, and small concrete steps in front of residents' doors, between the sidewalk and the street, to access the street. During administration of the survey, residents were advised that the city will landscape initially by planting grass; however, residents are responsible for maintenance (cutting the grass, replacing with other types of shrubs or flowers, fertilizing and watering, etc). The survey was administered by administered by Ajit Joshi of 111 15th St NE and Heidi Elliott of 109 15th St. NE.

Sixteen (16) responses were received. Fifteen (15) responses were in favor of the creation of the grassy knoll. One (1) response was not in favor of the creation of the grassy knoll.

Based on this survey, a majority of respondents, based on one response per household from the owner of the house, are in favor of the creation of a continuous grassy knoll among tree boxes on the this block, broken up, as appropriate, by trees and small concrete steps in front of doors to access the street.

Attachments:

1. Survey administered May 14 and May 16
2. Letter left on May 16
3. Five Proxies provided via email as responses to letter of May 16
4. Neighborhood Phone List

no name
 108
 110
 111
 112
 113
 114
 115
 116
 117

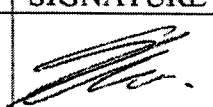


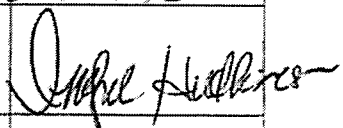
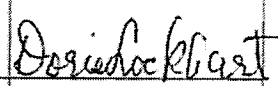

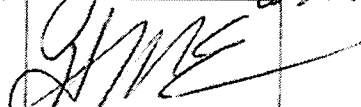
SURVEY for 100 Block of 15th St NE

The DC Government Department of Transportation (DDOT) plan to repair the sidewalk of the 100 Block of 15th St NE has two options: to add a tree box where required (e.g. in front of 107 15th St NE) or to create a continuous grassy knoll connecting all tree boxes. This knoll will look like other similarly landscaped areas on the 1400 and 1500 blocks of A Street NE, the 1400 block of Ames Place NE, the 1500 block of Constitution NE, and the west side of the unit block of 15th St NE (next to Car Barn). Continuity in the knoll may be broken up by existing trees or a small concrete walkway in front of residents' doors, between the sidewalk and the street. While the city will landscape initially by planting grass, residents are responsible for maintenance (cutting the grass, replacing with other types of shrubs or flowers, fertilizing and watering, etc).

A majority of residents (i.e. 50% or greater) is required based on one response per household from the owner of the house, or proxy to those renting the house by email or by telephone providing such proxy, to create a continuous grassy knoll among tree boxes on the this block, broken up, as appropriate, by trees and small concrete steps in front of doors to access the street.

This survey is administered by two neighbors: Ajit Joshi of 111 15th St NE and Heidi Elliott of 109 15th St. NE.

The purpose of this survey is to ask the following question: Are you interested in the creation of a continuous grassy knoll connecting tree boxes and broken up, as appropriate, by trees and small concrete steps in front of doors to access the street?

NAME	ADDRESS	PHONE	YES OR NO	SIGNATURE
SUANNA	101 15 th St	(202) 543-8812	yes	
LONNIE R. LOWE	100 15 th	202-544-8808 LONNIE_LOWE@NPS.GOV	YES	
Lenz Gee	102-15 th	202-543-4251	yes	
I. Hutchins	105 15 th St NE	202 5474883	yes	
D. Dockhart	104-15 th St NE	202 547-1894	yes	
P. Anderson	120-15 th St. NE	21 543-5940	yes	
Heidi Elliott	109 15 th St, NE	21 543-6739	yes	

on 5/16
This letter was left at all houses on 15th St NE, 100 block after two in person attempts, Sun 5/14 + Tue 5/16.

Dear Neighbors:

As you may be aware, Ajit Joshi, has been working for over a year on getting our sidewalks repaired. Finally, we've received a positive response from DDOT. When they repair the sidewalks they can do one of three things.

1. Keep the sidewalk as is – just make the necessary repairs.
2. Add a tree box in front of 107 to balance the tree box directly across the street.
3. Cut the sidewalk in half by connecting the tree boxes with a grassy knoll.

The overwhelming response of the neighbors per a door-to-door opinion poll on Sunday by Ajit and me was for Option #3. The mind set behind this choice is that the smaller sidewalks will give a more residential feel rather than the current commercial feel. We're hoping this will reduce some of the loitering that has become a plague on our street.

We plan to contact DDOT Friday with a final choice. If you would like to add your opinion, kindly fill out the bottom of this letter and drop it in either my door (109 15th Street, NE) or Ajit's door (111 15th Street, NE).

Sincerely,
Heidi Elliott
109 15th Street, NE
Washington, DC 20002

I _____ of _____
(name) (street address)

choose the following option for the sidewalk repair.

(Check One)

Option #1: Keep the sidewalk as is – just make the necessary repairs.

Option #2: Add a tree box in front of 107 to balance the tree box directly across the street.

Option #3: Cut the sidewalk in half by connecting the tree boxes with a grassy knoll.

Signed By: _____

Date: _____

Deborah
301) 877 1054

117 15th St NE

Dear Neighbors:

As you may be aware, Ajit Joshi, has been working for over a year on getting our sidewalks repaired. Finally, we've received a positive response from DDOT. When they repair the sidewalks they can do one of three things.

1. Keep the sidewalk as is – just make the necessary repairs.
2. Add a tree box in front of 107 to balance the tree box directly across the street.
3. Cut the sidewalk in half by connecting the tree boxes with a grassy knoll.

The overwhelming response of the neighbors per a door-to-door opinion poll on Sunday by Ajit and me was for Option #3. The mind set behind this choice is that the smaller sidewalks will give a more residential feel rather than the current commercial feel. We're hoping this will reduce some of the loitering that has become a plague on our street.

We plan to contact DDOT Friday with a final choice. If you would like to add your opinion, kindly fill out the bottom of this letter and drop it in either my door (109 15th Street, NE) or Ajit's door (111 15th Street, NE).

Sincerely,
Heidi Elliott
109 15th Street, NE
Washington, DC 20002

I TRACEY SALAWAY of 117 15th St NE
(name) (street address)

choose the following option for the sidewalk repair.

(Check One)

Option #1: Keep the sidewalk as is – just make the necessary repairs.

Option #2: Add a tree box in front of 107 to balance the tree box directly across the street.

Option #3: Cut the sidewalk in half by connecting the tree boxes with a grassy knoll. *upkeep is the owner's responsibility*

Signed By: Tracey Salaway

Date: 5/17/00

YAHOO! MAIL

Print - Close Window

From: "Christopher Tynes" <flykites37@hotmail.com>
To: "Ajit Joshi" <joshi_ajitv@yahoo.com>
CC: "Daryl Smith" <msg3000@yahoo.com>, "Christopher Heck" <heckplace@yahoo.com>, "Heidi" <helliott109@comcast.net>, "Caroline" <cavish2000@yahoo.com>
Subject: Re: Time Sensitive - Please Read - Sidewalk - Response Needed
Date: Mon, 15 May 2006 08:57:10 -0700

*owner of
115 15th St, NE
Tel, 510-326-1902*

Ajit,

I have been following this drama. Thanks for your efforts. I am for this measure. Change would be good. I am in the area again. I live on 17th street and D NE and would have made the last PSA meeting had i not been held up in NY.

Thanks for the survey,
Chris

----- Original Message -----

From: Ajit Joshi
To: flykites37@hotmail.com
Cc: Daryl Smith ; Christopher Heck ; Heidi ; Caroline
Sent: Sunday, May 14, 2006 7:12 PM
Subject: Time Sensitive - Please Read - Sidewalk - Response Needed

Dear Chris,

Heidi, Caroline, and I have been going around today with a survey. The purpose of this survey is to ask the following question: Are you interested in the creation of a continuous grassy knoll connecting tree boxes and broken up, as appropriate, by trees and small concrete steps in front of doors to access the street? The DC Government Department of Transportation (DDOT) plan to repair the sidewalk of the 100 Block of 15th St NE has two options: to add a tree box where required (e.g. in front of 107 15th St NE) or to create a continuous grassy knoll connecting all tree boxes. This knoll will look like other similarly landscaped areas on the 1400 and 1500 blocks of A Street NE, the 1400 block of Ames Place NE, the 1500 block of Constitution NE, and the west side of the unit block of 15th St NE (next to Car Barn). Continuity in the knoll may be broken up by existing trees or a small concrete walkway in front of residents' doors, between the sidewalk and the street. While the city will landscape initially by planting grass, residents are responsible for maintenance (cutting the grass, replacing with other types of shrubs or flowers, fertilizing and watering, etc).

A majority of residents (i.e. 50% or greater) is required based on one response per household from the owner of the house, or proxy to those renting the house by email or by telephone providing such proxy, to create a continuous grassy knoll among tree boxes on the this block, broken up, as appropriate, by trees and small concrete steps in front of doors to access the street.

Please email Heidi, Caroline, and myself to let us know of your vote, or please have Daryl or Chris act as your proxy to provide Heidi with your signature in person or via phone or via an email response.

Ajit

Ajit Joshi
 111 15th St. NE
 Washington, DC 20002-6505
 Home 202 546 0362
 Cell 202 549 0362

Yahoo! Messenger with Voice. PC-to-Phone calls for ridiculously low rates.

YAHOO! MAIL

Date: Tue, 16 May 2006 10:13:33 -0700 (PDT)
From: "Ajit Joshi" <joshi_ajitv@yahoo.com>
Subject: Re: Time Sensitive - Please Read - Sidewalk - Response Needed
To: Annvald@aol.com, sarahsatt@gmail.com, "Heidi" <helliott109@comcast.net>, "Caroline" <cavish2000@yahoo.com>

Print - Close Window
*Owner of
113 15th St NE*

Dear Ann - Thank you for your response. It's good to connect with you again.
Heidi - Please note Ann's response of "yes" for the survey, for 113 15th St NE.

Ajit

Annvald@aol.com wrote:

Hi Thanks for including me - If you guys want the continuous treebox it sounds fine to me- and I am happy to give you my proxy. thanks Ann

Ajit Joshi
111 15th St. NE
Washington, DC 20002-6505
Home 202 546 0362
Cell 202 549 0362

Talk is cheap. Use Yahoo! Messenger to make PC-to-Phone calls. Great rates starting at 1¢/min.

Subject: RE: Time Sensitive - Please Read - Sidewalk - Response Needed
Date: Mon, 15 May 2006 22:26:17 +0100
From: todd.hames@bt.com
To: joshi_ajitv@yahoo.com
CC: helliott109@comcast.net, cavish2000@yahoo.com

No From Todd ^{owner of} (106 15th St NE)
(Doesn't seem to print b/c his
font was blue

From: Ajit Joshi [mailto:joshi_ajitv@yahoo.com]
Sent: Sunday, May 14, 2006 10:15 PM
To: Hames,GT,Todd,JCGH2 R
Cc: Heidi; Caroline
Subject: Time Sensitive - Please Read - Sidewalk - Response Needed

Dear Todd,

Heidi, Caroline, and I have been going around today with a survey. The purpose of this survey is to ask the following question: Are you interested in the creation of a continuous grassy knoll connecting tree boxes and broken up, as appropriate, by trees and small concrete steps in front of doors to access the street?

The DC Government Department of Transportation (DDOT) plan to repair the sidewalk of the 100 Block of 15th St NE has two options: to add a tree box where required (e.g. in front of 107 15th St NE) or to create a continuous grassy knoll connecting all tree boxes. This knoll will look like other similarly landscaped areas on the 1400 and 1500 blocks of A Street NE, the 1400 block of Ames Place NE, the 1500 block of Constitution NE, and the west side of the unit block of 15th St NE (next to Car Barn). Continuity in the knoll may be broken up by existing trees or a small concrete walkway in front of residents' doors, between the sidewalk and the street. While the city will landscape initially by planting grass, residents are responsible for maintenance (cutting the grass, replacing with other types of shrubs or flowers, fertilizing and watering, etc).

121 B 1572 ST NE

Dear Neighbors:

As you may be aware, Ajit Joshi, has been working for over a year on getting our sidewalks repaired. Finally, we've received a positive response from DDOT. When they repair the sidewalks they can do one of three things.

1. Keep the sidewalk as is – just make the necessary repairs.
2. Add a tree box in front of 107 to balance the tree box directly across the street.
3. Cut the sidewalk in half by connecting the tree boxes with a grassy knoll.

The overwhelming response of the neighbors per a door-to-door opinion poll on Sunday by Ajit and me was for Option #3. The mind set behind this choice is that the smaller sidewalks will give a more residential feel rather than the current commercial feel. We're hoping this will reduce some of the loitering that has become a plague on our street.

We plan to contact DDOT Friday with a final choice. If you would like to add your opinion, kindly fill out the bottom of this letter and drop it in either my door (109 15th Street, NE) or Ajit's door (111 15th Street, NE).

Sincerely,
Heidi Elliott
109 15th Street, NE
Washington, DC 20002

1 Reginald Mosley of 121 B 1572 St. N. E.
(name) (street address)

choose the following option for the sidewalk repair.

(Check One)

Option #1: Keep the sidewalk as is – just make the necessary repairs.

Option #2: Add a tree box in front of 107 to balance the tree box directly across the street.

Option #3: Cut the sidewalk in half by connecting the tree boxes with a grassy knoll. Residents are responsible for the upkeep.

Revised
5/17/06
Conversation
w/ Heidi

Signed By: Reginald Mosley

Date: 5/16/06