



District of Columbia Government
Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6A
PO Box 15020
Washington, DC 20003



April 23, 2023

Director Everett Lott
District Department of Transportation
250 M St. SE
Washington, DC 20003

Mr. Mohammed Dahir
Project Manager
District Department of Transportation
55 M St. SE, Suite 400
Washington, DC 20003

Re: Florida Avenue NE Streetscape Project Safety Issues and Permit Enforcement

Dear Director Lott and Mr. Dahir,

At a regularly scheduled and properly noticed meeting¹ on April 13th, 2023 our Commission voted 6-0-0 (with 4 Commissioners required for a quorum) to support continued resident requests for reinstallation and maintenance of the temporary barriers along the entire bike lane route adjacent to the Florida Avenue NE Project, in addition to overall permit enforcement of project contractors along the route.

Beginning in October 2022, residents began communicating their concerns directly with DDOT, including with the Inspections and Enforcement Manager, about a careless disregard of the established vehicle and bike lane traffic pattern along Florida Avenue NE by contractors of the Washington Gas PROJECTpipes project (Job/BCA ID #281515). The PROJECTpipes and other overall project contractors have routinely ignored required safety measures within the project area involving the protection of the established adjacent bike lanes.

Since the initial queries the neighborhood has witnessed the complete removal of temporary barriers previously protecting the bike lanes on multiple blocks. The temporary barriers that do remain between the 1000- and 1200-blocks of Florida Avenue NE are often moved around haphazardly, facilitating illegal parking in the bike lane along the south side of the street. Meanwhile, at least fifteen barriers remain unused in a makeshift construction staging area at the

¹ ANC 6A meetings are advertised electronically on anc-6a@googlegroups.com, and newhilleast@groups.io, at www.anc6a.org, on Twitter (@ANC6A) and through print advertisements in the Hill Rag.

intersection of West Virginia Avenue NE and L Street NE.

The current status of the project area has not only left a significant portion of the bike lanes dangerously exposed to vehicular traffic but has also removed much of the pavement markings that would indicate bike lanes had ever existed there at all. Neighbors have noted motor vehicles regularly traveling in the Florida Avenue NE bike lanes between 6th Street NE and West Virginia Avenue NE. This is an incredibly hazardous and preventable situation that will result in serious injuries if left unaddressed.

Given the problems we have seen on Florida Avenue already and the upcoming H Street bus priority project, we request that DDOT place a staff member at a location on Florida Avenue NE or H Street NE who can triage issues and make sure the right team at DDOT engages. This approach was taken for the streetcar construction and is needed again so that our constituents can raise safety concerns around the construction in person.

While we understand the temporary disruptions required to successfully complete a project that will ultimately result in substantial improvements in the multi-modal traffic and public utilities infrastructure of our neighborhood, we are very concerned about the continued disregard for traffic safety in its execution. Our commission urges immediate action along the entire Florida Avenue NE Streetscape Project area, to include contractor permit enforcement and the reinstallation and maintenance of the bike lane temporary barriers, to protect residents from serious injury.

Thank you for giving great weight to the recommendations of this Commission. I can be contacted at 6A04@anc.dc.gov and Commissioner Chatterjee can be contacted at 6A01@anc.dc.gov.

On behalf of the Commission,



Amber Gove
Chair, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6A