



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



April 18, 2020

Mr. Jeffrey Marootian, Director
District Department of Transportation
55 M St SE, Suite 400
Washington, DC 20003

Re: Support for CM Allen's request for closure of streets to car/vehicle traffic during COVID-19

Dear Director Marootian:

At a regularly scheduled and properly noticed meeting¹ on April 9, 2020, our Commission voted 7-0-0 (with 5 Commissioners required for a quorum) to join in Councilmember Charles Allen's April 2, 2020 request that DDOT consider expanding use of public space, including public streets, to allow residents to engage in healthy, distanced outdoor exercise during the Mayor's Stay At Home Order.

Our Commission has received numerous requests for creative solutions to permit safe outdoor exercise. Public parks, including Lincoln Park and others in ANC6A are experiencing crowding as residents seek outdoor exercise. As noted in a recent article² by an ANC6A resident, other jurisdictions in the US, including Denver, Philadelphia, Seattle and New York have successfully opened streets to non-motorized users during this period of necessary social distancing. Our Commission requests that any such plan properly weigh the costs and benefits of the intended approach, use multiple streets in order to reduce crowding and distribute the impact of the closure, and allow for transit of the closed streets by local residents and emergency vehicles as needed. We also stand ready to work with you to identify potential locations in our area.

Thank you for giving great weight to the recommendation of ANC 6A. Should you wish to discuss this letter with the Commission, please feel free to reach out to me at AmberANC6A@gmail.com.

On behalf of the Commission,

Amber Gove
Chair, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6A

¹ ANC 6A meetings are advertised electronically on the anc6a-announce@yahoogroups.com, anc6a@yahoogroups.com, and newhilleast@groups.io, at www.anc6a.org, and through print advertisements in the Hill Rag.

²<https://ggwash.org/view/76918/people-need-to-get-outside-and-move-while-stuck-at-home-opening-streets-can-help>