



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



May 18, 2023

Councilmember Charles Allen
Chair, Committee on Transportation and the Environment
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Suite 110
Washington, DC 20004

Re: ANC 6A Support for Completing the DC Streetcar from Benning Road Metro Station to Georgetown as Planned and Promised

Via email and the ANC resolutions website

Dear Councilmember Allen,

At a regularly scheduled and properly noticed meeting¹ on May 11, 2023 our Commission voted 6-0-0 (with 4 Commissioners required for a quorum) to send this letter.

As representatives of the Commission area including H Street NE, we are disappointed with the proposal to delay capital funding for the DC Streetcar to Fiscal Year 2026. We are alarmed that the proposal may be an effort to kill the DC Streetcar.

Extending the DC Streetcar provides more ridership capacity than adding another Metrobus or DC Circulator route—regardless of bus vehicle type—and has already increased overall transit ridership along the H Street corridor. Streetcar routes, similar to Metrorail lines, are more reliable transit infrastructure for prospective businesses and residents because streetcar routes are more permanent and less prone to re-routing.

In addition, extending the DC Streetcar along Benning Road NE requires less public right-of-way than building a bus rapid transit (BRT) route and does not require the use of eminent domain or property takings. Benning Road NE is also notoriously fatal for pedestrians and bicyclists, and the DC Streetcar project incorporates critical bridge, roadway, streetscape, and intersection improvements to improve safety. The DC Streetcar extension would support the proposed Comprehensive Plan's recommendations for increased density along the Benning Road NE corridor in Wards 6 and 7.

ANC 6A reaffirms the following six points from its April 2021 Resolution², "Resolution regarding ANC 6A support for completing the DC Streetcar from Benning Road Metro Station to Georgetown as Planned and Promised". ANC 6A developed these six points in collaboration

¹ANC 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.

² <https://anc6a.org/wp-content/uploads/ANC6A-Resolution-No.-2021-002.pdf>

with Friends of the DC Streetcar, 7E06 Commissioner Delia Houseal, and Ward 7 transit advocates:

1. We strongly support the District's planned and promised DC Streetcar extension to the Benning Road Metro Station.
2. We request that DDOT seek and receive the full amount of funding necessary to break ground on construction as soon as possible.
3. We request that DDOT revisit and continue to explore additional options for the westward streetcar extension in the direction of Georgetown.
4. We implore DDOT to find a feasible, workable streetcar route for the westward extension to Georgetown and implement transit-only lanes for as much of the existing and future routes as possible.
5. We request that all agencies involved include sufficient funding for the Streetcar extension.
6. We request that the DC Council approve funding in the capital budget for the full streetcar extension to the Benning Road Metro.

Thank you for giving great weight to the recommendations of this Commission. I can be contacted at 6A04@anc.dc.gov, Commissioner Dooling at 6A06@anc.dc.gov, and Transportation and Public Space Committee Co-Chairs Lynch and Rogger can be contacted at 6ATPSChair@gmail.com.

On behalf of the Commission,



Amber Gove
Chair, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6A