

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



July 16, 2022

Via email and the ANC Resolution Website to:

Will Handsfield District Department of Transportation 250 M Street SE Washington, DC 20003

Re: ANC6A support for NOI 22-191-PSD 19th Street NE, Protected Two-Way Bike Facility between East Capitol Street and C Street, NE

Dear Mr. Handsfield:

At a regularly scheduled and properly noticed meeting¹ on July 14, 2022, our Commission voted 7-0-0 (with 5 Commissioners required for a quorum) to support DDOT's Notice of Intent 22-191-PSD² for protected bicycle facilities for 19th Street NE between East Capitol Street and C Street, NE and provide the following comments and recommendations.

We support the plans for these blocks as part of a larger plan for traffic calming and bike facilities focused on 17th and 19th Streets NE-SE, as indicated by our joint June 2022 letter with ANC 6B documenting a long history of traffic calming requests for these corridors. We also support protected bicycle facilities as a way to reduce the number of bicyclists and other micromobility users who use the sidewalk because they feel unsafe riding in the street. Providing all sidewalk and road users with their own spaces to travel is safer for all users.

Including the installation of an all-way stop at 19th Street, NE and Constitution Avenue, NE is critical to improving traffic and pedestrian safety at this intersection. It is our understanding DDOT's Safe Routes to School Team was unable to install an all-way stop requested by ANC 6A and neighboring residents as it did not meet the criteria specified in the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) guidelines due to the present multiple vehicle travel lane configuration. We request that DDOT prioritize installation of an all-way stop as part of the bike facility project associated with this NOI. As noted previously, the intersection of 19th Street, NE and Constitution Avenue, NE is adjacent to Eliot-Hine Middle School, Eastern High School and a WMATA D6 Metrobus stop and route. All types of motor vehicle operators are regularly observed speeding along 19th Street NE between East Capitol Street and C Street, NE, including through this intersection. This driver behavior particularly endangers vulnerable

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. ²<u>https://ddotwiki.atlassian.net/wiki/spaces/NI/pages/2101510166/NOI-22-191-PSD</u>

pedestrians including school children at this intersection. Digital speed feedback signs, when working³, have been ineffective in slowing vehicle travel on 19th Street, NE. The proposed protected bike facilities and removal of a travel lane will allow DDOT to install an all-way stop at this location. An all-way stop at this intersection will also improve safety for vehicle traffic traveling east- and west-bound on Constitution Avenue, NE. Ongoing reconfiguration of nearby C Street, NE which has eliminated a left turn from C Street, NE onto 21st Street, NE (into Kingman Park) has increased Kingman Park-bound vehicle traffic through the 19th/Constitution intersection.

Inclusion of physical barriers at each end and alongside of the protected cycle track. Please add bollards, flexposts, curbstops or other physical barriers at each end of the block and each crossing of the protected bike facilities to prevent drivers from entering in or parking in the protected bike lanes. In addition we request concrete barriers (Virginia Ave NW is a good example, photo below) and a buffered area to protect the entire length of these bike facilities.



Travel lane narrowing to reduce vehicle speeds. The drawings do not provide lane width measurements for either the cycle track or the vehicle travel lane. We request that DDOT endeavor to narrow the vehicle travel lane to 11 or 10 feet to slow vehicle travel and use that additional space to expand the width of the parking bay on the east side and expand the width of the protected bicycle travel lane on the west side.

Provide the East Capitol Street and 19th Street, NE intersection drawings. DDOT has not included engineering drawings for the East Capitol Street and 19th Street, NE

intersection in the NOI Concept package. As a condition of support, ANC 6A would like to better understand plans for and provide input on improvements being planned for this intersection, if any. We also request clarification on whether or not east side parking on the segment closest to East Capitol will be added and if there will be only one vehicle travel lane on 19th from East Capitol to C Street. The drawings currently do not indicate whether parking, or what type, is included for this section.

³ The digital speed feedback sign on 19th Street, NE slightly north of East Capitol Street is not presently working.

Thank you for giving great weight to the recommendations of this Commission. I can be contacted at <u>6A04@anc.dc.gov</u> and Commissioner Alcorn can be contacted at <u>6A08@anc.dc.gov</u>.

On Behalf of the Commission,

Amber K. Yove

Amber Gove Chair, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6A