

Government of the District of Columbia

Department of Transportation



July 3, 2019

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**Re: Florida Avenue NE Interim Safety Improvements
NOI #19-166-VZD**

Dear Chairpersons Lee, Gove, and Wirt:

Pursuant to the “Administrative Procedure Amendment Act of 2000” D.C. LAW 13-249 (48 DCR 3491 April 20, 2001), the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) is required to give a written notice of our intent to modify traffic and/or parking requirements. As you are likely aware, the District has seen several people killed by speeding drivers on Florida Avenue NE in the last several years, as well as many injured. Through the Mayor’s Vision Zero program, the interim safety work on this corridor is currently being prioritized for fast implementation. DDOT is also working to comply with the requirements of D.C. Act 23-57: Florida Avenue Multimodal Project Completion Emergency Amendment Act of 2019. As such, DDOT is accelerating implementation of this project in order to meet the required deadlines in the Act. This letter is a written confirmation of the information shared with the ANC and other members of the community at the public meeting hosted by DDOT on June 20, 2019.

The modifications are the result of the Florida Avenue NE Interim Safety Improvements planned for the corridor to address safety concerns by reducing vehicle speeds, improving pedestrian crossings, and providing protected bicycle infrastructure. These improvements are intended to bridge the gap between the existing conditions along the corridor and the capital improvements currently under design.

The proposed interim safety improvements consist of repurposing an existing travel lane in each direction between 3rd Street and West Virginia Avenue NE to facilitate designation of a center turn lane and addition of a two-way protected cycletrack on the south side of the roadway, as shown in the 30% design plans for the Florida Avenue NE Multimodal Transportation Project. The left-turn lane will reduce the need for lane changes around turning vehicles, reduce pressure on drivers making left turns, and smooth traffic flow in the general travel lanes. In addition, reducing the number of travel lanes overall will improve pedestrian crossing safety and slow travel speeds along the corridor.

An existing travel/off-peak parking lane in each direction between West Virginia Avenue and Staples Street NE will also be repurposed to facilitate designation of a center turn lane/parking lane and one-way protected bike lanes on the north and south sides of the roadway. This will reduce the number of travel lanes for pedestrians to cross, improving pedestrian safety. The elimination of the part-time second travel lane in each direction will make it easier to use the on-street parking spaces, as well as reduce speeding and aggressive passing behavior in this portion of the corridor.

Graphics showing the project extent and roadway cross-sections are included at the end of this Notice. In addition to the above outlined improvements, DDOT has also issued NOI #19-167-VZD to convert 6th Street NE to one-way northbound between K Street and Florida Avenue NE and NOI #19-168-VZD to modify the intersection of 9th Street, West Virginia Avenue, and L Street NE.

As mandated in the D.C. Act 23-57 – Florida Avenue Multimodal Project Completion Emergency Amendment Act of 2019, the following modifications are proposed on Florida Avenue NE, between 3rd Street and West Virginia Avenue NE:

- **Remove one (1) travel lane in each the east- and westbound directions between 3rd Street and 6th Street NE;**
- **Remove one (1) travel lane in the eastbound direction between 6th Street and West Virginia Avenue NE;**
- **Repurpose one (1) travel lane in the westbound direction to designate a center turn lane between 3rd Street and 6th Street NE;**
- **Repurpose one (1) travel lane in the eastbound direction to install a two-way, protected cycletrack on the south side of Florida Avenue NE between 3rd Street and West Virginia Avenue NE; and**
- **Convert the southern-most lane on eastbound Florida Avenue NE at 3rd Street to right-turn only due to the addition of the two-way, protected cycletrack to the east.**
- **Prohibit right-turn on red on the northbound approach of 3rd Street NE at Florida Avenue NE;**
- **Prohibit right-turn on red on the eastbound approach of Florida Avenue NE at 4th Street NE;**
- **Prohibit right-turn on red on the northbound approach of 5th Street NE at Florida Avenue NE;**
- **Prohibit left-turns on westbound Florida Avenue NE at 6th Street NE;**
- **Prohibit right-turn on red on the westbound approach of Florida Avenue NE at 6th Street NE;**
- **Convert the westbound approach of M Street NE from YIELD condition to STOP control;**
- **Prohibit left-turns on westbound Florida Avenue NE at 7th Street NE;**
- **Prohibit right-turn on red on the northbound approach of 7th Street NE at Florida Avenue NE;**
- **Prohibit right-turn on red on the northbound approach of 8th Street NE at Florida Avenue NE;**
- **Prohibit left-turns on westbound Florida Avenue NE at 9th Street NE;**
- **Prohibit right-turn on red on the northbound approach of West Virginia Avenue NE at Florida Avenue NE; and**

- Designate the north side of Florida Avenue NE between 8th Street and West Virginia Avenue NE as “No Standing/No Parking EXCEPT 7:00 AM to 4:00 PM on Sundays”, which creates approximately 20 new parking spaces for Sunday use.

In addition to the above improvements required by D.C. Act 23-57, the following modifications are proposed as part of the Florida Avenue NE Interim Safety Improvement Project between West Virginia Avenue and 14th Street/H Street NE:

- Remove one (1) travel lane in each the east- and westbound directions between West Virginia Avenue and Staples Street NE;
- Repurpose one (1) travel lane in the westbound direction to designate a full-time parking lane on the north side of Florida Avenue NE between West Virginia Avenue NE and 12th Street NE;
- Repurpose one (1) travel lane in the westbound direction to designate a center turn lane on Florida Avenue NE between 12th Street NE and Staples Street NE;
- Repurpose one (1) existing travel lane in the eastbound direction to install two (2) one-way, protected bike lanes between West Virginia Avenue and Staples Street NE;
- Convert the northern-most lane on westbound Florida Avenue NE at Staples Street NE to right-turn only due to the removal of a travel lane to the west;
- Remove the existing peak period parking restrictions (“No Standing/No Parking from 7:00 to 9:30 AM and 4:00 to 6:30 PM, Monday through Friday”) on Florida Avenue NE between West Virginia Avenue NE and 14th Street/H Street NE;
- Expand the existing Sunday parking zone on the 1100 block of Florida Avenue NE from approximately two (2) spaces to approximately six (6) spaces and modify the signage to note “Bus Parking Only, 7:00 AM to 4:00 PM on Sundays”;
- Remove approximately 12 parking spaces on the north side of Florida Avenue NE between West Virginia Avenue NE and Staples Street NE; and
- Remove approximately 30 parking spaces on the south side of Florida Avenue NE between West Virginia Avenue NE and Staples Street NE.

All comments on this subject matter must be filed in writing by August 2, 2019, with the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) at 55 M Street, SE, Washington, D.C. 20003. Comments may also be submitted via the email address provided below. If you would like to check the status of this Notice of Intent (NOI), please visit DDOT’s website at: <http://ddot.dc.gov/service/ddot-notice-intent>. You can also visit DDOT’s Florida Avenue NE Multimodal Transportation Project website at <https://ddot.dc.gov/page/florida-avenue-ne-multimodal-transportation-project>

If you have any questions concerning this letter, please feel free to contact Emily Dalphy at (202) 741-5363 or at emily.dalphy@dc.gov.

Sincerely,



Linda Bailey
Vision Zero Director
District Department of Transportation

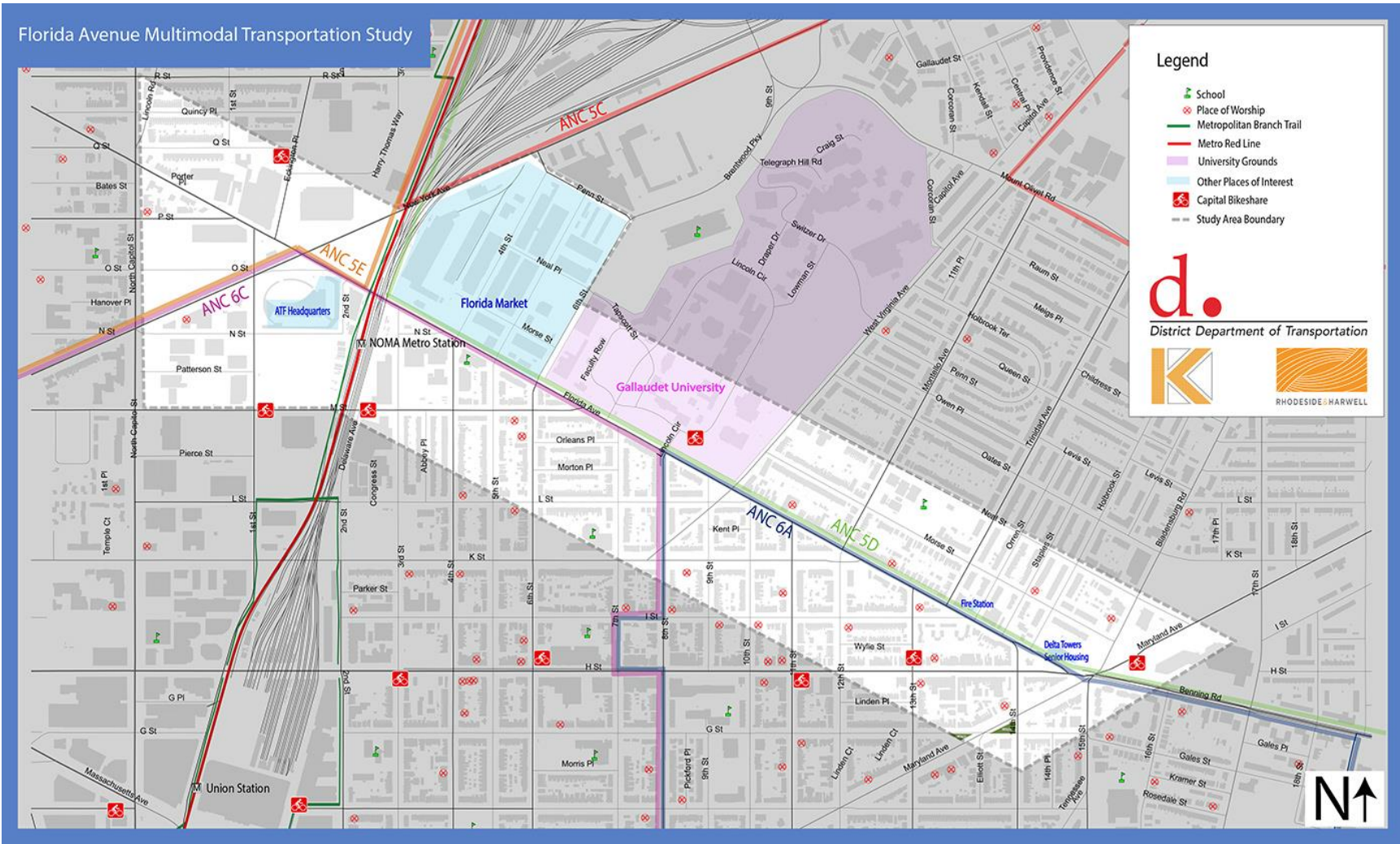


Figure 1: Study Area for Florida Avenue NE Multimodal Transportation Study (Completed 2015)

Florida Ave NE (300 Block Proposed)

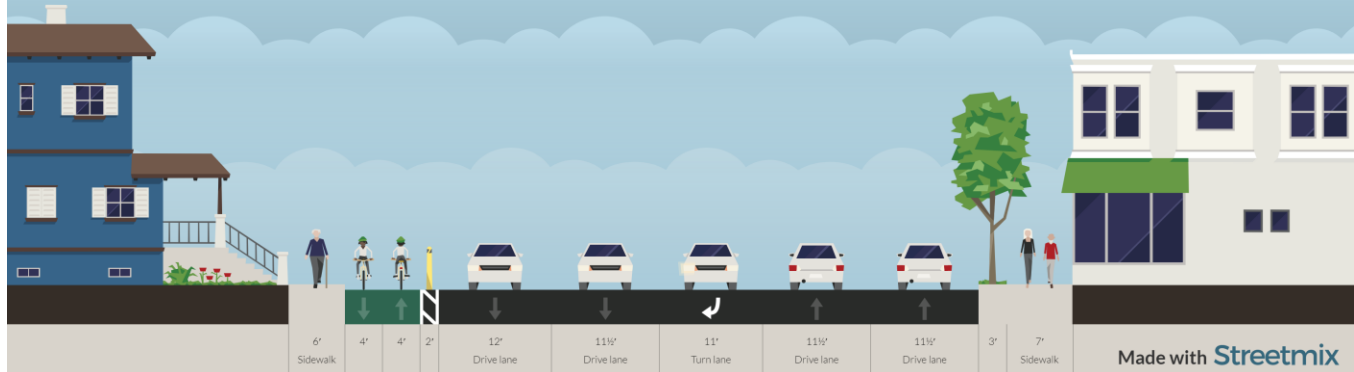


Figure 2: Florida Avenue NE Proposed Cross-Section (3rd Street to 6th Street NE)

Florida Ave NE (600 Block Proposed)

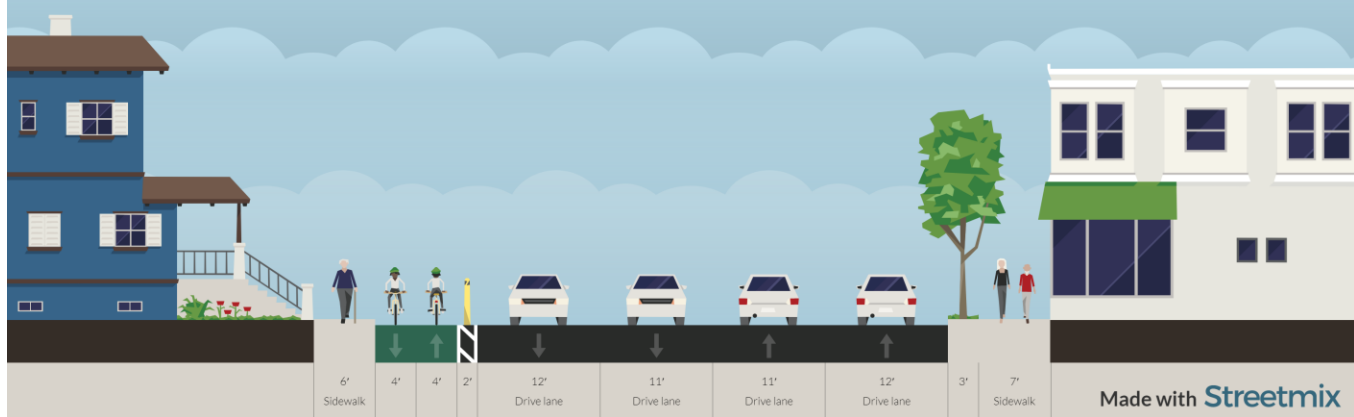


Figure 3: Florida Avenue NE Proposed Cross-Section (6th Street to West Virginia Avenue NE)

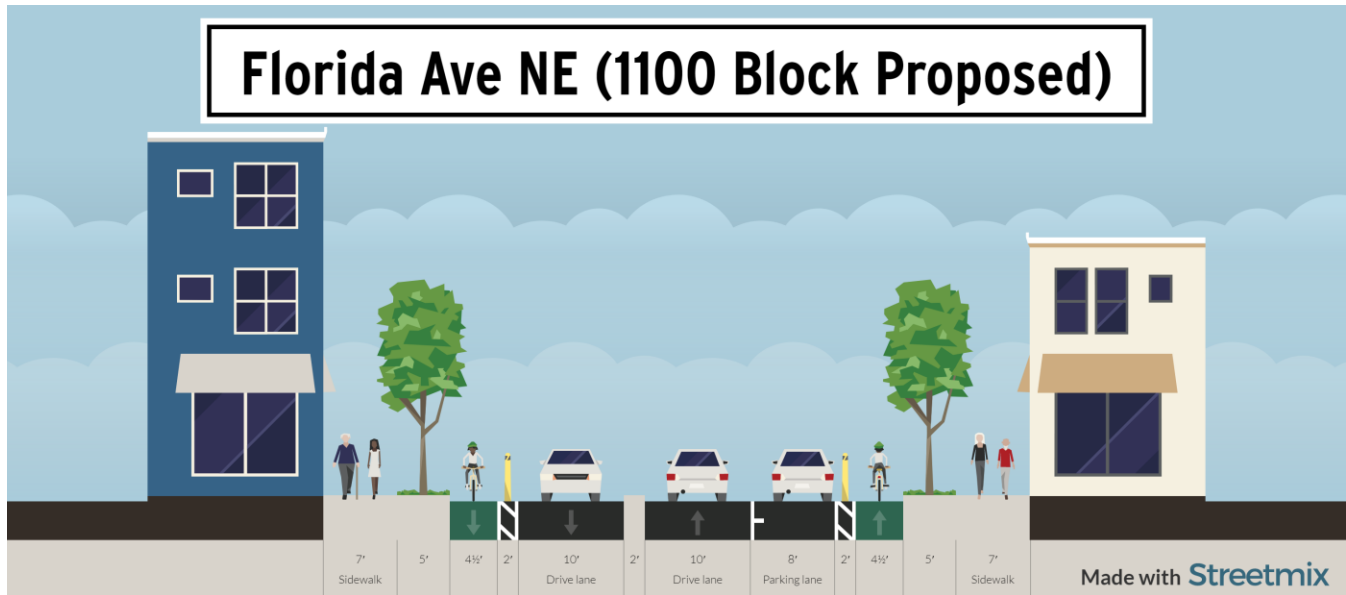


Figure 4: Florida Avenue NE Proposed Cross-Section (West Virginia Avenue to 12th Street NE)

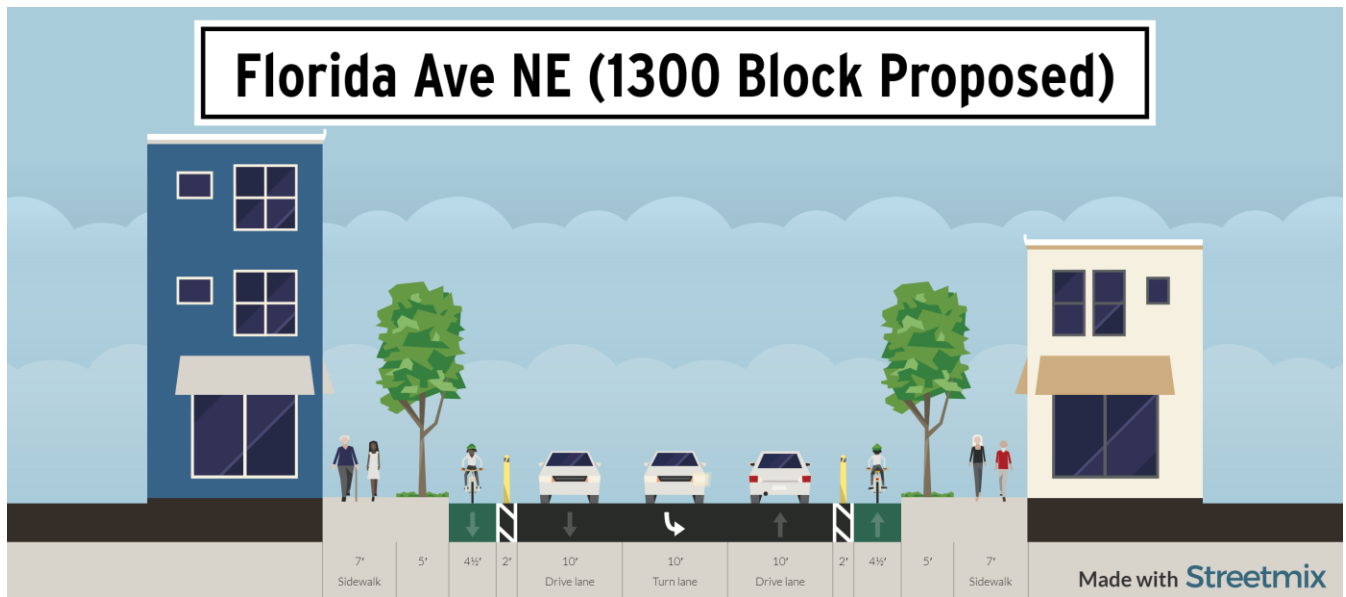


Figure 5: Florida Avenue NE Proposed Cross-Section (12th Street to Staples Street NE)

