

Minutes  
ANC 6A Transportation & Public Space Committee Meeting  
Capitol Hill Towers (900 G Street NE)  
April 18, 2016 at 7:00 pm

- I. Meeting called to order at 7:03 pm.
- II. Introductions
  - A. Committee members: Commissioner Omar Mahmud (co-chair), Todd Sloves (co-chair), Elizabeth Nelson, Hassan Christian, Lara Levison, and Andrea Adleman.
- III. Announcements
  - A. DDOT meeting on Seventeenth (17<sup>th</sup>) and Nineteenth (19<sup>th</sup>) Street NE redesign projects to be held on May 3, 2016 at 6:30 p.m. at the Rosedale Community Center, 1700 Gales Street NE. At this Committee's meeting in February 2016, Commissioner Sondra Phillips-Gilbert asked for an update for the community on these projects.
  - B. There will be a Ward 6 budget town hall on April 21, 2016, 6:30-8:30 pm at 645 H Street. NE.
- IV. Community Comment – none
- V. Discussion with Department of Public Works (DPW) and the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) Public Space Committee representatives on alley trash receptacles
  - A. In attendance were Reginald May, Deputy Associate Administrator, Solid Waste Education and Enforcement Program (SWEEP), DPW; and Matthew Marcou, Associate Director, Public Space Regulation Administration, DDOT. Commissioner Mahmud outlined the topic: trash stored behind restaurants in alleys (public space) that are shared by residences. How do these agencies address problems with alley trash storage? (The Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs (DCRA) can enforce licensure requirements.)
  - B. Mr. May:
    - i. DPW has responsibility for making sure that public space is maintained in a clean and orderly manner. For residences, to the curb; for businesses, 18 inches into the road; behind businesses as well. For violations, we issue warnings; for repeated violations, we issue citations. We do not work on weekends, and we have to see it to enforce.
  - C. Mr. Marcou (DDOT):
    - i. This is not a process that goes through a public space process (trash receptacles). You do not need a permit to store trash receptacles in an alley.
    - ii. DDOT gets involved when they obstruct public space - if a standard-width vehicle cannot pass through the alley. The regulations are silent in Title 24 on where trash receptacles go, unless they are permanent, such as with fences or lids, or a shed. DDOT issues permits for structures to store trash.
    - iii. If you are asking businesses to have a trash plan to store trash on their property (as a condition of their permit), that is a DCRA issue.

- iv. There are more rules storing trash on a sidewalk or “public parking.” (“Public parking” is the public space between the sidewalk and the property line.) There are more rules on that. DDOT would investigate trash storage in these areas and determine appropriate path forward. Per the regulations, trash cannot be stored next to or in a sidewalk café.
- D. Mr. Sloves asked if these agencies have a process of referring a problem to DCRA if it is not under their agencies’ authorities.
  - i. Mr. Marcou: unlikely, since we may not know if it is a DCRA matter.
  - ii. Mr. May: we routinely refer issues to other agencies. For solid waste issues in Ward 6, call 202-645-7190 and ask for Inspectors Hood, Satchell, or Brown
- E. A neighbor said that the trash cans are left by the street out all the time on certain blocks in the vicinity.
  - i. Mr. May: If collection is on Monday, you can put the trash can out at 6:00 pm on Sunday and cans must be taken back in by the end of the pick-up day. I will follow up on this tomorrow morning.
- F. The neighbor also raised a concern about rats in the dumpster behind this building and from the H Street Connection shopping center.
  - i. Co-chair Mahmud said he has been working with the shopping center to kill the rats before they tear the building down, so they will not scatter through the neighborhood, and he will also talk to the manager of this building, Ms. Higgins. Mr. May: contact Gerard Brown, Department of Health, for rodent control. Keep food tightly sealed in containers; rodents will travel as far as ½ mile for food when they are nesting.

## VI. New Business

- A. Sidewalk café permit application for BAB Korean Fusion (1387 H Street NE, southwest corner of Fourteenth (14<sup>th</sup>) & H) (Sloves)
  - i. Co-chair Sloves: Applicant could not attend tonight’s meeting. The request is for just four (4) tables, each seating two (2) people, for a total of eight (8) seats. The enclosed space comes about seven (7) feet out from the bay window facing Fourteenth (14<sup>th</sup>) Street. It is pretty small compared to other establishments on the corridor. We asked the applicant to put away the furniture when not in use so it will not be accessible for misuse. Having people out there may better activate the space. Sidewalk hours: (Sunday-Thursday, no later than 11:00 pm, Friday-Saturday, no later than 12:00 midnight); Thursday is too late in her plan, and we will tell the applicant that that needs to be adjusted.
  - ii. ***Mr. Sloves offered a motion, seconded by Ms. Nelson, that the Committee recommends that ANC 6A send a letter expressing support of this application, with the following conditions: 1. Owners agree to follow hours and terms of sidewalk cafe operation stipulated in ANC6A's standard voluntary agreement (SA), including closing at 11:00 pm Sunday through Thursday and 12:00 am Friday and Saturday. This agreement includes no music on the sidewalk café and only food and drink service; 2. Food will be plated; it will not be light-weight paper or plastic that is prone to litter the area; 3. Attractive fencing consistent with DDOT requirements and other***

*sidewalk cafes on H Street, with a preference for fencing that contains trash in the sidewalk café area by having bars that go down to the ground; 4. Owners agree to move chairs and tables to the side and lock them up when not in use; 5. Owners will regularly maintain any adjacent tree boxes and keep all areas in front of the business and the sidewalk café area clean, including the adjacent sidewalk and street gutter; 6. Ensure the sidewalk café allows for an adjacent sidewalk that maintains a consistent width with the sidewalk on the rest of the block. The motion passed unanimously.*

- B. Residential Permit Parking (RPP) request for 1000 block of Tenth (10<sup>th</sup>) Street NE
  - i. To obtain RPP, neighbors have to petition DDOT, and DDOT asks the ANC commissioner to weigh in.
  - ii. ***Mr. Mahmud offered a motion, seconded by Ms. Nelson, that the Committee recommends that ANC 6A send a letter of support for the RPP request for the 1000 block of 10<sup>th</sup> St. The motion passed unanimously.***
  
- C. Pedestrian crossing at Benning Road and Eighteenth (18<sup>th</sup>) Street NE
  - i. Ms. Bowens explained why the crossing is dangerous for pedestrians. There is no light and no stop sign. There are apartment buildings, stores, a church, and the streetcar all near the intersection. There are a lot of elderly people and children crossing at this location. Additionally, the lights at Seventeenth (17<sup>th</sup>) and Nineteenth (19<sup>th</sup>) Streets are not timed to allow a complete stop in traffic flow for pedestrians to cross at Eighteenth (18<sup>th</sup>) Street. Pedestrians have been hit at this location. Ms. Bowens suggested installing a HAWK (pedestrian-activated) signal or adjusting the timing of the lights at Seventeenth (17<sup>th</sup>) and Nineteenth (19<sup>th</sup>) Streets NE.
  - ii. ***Mr. Sloves offered a motion, seconded by Mr. Mahmud, that the committee recommends that ANC 6A send letter to DDOT requesting an assessment of pedestrian safety issues and traffic flow at the intersection of Eighteenth (18<sup>th</sup>) Street NE and Benning Road NE and asking for possible remedies. The motion passed unanimously.***

VII. Additional Community Comment

- A. Question: People are congregating at Eighth (8<sup>th</sup>) and H Streets NE; where are they coming from? Commissioner Mahmud responded that the 90, 92 and X2 are major bus lines and many people are transiting on bus lines and transfer at this intersection. The city does not have anti-loitering laws, so nothing can be done unless people are doing something illegal, and then MPD can enforce. If you see anything illegal, call 911. Call even if you think the person will be gone, because MPD keeps statistics on the calls and will devote more resources to those areas.
- B. Neighbor: question about the trash at the 7-11 on the corner at Eighth (8<sup>th</sup>) and H Streets NE. Commissioner Mahmud: 7-11 is responsible. There was an H Street Main Street organization that was cleaning up, and the businesses got lazy because someone else was cleaning up. Call the number provided by Mr. May at DPW; also, Mahmud will email Mr. May about it.

VIII. The meeting was adjourned at 8:03 pm.