

MINUTES
ANC 6A Transportation & Public Space Committee Meeting
Virtual Public Meeting Held Via Zoom
Monday, April 19, 2021

- I. Meeting called to order at 7:03 pm.
- II. Introductions & Announcements
Present: TPS Committee members Mark Brumer (Chair), Hassan Christian, Maura Dundon, Jeff Fletcher, Matthew Frutig and Shaun Lynch.
ANC 6A Commissioners Amber Gove, Brian Alcorn, Keya Chatterjee, and Robb Dooling
- III. Community Comment: none
- IV. Old Business: none
- V. New Business
 - A. Presentation from DDOT bike planner Greg Matlesky on potential bike lanes on segment of West Virginia Avenue NE in ANC 6A.
Mr. Matlesky discussed the history of the project, which is designed to make W. Virginia Ave. safer for users. The 6a stretch goes from 9th^h st to FL Ave NE. This portion is too wide and increases travel speed. He described the options for the one block where there is street parking: 1) 2 travel lanes and 2 protected bike lanes, 30 feet wide travel lane. This removes 11 RPP parking spaces; 2) Sharrows without protected bike lanes, retain parking spaces.

A Notice of Intent (NOI) will be issued this spring with a comment period. Implementation in summer/early fall 2021 which will coincide with repaving of West Virginia Avenue NE.

After some discussion by Committee members and Commissioners, DDOT agreed to return to the May 2021 TPS meeting with additional options.
 - B. Public Space Permit Application #10852880 for new un-enclosed sidewalk cafe at 1500 East Capitol Street NE.
Representatives and supporters of the permit applicant were present to discuss the application. Commissioner Alcorn expressed concern about the size of the patio and the hours. He also noted that he hoped there would be an extension of time because the ANC had not received the permit in time. Chander Jayaraman, representing the permit applicant, stated that there would be no music on the patio and that the hours on the patio would be shorter than stated. Mr. Jayaraman said that during the COVID pandemic, the patio needs to be bigger and the hours later to be economically sustainable. Seating will be under 50 during the COVID public health emergency.

Commissioner Alcorn asked about parking, restrooms, and trash. Joe Spinelli, representing the applicant, stated that the three (3) planned bathrooms were sufficient. Mr. Jayaraman stated that he believed most patrons would walk and not need parking. Another representative of the permit applicant stated that there will be a trash bin behind 1508 East Capitol Street and two smaller bins that will be

frequently emptied. There will be no overnight trash. Grease will be stored inside the establishment so it does not attract rodents. No trash would be stored on public space.

Ms. Dundon reviewed the list of conditions that the TPS Committee generally includes in recommendations to approve a public space permit. These include that the sidewalk café is only open during the hours agreed to the Settlement Agreement; that noise be contained to the extent possible; no music on the patio (live or otherwise); conditions on any fencing installed around the patio; furniture stored inside; no trash on public space; and all adjacent areas kept free of trash (tree boxes, sidewalk, gutters). Representatives for the applicant stated that they would agree to these conditions.

Community members expressed concern about noise from the trash trucks in the alley at night. Mr. Jayaraman stated they would stipulate to reduced trash collection hours. Other community members raised concerns about noise and late opening hours. A community member expressed concern about the displacement of the black business previously on the site (a barbershop). Additional community members spoke in favor of the restaurant and patio.

Commissioner Dooling moved that the matter be tabled until the May 2021 TPS meeting in light of the pending Alcoholic Beverage Licensing Committee meeting. Committee member Mr. Frutig seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

- C. Discussion of potential resolution or letter to DDOT and interested parties supporting dedicated parking for HIPS on H Street NE.
Chelsea Ricker represented HIPS, a nonprofit organization on H Street NE, to request parking for the HIPS outreach van. HIPS provides overnight harm reduction services to DC's vulnerable populations. HIPS operates a van to conduct the outreach, which includes providing water, naloxone, and syringe exchange. HIPS is one of the few service providers to continue to register new clients during the COVID pandemic. Mobile visits using the van are especially important during this period. They have been using the alley for pick-up/drop-off of volunteers and supplies during the evening and morning, generally between 11:00 pm and 6:00 am. This location is becoming more problematic because alley is narrow and the van blocks it. Accordingly, HIPS requests a dedicated parking spot in front of their office. Ms. Ricker clarified that a pick-up/drop-off spot would not be sufficient because they would need to have exclusive access to the space at specific times.

After discussion, Commissioner Chatterjee moved that the TPS recommend that ANC send a letter to DDOT that express support for a dedicated parking part for HIPS from 11:00 pm - 6:00 am 7 days/week. Commissioner Dooling seconded the motion. Commissioner Gove offered a friendly amendment to add consideration of the space being a pick-up/drop-off zone during the day. Ms. Dundon seconded the amendment. The motion as amended passed unanimously.

- D. Discussion of Vision Zero budget decisions coming up at DC Council.

Commissioner Chatterjee discussed the Vision Zero budget at the DC Council. She stated that the ANC has until June to weigh in. A group of ANCs will be coming up with language that 6A may want to use. She did not have further updates.

- E. Review of outstanding ANC 6A requests to DDOT.
Commissioner Gove suggested following up every quarter on Traffic Safety Assessments (TSAs).

VI. Community Comment: None

VII. Meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm