

MINUTES
ANC 6A Transportation & Public Space Committee Meeting
Meeting Call-in Conference via WebEx^{SEP}
Monday, May 18, 2020

- I. Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm (with delays for establishing videoconference connections)

- II. Introductions:
Committee members in attendance: Chair Elizabeth Nelson, Marc Brumer, Maura Dundon, Jeff Fletcher, Caitlin Rogger
Commissioners in attendance: Brian Alcorn (6A08), Mike Soderman (6A03), Amber Gove (6A04)

- III. New Business
 - A. The Committee discussed a pilot program for closing select streets to non-resident/non-essential traffic to create additional safe space for outdoor activities. Andrew DeFrank from DDOT was present to discuss the matter. In April, ANC 6A sent a letter in support of street closures and a list of proposed closures to DDOT (listed below). The Committee discussed the proposal, including “rules of the road” to ensure social distancing, successful closures in other cities, whether to consider long-term solutions to design a public space environment to allow for healthy choices, specific routes, and coordinating routes with other ANCs. Mr. Defrank stated that DDOT had not made any decisions, and City Council has not passed related legislation as yet, but that he would keep ANC 6A apprised of developments. Community member Casey Auch spoke in favor of open streets and expressed her willingness to volunteer as a TPS committee member.

 - B. The Committee discussed adding sidewalk extensions to facilitate social distancing on blocks near essential businesses and creating additional space for safe outdoor seating near restaurants. H Street and Benning Road NE have been mentioned as possible locations. Mr. DeFrank stated that DDOT is extending sidewalks and focusing first on grocery stores and health care facilities and is also taking suggestions for other locations. Mr. Brumer asked whether there was a sense of how local businesses would react to a reduction in parking. There was also a discussion of how the sidewalk extensions might affect the services that deliver carryout from local restaurants - it might not be safe/feasible to have pick up zones and sidewalk extensions on the same blocks. Ms. Nelson suggested that the pickup zones might be moved to the perpendicular streets near the ends of the blocks. Ms. Gove suggested that DDOT reach out to the H Street NE business community and follow up on the outcome of the Pickup/Drop Off (PUDO) pilot project.

 - C. Committee discussed DDOT’s new authority over red light cameras, including that DDOT (not MPDC) now has authority to decide on placement. The Committee noted that a list of priority red light camera placement could come from the prior list of priority locations sent to DDOT, and any new identified by Commissioners with input from constituents.

Mr. Soderman made the motion: TPS recommends that ANC 6A send a letter to DDOT (now that automated traffic enforcement is in their purview) requesting that they consider a list of locations for speed and/or red light cameras. The motion was seconded by Mr. Fletcher and passed unanimously (8-0), including the three Commissioners present.

V. Meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm.

ANC 6A Suggested Closures

Route A:

- Unit-600 blocks 12th St NE
- 1200-1600 blocks of F NE
- 100 to 600 blocks of 16th NE
- 1300-1600 blocks of A NE
- Sidewalk to East Capitol [to avoid affecting traffic flow on North Carolina Ave NE]
- 1200 block East Capitol St.

Route B:

- 1000 block of K St NE [Note: this is a bus route]
- 600 to 900 blocks 11th St NE
- 1000 block of F St NE
- 600 to 900 blocks 10th St NE

Route C (includes areas outside of ANC6A):

- 200 to 1300 blocks of I St NE
- 700 to 900 blocks of 13th NE
- 200 to 1300 blocks G St NE
- 700 to 900 blocks of 2nd NE