

Minutes
ANC 6A Transportation & Public Space Committee Meeting
Monday, July 21, 2025 at 7:00 pm
Virtual Meeting via Zoom

Public Meeting – All are welcome

Community comment welcome; may be limited to two minutes to provide opportunity for all to speak. Community comment time will be opened after each New Business item.

- I. Call meeting to order.

- II. Introductions & Announcements.
 - a. Commissioners Present: Stephen Kolb, Amber Gove, Dave Wethington, Roberta Shapiro
 - b. Committee Members Present: Patrick Bloomstine, Caitlin Rogger, Jeff Fletcher, Mark Sussman
 - c. DDOT Representatives: Director Sharon Kershbaum, Keith Jones, Tyler Williams

- III. New Business - DDOT Director Sharon Kershbaum joined the committee to discuss H Street Transit Priority, Streetcar plans, sidewalk safety and accessibility and other transportation issues affecting the neighborhood.
 - a. H St Bus Lanes - Director Kershbaum informed us that other parts of the H St project (bus stops, mid-block crossings, the 14th st protected bike lane) will move forward. DDOT wants to conduct a new traffic study in light of the RFK development. And Keith Jones presented a new slide deck of the project.
 - i. Chair Bloomstine pointed out that the point of the project was to slow down cars that were crashing into buildings and hitting pedestrians while also improving public transit along the corridor. And any development at RFK would need a transit line to get people from Union Station to the site. He also pointed out the mayor has stated she wants H St bars to be part of the tailgate experience at RFK. Without reliable transit, that could lead to a lot of drunk driving through the neighborhood.
 - ii. Director Kershbaum responded that the lack of left turn lanes were a problem with the project. And that businesses, particularly Whole Foods complained about the project. Committee Member Sussman pointed out that left turns are among the least safe traffic maneuvers and the project removing them would have made the area safer. He continued that his child does not like to go to H St due to high traffic volumes and speeds.

And pointed out that the priority bus lane was the central part of the project.

- iii. Committee member Rogger stated that the change represents a waste of civic energy. The committee worked for about 18 months on this project, and bus lanes were central to the plan.
 - iv. Commissioner Shapiro asked if more can be done for pedestrian safety on this corridor. Commissioner Gove asked DDOT to explore other solutions to slow down cars and to install more speed cameras along the corridor.
 - v. Community members stated that backing off the dedicated bus lanes means a longer commute for all the bus riders on the route. Red paint is not a difficult thing to install and would not cost much or be permanent. They also pointed out that property owners are not the only people who live in the neighborhood and shouldn't count for more than others. They also asked how the city can say they're supporting transit and pedestrian safety when pulling back from projects like this.
 - vi. Neighbors also addressed the streetcar plans saying that they carry a lot more people than buses and are better for accessibility. There are also people who are more likely to ride rail and may not take a bus.
- b. 9th through 13th Street Improvements
- i. Chair Bloomstine pointed out that these have long been pain points for the committee.
 - ii. Committee member Sussman pointed out several issues with some of the one-way and two-way traffic with varying widths from block to block. And that the streets design work against each other rather than in tandem. He also pointed out that trucks have been a major issue.
 - iii. Director Kershbaum stated that they got a grant to pilot host areas for large trucks to drop off then have parcels delivered via ebike.
 - iv. Commissioner Shapiro asked about traffic calming in front of schools. Director Kershbaum said that SWS is part of the safe routes to school program.
 - v. Commissioner Gove asked DDOT to look at double threat crosswalks to make quick safety improvements.
- c. Sidewalk Safety
- i. Director Kershbaum informed us they working on stamped sidewalk pavers to work around requirements for brick sidewalks on the hill
 - ii. Committee members pointed out that brick sidewalks are unsafe and fall into disrepair easier.
 - iii. Scott Price stated that he was supportive of stamped sidewalks pilot but asked that it be piloted away from commercial areas.
- d. Lincoln Park
- i. Chair Bloomstine asked if DDOT has plans to introduce traffic calming around Lincoln Park. Director Kershbaum did not say yes. He continued that the multiple lane crossings required make it difficult for people to get to the park to recreate.

- ii. Committee member Sussman pointed to the deceptive danger of the streets surrounding Lincoln Park. He stated that while H St should be the transit corridor to get people from Union Station to RFK, Lincoln Park can be the epicenter of getting people from Union Station to RFK by bikes and scooters.
 - iii. Director Kershbaum agreed that this was something to consider with the coming Strategic Bike Plan.
- e. 14th-16th Streets on C St/NC Ave NE
 - i. Chair Bloomstine pointed out that one safety fix was implemented following the death of a pedestrian on this stretch late last year, but the committee asked for a host of safety improvements that have yet to be implemented. He also asked DDOT to complete the protected bike lanes gap along the north side of this corridor where the west bound lane is unprotected for two blocks.
 - ii. Committee member Sussman agreed that the gap in bike lane protection is stark compared to the rest of the corridor which is some of the best in the country.
- f. Other Community Input
 - i. Chair Bloomstine conveyed a community question about timing for a traffic study for RFK. COMmissioner Kershbaum did not know. She hopes to leverage existing money with DMPED. As of now, October is when that money would free up, and they want to move quickly.
 - ii. Committee member Sussman followed up with one final question about the vision zero hardening project at 13th/Constitution/Tennessee NE in front of Maury Elementary. The community received 90% design over six months ago, and we haven't heard anything since. Keith Jones at DDOT said they would check in and follow-up.
- g. Chair Bloomstine thanked Director Kershbaum and DDOT staff for joining the committee this evening to discuss all the issues.

IV. Additional community comment (time permitting). - None

V. Adjourn meeting.