

MINUTES
ANC 6A Transportation & Public Space Committee Meeting
Public Meeting via Zoom
Monday, September 19, 2022 at 7:00 pm

- I. Call meeting to order
Committee members present: Hassan Christian, Maura Dundon (Chair) Jeff Fletcher, Shaun Lynch, Caitlin Rogger
Commissioners present: Brian Alcorn, Robb Dooling, Amber Gove, Phil Toomajian

The Committee voted unanimously to move New Business item IVB to the beginning of the agenda due to time constraints of a community presenter.

- II. Introductions & Announcements

- III. Old Business

- A. Updates on C Street NE project and 1300 block of North Carolina Avenue NE (DDOT)
District Department of Transportation (DDOT) representatives provided an update on the C Street NE project. DDOT discussed that supply chain issues had slowed down progress. DDOT noted concerns about drainage at 14th Street and North Carolina/Constitution Avenues NE and stated that the issue was being prioritized by a drainage team. They are adding another double inlet drain to connect to the sewer at that location. In response to a question about curb cuts, DDOT stated that appropriate curb cuts would be installed, as per designs—but residents should note that both the crosswalks and cycle track are raised and therefore do not have curb cuts.

In response to a question about the street lights, DDOT stated that the street lights would be LEDs and that lighting intensity would be based on data about dark spots. Original lighting was 4000 lumens, but that was determined to be too bright, and the replacement lights will be 2700-3000 lumens. DDOT answered various questions in the Q&A.

DDOT stated that designs for the 1300 block of North Carolina Avenue NE are almost fully completed and DDOT will share the plans when completed. Current designs can be found at CStNE.com

Commissioner Gove noted that she could provide assistance to any community member who needs a handicapped parking spot in these areas.

- IV. New Business

- A. School Zone Parking Permit Applications - School Within School (SWS) at Goding and Capitol Hill Montessori (CHM).
DDOT presented on permit applications that DDOT has granted to School Within School at Goding under the School Parking Zone (SPZ) Program, which allows schools staff to receive permits to park in the area surrounding a school, provided that the school submit an application that includes current number of staff parking, available spots on campus, and a plan to reduce car use. (See <https://dcgov.app.box.com/v/school-parking-faqs> and <https://www.parkdc.com/pages/programs#schoolparking> for more information.)

DDOT reviews the application and approves a maximum number of permits each year that can be issued individually for a fee to teachers/staff. The maximum number of permits decreases by 10% each year to encourage use of alternate forms of transportation.

DDOT stated that SWS's application had been granted for a maximum of 41 permits this year, to be reduced by 10% each succeeding year. Several permits had already been issued under the application.

Commissioner Phil Toomajian stated that DDOT had not met its obligation and previous commitment to provide sufficient notice to the ANC prior to approving the SWS application and issuing permits under the application, given that permits were already being issued before the ANC had a chance to provide its view to DDOT. During the June 2022 ANC6A TPS Committee meeting, the Committee had invited DDOT to discuss this issue, and only in late August were ANC commissioners even informed of the SPZ plan for SWS. Commissioner Toomajian objected to the application being granted without the proper ANC notice and that 41 spaces is too many for the community to absorb. He also stated that the SWS principal told him that the actual number of parking spaces needed is only 32. The DDOT representative noted that the maximum number of permits could decrease.

Chair Maura Dundon stated that SWS representatives should have been at the TPS meeting to discuss the facts of their application and that it was unclear what DDOT's notice obligation was and, that in general, schools should come to the ANC meetings to discuss the facts and rationales for their applications. Commissioner Toomajian stated that DDOT had not provided the required notice for the ANC to provide its views to be accorded "great weight," and had not given the amount of notice that they had discussed in the prior TPS meeting where they presented the SPZ program, and that DDOT is the party that should be before the ANC primarily.

The Committee also discussed the Capitol Hill Montessori SMZ application. Commissioner Toomajian reiterated concerns about proper notice, and also stated that the permit radius should be limited to the ANC of the school rather than including a neighboring ANC that is more than a few blocks away, as is the case for CHM.

Commissioner Toomajian moved: *That ANC6A send a letter to DDOT expressing concern about need to provide ANCs with adequate opportunity to review and provide comment on school applications for street parking permits under the School Parking Zone program for SWS at Goding and other future applications and that ANC6A send a letter to DDOT requesting that signage for south side of G St. NE (adjacent to Sherwood Recreation Center), which is currently not RPP parking, be adjusted to permit holders of the School Parking Zone permits for School-Within-School to park there.* Commissioner Robb Dooling seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Commissioner Toomajian moved: *That ANC6A send a letter to DDOT requesting that the maximum number of permits permitted under the SPZ application granted for School-within-School at Goding be reduced by ½.* Commissioner Brian Alcorn seconded the motion. The motion failed, with TPS members Hassan Christian,

Dundon, Shaun Lynch and Caitlin Rogger and Commissioner Dooling voting no; and TPS member Fletcher, and Commissioners Alcorn and Toomajian voting yes.

Commissioner Toomajian moved: *That ANC6A send a letter to DDOT requesting that School Parking Zone permits cover a radius that does not extend to neighboring ANCs should any permit be issued to Capitol Hill Montessori or other schools that are more than a few blocks away from the adjacent ANC.* TPS member Lynch seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, with Commissioner Dooling abstaining.

- B. Open Streets Event on 8th Street NE/SE from M Street SE to Florida Avenue NE
Community member Mark Sussman presented his initiative to request that the city bring an Open Streets event to 8th Street in greater Capitol Hill from M Street SE to Florida Avenue NE in 2023. He stated that he mentioned the idea to a DDOT representative, who said that supporting resolutions from the ANCs would be helpful. This is an initial recommendation to DDOT for the event, not review of a specific DDOT plan. Specifics like the exact route, parking, traffic flow east-west, and emergency vehicle access would be discussed with DDOT later should DDOT decide to sponsor the event.

Mr. Sussman is also discussing the idea with ANC6B, which would be part of the Open Streets event. Mr. Sussman explained that he thinks 8th Street is a good location because of the businesses along the street which are supported during the Open Streets event. He stated that he did not believe security would be a bigger issue than for the H Street Festival and that DDOT coordinates rerouting buses.

Commissioner Dooling moved: *That ANC6A send a letter to DDOT in support of an Open Streets event on 8th Street from Florida Avenue NE to M Street SE.*
Committee member Lynch seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

- V. Additional Community Comment (time permitting): None
- VI. Adjourn meeting