Minutes

ANC 6A Transportation & Public Space Committee Meeting Tuesday, December 14, 2021, at 7:00 pm Virtual Meeting via Zoom

I. Call meeting to order: 7:05 pm

II. Introductions & Announcements.

Committee members present: Maura Dundon (Chair), Jeff Fletcher, Caitlin Rogger Commissioners present: Keya Chatterjee, Robb Dooling, Amber Gove, Mike Soderman

III. Old Business

A. Update on speed hump installation near Miner Elementary School. (TSI No. 21-00433855)
Andrew DeFrank, Community Engagement Specialist, District Department of Transportation (DDOT) stated that this matter has been referred to the Safe Routes to School team. There is no work order in yet.

B. Update on traffic calming at N.W. corner of Lincoln Park (11th Street/Massachusetts Avenue/East Capitol Street) (TSA# 21-00095472). Andrew DeFrank and Will Handsfield of DDOT discussed flexi-posts that have been installed on 11th Street between Massachusetts Avenue and East Capitol Street as a traffic-calming and safety measure. Commissioner Soderman stated that this is not a permanent fix. TPS Chair Maura Dundon observed some driver confusion with the new traffic pattern. Mr. DeFrank stated that drivers become accustomed to the pattern and that it was similar to other successful solutions DDOT has installed to "channelize" traffic. Chair Gove engaged the DDOT representatives about additional improvements, including enlarging the pedestrian islands and removing lanes of traffic. Mr. Handsfield stated that his team can remove lanes of traffic. Mr. DeFrank stated that larger projects (like the scale of Maryland Avenue) are more complicated "capital projects." He stated that there is no specific process to initiate a capital project but a resolution from the ANC and working with DC Councilmembers would be a possible step for the ANC. There was additional discussion about the role of the National Park Service (NPS) in a Lincoln Park project. NPS does not control the roadways and medians around Lincoln Park, according to Mr. DeFrank.

Mr. DeFrank also discussed DDOT's new TSI process. He stated that residents may now fill out 311 forms online and do not have to initiate TSIs using the old form. The 311 should be limited to a specific block or intersection. After the 311 is filed, DDOT reviews the issue. DDOT then replies to the resident about its determination (about 130 business days after the 311 is filed). The 311 is formally closed at that point (regardless of whether DDOT decides to take action or not.) If DDOT decides to take action involving parking or traffic control, it must then go through the Notice of Intent (NOI) process, which includes giving notice and opportunity to comment to the public and affected ANC. Other actions, such as speed humps, right and left turn hardening, can be taken by DDOT without an NOI. The 311 requests are all now tracked on the DDOT dashboard, at

https://dcgis.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=6ad1d55bdcb2460c9afb3b6e79ee061c&folderid=453ee9fa70854c898c9f5095096c702c.

There was discussion about the new system and ways to improve it for increased utility, such as automatic copies being sent to the ANC representative for the Single-Member District in which the 311 issue is located.

IV. New Business

A. Presentation on 8th St. NE bus lanes (Yohannes Eagle Bennehoff, Transportation Planner, DDOT)

Mr. Benehoff attended the meeting to discuss DDOT's plans to facilitate bus transportation on 8th Street NE (from Florida Avenue to East Capitol Street) as part of the DDOT Bus Priority Program. He clarified that DDOT is in the initial stages of project development and has not yet determined a design concept. Various options are under consideration, including dedicated bus lanes, bump-outs for boarding, "queue jumps" for busses to reduce congestion, and traffic signal priority for buses.

Mr. Benehoff presented a PowerPoint describing the project. He stated that DDOT is actively reaching out to neighbors along 8th Street NE and welcomes all input emailed to: buspriority@dc.gov. DDOT will return to present to the ANCs when they have a design concept.

B. Maryland Avenue Project - Removal of parking and bike lane on 1400 block of Maryland Avenue NE; joint punch-list letter with ANC 6C.

Will Handsfield (DDOT) was present to discuss the removal of the bike lane and resident parking on the 1400 block of Maryland Avenue NE. He stated that he will work with the ANC and residents to restore parking and offered to schedule a meeting with residents in January 2022.

Residents of the block commented on the need to restore parking for elderly and disabled residents. Commissioner Robb Dooling supported the need to restore the parking, which had been removed without notice.

TPS Chair Dundon stated that ANC 6C was not yet ready with the punch-list of items for the Maryland Avenue project, and that it would be added to a future agenda.

C. Traffic calming at 8th Street NE/Constitution Avenue NE/Massachusetts Avenue NE (TSI# 21-00515696)

This item was tabled because information about the TSI was not available.

D. Traffic calming at corner of 14th Street and Tennessee Avenue NE and at corner of E Street and Tennessee Avenue NE. TSI forthcoming.

This item was tabled because information about the TSI was not available.

V. Additional Community Comment

A resident commented that she is unable to get action on a request she submitted about no-parking signage around Miner Elementary School. Commissioner Amber Gove stated that school zone parking is overseen by the Department of Public Works (DPW) and she would assist the resident in contacting DPW.

VI. Adjourn meeting