

Minutes
ANC 6A Transportation & Public Space Committee Meeting
Monday, December 19, 2023 at 7:00 pm
Virtual Meeting via Zoom

- I. Meeting called to order at 7:02 pm.
- II. Introductions & Announcements.
Committee members present: Shaun Lynch (Co-Chair), Caitlin Rogger (Co-Chair), Jeff Fletcher, Paul Angelone
Commissioners present: None.
- III. Old Business.
 - A. DDOT update on the [Florida Avenue NE Streetscape Project](#). Mr. [Peyton Manning](#) (Florida Ave NE Streetscape Project Outreach Team) and Mr. [Nandlal Gevaria](#) (Project Manager) updated the committee and community on progress on the Florida Avenue NE Streetscape Project. The project is now 60% completed, specifically from 2nd Street NE to C Street NE, with landscaping planned for Spring and Fall 2024. Next up is sidewalk work from 7th Street NE to 9th Street NE. The team is currently trying to fix low pressure water issues with DC Water. Utilities work next year may make the roads even rougher. The project team is meeting with Washington Gas and contractors in January and February for work on 7th Street NE to 14th Street NE.
 - i. Co-Chair Lynch noted that Commissioners [Keya Chatterjee](#), [Christy Kwan](#) (6C01), and [Anna Roblin](#) (5D03) would still like to know the status of the midblock crosswalk on Florida Avenue NE between 7th Street NE and M Street NE. Pedestrians cross Florida Avenue to and from that the 90/92 bus stop on the Gallaudet side of the street. Is it still possible to get that back into the plan? Commissioner Roblin later added that her constituents often use that crossing to get to the M Street NE entrance of the NoMa/Gallaudet Metro Station. Mr. Gevaria responded that he discussed it with DDOT and asked them to re-open the study. He is hoping to hear back in mid-Jan because the project team is already working in that area. Some bus service had been paused during the construction of Florida Ave. Mr. Gevaria was unsure which bus (stops) had been halted and agreed to talk to WMATA and report back.
 - ii. Community Member Patrick Bloomstine asked if there are plans to extend protected pedestrian and biking facilities during the construction. Mr. Gevaria responded that the protected bike lanes that have been installed from 2nd to 6th Street will eventually make their way all the way up to H Street. Currently DDOT has plastic jersey barriers on their construction stretch, and the barriers are moved into each area as construction progresses down the street. Areas where Washington Gas is working on will have different protocols.
- IV. New Business.
 - A. Safety concerns with the existing design and approved Florida Avenue NE Streetscape Project design at the intersections of Florida Avenue NE/12th Street NE/K Street NE, and Montello Avenue NE. Joal Mendonsa, ANC 6A Economic Development & Zoning Committee member and resident of 6A01 presented concerns with this intersection and recommendations for DDOT to modify the existing and planned traffic pattern. This intersection is two separate intersections

of three wide roads. In addition to the persistent pedestrian safety issues, carjackings and other crime, often with getaway vehicles posted nearby, occur frequently along this section of 12th Street NE. Recommended solutions included: 1) extending the triangle park entirely across 12th Street NE to block traffic on Montello Avenue NE and the left-turn traffic from westbound Florida Avenue NE from accessing 12th Street NE; 2) extending the triangle park to block said traffic from proceeding south on 12th Street NE, but allowing access to westbound K Street NE; 3) extending the triangle park to only prevent northbound traffic on 12th Street NE from directly accessing Florida Avenue NE; and 4) restore the pedestrian island in K Street NE and convert 12th Street NE into a one-way southbound-only street with a contraflow bike lane. Mr. Mendonsa concluded the presentation stating, "All of these options would be a dramatic improvement over the status quo and offer a substantial improvement to the experience of people living nearby in terms of noise, pollution and, most importantly, safety, while generating very little inconvenience to vehicle traffic that still has many options for getting through the neighborhood. Co-Chair Shaun Lynch noted that all of the options have their pros and cons, particularly for neighbors living north of Florida Avenue NE. Commissioner Roblin (5D03) agreed that the intersection is not safe but has not heard from anyone in Trinidad about it.

- i. Community member Marka Peterson noted in the chat that, as another resident on 12th Street, she would also like to see changes. Cars speed down the street in both directions. She feels nervous when kids attempt to cross the road.
 - ii. Community member Patrick Bloomstine agreed in chat and would appreciate any physical barriers that made it safer to walk to the Cole Community Center, Trinidad Farmers Market, and Union Market.
 - iii. Mr. Gevaria agreed they have challenges with construction at this intersection. Traffic signals are going in during the winter. Sequences are already happening. If there is a redesign required, plans would have to be complete in the next 2-3 months because the team has to complete construction by October 2024. But if you can write to DDOT and ask for modifications, ask them to re-do the design in this particular location. Mr. [Anthony Dinkins](#) at DDOT is the best person to discuss traffic signals, but not road redesign. Traffic signals will require coordination, particularly because they have already been ordered and would need to be reprogrammed. [The first option discussed would require an entirely new signal and left turn lane at the intersection of Florida Avenue NE and 11th Street NE.] [Bethany Turner](#) at DDOT would be a good contact for the redesign.
 - iv. Co-Chair Lynch decided to delay voting on any resolution before commissioners have seen it. He acknowledged that there is not a lot of time to get changes in front of DDOT, but that we do need to get input from commissioners not present at this meeting.
 - v. Committee Member Paul Angelone stated that he used to live at Montello Avenue NE and Morse Street NE. He noted there are lots of cyclists who ride up 12th Street NE and up Montello Avenue NE, and suggested an option for any contraflow bike lane on 12th Street continue up Montello Avenue NE. Another community member, Lauren, supported this idea as well.
- B. Scott Price of [Capitol Hill Village](#) (CHV) presented the CHV Pedestrian Safety Program Sidewalk Safety Project, reviewing sidewalk safety data and goals for 2024 DDOT hearings. He noted that two thirds of CHV members in 2022 said sidewalk safety was a concern. He raised concern that DDOT has a goal to fix pothole complaints in 3 days, and they achieve that 84% of the time, but the goal

for sidewalk concerns is 9 months *and* they only achieve that 54% of the time. CHV established an email address, chvpedestriansafety@gmail.com, for people to send photos and addresses of sidewalk hazards for CHV to file for on behalf of residents. CHV filed 256 complaints from April through October 2023. He noted that the DC government has paid out \$1.9M for injuries sustained on sidewalks over two years. In 2022 Ward 6 had double the complaints about sidewalks as it did for potholes. CHV has the support of [Capitol Hill Restoration Society](#) for this effort. CHV has four goals for the 2024 DDOT hearings: 1) reduce DDOTs time to implement sidewalk repairs (from 270 to 90 days in FY25 and from 90 to 45 days in FY26); 2) increase DDOT budget for sidewalk repairs; 3) for DDOT to study methods that would reduce the number of sidewalk problems that need to be fixed; and 4) establish a DDOT program to monitor sidewalks like they do streets.

- i. Community Member Patrick Bloomstine asked if there are any plans to switch from brick to pavers? Co-Chair Lynch noted that there is no historical basis for the installation of brick sidewalks, and that converting to brick only began in 1933. Commissioner Shapiro is working on getting DDOT to convert sidewalk to concrete on Capitol Hill.
- ii. Co-Chair Lynch suggested to Mr. Price that DDOT's [Traffic Safety Input \(TSI\)](#) system should be able to be duplicated for sidewalk projects.

V. Community Comment. None.

VI. Meeting adjourned at 8:08 pm.