



GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2B

November 21, 2014

Matthew Brown
Director, District Department of Transportation
55 M Street, SE Suite 400
Washington, DC 20003
matthew.brown3@dc.gov

Re: Resolution to Evaluate Utility of Traffic Signals in Residential Dupont Circle

Dear Director Brown:

At its regular meeting on November 12, 2014, the Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission (“ANC 2B” or “Commission”) considered the above-referenced matter. With 7 of 8 of the Commissioners present, a quorum at a duly-noticed public meeting, the Commission approved the following motion by a vote of (7-0).

Whereas, the blocks along 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, and New Hampshire Avenues north of Massachusetts and Connecticut and south of Florida are all residential or neighborhood commercial areas with low-speed traffic;

Whereas, a Philadelphia study found that replacing signals with 4-way stop signs in similar areas reduced serious pedestrian casualties by 68%;

Whereas, particularly outside rush hours, the traffic volume at many of these intersections is low;

Whereas, a red light during low-demand periods can force a driver to wait a long time while there is no cross traffic, or encourage a driver to speed to make it through a light before it turns yellow or red;

Whereas, long red lights can encourage pedestrians to cross against the light rather than wait;

Whereas, stop signs allow drivers to proceed with only a minimum wait after stopping, and also allow pedestrians to cross without a long wait after stopping;

Whereas, areas of Georgetown, Capitol Hill, and elsewhere have replaced traffic signals with stop signs to smooth out the flow of motor vehicle, pedestrian, and bicycle traffic;

Whereas, even in busy intersections such as 19th and N, a stop sign functions well; and

Whereas, some signals in ANC 2B operate on a 60-second cycle, while in other cities such as Portland, the typical signal operates on a shorter cycle time, which also allows for shorter waits for both drivers and pedestrians.

Therefore be it RESOLVED that ANC 2B requests DDOT evaluate the traffic signals along 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, and New Hampshire Avenues north of Massachusetts and Connecticut and south of Florida (not at this time including at the intersections actually on Massachusetts, Connecticut, or Florida Avenues or on Dupont Circle), and

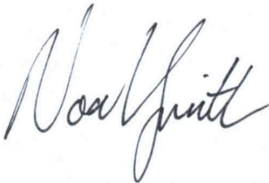
Be it FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2B requests DDOT consider whether some or all of these signals could be replaced with 4-way stop signs or another traffic calming strategy.

ANC2B requests that DDOT communicate findings of the evaluation with the ANC and discuss options prior to implementing a signal change.

Commissioners Noah Smith (noah.smith@dupontcircleanc.net) and Mike Silverstein (mike.silverstein@dupontcircleanc.net) are the representatives in this matter.

ON BEHALF OF THE COMMISSION.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Noah Smith". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "N".

Noah Smith
Chairman

Cc:

wasim.raja@dc.gov, william.mcguirk@dc.gov, james.cheeks@dc.gov