



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

September 10, 2018

Mr. Jeff Marootian
Director
District Department of Transportation
55 M Street SE, Suite 400
Washington, DC 20003
jeff.marootian@dc.gov

RE: The District Department of Transportation's Efforts to Improve Bicyclist Safety on the 1900 Block of M Street NW

Dear Director Marootian:

At its regular meeting on August 8, 2018, the Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission ("ANC 2B" or "Commission") considered the above-referenced matter. With 6 of 8 Commissioners in attendance, a quorum at a duly-noticed public meeting, the Commission approved the following resolution by a vote of (6-0-0):

WHEREAS, bicyclist Jeffrey Hammond Long died on July 8th, 2018 as a result of injuries suffered a day earlier when he was struck by a delivery truck while riding in the protected cycle track on M Street at New Hampshire Avenue NW,

WHEREAS, Jeffrey Hammond Long's death was caused by the driver making a right turn – a so-called right hook – apparently not seeing the bicyclist,

WHEREAS, a similar dangerous situation existed for weeks less than two blocks away, where a FedEx truck parked illegally in a No Parking zone just before a curb cut into a parking lot across from 1916 M Street NW, making it impossible for cars turning into the parking lot to see westbound bicyclists in the cycle track, leading to many near collisions,

WHEREAS, the same delivery van, with DC License Plate C-75986, was parked illegally in the same spot for up to an hour each day, day after day after day, creating a true and actual safety hazard, despite regular ticketing by the Department of Public Works (DPW),

WHEREAS, a constituent's calls to FedEx's local operations headquarters were met with empty promises that the company would look into the matter,

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) and District Department of Transportation's (DDOT) requests that the van not park in that illegal and dangerous spot were also in vain, and

WHEREAS, an ANC Commissioner's call to FedEx's government relations office in DC was met with an empty promise of a call-back that never materialized, but the next day, there was an identical FedEx van parked in the same illegal spot, however it had a different license plate,

WHEREAS, it appeared that FedEx had made a decision that the \$30 tickets received for illegal parking were simply the cost of doing business, as that is less than the cost of shipping a single 1-pound package from DC to New York with two day delivery, and this FedEx policy therefore places the value of DC bicyclists' lives and safety at \$30,

WHEREAS, a constituent and an ANC Commissioner were making a video on July 31st, 2018, highlighting the safety issues, when – only three minutes after they arrived – a right-hook crash was narrowly averted and they called both MPD and DDOT, and

WHEREAS, a DDOT work truck arrived promptly, waited for the FedEx van to leave and, once it did, immediately installed flex posts to prevent any illegal parking that would block the sightlines of cars turning into the parking lot from seeing bicyclists on the protected bike path.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2B salutes the District Department of Transportation and Director Jeff Marootian for their prompt and decisive action in this matter, as well as their removal of the parking spaces directly adjacent to the spot where Jeffrey Hammond Long was killed, actions that will unquestionably enhance the safety of bicyclists using M Street NW.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2B expresses its profound disappointment and anger at FedEx for the company's complete disregard for the safety and well-being of bicyclists, blatantly creating a deadly hazard less than two blocks from where a bicyclist was killed less than a month earlier.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2B urges the Government of the District of Columbia and its agencies and our neighbors to use a delivery service that values the lives of bicyclists as greater than the cost of a \$30 parking ticket.

Commissioners Mike Silverstein (2B06@anc.dc.gov), Randy Downs (2B05@anc.dc.gov), and Daniel Warwick (2B02@anc.dc.gov) are the Commission's representatives in this matter.

ON BEHALF OF THE COMMISSION.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Daniel Warwick". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'D'.

Daniel Warwick
Chair