

## GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

## **Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2B**

July 20, 2021

Mr. Soumya Dey Associate Director, Traffic Operations and Safety Division District Department of Transportation 250 M Street SE Washington, DC 20003 soumya.dey@dc.gov

RE: Proposed Closure of the Slip Lanes at the Intersection of 16th Street and U Street NW

Dear Mr. Dey:

At its regular meeting on July 14, 2021, the Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission ("ANC 2B" or "Commission") considered the above-referenced matter. With 9 of 9 Commissioners in attendance, a quorum at a duly-noticed public meeting, the Commission approved the following resolution by a vote of (9-0-0):

WHEREAS, the intersection of 16th Street, U Street, and New Hampshire Avenue NW is an intersection of great significance on the border of ANC 2B, ANC 1B, and ANC 1C serving high volumes of transit riders, pedestrians, cyclists, and motor vehicles,

WHEREAS, there are concerns about the dangerous conditions at this intersection due to the convergence of three major arterial streets and the diagonal nature of New Hampshire Avenue NW, which creates dangerous turning conditions,

WHEREAS, the unsignalized turn lanes, also known as slip lanes, from eastbound U Street to New Hampshire Avenue NW southbound and from westbound U Street to New Hampshire Avenue NW northbound are of particular concern as they create conditions where vehicles can turn without slowing down or stopping and increase the potential for pedestrians to come into direct conflict with vehicles,

WHEREAS, the dangerous conditions at this intersection were sadly proven on June 18th, 2021 when a pedestrian was struck during a hit and run car crash and sent to the hospital in critical condition,

WHEREAS, Open Data DC states that since 2015, there have been 233 crashes within a one block radius of this intersection,

WHEREAS, the incoming 16th Street NW express bus lanes will only add more pedestrians attempting to access bus stops at this intersection, and

WHEREAS, ANC 1B formally submitted a Traffic Safety Assessment to the District Department of Transportation in June of 2021.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2B strongly supports ANC 1B's request for a Traffic Safety Assessment.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2B formally and urgently requests that the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) conducts the comprehensive traffic safety assessment of the intersection of 16th Street, U Street, and New Hampshire Avenue NW, especially focusing on the conditions associated with the "slip lane" configuration as soon as can be scheduled and within the 120 day review period.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2B requests a public meeting with representatives of DDOT, ANC 1B, ANC 1C, and community stakeholders to discuss improvements to this important intersection.

Commissioners Mo Pasternak (<u>2B04@anc.dc.gov</u>) and Matthew Holden (<u>2B08@anc.dc.gov</u>) are the Commission's representatives in this matter.

ON BEHALF OF THE COMMISSION.

the Hold

Sincerely,

Matthew Holden

Chair