



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

January 17, 2022

Mr. Everett Lott
Director
District Department of Transportation
250 M Street SE
Washington, DC 20003
Everett.Lott@dc.gov

RE: Streetscape Improvements on U Street Between 14th Street and 18th Street NW

Dear Director Lott,

At its regular meeting on January 12, 2022, 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, DC’s FY 2022 budget contains \$1.7 million for “streetscape improvements” on U Street between 14th Street and 18th Street NW,

WHEREAS, this stretch of U Street NW has three particularly dangerous, highly trafficked intersections, including at 14th Street NW, 16th Street NW, and 18th Street NW, with pedestrian, cyclist, and vehicle conflicts creating dangerous conditions for all road users, including from red-light running, high vehicle speeds, and dangerous lane-shifting maneuvers,

WHEREAS, very narrow sidewalks create mobility challenges for pedestrians and other sidewalk users, particularly between 17th Street and 18th Street NW,

WHEREAS, the presence of residential trashcans on the sidewalk further exacerbates the challenges that sidewalk users face,

WHEREAS, there is a shortage of bicycle infrastructure such as bike lanes; Capital Bikeshare stations, aside from the stations at the Reeves Center and at 17th Street and T Street NW; and bicycle and scooter parking facilities,

WHEREAS, inadequate street lighting contributes to safety concerns,

WHEREAS, there is already competition for on-street parking, and plans for the Reeves Center redevelopment may not include replacement public underground parking, which is important for small, locally-owned businesses along the corridor,

WHEREAS, Metrobuses experience delays caused by ride-share drop-offs and pick-ups, commercial loading, and illegal U-turns, and the DC Circulator is scheduled to begin service along the corridor soon, and

WHEREAS, recent experience has demonstrated the value of genuine public engagement by the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) on proposed street improvements and the neighborhood residents' interest in being informed and offering input to the nature and timing of DDOT's plans.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2B invites DDOT to publish as soon as possible its schedule and process for public engagement with the residents of ANC 2B regarding these streetscape improvements, and how it plans to engage residents in neighboring ANC 1B and ANC 1C as well, including the holding of public meetings either virtually or in person to examine options.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2B strongly urges DDOT to base its design and public engagement on a quantified assessment of current traffic conditions; a review of current modal split, including bus, car, van, and bicycle; and examination of pedestrian traffic patterns and safety in the corridor

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2B asks DDOT to consider altering the number of general travel lanes along the corridor and widening the sidewalks.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2B asks DDOT to work with the Department of Public Works (DPW) and DC Health's Rodent and Vector Control Division on a better system for trashcan placement.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2B asks DDOT to review lane markings and traffic signal timing to improve safety along the corridor.

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

ON BEHALF OF THE COMMISSION.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Matthew Holden". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Matthew Holden
Chair