



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

February 15, 2022

Councilmember Mary Cheh
Chair, Committee on Transportation and the Environment
Council of the District of Columbia
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Suite 108
Washington, DC 20004
mcheh@dccouncil.us

RE: Pedestrian Safety

Dear Councilmember Cheh:

At its regular meeting on February 9, 2022, the Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission (“ANC 2B” or “Commission”) considered the above-referenced matter. With 8 of 9 Commissioners in attendance, a quorum at a duly-noticed public meeting, the Commission approved the following resolution by a vote of (8-0-0):

WHEREAS, 2021 has been DC’s deadliest year in the past decade for traffic fatalities,

WHEREAS, half of the forty fatalities have involved pedestrians or bicyclists,

WHEREAS, in addition to these fatalities over 4,000 people have been injured in traffic accidents, including pedestrians and bicyclists,

WHEREAS, one of those injured, four-year-old Nathan Ballard-Means, is a resident of ANC 2B, struck in a crosswalk by a driver failing to observe posted stop signs,

WHEREAS, Washington, DC pledged to end traffic fatalities by 2024 under Vision Zero,

WHEREAS, only one year, 2019, has seen a decrease in fatalities since this initiative was announced,

WHEREAS, a 2020 Safe Routes to School plan for Ross Elementary School found that the adjoining streets are hazardous to pedestrians,

WHEREAS, the recommendations in that plan are now pending before the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) for immediate implementation,

WHEREAS, the DC Council has introduced two bills to address pedestrian safety and to make school zones safer: DC Council Bill B24-0566 – the “Walk Without Worry Amendment Act of 2021” and DC Council Bill B24-0565 – the “Safe Routes to School Expansion Regulation Amendment Act of 2021,”

WHEREAS, it is the intent of these two measures to standardize the installation of raised crosswalks and to expand school zones and safety measures, including enforcement, and

WHEREAS, these bills are one part of a larger effort to ensure improved DDOT planning, design, and implementation of roadway improvements in order to make DC’s streets safer for all road users.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2B welcomes the March 14, 2022 scheduled hearing on these bills by the DC Council’s Committee on Transportation and the Environment, and urges the DC Council’s careful consideration, including additional modifications in order to strengthen the effectiveness, swift passage, and ongoing oversight of the implementation of these two important and timely pieces of legislation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2B encourages the DC Council to review existing progress on both Safe Routes to School interventions and Vision Zero implementation as part of upcoming agency oversight hearings.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2B encourages the DC Council to address persistent concerns about DDOT’s performance, including the DC Auditor’s report on how DDOT gives “great weight” to ANC concerns and input to notices of intent (NOIs).

Commissioners Meg Roggensack (2B01@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