



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

April 20, 2009

Gabe Klein, Director  
DDOT  
Frank D. Reeves Municipal Center  
2000 14th Street NW, 6th Floor  
Washington, DC 20009

William Walker, Chairman  
WASA  
5000 Overlook Avenue, SW  
Washington, DC 20032

RE: 18th Street Reconstruction Project

Dear Mr. Klein, Mr. Walker, and DDOT and WASA representatives,

The Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC 2B) would like to thank you and your respective staffs for the tremendous amount of work they have put into the proposed 18th Street NW reconstruction project. We are particularly grateful to Dawit Muluneh and his team for their repeated efforts in communicating with the neighborhood about this important project.

At its April 7, 2009 public meeting, the Commission unanimously passed the following resolution:

**Whereas** The D.C. Water and Sewer Authority (WASA) is committed to eliminating the recurring problems of burst water mains on 18th Street NW between Massachusetts Ave NW and Florida Ave NW by replacing the existing, aging water main for this section of 18th St;

**Whereas** the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) is committed to reconstruct this section of 18th Street NW as a result of the need to replace the water main, including improved storm water catchment basins; new pedestrian safety features such as bulbouts and concrete surfacing for the pedestrian right-of-way on 18th Street sidewalks; full ADA access for pedestrians on the sidewalks along 18th Street and into businesses where the existing building threshold is only one to two steps above the current sidewalk grade;

improved street lighting; more efficient placement of traffic signals and street signage; bicycle racks; and standardized Victorian-type tree-box fencing;

**Whereas** DDOT has proposed to move the scheduling for this capital project up to 2009 in order to include it as one of the District's "shovel-ready" projects eligible for Federal economic stimulus funds under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, Pub. L. No. 111-5;

**Whereas** Dupont Circle ANC 2B has observed that the need to accelerate the approval of the project has left unresolved a number of specific items raised during the ANC and community meetings;

**Now therefore** Dupont Circle ANC 2B, on behalf of a grateful community, expresses its deep appreciation to WASA and DDOT for proposing the 18th St NW reconstruction project and for accelerating its construction schedule to a possible 2009 start;

**Moreover**, ANC 2B sincerely thanks DDOT and the design team for its multiple efforts to present the project at three public ANC meetings and at two separate community meetings in order to solicit community feedback on the improvements being proposed;

**Be it further resolved** that Dupont Circle ANC 2B wholeheartedly approves the proposed 18th St NW reconstruction project, as provided by DDOT on April 7, 2009 and attached to this resolution, subject to the following clarifications, modifications, or additions:

1. **Bulbouts:** ANC 2B considers the existing no-parking space at the corners of 18th St NW and the sidestreets as providing extremely important space in the mixed residential, special purpose and neighborhood commercial zones along 18th St for the ubiquitous UPS, FEDEX, and other delivery trucks to stand for their quick in-and-out deliveries through the workday and for fire trucks to park near fire hydrants at the corner without blocking 18th Street. On the other hand, ANC 2B recognizes that bulbouts can provide additional space to comply with ADA access regulations for sidewalks and can provide additional safety to pedestrians crossing busy streets when stepping out from parked cars, especially where there are no lights or stop signs. In order to achieve a balance among these competing interests and concerns, ANC 2B approves bulbouts for the following corners only:

a. For the non-commercial, 32-foot wide stretch of 18th Street between Massachusetts Ave NW and S Street NW, two bulbouts are supported, extending into 18th Street at the northwest and southwest corners of 18th Street NW and Riggs Place NW.

b. For the commercial, 44-foot wide stretch of 18th between S St NW and Florida Av NW, bulbouts are approved as set forth in the attached DDOT design documents, except

that a bulbout at the southeast corner of Willard and 18th Streets should be added to the design.

2. **Implementation:** Dupont Circle ANC 2B approves the project (as amended by this resolution) with the understanding that, at some later date in 2009, DDOT will return to a public meeting of ANC 2B to discuss and secure approval of the scheduling of the construction phases. ANC 2B also reserves final judgment on the design accessories—including trash cans, signage, and treebox fencing—for a future date.

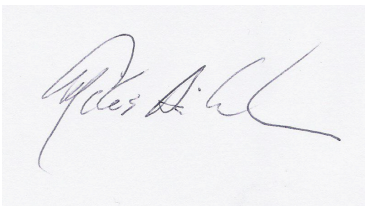
3. **S Street intersection:** Considering the amount of pedestrian traffic leading to and from the row of restaurants and businesses at the corner of S Street, the design of the southeast corner of S Street NW & 18th Street NW should be amended to lessen the width of the crosswalk as much as practicable while still maintaining a sufficient turning radius for vehicles turning from 18th Street northbound to S Street westbound.

4. **Catchment Basins:** ANC 2B is concerned that the currently-designed location of the two catchment basins on the west side of the intersection of 18th and R Streets NW means that there are no catchment basins trapping the storm water which may run east on R Street NW. ANC 2B requests that WASA and DDOT work together to redesign the plans for catching R Street storm water so as to best avoid flooding at the intersection of 18th and R Streets NW.

We look forward to working further with your agency representatives as this project moves forward.

ON BEHALF OF THE COMMISSION.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Mike Silverstein", is written over a light blue rectangular background.

Mike Silverstein  
Chairman

cc: Dawit Muluneh