



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

December 18, 2023

Ms. Sharon Kershbaum  
Interim Director  
District Department of Transportation  
250 M Street SE  
Washington, DC 20003  
[sharon.kershbaum@dc.gov](mailto:sharon.kershbaum@dc.gov)

Councilmember Brooke Pinto  
Chair, Committee on the Judiciary and Public Safety  
Council of the District of Columbia  
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Suite 106  
Washington, DC 20004  
[bpinto@dccouncil.gov](mailto:bpinto@dccouncil.gov)

Councilmember Charles Allen  
Chair, Committee on Transportation and the Environment  
Council of the District of Columbia  
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Suite 110  
Washington, DC 20004  
[callen@dccouncil.gov](mailto:callen@dccouncil.gov)

RE: Requesting that a Study to Upgrade the Q Street NW and R Street NW Bike Lanes to Protected Low-Stress Bike Lanes is Included in FY 2025

Dear Director Kershbaum, Councilmember Pinto, and Councilmember Allen,

At its regular meeting on December 13, 2023, the Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission (“ANC 2B” or “Commission”) considered the above-referenced matter. With 7 of 8 Commissioners in attendance, a quorum at a duly-noticed public meeting, the Commission approved the following resolution by a vote of (7-0-0):

WHEREAS, the painted bike lanes on Q Street NW and R Street NW are among the oldest in the District’s bike lane network, dating back 20 years,

WHEREAS, the painted Q Street NW and R Street NW bike lanes are frequently ignored by drivers, prone to frequent vehicular conflicts, discourage users of all confidence levels from using them, and do not conform to the District Department of Transportation’s (DDOT) current design and safety standards that require fully protected lanes on minor arterial streets,

WHEREAS, DDOT has no standing policies or practices to review existing bike lanes to ensure that they continue to be safe and consistent with current practices, nor to schedule necessary design upgrades or replacements, placing the burden for identifying and advocating for correction of deficiencies and failings of outdated bicycle infrastructure on residents and ANCs,

WHEREAS, in 2016 resident Michael Forster petitioned DDOT and Mayor Bowser to convert the Q Street NW and R Street NW bike lanes to a two-way protected facility connecting to the then-under construction Metropolitan Branch Trail,

WHEREAS, in 2022 a coalition of Ward 2 residents initiated a campaign asking DDOT to study the conditions of the Q Street NW and R Street NW bike lanes and propose solutions for upgrading them to a low-stress, protected facility,

WHEREAS, the Eckington Civic Association wrote a letter to then DDOT Director Everett Lott in May 2022, asking DDOT to improve the safety of the east-west Q Street NW and R Street NW bike lanes between the Metropolitan Branch Trail in Eckington and points to their neighborhood's west,

WHEREAS, in August 2022 ANC 2B passed a resolution supporting the low-stress campaign and requesting that DDOT conducts a timely study of, and present options for, upgrading the Q Street NW and R Street NW bike lanes to protected, low-stress lanes with a connection for the upgraded facility to the Metropolitan Branch Trail,

WHEREAS, ANC 2F and ANC 6E (now ANC 2G) subsequently passed resolutions supporting the study request,

WHEREAS, these votes underscore the need for prompt, dramatically improved safety for cyclists and other personal mobility users on the Q Street NW and R Street NW corridor,

WHEREAS, on December 14, 2022, members of the low-stress campaign and ANC 2B Mobility Committee (MC) Chair Jeffrey Rueckgauer met with Sandra Marks and her team at DDOT to discuss the request; the benefits to cyclists, pedestrians, and drivers; the contributions to Vision Zero; and the car trip reduction goals,

WHEREAS, the outcome of the December 14, 2022 meeting was positive and DDOT indicated that the study would likely be treated as a priority project,

WHEREAS, at the December 4, 2023 ANC 2B Mobility Committee (MC) meeting, after nearly a year of infrequent and non-committal responses regarding the status of the study, Michael Alvino, the Manager of DDOT's Active Transportation Branch, advised that DDOT was in the process of developing a new strategic plan for bicycle facilities around the District and that there are no resources provided in the current budget for this study, effectively canceling the request, and

WHEREAS, DDOT's response fits a long-established pattern of seemingly reaching agreement with stakeholders and ANCs regarding a request or plan, followed by "radio silence" for months or even years, then ultimately coming back with excuses for why it will not be done or a Notice of Intent (NOI) for a plan that is not what was asked for or agreed to and cannot be changed.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2B does not accept or excuse DDOT for once again failing to provide timely and forthright communication regarding this request.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2B requests that DDOT acknowledges the urgency and need to redesign and replace the Q Street NW and R Street NW bike lanes with a facility that meets the latest safety and design standards.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2B requests that DDOT takes appropriate actions for the study to commence in FY 2025.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2B requests that Councilmember Brooke Pinto, Councilmember Charles Allen, and the DC Council's Committee on Transportation and the Environment prioritizes the requested study and recommendations for a protected low-stress replacement for the Q Street and R Street NW bike lanes with connection to the Metropolitan Branch Trail as part of DDOT's FY 2025 budget oversight.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2B requests that Councilmember Brooke Pinto, Councilmember Charles Allen, and the DC Council's Committee on Transportation and the Environment, through the oversight process, assigns responsibility to DDOT and its eventual new Director to improve organizational practices and embrace full-circle/full-lifespan project planning that accounts for support after delivery and timely, responsive communication with stakeholders and the public regarding the status of requests and projects.

Commissioners Jeffrey Rueckgauer ([2B02@anc.dc.gov](mailto:2B02@anc.dc.gov)) and Meg Roggensack ([2B01@anc.dc.gov](mailto:2B01@anc.dc.gov)) are the Commission's representatives in this matter.

ON BEHALF OF THE COMMISSION.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Meg Roggensack", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Meg Roggensack  
Chair