

**ANC 6C Transportation and Public Space Committee**  
Kaiser Permanente Capitol Hill Medical Center  
700 2nd St. NE, Room G3-G4  
Thursday, March 2, 2017  
7:00 pm

REPORT

In Attendance:

Mark Kazmierczak, chair  
Gary Barbour  
Emily Diamond-Falk  
Heather Edelman  
Mark Eckenwiler  
Josh Linden

**1. Florida Ave. Multimodal Transportation Study**

DDOT has released 30% design plans for Florida Avenue, which include a cycletrack and sidewalk improvements.

Representative: None/TBD. [6C06]

The committee reviewed the plans for the 30% design of Florida Ave., which feature a two-way, protected cycletrack on the south side of Florida Ave. from 3rd St. NE to 9th St. NE and a reduced number of traffic lanes along the same portion. The committee was highly supportive of this overall design. The committee was disappointed there is no cycling infrastructure east of 9th Ave.

In addition to the cycletrack and lane reductions, items the committee specifically highlighted as appealing are the bus stop islands and the two-stage bike boxes for making left turns across Florida Ave. from the cycletrack at key intersection. The committee also identified the following features that are problematic and need further attention:

- The plan for a shared bike/pedestrian passage on the south sidewalk between 2nd and 3rd St. is a poor design for several reasons. The shared use by the two modes is bad in general, and the congestion at the bus stop as people wait for or load/unload from the bus is dangerous. The building on that block also creates a sharp, blind corner at 2nd St. This area needs more study.
- The curb at the NE corner of the intersection of West Virginia and 6th St. has a very large radius unnecessarily. This will allow drivers to take the turn at high speeds and will be a danger to pedestrians. This corner will become very heavily trafficked by pedestrians as Gallaudet redesigns it to make it a major entrance to the campus.
- A median on 6th St. north of Florida Ave. would be beneficial to provide a pedestrian refuge for crossing what is a very wide street.
- An additional bike box at West Virginia Ave. is needed for westbound cyclists traveling in the right lane to get onto the cycletrack that begins at that intersection at the south side of Florida Ave.

Motion: Recommend the ANC send a letter to DDOT supporting the overall proposed design that includes the cycletrack and two lanes of automobile traffic in each direction and highlighting the additional benefits and problematic areas noted above.

Vote: Approved, 6 - 0.

Meetings are open to the public and residents are encouraged to attend.

The full Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC 6C) usually meets on the second Wednesday of every month at 7:00 pm. and will vote on all committee recommendations. Non-voting items from this committee meeting may be omitted from the full ANC agenda. Commission meetings are held at the Heritage Foundation, 214 Massachusetts Avenue NE. For a complete ANC schedule and agenda, see <http://anc6c.org/>.

## 2. Small Business Parking Permit Act

Councilmember White has introduced legislation to allow small businesses to get up to 10 parking permits to allow employees to park in RPP zones.

Representative: None/TBD. [District-wide]

The proposed legislation would allow small businesses in the district with 10 or fewer employees to purchase RPP parking passes for their employees. The passes would work just like regular RPP stickers, in that they would be valid throughout the RPP zone, including on Resident Only signed blocks. The fee would be the same as what residents pay.

The committee strongly objected to the proposed legislation for several reasons:

- Residential areas already bear parking pressures from the patrons of nearby businesses
- The RPP program was designed to protect the parking interests of residents, and this proposal undercuts that intent
- The District should be encouraging use of public transportation, not driving
- There are not tight enough controls to prevent abuse, such as a business creating multiple LLCs to get more than the 10 maximum passes, or getting passes for employees that mostly telework
- Parking passes could be obtained for owners of the business who have no role in the daily operations of the business
- It would be difficult for DDOT or the DMV to validate the number of employees a business claims to have

Motion: Recommend the ANC write a letter to Brienne Nadeau, Brandon Todd, and Robert White (the sponsors of the bill) and Mary Che (chair of the transportation committee) strongly opposing the proposed legislation for the reasons outlined above.

## 3. Union Station Congestion

Commissioner Eckenwiler presented an observation of poor traffic flow and dangerous conditions due to congestion in the roads in front of Union Station. Because of the configuration of the lanes (as re-designed and re-built within the last couple years), drivers get caught in the wrong lane at decision points, block other vehicle and pedestrian traffic, and block sight lines. Results include dangerous care/pedestrian interactions and frequent traffic delays to passenger vehicles, tour buses, and the Circulator bus.

Motion: Recommend the ANC send a letter to DDOT pointing out the hazards and their effects and suggesting the need to begin discussions with all stakeholders to improve the situation, in light of the major significance of Union Station as a transportation hub for the city, region, and nation.

Vote: Approved, 6 - 0.

## 4. DDOT Oversight

Commissioner Eckenwiler requested authority to testify at the Council oversight hearing of DDOT on the premise of several unaddressed issues in the ANC, including:

- A promised loading zone on 5th St. as part of the Stuart Hobson Middle School renovations has not been installed

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- Continuing problems with parking signage in SMD 6C04

Commissioner Healy, who was in attendance, also requested testimony on the lack of oversight on utilities and their contractors when restoring streets and sidewalks, especially in historic districts.

Motion: Recommend the ANC authorize Commissioner Eckenwiler to testify on their behalf at the DDOT oversight hearing.

Vote: Approved, 6 - 0.

## **5. Maryland Ave Update**

Mr. Barbour Provide a brief update on the Maryland Ave redesign. The project is at 65% design, meaning this is the last opportunity to request hardscape changes without causing an increase in cost or delay in timeline. Most of the comments provided by ANC 6C have been addressed in the new design. The committee will share designs with the community and convene meetings if necessary.

No Motion

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