

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

REPORT

In Attendance:

Mark Kazmierczak, chair  
Gary Barbour  
Heather Edelman  
Josh Linden  
Comm. Chris Miller

**1. Uline Loading Zone (1140 3rd St. NE)**

Douglas Development, owner of the Uline building that REI is in, is proposing to create a loading zone for pick-up and drop-off on 3rd Street NE in front of the main entrance. The loading zone would be active between 7 am and 4 pm. The goal is to cut down on any potential congestion from Uber/taxi pickup and drop off at the building.

Representative: Paul Millstein, Douglas Development Corp. [6C06]

The committee was supportive of the idea, as it allows pick-up and drop off of office tenants to occur without disrupting traffic. The parking surrounding the loading zone is scheduled to be metered parking, so there is no loss of RPP parking spaces. The committee suggested that the loading zone start later so that residents who park there overnight have time to move their cars in the morning. Mr. Millstein and the committee agreed on a start time of 8:00 am. The committee also stated a desire to have a simple, consistent wording on the sign to prevent confusion; the committee offered to provide suggested text.

Motion: Recommend the ANC support the proposed loading zone, with the hours changed to 8:00 am – 4:00 pm. The committee will provide suggested text for the sign.

Vote: Approved, 5-0.

**2. New Zipcar Spaces (263 8th St. NE; 1225 5th St. NE)**

Car sharing provider Zipcar is looking to reserve four street parking spaces within ANC 6C for their cars. The spots are located at (1) the first two spaces at the intersection of 8th St NE and C St NE (approximate address: 263 8th St. NE); and (2) the first two spaces at the intersection of 5th St NE and Florida Ave NE (approximate address: 1225 5th St. NE).

Representative: Juliana Geller, Zipcar. [6C06, 6C03]

The committee in general was supportive of car sharing, but recommended Zipcar look more closely into finding alternative locations for these spots. While not against using streetside spots for car sharing, the committee felt that all efforts should be taken to avoid causing a loss of RPP parking spots. Two residents from the ANC were in attendance to also object to the loss of RPP spots.

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/>.

The committee had some suggestions for both locations:

- (1) For the 8<sup>th</sup> and C St. NE location, Mr. Barbour pointed out that a group of neighbors is currently in discussions with developers of the BridgePoint Hospital at 7<sup>th</sup> and Constitution to determine the desired parking signage surrounding this development. The committee felt this would be a good group for Zipcar to interface with so that car sharing spots can be appropriately placed without residents feeling a “loss” of RPP spaces.
- (2) For the 5<sup>th</sup> and Florida Ave. NE location, Mr. Kazmierczak identified a number of locations nearby that currently have no parking signage: immediately across the street (1 or two spaces), plus a large swath of perpendicular parking on 5<sup>th</sup> St. NE directly across Florida Ave. (in ANC 5D). Ms. Geller stated that Zipcar is looking to place spots there as well and has contacted ANC 5D. Another recommendation from the committee was to look on 4<sup>th</sup> St., as there will be a Trader Joe’s there by next year.

Ultimately, the committee decided to work directly with Zipcar in finding alternative locations for their parking spots. No motion was made.

### 3. LED Streetlights

The District Department of Transportation (DDOT) is planning to install cool-white LEDs that have a strong blue-wavelength component. The American Medical Association has warned that blue-rich LED street lights cause hazardous glare and are potentially harmful to human health because of their disruptive effect on circadian sleep cycles. To mitigate these potential problems, the AMA recommends that roadway lighting have "the lowest emission of blue light possible." ANCs 4B and 5B and the Palisades Citizens' Association have endorsed warm-white LED street lights that comply with the AMA's recommendations. In addition, more than 150 people from multiple wards have signed petitions expressing concern about blue-rich LEDs and calling for installation of warm-white LEDs.

Representative: Wayne Savage, D.C. Street Light Task Force. [District-wide]

Mr. Savage provided information on the objections of the Street Light Task Force to the cool white LED bulbs DDOT may use in its effort to upgrade streetlights. While no official plan to replace current bulbs has been made, DDOT will be releasing a Request for Proposals for the work, and the Task Force would like to include mention of LED bulb color temperature in the RFP. The Task Force is anticipating cool white LEDs will be used, as they are more efficient (by up to 15%) and due to the current plan to replace lamps on Pennsylvania Ave, with cool white LEDs.

The committee agreed that more attention needs to be paid to the effects of high-blue content LEDs, which may include increased glare and health effects. They were also concerned about the aesthetics, especially in historic districts. However, the committee was not prepared to endorse a specific color temperature as preferred, just to implore DDOT to study the issue more and provide evidence that there are not negative impacts of high-blue content LEDs.

Motion: Recommend the ANC send a letter to DDOT requesting they reconsider their policy on LED lights and acceptable color temperatures using all available evidence. Prior to installing high-blue content (4,000-5,000K) LEDs, they must show that there are no detrimental effects on health and safety of residents. DDOT should also consider the aesthetic implications of such LED lights, especially in historic districts.

Vote: Approved, 5-0.

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#### **4. NoMa Streetscape Guidelines (Final)**

NoMa BID is finalizing new streetscape guidelines. There are currently two conflicting guidelines so the goal is to create one consolidated document that can be used going forward. The plans focus on three major goals:

1. Supporting a robust tree canopy
2. Activating and enlivening public areas
3. Facilitating storm water collection and preventing excessive runoff

The guidelines were reviewed by this committee in November and again in January. NoMa BID is returning with their final version.

Representative: Galin Brooks, NoMa BID. [6C06]

Ms. Brooks presented the final streetscape guidelines, which reflected discussions we had had in the past. Called out were some of the main drivers for the new standards, namely a healthy tree canopy and creating linear parks in the wide rights-of-way in NoMa. The committee supported the guidelines. Ms. Brooks stated a letter of support was not needed.

No Motion.

#### **5. Adjourn**

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