



Government of the District of Columbia

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6C

P.O. Box 77876 Washington, D.C. 20013, (202) 547-7168

January 12, 2018

Stephen T. Ayers
Architect of the Capitol
SB-15, U.S. Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Mayor Muriel Bowser
Executive Office of the Mayor
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
John A. Wilson Building
Washington, DC 20004

Re: Louisiana Avenue protected bicycle route

Mr. Ayers and Mayor Bowser:

On January 10, 2018 at a duly noticed regularly scheduled monthly meeting of Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6C, with a quorum of five out of six commissioners and the public present, the above-mentioned matter came before ANC 6C.

The commissioners voted unanimously, 5:0:0, to support a request that the Architect of the Capitol and the Executive Office of the Mayor jointly convene a meeting with Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton, Councilmember Charles Allen, Senate Sergeant-at-Arms Frank Larkin and other stakeholders to resolve the prolonged impasse for the design and implementation of a protected bicycle facility on Louisiana Avenue between Columbus Circle and Pennsylvania Ave. NW to connect Union Station to the Capitol Building.

As detailed in our June 11, 2015 letter, a protected bicycle facility on Louisiana Ave. is critical to the regional bicycle network and necessary to provide safe, direct and low-stress passage to District residents, federal employees, and visitors from across our nation and abroad. In its present form, Louisiana Ave. is a dangerous corridor for vulnerable road users due to its wide travel lanes, which encourage speeding, long crossing distances, and exposed intersections. As such, we believe that the District's "Vision Zero" mission to eliminate all fatalities and serious injuries on District roadways by 2024, as well as the Architect's commitment to provide a safe environment and inspiring experiences for all who work and visit the Capitol, should compel the installation of a protected bicycle facility on Louisiana Ave before the end of 2018.

Now that 30 months have passed since our initial letter and acknowledgment, we fear that the public has not been accorded the safety and benefit of a Louisiana Ave. facility because it will require the relocation or removal of a handful of weekday parking spaces on the unit block of Louisiana Ave. NE. As noted in our June 2015 letter, we believe these spaces were introduced into the middle of the street without due regard for public safety or the historical integrity of the roadway. In terms of safety, we note that these makeshift spaces create uncertainty and risks for all roadway users because visibility is poor and vehicles are permitted to both drive forward or reverse out of these spaces into traffic. Given the abundance of surface and below-grade parking within the Capitol Complex, we hope that these few ill-advised spaces are not a cause for the prolonged delay. Regardless of the reason for the impasse, we ask that Federal and District officials work in close partnership to resolve all remaining issues so that the public may travel safely between Union Station and the Capitol before yet another year passes.

Thank you for giving great weight to recommendations of ANC 6C.

On behalf of ANC 6C,



Karen Wirt
ANC 6C chair