ANC 6C Transportation and Public Space Committee
Kaiser Permanente Capitol Hill Medical Center
700 2nd St. NE, Room G3-G4
Thursday, September 6, 2018
7:00 pm

REPORT

In attendance:
Mark Kazmierczak, chair
Emily Diamond-Falk
Christy Kwan
Comm. Mark Eckenwiler

1. 8th St. NE – NOI #18-122-TOA

DDOT has issued a notice of intent (NOI) to remove 40’ of resident permit parking and establish a 15-minute loading zone along southbound 8th Street NE.

DDOT recently completed a study concerning pedestrian safety at the intersection of 8th & D Streets, NE. This study found that No Parking zones on the corners of the south leg are being used for illegal parking. This behavior reduces the visibility of pedestrians both in and approaching the crosswalk. As a result, DDOT determined that curb bulb-outs will be installed with flexible post delineators to physically prevent this illegal parking. During the study, DDOT noted that patrons of local businesses were utilizing these No Parking zones. DDOT intends to establish this loading zone to provide an area for these activities to occur without impacting pedestrian safety at 8th & D Streets.

8th St. is the border between ANC 6C and ANC 6A.

Representative: None [6C03]

Commissioner Price (6C03) presented his thoughts on the issue and a request that any RPP parking lost to the intended loading zone be retained elsewhere in the area. Commissioner Eckenwiler pointed out that the block is zoned mixed-use commercial (MU-4) and therefore should not be eligible for RPP signage. For this reason he did not support a request to add RPP spots.

Motion: Recommend the ANC send a letter to DDOT accepting the change proposed in the NOI as long as additional RPP spaces are added on the same block to compensate the amount of spaces lost.
Vote: Passed, 3-1

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

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2. **508 L St. NE – Mailbox in public space | Application #314487**

An application to install a multi-unit mailbox for new condos.

Representative: Mia Grodsky [6C06]

At the site in question are six new condominiums, an upper and lower unit at each of three addresses (508, 510, 512). The applicant initially intended to have a mailbox for each unit at its front door, but the USPS stated they will only deliver to one door for multiple-unit buildings. The applicant is therefore requesting permission to install a multi-unit mailbox in the public parking in front of 508 L St. A similar mailbox is in front of a condo building on the 1100 block of 6th St. nearby. The mailbox will be set back from the sidewalk and will be 58” tall, 16” taller than the fence the builder installed around the public parking.

The applicant stated that they tried multiple times to contact the neighboring property owner for their approval, but received no response (it is currently vacant and being remodeled).

**Motion:** Recommend the ANC support the application.

**Vote:** Passed, 3-1.

3. **6-14 6th St., NE | Application #313618**

Capitol Hill Baptist Church is building rowhouses on their property at 6, 8, 10, 12, and 14 6th St. NE. The ANC 6C PZE committee supported the project with modifications in July 2017 (then described as 525 A St. NE). Public space elements include landscape and resizing a driveway.

Representative: Jeff Goins and Marta Skupinska, PGN Architects [6C01]

The applicants presented their public space plan for a series of row houses on 6th St. NE. The project has come before the ANC 6C PZE committee previously for historic review. Two main aspects were discussed.

First, the original plans included a curb cut for a driveway, which was previously not supported by HPO staff and the PZE committee. The applicants showed amended plans that have that curb cut closed.

Second, concern was raised by the amount of paving in the public space, due to the stairs leading to the garden levels of the houses. The applicant stated that the amount of space dedicated to the stairs and their approach is dictated by District regulations governing the allowed pitch of the stairwell. The design, however, appeared to be in conflict with public space guidelines that dictate minimal paving in the public parking. The applicant stated that the design follows what was recommended to them. Commissioner Eckenwiler wanted to hear what HPO staff said about the element in their report and suggested contacting them to find out.

**Motion:** Recommend the ANC support the application overall specifically with closure of both curb cuts (not mountable curbs—standard rectangular curbs), but that the ANC should consider what the HPO staff report says about the extent of the paving and lead walks.

**Vote:** Passed, 4-0

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4. DC Small Cell Program

The telecommunications industry will be deploying infrastructure that will bring 5th Generation (5G) technology to the area via wireless telecommunication antennae and equipment (small cell). The District has adopted an approach that has been implemented in several jurisdictions across the country that fit within the broad parameters established by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). This approach includes requiring every company enter into a Master License Agreement and obtain permits to deploy infrastructure that meets guidelines adopted by each community to reflect that community's priorities for its public space.

DDOT has released draft guidelines for the program and is requesting comment.

Representative: None

In discussion, the committee raised the following issues:

- Section 5.2.1.4. The requirement that standalone poles are not permitted if suitable existing poles are present is important to keep in order to limit the number of standalone poles.
- Section 5.3.4.1 and 5.3.4.2. State antennas on existing or standalone poles may not be greater than 31’ combined height or more than 10% above existing poles, whichever is GREATER but should be LESS. As written it would allow a 10’ antenna to be placed on a 20’ street light.
- Chart 2 – The number of cells allowed per block is excessive for larger blocks. With five carriers, up to 12 cells would be allowed on blocks over 750’.
- 6.1. Restricts cells from being within 20’ of historic landmarks. In addition, standalone poles should be prohibited when within a certain, greater distance of landmarks. Also, the term federal properties should be clarified, as there are very many federal properties in DC.
- Additional comments: The major thing missing from the guidelines is control over the number of cells on a large scale. It limits the number per block but there's nothing stopping providers from installing these on every block in the District. The guidelines should place some limits on a larger scale, and if the technology requires a massive number of cells it should be reconsidered.

**Motion**: Recommend the ANC send a letter to DDOT PSC relaying the above suggestions.

**Vote**: Passed, 4-0

5. Delaware Ave & M St NE | NOI #18-159-TOA

DDOT has issued a notice of intent (NOI) to prohibit Right-Turn on Red for the northbound approach of Delaware Ave at M St NE.

Sight distance is limited for motorists on the northbound approach of Delaware Ave at M St NE due to the railroad bridge over M St NE. With the addition of the two-way cycletrack on the south side of M St NE and increase in development in the neighborhood, pedestrian and bicycle activity have increased along M St NE and necessitated this proposed safety improvement.

Representative: TBD [6C06]
The committee was supportive of the proposed change but felt other changes that had been requested by the ANC previously but not included in this NOI were more important, including methods that prevent right turns from eastbound M St. onto Delaware Ave. (specifically making Delaware Ave. one-way northbound).

**Motion:** Recommend the ANC send a letter to DDOT supporting the change but requesting also the Delaware Ave. be made one-way northbound, and in the meantime immediately prohibit right turns from eastbound M St.

**Vote:** Passed, 4-0

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