December 12, 2018

Matthew Marcou  
Chair, Public Space Committee  
District Department of Transportation  
55 M Street, S.E.  
Washington, D.C. 20003

Re: Public Space Application #313139 (400 M St. NE)

Dear Mr. Marcou:

    On November 14, 2018, at a duly noticed, regularly scheduled monthly meeting of ANC 6C, with a quorum of 5 out of 6 commissioners and the public present, the Commission voted 4-1 to oppose this public space application.

    The applicant seeks permission to widen his 9’ driveway, as well to excavate a 10’-wide area in the public space north of the enlarged driveway. For multiple reasons, we do not believe that the requested relief is warranted.

    First, the existing driveway is wide enough to permit full access to the garage entrance facing onto 4th St. Widening the driveway would only encourage vehicular parking in the public space, which is generally prohibited by 18 DCMR 2405.3(a).

    Second, unlike some corner-lot applicants seeking outdoor recreation space not otherwise available, the applicant has a large fenced-in backyard. Moreover, the alley running behind the site would afford an option for parking if the rear yard, and not public space, were excavated. As a result, the request to excavate and occupy public space for these private uses cannot be justified in this case.

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

Sincerely,

Karen Wirt  
Chair, ANC 6C