ANC 6C Transportation and Public Space Committee
Kaiser Permanente Capitol Hill Medical Center
700 2nd St. NE, Room G3-G4
Thursday, March 7, 2019
7:00 pm

REPORT

In Attendance
Mark Kazmierczak, chair
Christy Kwan
Jay Adelstein
Elissa McDade
Comm. Mark Eckenwiler
Comm. Christine Healey

1. Café Fili – 701 2nd St. NE | Application #10712570

Application for an unenclosed sidewalk café.

Representative: Sidon Yohannes, Veritas Law [6C04]

The restaurant is at the corner of G and 2nd Streets, and the sidewalk café will be in two sections, fronting both streets. The applicant has already been through the ANC 6C ABL committee and has a signed settlement agreement. In the agreement, the hours for the sidewalk café will be with limited hours to 11pm Sunday-Thursday and midnight Friday and Saturday, with the contingency that upon three separate noise complaints, they will be reduced to 10pm/11pm. After hours, chairs and tables will be stacked and tied down.

The committee inquired about the amount of ADA-compliant seating and whether it satisfied the 10% requirement. The applicant responded that the ADA seating will be compliant, but the drawings are not currently accurate. Updated drawings will be submitted.

The committee supported the proposal, and pointed out that the café does not protrude into the walking paths on either G or 2nd St.

Motion: Recommend the ANC support the application, but to withhold the letter until the revised drawings with the appropriate ADA seating have been submitted. (Kazmierczak, Eckenwiler)

Vote: Passed, 6 – 0.

2. Verizon – 120 7th St. NE

Verizon owns a large building at 120 7th Street NE used for telecommunications equipment. On the street in front of the parking lot is signed "Tow Away, No Parking, Loading Zone, 8 am to 4 pm" but there is no driveway between this section of the street and the entrance to the building. Over the last several months, Verizon and/or its contractors have been driving trucks over the curb and unpaved public space to the parking area near the entrance to the building.

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

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A Verizon rep has been invited. The committee will discuss options to stop this behavior, which may include installing tree-box fencing or removal of the loading zone.

Representative: Monica Burgess, Mario Acosta-Velez; Verizon [6C01]

The committee discussed several possible solutions with the Verizon reps. Neighbors were also present to voice their concerns.

- Neighbors were supportive of keeping the loading zone in front of the property, otherwise trucks will double park and block traffic; their main concern was to stop the abuses of public space.
- Tree-box fencing was discussed, but were deemed imperfect, as trucks may still back into them and damage them. One recommendation was to not have them start at the curb, but a couple feet back. Verizon said they would look into installing tree-box fencing but could not commit to anything at this time. Verizon said they would return to the committee next month to discuss progress.
- The committee felt that bollards would be the most effective treatment, and that DDOT should be consulted to discuss the feasibility of having them installed.
- Bike racks were also suggested in addition to or in lieu of bollards or fencing.

Motion: Recommend the ANC send a letter to DDOT requesting personnel to attend next month to go over options for bollards and bike racks as options to block trucks from traversing public space. (Kazmierczak)

Vote: Passed, 6 – 0.

3. Folger Shakespeare Library - 201 E Capitol St SE

Public space plans for renovation and expansion of the library.

Representative: Melody Pace Fetske, Sarah Vonesh. [ANC 6B]

The presentation was a concept presentation, the first time it is before the public, in the first of many meetings. A letter about the project was distributed to neighbors, and the architect and team will be presenting to ANC 6B.

Broadly, the plan expands the library’s space below grade, relocates the main entrances to the newly created space, and ensures all entrances and the plinth in front of the library are accessible. Specific features of the plan:

- Will eliminate 1 curb cut (2nd street, north). The turnaround driveway will also be removed.
- Will remove an iron fence on 3rd street and open the garden to neighborhood.
- Magnolia tree will be moved south.
- Elm tree will be protected.
- East garden will become smaller.
- Exhibition spaces will be underneath the building.
- Public seating will be added
- Plan to include discrete lighting to not blind neighbors, but also illuminate the area.
- Bike racks on 2nd and 3rd, staff bike parking on south of the building. Over the years, have been encouraging reducing car parking.

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With the new design, the library hopes to maintain existing visitor traffic, not necessarily bringing new traffic. The programming will be the same, but they hope to increase daytime visitors, and will not have onsite parking. Pick-up and drop-off from taxis, etc. will occur as it does now, in designated no parking zones.

The committee was supported of the plan, and the intention to open up the space and make the public space available for public use. As a point of process, Commissioner Eckenwiler did not feel the ANC should provide written approval for concept designs.

**Motion:** Recommend the ANC send a letter to DDOT supporting the concept and the use of the public space which will improve the appearance of the building and improve accessibility of the building.

**Vote:** Passed, 5 – 0, 1 abstention.

### 4. Proposed Rulemaking – Proper Behavior in Bike Lanes

This proposed rulemaking amends Title 18 DCMR to improve bicycle and passenger safety and further pursue the District’s Vision Zero goal for transportation safety by: clarifying rules related to restricted and bicycle lanes; clarifying that a person may only stop or stand at certain locations at the direction of a police officer or traffic control device; and prohibiting parking but allow stopping and standing to unload passengers or freight at other specific locations. [https://dcregs.dc.gov/Common/DCR/Issues/IssueCategoryList.aspx?CategoryID=14&IssueID=750](https://dcregs.dc.gov/Common/DCR/Issues/IssueCategoryList.aspx?CategoryID=14&IssueID=750)

**Representative:** None.

The committee supported the spirit and content of the proposed rule, but identified certain edits that should be made to the text:

- The change to section 2405.2 should remove the phrase “when necessary to avoid conflict with other traffic, or”—the word “except” should remain.
- The prohibitions in the newly created section don’t have any penalties associated with them. Civil fines for moving infractions are in a separate schedule and need to be updated to refer to the appropriate sections of the new rule once adopted.

**Motion:** Recommend the ANC support the overall goals of the rulemaking, plus comment that the changes to 2405.2 need the above described adjustment for grammar, and point out the misalignment of fines with the new offenses. (Eckenwiler, Kazmierczak)

**Vote:** Passed, 6 – 0.

### 5. Committee News and Upcoming Items

Mr. Kazmierczak told the committee that neighbors along K St. NE have sent a petition to the Mayor, Councilmember Allen, and DDOT requesting a halt to the installation of bike lanes and other roadway improvements to K St. The committee noted that many of the signatures were from households on blocks that will not get bike lanes, and that it is likely many of the signees are unaware of all of the beneficial modifications of the road diet.
Motion: Recommend the ANC send a letter to the mayor reiterating the ANC’s position and highlighting the important safety improvements that are needed to make the corridor safe for everyone. The committee requests that all commissioners sign the letter. (Healey, Eckenwiler)

Vote: 6 – 0.

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