ANC 6C Transportation and Public Space Committee
Kaiser Permanente Capitol Hill Medical Center
700 2nd St. NE, Room G3-G4
Thursday, April 4, 2019
7:00 pm

REPORT

In Attendance:
Mark Kazmierczak, chair
Yancey Burns
Christy Kwan
Elissa McDade
Jay Adelstein
David Abernethy

1. Washington Gateway – 200 Florida Ave. NE | Application #326629

Public Space application for approved PUD for Phase II of the Washington Gateway mixed-use development. Improvements in public space at 200 Florida Ave NE include sidewalk improvements, standard DDOT streetscape improvements, 2 window wells, continuation of existing retaining wall, handrail, door swing, canopy projections, and curb replacement as needed for utility trenching.

Representative: Matthew Robinson, MRP Realty [ANC5D]

The plans were previously discussed with the TPS Committee in 2017 and have not changed. Public space improvements for Phase II are minimal. On New York Ave., the treatments will be different from what was done for Phase I. Because of underground utilities, trees cannot be planted so instead it will have smaller plants. The sidewalk created as part of Phase I is separated from the street by a planting area, while the sidewalk for Phase II will be along the road to align with the existing sidewalk on the bridge (sidewalk width is 9’).

Along the Metropolitan Branch Trail (MBT), the residential units will have doors with stoops and a front yard-like area with grass and trees (one tree per stoop). Much of the space used is on public property but is treated like public space. There will be no fences and the property will manage the space. There is approximately 15 ft. of space from the building face to the trail (but the distance varies and tapers toward the end of the property). During construction, the trail will be covered with overhead protection so that the only disruption to trail traffic will be when the covering is installed.

The committee was supportive of the public space plans presented. The committee also discussed some aspects of Phase III of the project (which is not included in the application). Phase III includes a lobby that connects trail users to New York Avenue.

Motion: Recommend the ANC support the application (Kazmierczak, Burns)
Vote: Passed 6 – 0.

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/.
2. 3rd and A St. NE

Notice of Intent published by DDOT to install an all-way stop control at the intersection of 3rd Street and A Street, NE

Representative: None [6C01]

Commissioner Adelstein pointed out that Commissioner Healey requested this stop sign and is supportive of it. The NOI does not indicate that any changes to parking will occur.

Motion: Recommend the ANC support the NOI (Kazmierczak, McDade)
Vote: Passed 6 – 0.

3. DDOT Budget Oversight

The committee will discuss items to include in testimony for the budget oversight hearing for DDOT, to be held on April 11.

Representative: None

Commissioner Dooling presented a draft written testimony that he plans to deliver at the hearing. It included:

- Request funding to support additional public space inspectors
- Recommend DDOT sufficiently staff, fund, and support activities surrounding the collection and public distribution of Vision Zero data
- Recommend DDOT set higher goals for increases in bike lanes installed and Capital Bikeshare ridership and provide the necessary resources
- Perform a bus rapid transit study for New York Avenue

The committee suggested the following additional items to include in testimony:

- Secure funding for improvements to 6th St NE from K Street to FL Ave NE. This was originally investigated along with the Florida Ave. Study but is not included in the project going forward. Needed improvements include conversion to one-way northbound and widened sidewalks
- More funding for bike lane installations so that they can be protected by default (or at least more frequently)
- Support existing studies including the New York Avenue Rails-to-Trails project (plus access to it across New York Ave. from Union Market) and the NoMa-Mount Vernon bicycle study (K St. NW bike lanes).
- Funding to create a park at West Virginia Ave. between K and 8th St. NE.

Motion: Recommend the ANC submit testimony including all points above with Commissioner Dooling to present in person (Kazmierczak, Burns)
Vote: Passed, 6 – 0.