October 11, 2019

Mr. Thomas J. Carroll III
Acting Architect of the Capitol
SB-15, U.S. Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Mayor Muriel Bowser
Executive Office of the Mayor
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20004

Re: Louisiana Avenue NE, Protected bicycle lane, Columbus Circle to Constitution Ave

On October 10, 2019, at a duly convened meeting, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6C voted unanimously, 6:0:0, to support a request that the Architect of the Capitol and the Executive Office of the Mayor provide an update on the status of the Louisiana Avenue cycle track project, which has remained in the planning stages since 2015.

As part of the update, we respectfully ask that the Architect of the Capitol clarify the purpose of the newly constructed surface parking lot on New Jersey Avenue and its impact, if any, on federal approval of the Louisiana Avenue cycle track project. In this regard, we note that parkland on New Jersey Avenue adjacent to Constitution Ave has been paved in order to add 50 new parking spaces dedicated to Senate personnel. Although we are disappointed to see the loss of this parkland and the addition of more surface parking, we are hopeful that this action will facilitate federal approval of the Louisiana Avenue cycle track design, which will require the removal of 37 center lane parking spaces on the unit block of Louisiana Avenue at Columbus Circle.

As detailed in our June 11, 2015 and January 12, 2018 letters, a protected bicycle facility on Louisiana Avenue is necessary to provide safe, direct and low-stress passage for District residents, federal employees, and visitors from across the country. Dangerous conditions on Louisiana Avenue and throughout the Capitol complex will persist until federal and District partners construct this important bicycle facility.
Thank you for giving great weight to the recommendations of ANC 6C.

cc: Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes-Norton
    Senate Sergeant-at-Arms Frank J. Larkin
    Ward 6 Councilmember Charles Allen
    Jeffrey Marootian, District Department of Transportation, Director
    Greg Billing, Washington Area Bicyclist Association, Executive Director

On behalf of ANC 6C,

Karen Wirt
ANC 6C chair