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

REPORT

Members in Attendance:
- Christy Kwan, chair
- Elissa McDade, vice chair
- David Abernethy
- Kay Elsasser
- Mark Kazmierczak

1. Community outreach from Revel

Revel is an all-electric shared moped service that recently began operations in DC. As residents begin to use this service, Revel is reaching out to answer any questions or concerns the community may have regarding parking and safety.

Representative: Yassin Khalid, Revel [6C]

Revel proactively reached out to ANC 6C to answer any questions from the community about its recent launch of a 4-month pilot of electric moped service in DC. Mr. Khalid, the Community Manager for DC, gave a background about Revel’s operations. The mopeds are categorized as motor vehicles with a license plate (therefore separate from the regulations for dockless scooters). The all-electric mopeds are programmed with a speed maximum of 30 mph and users need to be 21 years or older and have a safe driving record. Helmets and disposable hairnets are provided, with helmets disinfected every 2 days. The Revel Access Program provides a 40% discount to individuals who are eligible or actively participating in any local, state or federally administered assistance program. Revel also employs 30-40 people who receive salaries and benefits and operate out of a warehouse in Takoma. Employees will travel around the city to service the mopeds and to swap out the electric batteries.

The committee asked clarifying questions regarding moped parking. The mopeds are not allowed to operate or park on sidewalks or in bike lanes. Each moped has a GPS tracker, which ideally should restrict moped parking in lanes that have rush hour restrictions. Any issues can be reported directly to Revel via their app (if one is a user of the service), on their website, or by contacting (855) 690-9180 or support@gorevel.com. The general hotline is also available on a sticker on the dashboard of each moped. Mr. Khalid noted that 85% of concerns are remedied within 2 hours or less. People may also reach out to Mr. Khalid directly at (443) 752-6455, yassin.khalid@gorevel.com.

No motion.

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 7:00pm 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 Ave NE. For a complete ANC schedule and agenda, see www.anc6c.org.
2. Safety improvements at the 700 2nd St NE parking garage

Last month the sidewalks along 2nd Street NE (from F to H Streets NE) were striped to indicate the continuation of the Metropolitan Branch Trail. However, one person has experienced a collision while bicycling southbound along the new markings with a person driving a northbound vehicle that turned left to enter the parking garage for 700 2nd Street NE (located just south of the H Street bridge). The committee will review and discuss potential design improvements to prevent future crashes at this site.

Representative: Michael Alvino, DDOT [6C04]

This issue came to the committee due to an email from a community member who was a minor collision at this site and expressed the need for additional safety improvements. The committee and former committee chair Joe McCann reviewed and discussed the history of requested safety improvements at the entrance/exit to the parking garage for 700 2nd St NE. In December 2012, ANC 6C sent a letter to DDOT supporting improvements such as a speed hump, upgraded lighting, signage, and additional treatments such as flower pots and mirrors right at the edge of the garage. Despite support from the ANC and DDOT, the improvements were not fully implemented due to reluctance from the property owners.

DDOT Bicycle Program Specialist Michael Alvino provided additional ideas for improvements that DDOT could implement, such as the installation of “speed stars” which were piloted at Miner Elementary (link to video). Speed stars are round, raised rubber dots that are installed into the ground in a staggered line. At this site, they could be installed at the outer edge of the parking garage driveway to encourage drivers to slow down before entering or exiting the driveway.

The committee supported the idea of installing speed stars and found that the recommendations from 2012 are still relevant and needed today.

Motion: Recommend the ANC to resend the letter from December 2012 with the same recommendation of improvements, with updates noting that this site continues to be dangerous for people who walk and bike, and to include the recommendation for installing “speed stars.” (Kazmierczak/ Abernethy)

Vote: Passed, 5 – 0

3. Union Station Expansion and Burnham Place Projects

A community meeting was held on October 29, 2019 on the Union Station Expansion and Burnham Place projects. The committee will discuss feedback heard from the community at that meeting.

Representative: None [6C04]
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The committee members in attendance and Commissioners Healey and Courtney recapped the October 29, 2019 meeting and discussed the best way to move forward based on the community’s feedback. Discussion noted the eagerness of residents for information on these projects; however, many residents had a general concern of not knowing how to encourage additional community engagement for such a monumental and important project.

Motion: Recommend the ANC to send two letters: (1) To the Mayor and all Councilmembers and cc FRA and USRC noting that the Union Station Expansion and Burnham Place projects are a great opportunity for DC and the region as a whole; however, their leadership is needed to ensure that the voices of District residents are included; (2) To DDOT, USRC, National Capital Planning Commission, State Historic Preservation Office, DC Office of Planning, the Architect of the Capitol, Representative Eleanor Holmes Norton, USDOT, FRA, WMATA, Amtrak, Virginia Department of Rail & Public Transportation, and the Maryland Transit Administration noting the sentiments contained in the first letter, but adding that additional communication and inclusion into the process is needed. Both letters will attach the ANC 6C letters from May 2018 to the FRA, July 2018 to DDOT, and May 2019 to the FRA. (Kwan/Kazmierczak)

Vote: Passed, 5 – 0.

4. Petition for installation of speed humps on the 900 block of 7th St NE

Neighbors have completed and submitted a petition to DDOT’s Customer Service Clearinghouse for the installation of speed humps on the 900 block of 7th St NE (i.e., between Eye and K Streets NE) to address speeding from southbound drivers along 7th St NE.

Representative: Andrew Sackett, resident [6C05]

Mr. Sackett expressed the desires from residents on the 900 block of 7th St NE to slow down drivers speeding along 7th St NE, which is classified as a local road. There has been an uptick of traffic along 7th St because ride hailing and navigation apps that are directing drivers to use 7th St. In addition, neighbors have noticed that the traffic signal timing at 7th and K Streets, right at J.O. Wilson Elementary School, is short and that southbound drivers are speeding to make it through the light. The petition submitted by Mr. Sackett included all but two homes on the block.

The committee discussed DDOT’s recent work to add speed humps in the neighborhood. When asked, Mr. Sackett did not have an opinion on the type of speed humps to be installed and would be okay with DDOT making that determination based on their engineering expertise.

Motion: Recommend the ANC to write a letter to DDOT to support the petition. (Kwan/McDade)

Vote: Passed, 5 – 0.