

Report of the ANC6B Transportation Committee Meeting June 8, 2023

Commissioners Present: Matt LaFortune (chairing), David Sobelsohn, Frank D'Andrea, Kasie Durkit, Edward Ryder

Resident Members Present: Jakob Youngblood (6B01), Janice Kruger (6B03), Kirsten Oldenburg (6B04), Mike Litt (6B05), Susan Driano (6B06), Richard Cunningham (6B07), Jeffrey Menzer (6B08), Joshua Peacock (6B09)

ANC 6B Electric Vehicle Testimony

RM Cunningham presented draft testimony for ANC 6B based on prior discussions. This document was developed to be submitted for the record in the Council's upcoming hearing on EVs by the Committee on Transportation and the Environment. He noted that the biggest item is there is no single entity responsible for deploying EV infrastructure publicly. DC also needs to formalize and public guidance around how people use EV cables.

Commissioner LaFortune shared the testimony on screen and incorporated committee members' edits.

RM Litt shared a number of suggested edits to the testimony via email. He noted that his impression is that the DC Public Service Commission roadmap makes it a given that Pepco is responsible for EV charging.

RM Cunningham responded that this plan addresses point #4 in the testimony but that Pepco is the power company, point #1 in the draft testimony wants to drive ownership of who owns EV infrastructure (chargers), that rolls up into the Public Service Commission.

RM Kruger asked how this has been done in other cities. RM Cunningham responded that it depends on the political climate and approach of the city. Because DC is adapting existing policy, this simplifies the process.

RM Litt noted that he had not seen this in model legislation. RM Cunningham responded that DC does not currently have an entity in charge of EV charging infrastructure.

Commissioner LaFortune shared the output of a conversation that he, Commissioner Sobelsohn, and RM Kruger had with the Greater Washington Region Clean Cities Coalition: other localities are ahead of us in having clear responsibility.

RM Litt noted on point #2 of the testimony that, based on conversations he has had, the ANC should not specify the level of EV charging infrastructure installed at street lights and right of way infrastructure.

RM Cunningham agreed with removing this specificity. Based on his observation, the wire gauge for street lights would support L1 charging. Commissioner LaFortune agreed with taking a more general approach.

RM Litt raised an issue with point #3 in the testimony noting the impact of "regulation" on athome EV charging infrastructure. RM Cunningham suggested replacing this with "publish an approach".

RM Oldenburg suggested broadening this point to "helping residents set up EV charging at home" rather than a singular focus on wires laid across sidewalks.

RM Litt suggested that point #4 be replaced per prior conversation with a focus on improvements needed for the grid. He provided three options for this language. The committee incorporated this suggestion.

RM Litt noted that we believes the EV bill before the Council does not specify a requirement that "renovations" install EV chargers as suggested in point #6.

RM Cunningham responded that the concern here was that applying for a plumbing permit could possibly trigger tens of thousands of dollars in required work.

RM Litt noted that the bill refers to "substantial improvement".

RM Cunningham stated that he would not do anything to his house if it triggered the requirement to install expensive EV-ready infrastructure.

RM Litt suggested that point #6 clarify that "new and substantial improvement" language in the bill should avoid unnecessary burdens on homeowners.

Commissioner LaFortune made a motion to recommend this updated draft testimony, with any further changes agreed to via email by Monday, July 10th, to the full ANC Commission and place on the consent agenda at the monthly meeting on Tuesday, July 11th. Commissioner Durkit seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Raised Crosswalk Request at the Intersection of 13th Street and Massachusetts Ave SE Commissioner LaFortune shared a draft resolution supporting a TSI submission by a neighbor within Commissioner Jayaraman's SMD that requested a raised crosswalk at the western side of the intersection of 13th St. and Massachusetts Ave. SE.

RM Oldenburg asked whether the map included on the resolution should note other raised crosswalks in the area but ultimately recommended not to include.

Commissioner Sobelsohn noted that he missed part of the discussion due to a need to attend the ANC 6B ABC Committee meeting, which was scheduled simultaneously, and would abstain from the vote.

Commissioner LaFortune made a motion to recommend this draft resolution, with any further changes agreed to via email by Monday, July 10th, to the full ANC Commission and place on the consent agenda at the monthly meeting on Tuesday, July 11th. RM Cunningham seconded. The motion passed 11-0-1, with Commissioner Sobelsohn abstaining.

Prior to adjourning, Commissioner LaFortune noted that there would be no ANC meetings in August. Therefore, the next ANC 6B Transportation Committee meeting will be Wednesday, September 6th.