



**Report of the ANC6B Transportation Committee Meeting
May 8, 2024**

Commissioners Present: Matt LaFortune (chairing), Jerry Sroufe (6B02), David Sobelsohn (6B03), Kasie Durkit (6B05)

Resident Members Present: Jakob Youngblood (6B01), Janice Kruger (6B03), Kirsten Oldenburg (6B04), Brian Poochigian (6B06), Jeffrey Menzer (6B08), Joshua Peacock (6B09-Alt)

DDOT Presentation on 13th St/Independence Ave/Kentucky Ave SE Vision Zero Hardening (NOI-24-96-TESD) and 15th Street & Kentucky Avenue SE Vision Zero Hardening (NOI-24-105-TESD)

Noah Bell, DDOT Transportation Engineer, provided an update on two Vision Zero Hardening projects and responded to the committee's questions.

Commissioner Sroufe asked if there will be any flexiposts left in the revised plans. Mr. Bell said that a few will still be in between the bike and travel lanes.

Commissioner Sobelsohn asked Commissioner LaFortune about other neighbor feedback received on these projects through a community meeting and emails. Commissioner LaFortune shared neighbors' concerns about emergency vehicles travelling through the narrow corridors, questions about green space, and request for a speed hump on 13th St. Mr. Bell responded that DDOT will coordinate with FEMS to accommodate emergency vehicles, that green space is included in the plans, and that he will share the speed hump request with the project team. Kelly Jeong-Olson, also from DDOT, added that they can do data collection on whether 13th St. SE north of Independence still should be identified as a collector road to determine if it qualifies for a speed hump.

RM Oldenburg asked about how the grass will be installed and maintained. Mr. Bell responded that he is not sure whether it is seed or sod but that maintenance is a major concern. DPR will maintain like the current grass median and there will be some concrete as well as some gutters.

RM Poochigian noted that bikes get lost behind the island on the northeast side of the intersection on 13th St. SE. Mr. Bell responded that he will share that with the team.

RM Youngblood asked whether the bike lane could be placed behind cars on the curb. Mr. Bell shared that DDOT has heard other concerns about 13th St. SE and other DDOT projects are looking at solutions.

Commissioner LaFortune asked for a clarification on parking spots being removed. Mr. Bell responded that 2-3 spaces have been deemed non-compliant as part of standard DDOT safety reviews.

Brianne Eby shared that drivers cut into the intersection currently at 15th and Kentucky through the bike lane. She would like to see this remedied. Additionally, pedestrians currently cross from the northwest corner to the southwest corner of the intersection where there is not a crosswalk. Mr. Bell responded that DDOT will look into a potential north side crosswalk but would want it to be a shorter distance.

Daniel Garry noted cars blocking the bike lane north on 15th St. SE.

Corey Holman reinforced Ms. Eby's comment about a pedestrian desire line to cross Kentucky northwest of the intersection.

Commissioner Sroufe asked whether DDOT takes one-way streets into consideration for parking. Mr. Bell responded that one-way streets have less stringent parking requirements.

In response to two neighbor questions posted in the chat, Mr. Bell shared that someone at DDOT will coordinate with FEMS to review plans and meet turning radius requirements and that DDOT is still planning to conduct Vision Zero Hardening at Potomac & Kentucky south of the 15th and Kentucky project.

Commissioner LaFortune moved to recommend that the ANC write a letter to DDOT sharing comments on the two VZH projects, to be drafted by Commissioner LaFortune and placed on the consent agenda. Commissioner Sobelsohn seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Request to Expand eBike Authorized Vendor List

RM Kruger shared that she wrote to Councilmember Charles Allen on behalf of BikeWerks, a local online bike shop, since the company is not currently eligible to participate in the eBike voucher program.

Commissioner LaFortune said that CM Allen noted the original legislation was written to prevent national retailers from participating which is why a brick and mortar requirement was included.

Commissioner Sobelsohn moved to recommend that the ANC write a letter to Councilmember Allen urging the Council to explore other ways to include local retailers like BikeWerks in the eBike voucher program without expanding the program to national companies, to be drafted by Commissioner LaFortune and placed on the consent agenda at the next monthly ANC meeting. Commissioner LaFortune seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Traffic Signal at 7th and Pennsylvania Ave SE

Commissioner Sobelsohn shared neighbors' concerns about the traffic signal at 7th St. SE and Pennsylvania Ave. not being long enough for pedestrians to safely cross, especially with other traffic safety concerns raised recently with nearby library construction.

Commissioner Sobelsohn moved to recommend that the ANC write a letter to DDOT urging the exploration of possibly recalibrating the signal to improve pedestrian safety, to be drafted by Commissioner LaFortune and placed on the consent agenda at the next monthly ANC meeting. Commissioner Sroufe seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Other Items

RM Menzer asked about a presentation by DDOT on safety improvements on the 11th St. SE corridor. Commissioner LaFortune responded that it will be on the committee agenda for June.

RM Oldenburg asked whether DDOT has installed safety measures requested by the Southeast Library construction. Commissioner Sobelsohn shared that DDOT has been very responsive and is working through the requests for a pedestrian walkway and sidewalk.