



September 9, 2024

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Washington, DC 20003  
6B@anc.dc.gov

Digital Pioneers Academy  
12<sup>th</sup> Street, SE  
Washington, DC 20003

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Re: Use of 11<sup>th</sup> Street, SE for student drop-off and pick-up

Dear Mrs. Ashton:

*At a properly noticed general meeting on September 9, 2024, with a quorum present, Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) 6B voted 9-0-0, based on the unanimous recommendation of its Transportation Committee, to submit the following letter to Digital Pioneers Academy and the D.C. Department of Transportation.*

The purpose of this letter is to follow-up on previous email communication regarding the current use of 11<sup>th</sup> Street for DPA student transportation that has significantly adversely affected student and cyclist safety along this corridor and jeopardizes the effectiveness of these ongoing improvements.

As background: In March 2023, in response to the ANC’s request to improve the safety of students, cyclists and other pedestrians along the 11<sup>th</sup> Street, SE corridor, the D.C. Department of Transportation established a regulated school zone along the west side of 12<sup>th</sup> Street in front of the DPA school entrance. The purpose of this zone was to allow buses and parents of students to safely drop off and pick up students at arrival and dismissal. (Additional improvements – speed bumps along the 1100 block of G Street, SE and school zone signage were also installed to increase student safety.) The

*\*Please note that the ANC 6B mailing address has changed as of January 2023*

school was notified of these changes and began to utilize the regulated school zone late in the 22/23 school year and throughout the 23/24 school year.

However, with the beginning of this new school year, DPA has again begun to use 11<sup>th</sup> Street for student drop off – both buses (OSSE and DPA-contracted buses) and private vehicles.

**The effect of these vehicles stopping to discharge students at this location—rather than the established zone on 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SE, *no matter how briefly*, increases the danger and risk of injury not only for DPA students but also for the many other students at our neighboring schools and individuals traveling along 11th Street, SE by car or bike.**

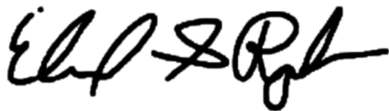
We ask that you **immediately discontinue the use of 11<sup>th</sup> Street for student drop off and pick up students at all times.** Only the designated 12<sup>th</sup> Street zone should be used as previously directed by the D.C. Department of Transportation. All parents and bus transportation providers should be notified. Additionally, students should be directed to only cross 11<sup>th</sup> Street at the designated crossings which have crossing guards during the day.

ANC 6B has been working for many years to address traffic safety issues along the 11<sup>th</sup> Street, SE corridor, which has experienced significant increases in vehicular traffic and pedestrian and cyclists. 11th Street, SE is designated as a minor artery and is used by not only the large and increasing number of students at neighborhood schools, but also by a large number of commuters, large commercial vehicles and buses, cyclists using the designated bike lanes and pedestrians. Identified safety issues include automobile and truck speeding, illegal turns, blocking of crosswalks, traffic and bike lanes.

Most recently, the ANC has worked with the D.C. Department of Transportation to make improvements at several intersections located near neighborhood schools to improve pedestrian and cyclist safety.

We encourage you to work with the D.C. Department of Transportation to address any transportation-related issues that the school has to ensure the ongoing safety of both your students and the surrounding community.

Sincerely,



Edward Ryder, Chair of ANC 6B

CC:

Abraham Diallo, Ward 6 Liaison, DDOT

Charles Allen, Ward 6 Councilmember

OSSE: Raphael Park, Deputy Superintendent of Operations, [raphael.park@dc.gov](mailto:raphael.park@dc.gov); Michael Riley, Director of Student Transportation, [michael.riley1@dc.gov](mailto:michael.riley1@dc.gov)

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