



Report of the ANC6B Transportation Committee Meeting
November 6, 2024

Commissioners Present: Matt LaFortune (6B09 - Chair), Frank Avery (6B01), Jerry Sroufe (6B02), Edward Ryder (6B08)

Resident Members Present: Janice Kruger (6B03), Kirsten Oldenburg (6B04), Jeffrey Menzer (6B08)

11th Street Safety Discussion with Digital Pioneers Academy

Alfred Mason from Digital Pioneers Academy joined to share the school's perspective on pickup and dropoff and safety challenges regarding 11th St. SE. When DDOT added a school bus lane on 12th St. two years ago, DPA was Grades 9-11. It now has 380 students and have moved the entrance to 11th St. to accommodate a larger size as the only place to house that many students is the cafeteria. DPA buses now drop off on 12th St. and the school worked with OSSE to have buses for special needs students use the 12th St. location as well. However, these drivers say that it is their duty to drop off and ensure students go into the school. Finally, Mr. Mason noted that there is limited parking enforcement for the bus lane.

11th Street is being used for private vehicle student drop off which blocks cycle and traffic lanes and increases traffic disruption on the street during morning rush hour. Mr. Mason said that he will continue to ask parents not to park in the 11th Street traffic/cycle lanes to drop off students. The issue of the bus drop off on 11th Street is currently no longer an issue, and this has been noted by DDOT during their observations as a student safety concern.

Commissioner Sroufe asked whether neighboring Shirley Chisholm Elementary School has buses. Commissioner LaFortune said that they have less bus traffic than DPA. Mr. Mason agreed, noting that the school uses buses for sports, field trips, and shuttle buses to other campuses.

Commissioner Sroufe also asked whether there is a similar problem with student pickup. Mr. Mason said that dismissal is on 12th St.

Commissioner Avery noted that the ANC and the school share an understanding about the need for safety and asked whether the group can do anything to support the school. Mr. Mason said he would try to be mindful about it.

Mr. Mason also asked why the ANC has sent a letter to DPA regarding the issue but not Chisholm. Commissioner LaFortune noted that the ANC has been focused on the bus lanes for two years but can invite a representative from Chisholm to a future meeting.

Letter to DDOT on Q1 FY25 TSI Priorities

Commissioner LaFortune introduced the topic as an opportunity for the ANC to weigh in on four prioritized TSI locations this quarter and provide recommendations to DDOT for safety improvements.

Commissioner Ryder confirmed Commissioner LaFortune's comment on the ongoing traffic safety concern on the 1500 block of K St. SE, as vehicle traffic goes the wrong way to the McDonalds.

Six neighbors provided comments, including that drivers often go the wrong way eastbound on this block, drivers leave trash when exiting the McDonalds, that there was a shooting of cars in the spring that caused the conversation to start, that the parking lot is unsafe, and finally that closing the entrance to the McDonalds off of K St. SE would improve safety.

Commissioner LaFortune moved to recommend that the ANC send a letter to DDOT recommending specific safety improvements at the four Q1 FY25 TSI priority locations within the ANC, to be placed on the consent agenda. Commissioner Ryder seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Letter to DDOT on Excessive Speeding on 3rd St. SE Near Garfield Park (TSI #24-00628184)

Following a brief discussion, Commissioner LaFortune moved to recommend that the ANC send a letter to DDOT requesting safety improvements adjacent to Garfield Park on 3rd St. SE, to be placed on the consent agenda. Commissioner Sroufe seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Letter to DDOT on Stop Sign Needed at 5th and Independence Ave. (TSI #24-00281510)

Following a brief discussion, Commissioner LaFortune moved to recommend that the ANC send a letter to DDOT requesting a stop sign on Independence Ave. SE eastbound at 5th St. SE, to be placed on the consent agenda. RM Menzer seconded. The motion passed unanimously.