

September 9, 2025

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Ms. Sharon Kershbaum Director Department of Transportation 250 M Street, SE Washington, DC 20003

VIA EMAIL: sharon.kershbaum@dc.gov;

Re: ANC 6B Support for 11th Street SE Protected Bike Lane Proposal

Dear Director Kershbaum:

At a regularly scheduled and properly noticed meeting on Sept. 9, 2025 with a quorum present, ANC 6B voted 8-0-0 to support the Hill Family Biking proposal to install a two-way protected bikelane along the length of 11th Street SE.

Hill Family Biking, a local group dedicated to supporting families who ride bikes and advocating for improved street safety, has presented a compelling case for this crucial infrastructure upgrade. The current state of 11th Street SE, with its unprotected, painted bike lanes, presents significant safety concerns for all road users, particularly cyclists and pedestrians. Issues such as lack of protected separation, obstruction by double-parking, the risk of "dooring" incidents, and unsafe conditions near the intersection with I-695 highlight the urgent need for a safer design.

The proposed two-way protected cycle track on 11th Street SE would offer numerous benefits:

- Enhanced Safety: Protected separation from vehicular traffic will significantly reduce crashes and injuries for cyclists, pedestrians, and even car occupants.
- Unobstructed Passage: A protected lane will prevent blockages from double-parked vehicles, ensuring a consistent and safe path for cyclists.
- Preservation of Existing Infrastructure: The proposal maintains existing travel lanes and parking, minimizing disruption to other modes of transportation.
- Improved School Access: This protected lane will provide a much safer route for children and families traveling to Chisholm and Watkins Elementary Schools.



• Completion of the Bike Network: This project is vital for establishing 11th Street as a critical north-south "bike spine," completing a significant gap in the protected bike network and encouraging greater community usage, especially among families and new riders.

Research consistently demonstrates that the implementation of "low-stress" bike infrastructure, such as protected cycle tracks, not only reduces incidents but also encourages more people to choose cycling as a mode of transportation. This proposal aligns perfectly with the District's Vision Zero goals and its commitment to creating a safer and more accessible transportation network for all residents.

We urge the District Department of Transportation to give great weight to the recommendations of this Commission and to prioritize the implementation of a two-way protected cycle track on 11th Street SE as outlined by Hill Family Biking. This project will significantly improve the safety and quality of life for our constituents.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter. The Commission stands ready to assist in any way we can to facilitate this vital safety improvement.

On behalf of the Commission,

Edward Ryder, Chair of ANC 6B

Karen Hughes, Vice Chair of ANC 6B and Chair of the 6B Transportation Committee