



**Report of the ANC6B Transportation Committee Meeting
October 3, 2018**

Commissioners present: Kirsten Oldenburg (chairing), Daniel Ridge, and Jerry Sroufe

Resident Member present: Floyd Brown (6B01) and Carol Grissom (6B08)

DDOT Public Space Application Tracking #10692894

Mr. Michael Curreri, NE Regional Director, and Mr. Matt Schapiro, Strategic Planning Director, of Academy Bus made a presentation on Academy's new application for a stop for its GoBus intercity services.¹ The firm has now applied to DDOT for the use of the existing WMATA bus pad on the eastbound (south) side of Pennsylvania Avenue SE, next to the triangle and immediately east of the 8th and Pennsylvania intersection. (See photo below) As explained by Mr. Schapiro, both WMATA and DDOT refer to this bus pad as 400 8th Street SE and, thus, the application actually lists that location as the requested space. But, Academy has no intention of using that location for its bus stop.

Academy Bus plans to offer 2 northbound trips on weekdays and 3 on weekends. They plan to initiate the service within about 2 weeks as DDOT has agreed to a temporary permit pending the PSC's approval of the application. Inbound buses will discharge passengers at the same stop and Academy is currently studying routing for these westbound buses. At the suggestion of RM Brown, Academy Bus will instruct its drivers to not pull up close to the exit of D Street onto Pennsylvania Avenue to reduce blocking those vehicles sight lines of oncoming traffic as they merge into Pennsylvania Avenue. Academy said that its bus will only be stopping for about 10 minutes each trip to load or discharge passengers.

Commissioner Sroufe moved (with a second by Commissioner Oldenburg) that the Committee recommend the ANC6B support the new application. The Committee voted 5-0 in support of the motion and placed the item on the consent agenda. (Draft letter to DDOT on Page 3)

Discussion on the Timing of 8th Street SE Traffic Signals

Anne Wright, Kay Howell, and David Sigmund, residents of the 200 block of 8th Street SE, told the Committee that northbound traffic along 8th Street is constantly forced to idle at all times of the day and night on their block because it backs up at the traffic signals at 8th and Independence Avenue SE and 8th and North Carolina Avenue SE. This problem has become worse over time and the addition of the Union Station Circulator bus several months ago has aggravated the situation.

¹ See the September 5, 2018, committee report for full information about Academy Bus Company, its intercity services and the Committee's rejection of a stop on the 700 block of D Street SE

Residents report that, because 8th Street is now a major artery, the idling vehicles include many noisy diesel buses and heavy trucks. They have noticed that the green lights for traffic on the two Avenues are three times as long (90 vs 30 seconds) as those for traffic on 8th Street. Ms Wright submitted a 311 request (SR#18-00361591) for a light-timing study in July 2018 and was notified that the lights “were working properly” three weeks later. The comment suggested to her that the timing problem was not addressed at that time.

Commissioner Oldenburg moved (with a second by Commissioner Sroufe) that the Committee recommend the ANC to send a letter to DDOT requesting a comprehensive study of the timing of the above signals and others between East Capitol Street and Pennsylvania Avenue and of other possible causes of the idling of traffic on the 200 block of 8th Street SE and make appropriate changes to alleviate that problem. The Committee voted 5-0-0 in support of the motion and placed the item on the ANC consent agenda. (Draft letter to DDOT on Page 4)

Short Term Options for the Kentucky, Potomac, 15th and G Intersection

Due to the lack of DDOT staff to present the options, this item was moved to the October 9, 2018, ANC Monthly meeting agenda where it will be discussed in full.

Upcoming Meeting Topics and Updates

Commissioner Oldenburg informed the Committee that Mike Goodno, DDOT, says the PA Avenue Bike Lane study the Committee had requested should be starting up in late Fall 2018. She also said that she has asked for an update of the PA Avenue Streetlighting project but not yet received a response and has not heard anything since last month about the status of the SE Boulevard & Barney Circle Draft EA.

Upcoming meeting topics include DDOT Sidewalk Repairs Process and a Resolution on Resident Only Parking for ANC6B04 (November).

Actual Location for GoBus Stop on Pennsylvania Avenue SE



DRAFT LETTERS TO DDOT

October 10, 2018

Ms. Catrina Felder
Public Space Committee Coordinator
Public Space Regulation Administration
District Department of Transportation
1100 4th Street, SW, 3rd Floor
Washington, DC 20024

VIA EMAIL: catrina.felder@dc.gov

RE: DDOT Tracking #10692894—Academy Bus

At a properly noticed regular meeting of Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6B on October 9, 2018, with a quorum present the Commission voted x-x-x to inform the Public Space Committee that the Commission supports the above application to establish a GoBus stop on Capitol Hill near the Eastern Market Metro Station.

The Commission is aware that the DDOT application cites the bus stop location as “400 8th Street SE” but has learned that the actual location is at the existing WMATA pad on the south side of Pennsylvania Avenue SE, just east of the 8th and Pennsylvania Avenue SE intersection.

Please contact Commissioner Kirsten Oldenburg, ANC 6B’s Transportation Committee Chair at 202-546-8542 or 6B04@anc.dc.gov if you have any questions about this request or need further information.

[signed]

Cc: Mr. Michael Curreri, Academy Bus, mcurreri@academybus.com
Mr. Matthew Schapiro, Academy Bus, mschapiro@academybus.com

Mr. Jeff Marootian, Director
District Department of Transportation
55 M Street SE
Washington DC 20003

Via Email: jeff.marootian@dc.gov

RE: Vehicle Idling on the 200 Block of 8th Street SE

Dear Director Marootian;

At a properly noticed regular meeting of Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6B on October 9, 2018, with a quorum present the Commission voted x-x-x to send you this letter requesting DDOT to conduct a comprehensive study of the timing of the traffic signals at 8th and Independence Avenue SE and 8th and Independence Avenue SE and others between East Capitol Street and Pennsylvania Avenue and of other possible causes of persistent idling of northbound traffic on the 200 block of 8th Street SE and to make appropriate changes to alleviate that problem.

The existence of this problem has been related to the Commission by residents of the 200 block of 8th Street SE affected by idling vehicles, diesel buses and heavy trucks at all times of the day and night. The impact has become worse over time and the addition of the Union Station Circulator bus several months ago has aggravated the situation. Residents have noticed that the green lights for traffic on the two Avenues are three times as long (90 vs 30 seconds) as those for traffic on 8th Street.

Please contact Commissioner Kirsten Oldenburg, ANC 6B's Transportation Committee Chair at 202-546-8542 or 6B04@anc.dc.gov if you have any questions about this request or need further information.

[signed]

Cc: Lee Goodall, DDOT, lee.goodall@dc.gov
Ann Wright, Resident, anne@annewright.com