



**Report of the ANC6B Transportation Committee Meeting
February 2, 2022**

Commissioners Present: Corey Holman, Alison Horn, Kirsten Oldenburg (chairing), Brian Ready, Edward Ryder, and Gerald Sroufe.

Resident Members Present: Brian Kirrane (6B), John Manley (6B04), Stefan Katz (6B07), John Ten Hoeve (6B09). In addition, Matt LaFortune, who will be RM for 6B06 once appointed by the Commission on 2/8.

Penn-Potomac Intersection 90% Design

Morvarid Ganjalizadeh, DDOT, told the Committee that the engineering designs for the project are 90% complete and undergoing internal review. Estimate is the review will be completed by May 2022. To date there have been no changes in the design since the Committee last review it in xxx. A construction budget of \$20 million has been requested in FY23 but maybe moved to FY24. This will delay construction start.

DDOT has decided not to hold a virtual public meeting. Ms Ganjalizadeh said she could return to the Committee when the internal review is completed and 100% design is achieved. Commissioner Holman suggested it would be helpful for the ANC send a letter to DDOT in support of the budget.

On a motion by Commissioner Holman, seconded by Commissioner Horn, the Committee recommended that ANC send letters to DDOT and the Council asking that construction for funding be included in the FY23 budget. By voice vote with one abstention and no opposition the Committee supported the motion. The letters were placed on the 2/8 consent agenda.

Resolution on Reckless Driving in DC

Resident Member John Ten Hoeve presented his draft resolution. There was substantial discussion on many points raised in the resolution. In general, Committee members were in general agreement on the factual Whereas clauses but had a number of concerns about the Resolved clauses in the document. In particular, the phrases were deemed too prescriptive.

Commissioner Oldenburg noted that our concerns about reckless driving is an important message to send to city officials. However, there is no specific deadline and suggested that RM Ten Hoeve revise the document and it be placed on the Committee's March agenda for further discussion and vote. Commissioner Oldenburg invited other members to make a different suggestion or motion. None was forthcoming so the issue will be on the March agenda.

B24-0429 – Metro For DC Amendment Act of 2021¹

Chris Laskowski, Legislative Director for CM Allen briefed the Committee in November on Allen’s Metro for DC bill. The Committee discussed the bill at length. There is now a February 23rd Council hearing on the bill. Commissioner Oldenburg asked for the Committee’s advice whether the ANC should testify. There was no affirmative response. Commissioner Oldenburg will let Chris know of this decision.

Request FY23 Funding for ANC6B Permanent Fixtures to Replace Temporary Flexiposts

Commissioner Corey Holman presented the text of letters asking the Council and DDOT to add funds in the FY23 budget to initiate a process to replace temporary flexiposts with permanent fixtures. These posts are now ubiquitous across DC having been installed in response to traffic safety requests to slow down traffic. The letter includes examples of several intersections in ANC6B. Commissioner Holman agreed amend his draft to “ask” rather than “urge” action and include a few more examples.

On a motion by Commissioner Holman, seconded by Commissioner Sroufe, the Committee voted by a unanimous vote to recommend the ANC support sending the letters. The letters will be on the 2/8 consent agenda.

NOI 22-40-PSD United States Capitol Police – DDOT Signage Reconciliation

Commissioner Samolyk was not available to present. Item moved to 2/8 Full Meeting agenda

SE Blvd Testimony for 2/18 Oversight Hearing

Commissioner Oldenburg presented her draft testimony. Commissioner Holman provided missing dates and data such the project area is 18 acres and could support nearly 1,000 affordable and market rate housing units at medium density. Committee members strongly expressed the missed opportunity for helping to solve the DC housing shortage is this project is further delayed.

Commissioner Oldenburg moved, with a second by Commissioner Holman, that the Committee recommend the ANC approve the testimony. The Committee voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

Amended Draft SE Blvd Testimony:

Good afternoon. I am 6B04 Commissioner Kirsten Oldenburg and Chair of the ANC 6B Transportation Committee. I am testifying on behalf of the Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6B on DDOT’s Southeast Blvd and Barney Circle project. The project is part of the Anacostia Waterfront Initiative approved by Council in 2005. The Commission approved this testimony.

The project area is an estimate 18-acre swath of land in Ward 6 whose only purpose today is to move vehicles—and only vehicles--a half mile at high speeds along a four-lane road between 11th Street SE and the Sousa Bridge. This duplicates a function that the 11th Street Bridge was built in 2015 to do, move traffic on I-695 across the Anacostia River.

¹ <https://lms.dccouncil.us/Legislation/B24-0429>

ANC6B has been working with DDOT since 2013 to ensure the ultimate use of this land is more in keeping with its neighborhood context, such as:

- Change the road to an urban boulevard for more equitable multi-modal movement of people by foot, on bicycles, and in vehicles
- Create a north-south bike/ped path to link the existing Hill East neighborhood with Boathouse Row and the Anacostia River. Improving access to the river is a major goal of AWI.
- Reestablish several blocks of a neighborhood that was demolished in the 1960's to build the Southeast Freeway. This could support nearly 1,000 affordable and market rate housing units at medium density or a mixture of housing and parks.
- The changing topology of the area suggests building these elements on a deck, creating a space underneath for a critically needed transit bus facility.

Because of the Commission and neighborhood active engagement with DDOT on this project, it has gone through several design stages.² In 2017, DDOT resumed the NEPA process and held two community meetings on the above concept. ANC6B and others formally commented in January 2018. However, for the last 4 years, DDOT has kept the community in the dark despite ANC6B requests in 2020 and 2021 for release of the planned draft Environmental Assessment.³

So, we ask this Committee to help the Capitol Hill community move this project along by pushing the draft EA out DDOT's door and ensuring funds are in the FY23 to complete the EA. Otherwise, we end up missing an opportunity to transform 18 undeveloped acres into a new urban space with equitable access to the Anacostia River.

Note: The SE Blvd Background Paper will be added to the testimony version sent to DC Council committee.

² A 2013-2017 Background document is attached

³ DDOT's FY 21 – 24 STIP includes \$6 million allotted to the project in FY 2023 for engineering in 2024.