



**Report of the ANC6B Transportation Committee Meeting  
May 3, 2023**

**Commissioners Present: Matt LaFortune (chairing), Frank Avery, Jerry Sroufe, David Sobelsohn, Frank D'Andrea, Kasie Durkit, Vince Mareino, Edward Ryder**

**Resident Members Present: Janice Kruger (6B03), Brian Kirrane (6B03), Kirsten Oldenburg (6B04), Mike Litt (6B05), Richard Cunningham (6B07), Jeffrey Menzer (6B08), Joshua Peacock (6B09)**

**Capitol Hill Village Pedestrian Safety**

Scott Price from Capitol Hill Village shared an update on their sidewalk safety project. Based on a 2022 survey of CHV members, 67% indicated concerns about sidewalk safety. Some people trip more than others do and the impact of tripping is different for different people. Scott also shared the DDOT responds to issues with different timeframes. Potholes are fixed within three days but a sidewalk hazard has a nine month goal to fix, with a 54% success rate. Mr. Price said this is a systemic problem at DDOT and he is looking for systemic solutions.

RM Menzer asked what kind of repair DDOT makes. Mr. Price responded that DDOT has a schedule to repair sidewalks but the method for dealing with the complaint varies. Brick sidewalks are more labor-intensive than concrete. Capitol Hill Village intends to submit issues via 311.

Commissioner Mareino asked whether anyone supports brick sidewalks. Mr. Price responded that they are not considered historic.

Commissioner Sobelsohn asked how they plan to disseminate a survey to neighbors. Mr. Price responded that ANC 6A is sending out a survey on falls while Capitol Hill Village is collecting different data, including pictures of sidewalk issues. They want to measure the scope of the problem.

RM Oldenburg shared that DDOT has frequently changed policies on fixing sidewalks. A previous DDOT staffer asked for priorities to fix sidewalks. She also previously followed up with general 311 requests and recently turned in requests that were fixed within a month.

Commissioner Sroufe mentioned that replacing brick with fiver pads can only be done during the summer, a partial reason for delay. The city primarily responds to falls but the idea of sharing photographs is a good one. He suggested prioritizing certain streets.

RM Menzer said that CHV may want to get clarity on the schedule for fixes and ask for sidewalk data. Mr. Price responded that he is hoping DDOT will share the date of complaints. The process typically includes someone validating the complaint before it is fixed. He is trying to figure out if this is a little or a big problem.

Mr. Price mentioned that Capitol Hill Village is developing its plan within six weeks and will follow up with opportunities to collaborate.

### **NOI on Relocating and Standardizing Commercial Loading Zones in Barracks Row**

Stephen Hanrahan from DDOT shared that an NOI was recently sent out describing three loading zone relocations. Barracks Row is a busy commercial corridor, this project is bringing commercial loading zones up to standards. The NOI also featured a visual aid demonstrating the changes.

Commissioner D'Andrea mentioned that the existing loading zones are not sufficient and that this seems to be a good plan.

RM Oldenburg asked whether the ANC is planning to make a comment. Mr. Hanrahan responded that no resolution is necessary but he is happy to have the informal support from impacted commissioners.

Commissioner Sobelsohn asked Stephen to share the visual with committee members. Mr. Hanrahan shared his screen to indicate locations where there are impacted bus stops and loading zones. Commissioner Sobelsohn asked if there was a way to place loading zones further from the fire station. Mr. Hanrahan responded that striping is a notifier but that the zones are not seen as an impediment if not directly in front of the station.

Commissioner Mareino asked what the current best practices are for marking loading zones. Mr. Hanrahan responded that there are signs for loading only and the time limit will be lowered to 30 minutes from 2 hours.

RM Kirrane said that it is good to know there will be enforcement, even if it is still people-dependent.

RM Oldenburg asked whether the NOI extends to the 1100 block. Mr. Hanrahan responded that DDOT sent a separate one to that ANC, which involves a similar project.

### **Penn/Potomac Intersection Redesign**

Abraham Diallo from DDOT shared that the department is working with federal agencies to secure the right of way for this project. Construction funds will be coming from the Mayor's budget proposal. The project manager will join ANC 6B's June Transportation Committee meeting.

### **Vision Zero Hardening Program**

Starting in FY 2023, DDOT is launching the Vision Zero Hardening program. This program will work to systematically convert well-established and successful tactical installations such as curb extensions and slip lane closures into permanent infrastructure features. The list of locations

selected for conversion to permanent infrastructure in FY 2023 was developed based on prioritization criteria including proximity to high-crash locations and schools, potential drainage and utility impacts, traffic signal infrastructure impacts, geometric feasibility for design vehicles, and any conflicts with existing or future bike lanes. Based on this prioritization, DDOT has selected eight (8) locations to advance through design and construction in FY 2023.

Mr. Diallo confirmed the eight locations for infrastructure hardening in FY23, including three in ANC 6B. The locations are: 1) 13th Street, Tennessee Avenue, and Constitution Avenue NE, 2) 15th Street, Kentucky Avenue, G Street, and Potomac Avenue SE, 3) 13th Street, Kentucky Avenue, and Independence Avenue SE, 4) 11th Street and East Capitol Street, 5) 14th Street and Arkansas Avenue NW, 6) 14th Street, Delafield Place, and Iowa Avenue NW, 7) 18th Street and Newton Street NW, and 8) 6th Street and O Street NW.

Commissioner Mareino shared that most residents will be supportive of this hardening program but will want to see how it is done.

Commissioner D'Andrea asked what the process for public input will be. Mr. Diallo shared that NOIs will go out for each location. Commissioner D'Andrea mentioned that he understands this project has the funding that is has but hopefully the ANC will have the opportunity to provide input since this is more targeted than TSIs.

### **Pennsylvania Ave. Construction**

Commissioner Sobelsohn asked if Mr. Diallo could discuss the Pennsylvania Ave. project.

Commissioner LaFortune shared that DDOT's official information is that parking is allowed in the red bus lanes outside of rush hour. Commissioner D'Andrea confirmed this information and that the hours for bus priority are 7:00-9:30am in the westbound direction and 4:00-6:30pm in the eastbound direction.

Commissioner Sobelsohn asked whether this situation is unique in the city. Commissioner D'Andrea responded that parking is allowed in the bus lanes on 16<sup>th</sup> St. NW but that Pennsylvania Ave. is the only bus priority lane separated from the curb by a bike lane to his knowledge.

Commissioner Sobelsohn shared that since this is a unique project, it may be leading to miscommunication.

Commissioner Mareino described that there is some current parking in bike lanes due to a confusing transition to the final stage of the project. Once concrete is on the ground, it will be more obvious.

RM Cunningham said that signage is not clear, may need clearer "bus only but parking all other times" signs. The project is different all over so basic signage would help.

Commissioner Sroufe said that this is a major project and may need a clearer messaging and public relations campaign from DDOT.

RM Oldenburg shared that the Transportation Committee has had numerous meetings in the past about this project but the rollout has been disjointed.

RM Peacock asked when the bus cameras will roll out to enforce parking rules. RM Kirrane shared that the hope is October, this is a WMATA project but the tickets are processed by DDOT.

### **Metro Better Bus Visionary Network**

Commissioner LaFortune shared WMATA's Better Bus Visionary Network map that has the capability for residents to share direct comments. The map can be found here:

<https://betterbus.wmata.com/comment/>

Commissioner LaFortune also mentioned a Metro meeting for ANC Commissioners on May 17<sup>th</sup> and offered to report back to the committee.

### **12<sup>th</sup> St. School Zone**

RM Menzer provided an update on the new school zone on 12<sup>th</sup> St. for pick-up and drop-off of students at Digital Pioneers Academy.