



**Report of the ANC6B Transportation Committee Meeting
March 2, 2023**

Commissioners Present: Matt LaFortune (chairing), Frank Avery, Jerry Sroufe, Frank D’Andrea, Chander Jayaraman

Resident Members Present: Jakob Youngblood (6B01), Janice Kruger (6B03), Kirsten Oldenburg (6B04), Mike Litt (6B05), Susan Driano (6B06), Richard Cunningham (6B07), Jeffrey Menzer (6B08), Stefan Katz (6B09)

Presentation from DC Water on Ongoing Projects Causing Roadwork

Emanuel Briggs, Director of Community Affairs for DC Water gave a presentation on the Small Diameter Water Main Replacement Project that is impacting Capitol Hill. Mr. Briggs informed the committee that Capitol Hill has seen a lot of projects in recent months. The neighborhood has some of the city’s oldest infrastructure and DC Water is updating a lot of pipes. Starting in early February 2023 and running through March 15, 2024, this project includes the installation of approximately 6,316 linear feet of 4-inch up to 12-inch water mains, replacement of service lines – including free private side replacement of lead and galvanized iron pipe, replacement of fire hydrants and valves, and restoration of all surfaces disturbed by the project construction upon completion of work.

Mr. Briggs shared that DC Water provides a 48 hour notice to impacted residents before water service shutoffs. They also inform neighbors and community leaders through door hangers and regular email notification. This used to be just at the beginning, middle, and end of projects and now continues throughout. DC Water gives information directly to residents through emails in their customer service database and shares updates to ANC Commissioners on affected areas. Mr. Briggs also shares a list of ten or so things that residents can expect to see during a construction project. Sometimes nighttime water shutoffs are necessary due to the location of a project and DC Water works with ANC Commissioners to receive approval for this work.

Resident Member Katz asked whether all this work is integrated with other street repair plans. Mr. Briggs shared that DC Water coordinates with DDOT through monthly meetings. DDOT tracks all roadwork but sometimes they are not always successful in attempting to avoid scheduling construction immediately following the conclusion of another project. Regardless, DC Water has to repave after all projects.

Resident Member Menzer asked if there was a way to share a timeframe on projects to give residents a head’s up before impacting yards and gardens. Mr. Briggs shared that DC Water provides mailings and hand delivers info on expectations before and after a project. DC Water also has field inspectors who conduct property site inspections afterwards. William McCanless,

also from DC Water, shared that unfortunately they do have to dig in yards to check for lead before replacing pipes.

Commissioner D'Andrea confirmed that Mr. Briggs is the first point-of-contact for residents. Commissioner Sroufe shared that one issue is the posting of no parking signs that list the wrong street or block or are posted for too long. Mr. Briggs responded that they have a contractor who puts up the signs but that contractor also sometimes works on DDOT projects. Mr. McCannless said that the contractor is very responsive and their phone number is listed on the signs but that sometimes DC Water is in a location longer than expected.

Commissioner Avery noted that sometimes new fire hydrants are put in zones with RPP signs by DDOT which cause confusion for residents when parking. He also confirmed that no DC Water employees were hurt during a recent hit-and-run on North Carolina Ave.

Resident Member Kruger asked how to tell DC Water when pipes were already replaced. Mr. Briggs asked her to email him and said that he would check the database. Commissioner Jayaraman informed DC Water that the fire hydrant on the SW corner of 15th and South Carolina Ave. is leaking and needs to be shut off. Commissioner D'Andrea asked whether fire hydrants could be painted red. Mr. Briggs responded that DC Water does not paint hydrants, they are green in DC.

Presentation by Mark Sussman on Kidical Mass Chapter for Capitol Hill

Mark Sussman joined the committee meeting to share information about a monthly organized bike ride for kids and families on the street and in bike lanes on Capitol Hill. Kidical Mass follows a short-lived DC chapter and focuses strictly on the Capitol Hill neighborhood. Family biking has grown on Capitol Hill, there is great trail access, and he hopes to inspire other chapters in DC.

There will be an organizing event later this month. Interested volunteers can reach out to msussman@gmail.com for more information.

Resident Member Driano asked whether there would be signage added to the C St. bike lanes. Noting that while he does not work for DDOT, Mr. Sussman was able to share that this protected bike lane corridor would be signalized when final. There have been signal supply chain issues which have held up projects like C St. and Potomac Ave.

Commissioner Jayaraman asked whether this was a single event, if there would be police escorts or street closures, and whether it could be confined to bike lanes only. Mr. Sussman responded that it would be monthly, would not require outside support or street closures, and would use streets and bike lanes with adults there in support.

Resident Member Oldenburg asked where the C St. bike lanes extend. Mr. Sussman responded that they will run from Lincoln Park to 21st St. NE.

Update from Jeff Menzer on 12th St. School Zone

Resident Member Menzer provided an update on a previous committee item from last fall that school zone signage and a speed hump have been installed adjacent to Digital Pioneers Academy

on 12th St. SE. The school is now required to use 12th St. as the pick-up and drop-off zone and no longer park buses on 11th St. However, he noted that buses are still parking there after DDOT notified the school of the new school zone.

Commissioner LaFortune presented a motion that he draft a letter to DDOT thanking them for the installation of the new school zone and requesting support to continue to work with Digital Pioneers Academy to inform them of their responsibility to comply with it. Resident Member Oldenburg seconded this motion and it passed unanimously.