

RESOLUTION OPPOSING FEDERAL REMOVAL OF PROTECTED BICYCLE FACILITIES IN WASHINGTON, DC

WHEREAS Washington D.C.'s bike lanes and trails are cherished across the city and provide safe, efficient, and active transit for hundreds of thousands of cyclists, totaling tens of millions of rides every year;

WHEREAS the National Park Service (NPS) in partnership with the Federal Highway Administration ("FHWA") has indicated that it plans to remove the protected bike lane along 15th Street, NW that crosses the National Mall, which was originally installed 2021 by the NPS in partnership with the District of Columbia Department of Transportation (DDOT) to improve the safety of this area for bicyclists, motorists and pedestrians;

WHEREAS this decision by federal entities to remove this bike lane appears to have been made without consideration of safety implications or without any engagement in a public planning process to remove this cherished and potentially lifesaving infrastructure;

WHEREAS a DDOT evaluation of this bike lane showed that it has been extremely successful in improving safety along this heavily trafficked road, with bicycle injury accidents plummeting by more than 90%, roadway crashes declining by 46%, and vehicle speeds increasing by 17%.; and

WHEREAS federal interference in our bikeways would rollback years of collaboration and dialogue between District residents and local government. It would also severely impact the city's ability to actualize resident desires in the future, particularly around D.C. Vision Zero and the next Strategic Bikeway Plan.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 6B strongly opposes the removal of the protected bike lane along 15th Street, NW by federal entities and supports legal efforts to stop the execution of this poorly conceived plan; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 6B presumptively opposes the removal of any other bicycle safety infrastructure in Washington, DC without sufficient community input and in accordance with all relevant federal and local laws.