



ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 6E  
PO Box 93020 Brentwood Station, Washington, DC 20090

December 8, 2019

Jeff Marootian  
Director  
District Department of Transportation  
55 M Street SE, Suite 400  
Washington, DC 20003

**RE: Support for Traffic Calming and Streetscape Improvements for the 400 and 500 Blocks of S Street NW and the 1700 Block of 6th Street NW between Rhode Island Avenue NW and S Street NW**

Dear Director Marootian:

On November 5, 2019, at the duly noticed and regularly scheduled meeting of the Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6E (“ANC 6E” or “Commission”) and with a quorum of seven out of seven Commissioners and the public present, ANC 6E approved the following resolution by a vote of 6 for, 0 against, and 1 abstention:

WHEREAS, the Duties and Responsibilities of the Advisory Neighborhood Commission Act of 1975 grants ANC 6E the responsibility to advise the Council of the District of Columbia, the Mayor, and each executive agency and all independent agencies, boards, and commissions of the government of the District of Columbia with respect to all matters of District government policy, including decisions regarding planning, streets, recreation, social services programs, education, health, safety, and sanitation which affect the ANC 6E area;

WHEREAS, the District of Columbia moveDC Vision calls for safer and more vibrant streets and neighborhoods and a transportation system system that accommodates the travel needs of all residents, workers, and visitors regardless of age or ability;

WHEREAS, Mayor Muriel Bowser, DDOT, and the Council of the District of Columbia have committed to the principles of Vision Zero with the objective of eliminating traffic fatalities and serious injuries in the District by 2024 through the more effective use of data, education, enforcement, and engineering;

WHEREAS, the 400 and 500 Blocks of S Street NW and the 1700 Block of 6th Street NW between Rhode Island Avenue NW and Street NW lie within the jurisdictional boundaries of ANC 6E;

WHEREAS, the 400 and 500 Blocks of S Street NW and the 1700 Block of 6th Street NW have sidewalks that are too narrow, are not ADA accessible, and have utility poles directly in the center of the sidewalk that block passage by strollers and personal mobility devices;

WHEREAS, the sidewalks along the 400 and 500 Blocks of S Street NW and the 1700 Block of 6th Street NW, owing to their narrowness, lack tree boxes and trees, which detracts from the attractiveness and liveability of the community, increases stormwater runoff, and contributes to the urban heat island effect;

WHEREAS, drivers chronically use the 400 and 500 Blocks of S Street NW and the 1700 Block of 6th Street NW as a cut through connection between 6th Street NW and 4th Street NW, which significantly increases the traffic volume on these blocks and leads to speeding;

WHEREAS, the wide lane widths on these residential blocks are wider than necessary, which contributes to vehicle speeding;

WHEREAS the combination of narrow sidewalks, high traffic volume, and motor vehicle speeding create dangerous conditions for pedestrians and other vulnerable road users on these blocks;

WHEREAS, the intersection of 5th Street NW and S Street NW is an unsignalized intersection with a two-way stop sign for traffic approaching the intersection from 5th Street NW but no stop sign on S Street NW;

WHEREAS, the Mid-City East Liveability Study proposed street and sidewalk modifications and improvements to the Florida/New Jersey/Rhode Island/S Street/4th Street area, including closing S Street NW between New Jersey Avenue NW and Florida Avenue NW and closing S Street NW to be closed to create a cul-de-sac at New Jersey Avenue NW;

WHEREAS, the recommendations from the Mid-City East Liveability Study were adopted recommendation MCE 6.4 of the Mid-City East Small Area Plan;

WHEREAS, the District Department of Transportation (“DDOT”) is now contemplating a capital project to calm traffic and improve the streetscape on the 400 and 500 Blocks of S Street NW and the 1700 Block of 6th Street NW;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 6E requests that DDOT implement the following long-term measures to calm traffic and improve pedestrian accessibility on the 400 and 500 Blocks of S Street NW and the 1700 Block of 6th Street NW:

- Widen sidewalks and bring them into compliance with ADA standards, including standards for sidewalk width and curb ramp;
- Install high visibility, ladder style crosswalks at each intersection;
- Implement traffic calming measures including bulb outs and turn hardening;
- Implement the recommendations from the Mid-City East Liveability Study to close S Street NW between New Jersey Avenue NW and Florida Avenue NW;
- Allocate sufficient funds to complete construction of this project in the Fiscal Year 2021 budget;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 6E requests that DDOT implement immediate, short-term measures to calm traffic on the 400 and 500 Blocks of S Street NW and the 1700 Block of 6th Street NW, including turn hardening with flex posts, raised lane channeling, bulb outs, high visibility ladder-style crosswalks, and temporary all way stop signs at the intersection of S Street and 5th Street NW.

ON BEHALF OF THE COMMISSION,

Respectfully submitted,



Alex Marriott, Chair  
ANC 6E

CC: Lee Goodall, Chief of Staff for Jeff Marootian, DDOT  
Andrew DeFrank, Ward 6 Community Engagement Specialist, DDOT  
Charles Allen, Ward 6 Councilmember  
Laura Marks, Chief of Staff, Office of Councilmember Charles Allen  
Naomi Mitchell, Community Liaison, Office of Councilmember Charles Allen