



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

September 21, 2020

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

RE: ANC 6E Comments Regarding Car Free Lanes on 7th Street NW (NOI-20-007-TDD)

Dear Director Marootian:

On September 1, 2020, at a duly noticed and regularly scheduled meeting of the Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6E (“ANC 6E” or “Commission”), conducted remotely via videoconference, and with a quorum of 7 out of 7 Commissioners and the public present, ANC 6E approved the following letter by a vote of 3 for, 1 against, and 1 abstention.

On July 9, 2020, DDOT published a Notice of Intent (“NOI”) to build Car Free Lanes on 7th Street NW between Pennsylvania Avenue NW and Massachusetts Avenue NW. The Car Free 7th Street NW project would restrict vehicle traffic on 7th Street NW and G Street NW between 7th Street NW and 8th Street NW to buses, bicycles, and delivery trucks. This project is part of DDOT’s Bus Priority program, the Bowser Administration’s initiative to enhance bus speed and reliability across all 8 Wards of the District.

At this time, ANC 6E takes no position on the merits of the Car Free Lanes on 7th Street NW project, but does wish to raise the fact that this project will have strong complementary effects with a connecting bicycle facility supported by the Commission -- namely, the extension of the 7th Street NW bike lanes from N Street NW to Mount Vernon Place NW.

At its regular meeting on December 3, 2019, the Commission voted to request that the existing bike lanes on 7th Street NW between Florida Avenue NW and N Street NW be extended south to Mount Vernon Place NW.¹ A copy of this resolution is provided as an enclosure with this letter. The extension of the 7th Street NW bike lanes south to Mount Vernon Square, when coupled

¹ The Commission’s resolution also requests that DDOT install high-visibility, ladder-style crosswalks on several intersections with 7th Street near the Convention Center.

with the car free streets proposed as part of this NOI, would create 1.6 miles of near-continuous bicycle facilities on 7th Street NW between Florida Avenue NW and Pennsylvania Avenue NW.

The extension of the 7th Street NW bike lane from N Street NW to Mount Vernon Place NW would also connect bicycle riders with the forthcoming K Street Protected Bike Lane between 7th Street NW and 1st Street NE. The value of a single bike lane lies in its connectivity within a larger network of bike lanes that allow bicycle riders of all ages and experience levels to travel safely through our neighborhoods. Extending the 7th Street NW bike lane between N Street NW and Mount Vernon Place NW would greatly enhance the value of the Car Free Lanes on 7th Street NW project as a useful addition to the District's growing network of bicycle facilities.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rachelle Nigro". The script is cursive and fluid, with the first letter of each name being capitalized and prominent.

Rachelle Nigro,
Chair

CC: Haley Peckett, Project Manager, DDOT
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