



November 8, 2020

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

RE: Resolution Supporting the S Street NW Revitalization 30% Plans with Specific Recommendations for Plan Improvement

Dear Director Marootian:

On October 6 2020, at a duly noticed and regularly scheduled meeting of the Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6E (“ANC 6E” or “Commission”) conducted virtually via videoconference and with a quorum of 5 out of 7 Commissioners and the public present, ANC 6E approved the following resolution by a vote of 5 for, 0 against, and 0 abstentions:

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 Multimodal Long-Range Transportation Plan (“moveDC”) vision calls for safer and more vibrant streets and neighborhoods and a transportation 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 (“Council”) have committed to the principle 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, 500, and 600 Blocks of S Street NW and the 1700 Block of 6th Street NW between Rhode Island Avenue NW and S 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 between Rhode Island Avenue NW and S 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 personal mobility devices and strollers. The sidewalks on these blocks, owing to

their narrowness, lack tree boxes and shade trees, which detracts from the attractiveness and livability of the neighborhood, increases 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 and between Florida Avenue NW and New Jersey Avenue NW, which significantly increases the traffic volume on these blocks and leads to speeding;

WHEREAS, neighbors in the project corridor have lobbied for decades to narrow the street and widen the sidewalk to calm traffic, improve pedestrian safety and accessibility, and enhance the streetscape;

WHEREAS, the S Street NW Revitalization Project was initiated by DDOT with the project goals to improve safety for all travel modes, enhance pedestrian connectivity, discourage vehicular speeding, and upgrade deficient streetscape features;

WHEREAS, DDOT has conducted extensive public outreach regarding the S Street NW Revitalization Project with residents of ANC 6E, including:

- Presentations to the ANC 6E Transportation Advisory Committee on October 29, 2019, and August 25, 2020;
- A public meeting on January 8, 2020; and
- Presentation to ANC 6E on September 1, 2020;
- A project walkthrough with neighbors on September 29, 2020;

WHEREAS, on November 5, 2019, ANC 6E passed a resolution supporting the concept plans for the S Street NW Revitalization Project with specific recommendations for long-term traffic calming measures, including:

- 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 recommendation from the Mid-City East Livability 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;

WHEREAS, the ANC 6E resolution from November 5, 2019 further 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 a temporary all way stop at the intersection of S Street NW and 5th Street NW;

WHEREAS, the DDOT 30% design for the S Street NW Revitalization Project includes many of the capital improvements requested in the ANC 6E resolution from the November 5, 2019,

resolution, including two project options that close S Street NW between New Jersey Avenue NW and Florida Avenue NW (Project Alternative 2 and Alternative 3), sidewalk widening, an all-way stop at 5th Street NW and S Street NW, and curb extensions at several intersections in the project corridor;

WHEREAS, the DDOT 30% design for the S Street NW Revitalization Project will improve stormwater treatment using curb extensions and tree boxes with bioretention planters, and enhance tree canopy that will contribute to the livability and climate resiliency of the neighborhood;

WHEREAS, DDOT has not yet responded to the ANC 6E request to implement immediate, short-term traffic calming measures to address the safety issues identified in the S Street NW Revitalization Project;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 6E supports the closure of S Street NW between New Jersey Avenue NW and Florida Avenue NW;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 6E supports the accomplishment of the closure of S Street NW between New Jersey Avenue NW and Florida Avenue NW through the implementation of either Alternative 2 or Alternative 3, with preference for whichever of these two options is supported by the LeDroit Park Civic Association;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 6E requests that DDOT continue to work with ANC 6E on design of the public space created by the closure of S Street NW between New Jersey Avenue NW and Florida Avenue NW;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 6E requests that DDOT work with the United States Postal Service to plan for vehicular ingress and egress at the LeDroit Park Post Office;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 6E supports the changes to the 500, 600, and 700 Blocks of S Street NW and the 1700 Block of 6th Street NW between Rhode Island Avenue NW and S Street NW outlined in the S Street NW Revitalization Plan 30% design with the following recommendations:

- Sidewalk extensions (bulb outs) be added to S Street for the crossing of 7th Street NW;
- Request that the DDOT Urban Forestry Division work with ANC 6E to identify which trees will be planted for this project;
- Request that additional trees be planted on the northwest side of the 700 Block of S Street NW and on the north side of the 600 Block of S Street NW;
- Construction for this project should be coordinated with replacement or repair of electric and natural gas utility infrastructure, particularly the natural gas distribution lines which are a chronic source of leaks at the intersection of 5th Street and S Street NW;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 6E communicates its support for capital funding to implement the S Street NW Revitalization Project be included in future District budgets, and that special notice of this request be communicated to the Mayor and the Council of the District of Columbia;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 6E reiterates its request 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 between Florida Avenue NW and S Street NW. These traffic calming should address the existing traffic safety issues identified in the S Street NW Revitalization Project, and should include turn hardening with flex posts, raised lane channeling, high visibility ladder-style crosswalks, and an all way stop signs at the intersection of S Street and 5th Street NW.

ON BEHALF OF THE COMMISSION,

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rachelle Nigro". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Rachelle Nigro,  
Chair

CC: Lee Goodall, Chief of Staff for Jeff Marootian, DDOT  
Abdullahi Mohamed, Supervising Civil Engineer, DDOT  
Linda Bailey, Vision Zero Director, 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