



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

May 12, 2021

Muriel Bowser
Mayor
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20004

RE: Support for Full Funding of the Vision Zero Enhancement Omnibus Amendment Act of 2020 in the Fiscal Year 2022 Budget

Dear Mayor Bowser:

On May 4, 2021, at the duly noticed and regularly scheduled meeting of the Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6E (“ANC 6E” or “Commission”) and with a quorum of 7 out of 7 Commissioners and the public present, ANC 6E approved the following resolution by a vote of 7 in favor, 0 against, and 0 abstentions:

WHEREAS, in 2015, Mayor Bowser committed the District to achieving a Vision Zero Pledge to eliminate transportation fatalities and serious injuries by 2024 through the implementation of strategies related to data, education, engineering, and enforcement;¹

WHEREAS, despite the Mayor’s commitment to Vision Zero, traffic fatalities are not decreasing, and have in fact increased in the District have actually increased in four of the five years since Vision Zero was adopted;²

WHEREAS, ANC 6E has experienced tragic loss of life due to unsafe streets and traffic violence;

WHEREAS, ANC 6E recognizes that traffic violence disproportionately impacts Black and Brown communities and communities East of the River,³ and that this is the direct result of

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https://ddot.dc.gov/sites/default/files/dc/sites/ddot/page_content/attachments/VZActionPlan_forWebsite_FINAL-UPDATED_Part1.pdf

² Since 2015, there have been at least 196 traffic fatalities and 1,803 major injuries on District roadways. <https://ggwash.org/view/81085/after-six-years-of-failure-its-time-to-start-over-on-vision-zero>

³ In 2019, nearly half of traffic deaths occurred in Wards 7 and 8. <https://www.wusa9.com/article/features/producers-picks/dc-traffic-safety-wards-7-and-8-fatalities/65-0a1a344d-da56-4dc5-b3a3-76cc3efdc935>



decades of racist transportation and housing policies that prioritize convenience of suburban drivers over the safety of Black and Brown residents;

WHEREAS, there have been 15 traffic deaths in the District since the start of 2021, which is up from 9 deaths at this time in 2020 and is still 15 deaths too many;

WHEREAS, among the lives lost to traffic violence this year was Jim Pagels, a 29-year-old District resident who was killed by a driver while riding a bicycle on the 100 Block of Massachusetts Avenue NW, on the border of Single Member District 6E07;

WHEREAS, a white “ghost bike” was erected at the location where Jim Pagels was killed as a both a memorial and a call to action for elected officials and District agencies to take decisive action to prevent further loss of life to traffic violence;

WHEREAS, the Council of the District of Columbia (“Council”) passed the Vision Zero Enhancement Omnibus Amendment Act of 2020 (“Vision Zero Act”),⁴ which includes, among other things sweeping provisions that will:

- Accelerate the deployment of sidewalks, protected bike lanes, and transit priority lanes;
- Require that DDOT and private developers to incorporate safe and accessible facilities for pedestrians, bicyclists, and transit riders whenever a capital improvement or major street repair is undertaken;
- Prohibit dangerous right turns on red at intersections located within 400 feet of a playground, school, recreation center, library, Metrorail station, or at intersections with a bike lane running through it;
- Reduce the default speed limit to 20 mph on local and neighborhood streets;
- Greatly expand DDOT’s Automated Traffic Enforcement (“ATE”) program to require deployment of additional red light cameras, speed cameras, and stop sign cameras; and
- Require new developments to include planned space for freight and passenger loading and unloading to eliminate the need to double park or park in a curbside bike lane;

WHEREAS, the majority of Vision Zero Act remains unfunded in the District budget and therefore unimplemented;

⁴ <https://ims.dccouncil.us/Legislation/B23-0288>



WHEREAS, the Fiscal Impact Statement for the Vision Zero Act anticipates that full implementation will require \$41.7 million in the first Fiscal Year and \$171.5 million over the next five Fiscal Years;⁵

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, ANC 6E calls on the Mayor and the Council to include funding for the full implementation of the Vision Zero Act in the Fiscal Year 2022 Budget;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that ANC 6E commits to redouble its efforts to improve street safety in our neighborhoods and to hold DDOT accountable for the full and complete implementation of the Vision Zero Act because no life lost to traffic violence is acceptable.

ON BEHALF OF THE COMMISSION,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Rachelle Nigro'.

Rachelle Nigro,
Chair

CC: Charles Allen, Ward 6 Councilmember
Mary Cheh, Ward 3 Councilmember
Janeese Lewis George, Ward 4 Councilmember
Kenyan McDuffie, Ward 5 Councilmember
Christina Henderson, At-Large Councilmember

⁵ https://lms.dccouncil.us/downloads/LIMS/42522/Other/B23-0288-FIS_Vision_Zero_Enhancement_Omnibus_Amendment_Act_of_2020.pdf