

**Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6E
Virtual Special Public Meeting
Tuesday, May 18, 2021**

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6E convened via Zoom Video Conference and/or Telephone on Tuesday, May 18, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.

Present:

Michael Eichler, ANC 6E01
Alex Lopez, ANC 6E02
Frank S. Wiggins, ANC 6E03
Rachelle Nigro (Chair), ANC 6E04
Patrick Parlej, ANC 6E05
Denise Blackson, ANC 6E06 (joined late)
Kevin M. Rogers, ANC 6E07

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Chair Rachelle Nigro with a quorum present.

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: Commissioner Wiggins moved and Commissioner Eichler seconded to approve the Agenda as presented. The Motion *passed* unanimously. [Commissioner Blackson had not yet joined the call.]

III. DISCUSSION OF ANC 6E LETTER CONCERNING BALTIMORE-WASHINGTON SUPERCONDUCTING MAGLEV PROJECT DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

Commissioner Nigro opened the meeting by stating that the Draft Environmental Impact Statement is only addressing the DC to Baltimore segment of the project.

Commissioner Lopez stated the Draft ANC 6E letter is the culmination of the work of a lot of dedicated community volunteers and engaged residents. A working group met on April 14 to initially discuss this letter and then the ANC 6E Transportation Committee continued that conversation at its meeting on April 27, 2021. In addition, there have been several SMD meetings on this issue. It is his hope that what is put together here is a consolidation of consensus positions that the ANC can take that are focused primarily on the local transportation network from the MAGLEV Project as proposed. We are not taking a position in favor of or opposition to, but are going to identify issues about which we have concerns before publication of the Environmental Impact Statement. This letter primarily looks at transportation issues. We have a lot of transportation experts and residents in our ANC. However, omission of factors like Zoning and other issues does not mean that the ANC does not care about them; we only had enough capacity to tackle this big issue.

Commissioner Lopez read the following “Summary of Comments” that are part of the draft ANC 6E letter to the Maryland Transit Administration and the Federal Railroad Administration:

- The design of the Mount Vernon Square East station should support a passenger mode share of at least 75% of passenger arrivals and departures by transit, walking, or bicycling.
- This mode share should be achieved through direct connection to Metrorail, integration with existing and planned bus and bicycle infrastructure, and a significant reduction in the volume of station parking.
- The Station Entrances at 1st Street, NW and 4th Street, NW should be reserved for emergency egress only and not used for general passenger boarding in order to mitigate traffic impacts on surrounding neighborhoods.
- The DEIS should propose further strategies to mitigate the economic, transportation, and quality of life impacts of the multi-year cut-and-cover construction on New York Avenue, NW between 7th Street, NW and North Capitol Street.

Commissioner Eichler did some additional edits on the Attachment to the Draft ANC 6E letter and stated the Attachment is the result of the hard work of ANC 6E’s Transportation Advisory Committee and the bullets do a good job of summarizing.

Discussion ensued as to whether the following sentence should be included after the opening sentence in the second paragraph: “Many residents of ANC 6E are excited about the potential of this proposed high-speed transportation facility coming to the neighborhood.”

Community Input:

1. Chris Sgro – stated he was really opposed to the project. ANC 6E needs a seat at the table and should revert to a position that opposes this project.
2. Ryan Butler – stated he echoes Chris’ concerns about MAGLEV. He attended a meeting of the subcommittee that met with MAGLEV. How is this project going to connect to Metro? There are no alternative sites.
3. The other resident on the call had no opinion one way or the other.

Commissioner Parlej stated he held a public meeting on this; some are against and some are for, some in the middle. He likes the Draft Letter as written. There is no consensus on whether fully for it or against it.

Commissioner Eichler stated he would choose a more strongly worded letter.

MOTION: Commissioner Nigro moved and Commissioner Rogers seconded that the sentence “Many residents of ANC 6E are excited about the potential of this proposed high-speed transportation facility coming to the neighborhood” **be omitted** from the Draft Letter and that the ANC 6E letter, as amended, be duly signed and submitted to the Maryland Transit Administration and the Federal Railroad Administration. The Motion **passed** unanimously.

IV. NEXT MEETING – TUESDAY, JUNE 1, 2021

V. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted

Karen Jehle
Recording Secretary
Cell: 703-606-2010
Email: karen-jehle@outlook.com