

## **ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 6E**

PO Box 93020 Brentwood Station, Washington, DC 20090

October 5, 2022

Everett Lott Director District Department of Transportation 250 M Street SE Washington, DC 20003

RE: Requesting that the District Department of Transportation Study Upgrading the Q Street NW and R Street NW Roadways and Bike Lanes to Conform to Current Safety Standards

## Dear Director Lott:

On October 4, 2022, 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 6 out of 6 Commissioners and the public present, ANC 6E approved the following resolution by a vote of 6 in favor, o against, and o abstentions:

WHEREAS, the segments of 1) Q Street NW between 11th Street NW and New Jersey Avenue NW and 2) R Street NW between 11th Street NW and New Jersey Avenue NW are located in the jurisdictional boundary of ANC 6E in Single Member Districts 6Eo1 and 6Eo2;

WHEREAS, Q Street NW is a one-way eastbound street with a functional classification of minor arterial and has an unprotected bike lane that extends from Massachusetts Avenue NW to Florida Avenue NW;

WHEREAS, R Street NW is a one-way westbound street with a functional classification of minor arterial and has an unprotected bike lane that extends from Florida Avenue NW to Massachusetts Avenue NW;

WHEREAS, the eastbound bike lane on Q Street NW and the westbound bike lane on R Street NW together comprise a bike lane couplet that provides an important crosstown bike route between Dupont Circle and the Metropolitan Branch Trail, connecting to north-south bike lanes at 17th Street NW, 15th Street NW, 11th Street NW, 9th Street NW (under construction), and New Jersey Avenue NW (under construction);

WHEREAS, riding on unprotected lanes and with sharrows is higher stress than riding on fully protected bike lanes, which may discourage less confident riders. Furthermore, unprotected bike



lanes increase conflict points between bicyclists and drivers, create dooring hazards for bicyclists, and can be easily blocked by drivers;

WHEREAS, there have been 255 reported injuries on Q Street NW and R Street NW in the last five years, including 53 injuries to bicyclists, 31 injuries to pedestrians, and 171 injuries to vehicle drivers and passengers. This equates to nearly one injury every week;

WHEREAS, the District's 2021 Update to the Multimodal Long-Range Transportation Plan ("moveDC Plan") designates the segment of Q Street NW between Massachusetts Avenue NW and Florida Avenue NW and the segment of R Street NW between the Metropolitan Branch Trail and Florida Avenue NW as part of the District's Bicycle Priority Network;<sup>1</sup>

WHEREAS, the moveDC Plan adopts national best practices established by the Federal Highway Administration ("FHWA") and the National Association of City Transportation Officials ("NACTO") which assert that any bicycle facilities planned for major or minor arterials should be fully protected facilities;<sup>2</sup>

WHEREAS, Q Street NW and R Street NW each hold the functional classification of minor arterials and therefore the bicycle facilities on these streets should be fully protected per FHWA and NACTO best practices;

WHEREAS, ANC 6E broadly supports the buildout of a connected and protected bike lane network in furtherance of the District's transportation, climate, and vision zero goals as defined in the 2021 Update to the moveDC Plan, Sustainable DC 2.0, and the Vision Zero Action Plan, respectively;

WHEREAS, on June 29, 2022, the ANC 6E Transportation Advisory Committee received a presentation from a coalition of safe streets advocates seeking support for a resolution requesting that DDOT design protected bicycle lanes on Q Street NW and/or R Street NW;

WHEREAS, ANC 6E recognizes that ANC 2B (Dupont Circle)<sup>3</sup> and ANC 2F (Logan Circle)<sup>4</sup> have each passed resolutions requesting that DDOT study and design plans that improve bicyclist safety, including creating fully protected bike lanes on Q Street NW and R Street NW;

https://resolutions.anc.dc.gov/AttachmentsFiles/10/ANC%20Resolution%20for%20DDOT%20Study%20at%20Q%20and%20R%20 TM 20220920041318PM.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> https://movedc-dcgis.hub.arcgis.com/pages/mobility-priority-networks#bike

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> moveDC Plan p.60. Available: <a href="https://movedc-dcgis.hub.arcgis.com/">https://movedc-dcgis.hub.arcgis.com/</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> https://www.dupontcircleanc.net/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/ANC-2B-RESOLUTION-Upgrading-Q-Street-and-R-Street-NW-DDOT.pdf



THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 6E requests that DDOT study and publish for public comment designs for fully protected bike lanes on Q Street NW and R Street NW between Massachusetts Avenue NW and the Metropolitan Branch Trail;

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 6E requests that, in its study, DDOT also include opportunities to calm traffic and improve transportation safety for all road users along this project corridor;

ON BEHALF OF THE COMMISSION.

Sincerely,

Michael Eichler,

Chair

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6E

CC:

Brooke Pinto, Ward 2 Councilmember Donovan Boyd, Ward 2 Community Engagement Specialist, DDOT