

**MINUTES
for the
REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMISSION
on
October 10, 2024 via Zoom**

Guest speaker at 6:30 p.m.

- Christopher Berg (Planning and Sustainability Division, District Department of Transportation)

SUMMARY: DC's Move DC plan aims to build a safe, citywide bicycle network by 2044, promoting alternatives to car travel and supporting Vision Zero's goal to reduce traffic deaths. The 11th Street project addresses gaps in bike lanes from L Street to Monroe Street, extending a protected bike corridor through Columbia Heights. Planned improvements include safer, buffered bike lanes, redesigned intersections, and traffic-calming measures, with updates accessible online for community engagement. Here options are considered:

1. **Alternative 1:** Adds protected bike lanes with two-way vehicular traffic, removing all parking between Vermont and Florida.
2. **Alternative 2:** Adds protected bike lanes, converts traffic to one-way, and retains parking on one side.
3. **Alternative 3:** Adds a northbound protected bike lane and a southbound shared lane, maintaining two-way traffic and one side of parking.

Each option is under review, with traffic analysis and community input needed to assess impacts. The project timeline involves concept planning, design drafts, public feedback, and eventual construction. Community members are encouraged to provide input on the alternatives, especially given space limitations along the corridor. If interested in providing feedback you can email christopher.berg@dc.gov

The Vermont Avenue Northwest project, part of DC's Move DC plan, proposes the installation of protected bike lanes by removing one travel lane in each direction while retaining curbside parking. Traffic analysis supports this design, indicating no adverse effects on vehicle flow. The project is in its design phase, with construction anticipated in summer 2025, and includes planning for loading zones, ADA parking, and rideshare spaces. In parallel, DDOT is developing a five-year strategic bikeways plan for DC, involving public engagement in 2025 to determine priorities for expanding the city's bikeways network.

Call meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

I. ROLL CALL

Commissioner	Present	Absent
<i>1B01</i> Handerhan	X	
<i>1B02</i> Chauvin	X	
<i>1B03</i> Sycamore	X	
<i>1B04</i> Lakatos	X	
<i>1B05</i> Kensek	X	
<i>1B06</i> Trindade Deramo	X	
<i>1B07</i> Fields	X	
<i>1B08</i> Harris	X	
<i>1B09</i> Jones	X	

II. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

MOTION: Commissioner Chauvin moved to amend the meeting agenda, allowing four specific commissioners impacted by bike lane discussions—Commissioners Harris, Chauvin, Sycamore, and Lakatos—an additional minute per item. This would extend their allotted time from two to three minutes, while maintaining a two-minute limit for all other commissioners and participants. The MOTION PASSED by a voice vote.

III. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of the prior meeting minutes**
- B. Speaking time: Two comments of two minutes each for Commissioners and community members, with an additional 20-second comment at the discretion of the chair, per topic**

MOTION:

IV. EXECUTIVE OFFICERS' REPORTS

- A. Financial report (Cmsr. Lakatos)**

Voting on the Q4 FY24 Financial Report will be at the November meeting which will still allow time within the QR deadline.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Committee on Transportation

- i. 11th Street NW Protected Bike Lane project comment resolution
- ii. If interested in joining the Transportation Committee as a community member, please contact Commissioner Santiago Lakatos at 1B04@anc.dc.gov. The next meeting of the Transportation Committee will take place on Wednesday, October 23 at 7:00 p.m. (registration via www.anc1b.org).

DISCUSSION: Commissioner Handerhan inquired about Alternative 2 for 11th Street bike lanes, asking about traffic impact and business loading zones. DDOT plans further business outreach and will review curb space allocation for ADA, loading zones, and parking adjustments.

Commissioner Lakatos asked if DDOT would present the upcoming 65% design plans for Vermont Avenue at the Transportation Committee meeting due to community interest. DDOT confirmed their willingness to present the designs. Additionally, DDOT's curbside management team plans to extend 24-hour residential-only parking in Zone 1 as part of the U Street Performance Parking Zone.

Commissioner Jones asked why a continuous two-way bike lane along the entire 11th Street corridor isn't under consideration. DDOT responded that curbside protected lanes, rather than a two-way path, are prioritized for space and functional reasons, especially in narrow sections. DDOT offered to provide a detailed explanation via email, including specific road width analyses. Commissioner Jones also questioned the use of sharrows, citing studies suggesting limited safety benefits. DDOT acknowledged sharrows are not a preferred solution and typically apply them only as a temporary measure in narrow spaces or network gaps, aiming for dedicated bike lanes where possible.

Chair Harris inquired about the percentage of parking spaces that would be removed relative to the total parking inventory in the area, suggesting that a comparison would help assess the impact. DDOT responded that they do not currently have that figure but could collaborate with the curbside management team to estimate available parking by type within a defined radius.

Commissioner Fields asked about the impact of bike lane changes on emergency vehicle access, bus routes near Howard University Hospital, and visitor access to the African American Civil War Memorial. DDOT stated they coordinate with emergency services and

WMATA to maintain access, noting similar setups have functioned without issues. For the memorial, DDOT confirmed ongoing communication with stakeholders to ensure no conflicts with visitor access.

Commissioner Chauvin asked if the upcoming five-year review of the Move DC transportation plan will include reassessing the priority of projects like those on Vermont Avenue and 11th Street. DDOT clarified that Move DC, a federally mandated plan, undergoes updates every five years, with the next in 2026. However, existing projects on Vermont Avenue and 11th Street align with both Move DC and the strategic bikeways plan, which aims to expand and fill network gaps. These projects are not subject to reevaluation for removal but are part of the ongoing network expansion efforts.

Commissioner Sycamore asked if the ANC vote on the bike lane project is immediately required and raised concerns about maintaining existing bike lanes before adding new ones on 11th Street. DDOT confirmed that while an immediate vote isn't essential, community feedback is valuable. They emphasized 11th Street's importance as a connection between Columbia Heights and downtown. The member also requested a neighborhood walkthrough to discuss parking impacts, which DDOT agreed to arrange.

Commissioner Kensek voiced support for the proposed 11th Street bike lane, observing frequent cyclist injuries despite adherence to traffic laws. They urged commissioners to consider the trade-off between reduced parking spaces and improved cyclist safety, emphasizing that all road users—pedestrians, cyclists, and drivers—should have safe access.

Commissioner Fields inquired about the impact of lane reductions on bus stops at 11th Street and Vermont Avenue. DDOT confirmed that bus stop locations and safe boarding designs will be incorporated into the project, with a focus on accommodating WMATA's requests and ensuring safety for bus riders.

Community member, Krishna Kumar, asked if DDOT's plans for 11th Street include removing embedded rails and whether Vermont Avenue designs allow space for street trees. DDOT explained that rail removal is complex and costly, so only patching is planned for repairs on 11th Street; major resurfacing is not part of this project.

Another community member, Paul Carlson, raised concerns about delayed communication from DDOT on infrastructure changes, noting unresolved issues like loading and unloading for businesses. They recommended postponing approval until all community concerns are addressed.

A third community member, Ronald Carlson, a senior resident at Vermont and 11th raised concerns about limited community outreach on the proposed protected bike lanes, noting safety issues with cyclists and other vehicles not following traffic rules. The resident suggested pausing the project to allow for more community dialogue with DDOT and the ANC.

Community member, Nick Delledonne, asked about emergency access on narrowed roads and DDOT's coordination with the fire department. DDOT confirmed collaboration with local fire stations and noted that some two-way bike lanes can be used by emergency vehicles. They explained that street selection for bike lanes is based on strategic planning to connect key destinations and accommodate diverse road users.

Community member, Jean Homza, asked if the U Street Performance Parking Zone would lose parking spaces due to the 11th Street and Vermont Avenue projects, impacting funding from surge parking. DDOT confirmed that two blocks on 11th Street within the zone are affected, but the final parking impacts are pending feedback on the initial proposal. Coordination with DDOT's curbside team is ongoing to address community concerns.

Additional Community Questions in Q&A chat: A resident expressed concerns about reduced parking for visitors and contractors. DDOT aims to promote biking and reduce car use, potentially easing parking demand. Commissioners requested detailed data on parking impacts. DDOT noted that construction is brief and will work with teams to ensure access for businesses and provide further parking analysis.

A resident asked how DDOT is educating users on new bike lane safety. DDOT emphasized creating a predictable network to improve behavior and acknowledged the need for better enforcement, aiming for a design that enhances overall safety.

In response to resident concerns about potential parking loss on Vermont Avenue due to a bike lane project, DDOT clarified the timeline for project stages, from initial designs through a review period, aiming for construction by early summer. The discussion also covered parking impacts, with officials noting a significant reduction of spaces.

DDOT discussed the limitations of speed bumps, noting they reduce speed but don't stop drivers from accelerating between them. They are not a replacement for protected bike lanes, which offer safer, separated spaces for cyclists. DDOT uses speed humps and other calming tools when suitable.

The ANC clarified that DDOT initiated discussions on the bike lane project in 2022, holding multiple meetings with community members, including churches. The Transportation Committee held extended meetings in August and September to discuss the plans, take comments, and consider a resolution. The current focus is on community engagement and support for a protected bike lane, not finalizing specific options.

RESOLUTION: This resolution passed out of the Transportation Committee unanimously four to zero. **MOTION:** The resolution outlines a series of requests and considerations for DDOT's proposed bike lanes on 11th Street and Vermont Avenue. Key points include:

- Supporting a two-way protected bike lane with parking on one side and ADA parking spots with ramps, similar to designs on K Street.

- Installing clear signage for cyclists, creating a loading zone near V Street for ADA vehicles, ensuring safe pickup/drop-off for Meyer Elementary, and addressing issues with streetcar tracks.
- Implementing speed bumps, raised crosswalks, concrete barriers between bike lanes, and accommodating commercial loading zones.
- Enhancing parking enforcement within the performance parking zone and considering cameras for fixed enforcement.
- Studying the effectiveness of parking management, reviewing existing designs for improvements, and scheduling additional public meetings, including on-site and virtual discussions.
- Further requests include using floating bus islands to improve bus flow and prevent illegal parking in bus stops, and a passing lane on inclines.

DISCUSSION: Commissioners emphasized the importance of both cyclist safety and addressing the concerns of long-term residents and businesses impacted by the bike lane project. Commissioner Chauvin highlighted the lack of consistent communication from DDOT due to turnover, eroding community trust. The resolution proposes two additional meetings with DDOT to address remaining concerns and finalize design options. Commissioner Sycamore advocated for a one- to two-month delay for further community input. Chair Harris, expressed support for the bike lanes due to the safety benefits, stating they are committed to continued community engagement and balancing bike safety with parking concerns. Commissioner Handerhan supported the bike lane, leaning toward Alternative 2, which retains one lane of parking, and highlighted substantial public interest. Commissioner Kensek echoed this preference for Alternative 2, balancing safety for cyclists and parking needs. There is expressed concern that postponing the vote could weaken their influence over DDOT's decisions. Ultimately, commissioners recognized the city's push toward bike-friendly infrastructure but acknowledged unresolved issues around parking and loading zones. Commissioner Jones expressed support for moving forward with the resolution, highlighting that it addresses many community concerns, including loading zones, streetcar track impacts, and bike lane interaction with parking. Commissioner Lakatos emphasized efforts to incorporate extensive community feedback into the resolution, which includes requests for additional engagement with DDOT. Both Jones and Lakatos favored proceeding without delay, noting that the resolution already addresses the primary concerns raised by residents.

Community Member Discussion: A Transportation Committee member, Ben Klemens, summarized community feedback on the 11th Street protected bike lane project, noting general support for safety improvements, particularly with alternative two, which includes protected lanes and maintains some parking. They highlighted recent data on road safety, stressed that accessibility concerns were incorporated, and supported organized infrastructure to reduce congestion and improve safety for all road users on 11th Street.

Matthew Holden, a resident of 1B07, voiced strong support for voting on the resolution tonight, particularly favoring option two. He encouraged early and consistent ANC involvement throughout the design phases and highlighted that 11th Street serves as a major bike route, especially between the U Street area and Columbia Heights. He expressed appreciation for the ANC's work on the project.

Krishna Kumar, expressed concerns that condo residents were unaware of the bike lane proposal and generally opposed it. He thanked the commissioners for their work and asked if DDOT favored option one over option two, which retains some parking. Commissioner Lakatos clarified that option two would need further traffic analysis but believes it better balances community needs than option one, which removes all parking

Ronald Carlson highlighted low community awareness of the bike lane project, observed that many cyclists avoid using existing bike lanes, and suggested that traffic rules for cyclists be enforced.

MOTION: Commissioner Sycamore proposed a motion to postpone the vote of the 11th Street projected bike lane project by a month to our November meeting in order to give commissioners time to properly engage constituents with and without DDOT, to educate the public and receive adequate feedback from residents of their single member districts and beyond. Commissioner Kensek seconded the motion.

DISCUSSION: Commissioners debated delaying a vote on a protected bike lane resolution to allow more community input. It was also raised that the resolution already includes plans for further community engagement, while others felt additional time could address resident concerns. **The motion DID NOT PASS by a voice vote.**

MOTION: Commissioner Lakatos moved that the full ANC adopt the 11th Street protected bike lane project resolution as presented to the full ANC. The motion was seconded.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Commissioner	Yea	Nay	Abstention
1B01 Handerhan	X		
1B02 Chauvin	X		
1B03 Sycamore	X		
1B04 Lakatos	X		
1B05 Kensek	X		
1B06 Trindade Deramo	X		
1B07 Fields	X		
1B08 Harris	X		

1B09	Jones	X		
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The motion PASSED unanimously (9 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions).

B. Committee on Alcoholic Beverage Regulations

- i. Crank Corner (1915 7th Street NW) settlement agreement
- ii. Next regular meeting: Wednesday, October 16 at 7:00 p.m. Check www.anc1b.org for updates.

MOTION: Commissioner Fields moved to enter into a settlement agreement with Crank Corner. Commissioner Kensek seconded motion. **DISCUSSION:** Commissioners reviewed the final approval of a previously signed settlement agreement for a cannabis shop, covering noise control, trash management, and area safety. A wall will separate the shop from a neighboring music-playing business. **The motion PASSED (9 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstention).**

C. Committee on Economic Development

- i. Reeves Center updates
 - 1. DMPED Vinita Phonseya from the office of the Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development attended and presented the anticipated timeline for this property. Aiming for DC Council to be able to vote on the land disposition agreement by the end of calendar year 2024; for all tenants to vacate the existing buildings by the end of calendar year 2025; and for groundbreaking by the end of calendar year 2026.
- ii. 625 T St NW
 - 1. Committee member Gaal moved that the committee authorize Chair Jones draft a resolution in support of one or two Throne facilities being placed in the T Street area in the area of Single Member Districts 1B01 and 1B02, with the possibility also of facilities in 1B08 and/or 1B07. The motion was seconded. The motion passed (3 in favor, 0 against, 1 abstaining).
- iii. 1617 U St NW updates

1. As of the prior week the Zoning Commission had voted for the second time to support the proposed map amendment (rezoning). This is a “final action.”
 2. DMPED says it’s taking 4-6 months for orders to then be issued by the Office of Zoning to change the zoning itself. The change in zoning comes into effect upon the issuance of the order.
 3. There is another zoning case on this topic, which is ZC 23-26. That had been on hold pending the outcome of the main zoning case 23-02. Now December 5 is the date for ZC 23-26. ZC 23-26 would implement a setback or side yard on the eastern side of the property.
 4. Chair Jones asked Ms. Jennifer Steingasser from the Office of Planning to join at this meeting but she was not available. Instead she will join at the October 17 meeting of the ED committee.
- iv. Community placemaking entity updates
1. Committee chairs have invited Mr. David Meni from CM Nadeau’s office to the October 17 meeting of the ANC 1B ED committee to talk about ideas that the office has about a community placemaking entity for the U Street Area.
- v. Updates on vacant property legislation
1. ANC 1B anticipates that DC Council Chair Mendelson will release new draft legislation on vacant property in the fall. ANC 1B’s ED committee will discuss it when it is released.
- vi. The next meeting of ANC 1B’s ED Committee will take place on Thursday, October 17 at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom. To attend, check ANC 1B’s website, www.anc1b.org. If you are interested in joining the ED Committee, please email Commissioner Tucker Jones at 1b09@anc.dc.gov.

SUMMARY: The Economic Development Committee provided updates on the next committee meeting, plans for the Reeves Center, and progress on the 1617 project, including anticipated timelines and a review of property setbacks. The committee also mentioned expected upcoming vacant property legislation. Commissioners Chauvin,

Sycamore and Kensek voiced concerns over a proposed public toilet's general location on T Street, safety, potential maintenance issues, and overcrowding of amenities in the area. Commissioner Fields voiced support for the public restroom initiative, emphasizing the need for safe and accessible restroom facilities for the homeless population, given that most local businesses require a purchase to access their restrooms. **MOTION:** Commissioner Trindade Deramo moves to table the resolution. Commissioner Jones seconds the motion. **DISCUSSION:** Commissioners discussed a proposed public restroom, noting its benefits for public sanitation and security features, but raised concerns about its impact on nearby residents, businesses, and events. The suggestion was made to send it back to the committee for further community feedback and location review. **The motion PASSED (7 in favor, 1 opposed, 1 abstention).**

D. Committee on Public Safety and Community Engagement

- i. The committee did not meet in September.
- ii. Potential sponsorship review for Vida Dance Company
- iii. Reimbursement for printing materials associated with community meeting
- iv. Next regular meeting: Tuesday, October 8 at 7:00 p.m. Check www.anc1b.org for updates.

SUMMARY: A recent meeting discussed projects at the Rita Bright Center, future funding requests for gardening projects, and the possibility of sponsoring Vida Dance Company. The committee also approved a \$55 reimbursement for printing materials used for a September community meeting. An upcoming community yoga event at the YMCA, initially planned for September, was also briefly mentioned. **MOTION:** Commissioner Fields made a motion for a reimbursement for printing materials associated with the community meeting in September. Commissioner Kensek seconded the motion. **The motion PASSED (8 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstention, 1 not voting).**

MOTION: Commissioner Fields moved for \$80 in funding for a community yoga event at the Anthony Bowen YMCA. Commissioner Kensek seconded the motion. **The motion PASSED (7 in favor, 0 opposed, 3 abstention).**

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Commissioner		Yea	Nay	Abstention
1B01	Handerhan	X		
1B02	Chauvin	X		
1B03	Sycamore			X
1B04	Lakatos			X
1B05	Kensek	X		
1B06	Trindade Deramo	X		
1B07	Fields	X		
1B08	Harris	X		
1B09	Jones			X

SUMMARY: Vita Dance Company haven't gotten back to the committee on request. At the recent meeting, the committee discussed reviewing local crime statistics with occasional input from the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) and announced plans to increase outreach efforts to engage local youth, especially those involved in criminal activity, to build a stronger community in area 1B. The next committee meeting is scheduled for November.

E. Committee on Zoning, Preservation and Development

- i. The committee did not meet in September.
- ii. The Zoning, Preservation, and Development Committee of ANC 1B will meet next on Monday, October 21 at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom. To attend, check ANC1B's website, www.anc1b.org. Anticipated agenda items:
 - 1. Howard University Hospital redevelopment and proposed map amendment ([Map Amendment 24-01](#) changing the zoning of this area mostly or entirely to MU-9)
 - 2. Christian Tabernacle Church (2033 11th St NW — [BZA application 21208](#), "To construct a seven-story with below-grade parking and penthouse, with approximately 65 residential units and a ground floor child development center, mixed use building in the ARTS-2 zone")

- iii. If you are interested in joining the ZPD Committee, please email Commissioner Tucker Jones at 1b09@anc.dc.gov.

SUMMARY: In the recent meeting, updates were provided about upcoming zoning committee agenda items, including Howard University Hospital's redevelopment and the Christian Tabernacle Church's affordable housing project. Commissioner Jones, currently overseas, has arranged for Vice Chair Larry Handerhan to chair the October 21 ZPD meeting, which will focus on these projects.

VI. ADMINISTRATIVE

A. Commission meeting schedule for the remainder of the calendar year

B. Amendments to the Standard Operating Procedures (Cmsrs. Trindade Deramo and Jones) — see: [SOPs with proposed amendments inline](#)

SUMMARY: The commissioners are planning to hold a hybrid meeting in November, likely at the Housing Finance location, with a virtual attendance option. The last two commission meetings for the year will be held on November 7 and December 5. We will push back the amendments to the November meeting.

VII. EXECUTIVE, COUNCILMEMBER, COMMISSIONER & COMMUNITY

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Office of the Councilmember, Ward 1: Niccole Rivero

SUMMARY: Councilmember Nadeau's office reported on recent initiatives, including oversight hearings for the Office of Neighborhood Safety and Engagement, which highlighted concerns over a lack of clear strategy despite successes in violence prevention. They also launched an investigation into the ride-hailing app Empower for safety issues and non-compliance with local regulations. Ongoing issues with the Office of Unified Communications' emergency dispatch services were discussed, noting systemic failures and technical issues. The next public engagement event with the councilmember will be on October 29. Questions were raised about the visibility and effectiveness of violence interrupters, with Nadeau's office committing to provide relevant data and further discuss local parking program details with DDOT.

B. Office of the Mayor: Anthony J. Robertson, MOCRS shared the following updates:

SUMMARY: The mayor's office provided updates on upcoming seasonal programs and community initiatives. Leaf collection season will run from October 28 to February 8, with flyers distributed starting October 14. Snow season preparations are also beginning, and volunteers are welcome to assist. Additionally, a community cleanup event will take place in Leroy Park on October 13, open to all residents. Information on contacting local agencies and organizing further cleanups was also shared. No questions were raised following the update.

C. Commissioner announcements

SUMMARY: Residents are reminded of the upcoming voting season, with Election Day on November 5. Early voting will be available in Ward 1 from October 28 through November 3, with locations on 10th and U Street, as well as in Columbia Heights. Voters can cast their ballots at any voting location, regardless of residence ward, both during early voting and on Election Day.

D. Community announcements

No additional community announcements

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

IX. ADJOURNMENT at 10:07pm