



Advisory Neighborhood Commission 5E

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ANC 5E Emergency Public Meeting Minutes (September 2023) Tuesday, September 12, 2023

Present: Commissioners Joyce Robinson-Paul, Karla Lewis, Fred Carver, Huma Imtiaz, Kevin Rapp

1. Commissioner Lewis provided instructions for public participation in the meeting.
2. The meeting was held virtually via Zoom and began at 7 p.m. ET with a quorum with 4 Commissioners present.
3. Commissioner Lewis provided an introduction of the [NOI 23-182 on North Capitol St NW and P St NW/NE](#).
4. DDOT's Derek Voight provided a presentation on proposed changes to the North Capitol St NW and P St NW intersection, which would include:
 - a. Removing 18 parking spaces on P St NE and P St NW
 - b. Helping fix issues that were identified as part of the highway safety improvement program study that took place at the intersection.
 - c. The proposed upgrades would include accessible pedestrian signals, signing updates, pavement marking and closing the median gap.
 - d. Ongoing issues include traffic congestion during morning and afternoon school drop off and pickup.
5. Commissioner Robinson-Paul asked why DDOT had not consulted them earlier and highlighted the removal of parking spots for residents who had paid Residential Parking Permit (RPP) fees. Commissioner Robinson-Paul said she had reached out to residents with a survey and outreach, and reported receiving opposition from residents on P St NW on the proposal. Commissioner Robinson-Paul mentioned that residents have already been restricted from parking in some spots from 8:00 a-6:30 p.m. on P St NW on both sides of the street.
 - a. DDOT said they had not been in a position to do so since the survey was underway, the NOI is the step in consulting process.
 - b. DDOT clarified that the parking spaces being removed are not Residential Parking Permit (RPP) spaces, they are unrestricted and would not impact the residents who

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have paid RPP fees.

6. DDOT advised that if the ANC 5E does not want to move forward with this, some of the changes will not go into effect.
7. Commissioner Kevin Rapp asked about DDOT outreach, said some people on P St NW and in Mundo Verde had been unaware of the proposed changes.
8. Commissioner Imtiaz asked about additional safety improvements around the school and crash incidences at the intersection.
 - a. DDOT referred questions about school safety and safe routes to the relevant team. DDOT presented a crash diagram that included car crashes, and crashes involving pedestrians, and bicyclists.

Questions from community:

Q. What specifically will the areas that are now parking space become? Will those sections of the streets become two lanes? Turning lanes?

Parking spots will become turn lanes.

Q. Will crosswalk timing be increased?

They meet federal minimum requirements – as far as DDOT is aware, there are no changes planned but will look into it.

Q. Will red light cameras be installed?

This program does consider red cameras or as a countermeasure, DDOT not review for red light cameras, however the ATE team can review.

Q. How to reach out to the school safe routes team?

dalando.baker@dc.gov

Q. Why had DDOT not taken action like this on 1st St NW which also has traffic issues.

DDOT said they cant speak for 1st St NW actions, but looked at severity of crashes for this case.

Q. How can residents send letters of support?

Contact DDOT at derek.voight@dc.gov and also let your ANC commissioner know.

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Q. What is the timeline for related construction on North Capitol St NW near P St
The work on that project is ongoing.

Q. Will there be left turn arrows as part of the traffic changes?
DDOT: Just a dedicated left turn lane given that there is relatively low side street volumes but will look into it.

Q. Could Mr. Voight please comment on how much they think replacing the couple parking spots with turn lanes will reduce traffic and congestion at the intersection?
In terms of operational response, it is not a number, DDOT is trying to solve for driver frustration and behavior.

Q. Since traffic backs up on N. Capitol heading south, how will the change with a left turning lane fix anything when traffic backs up on N. Capitol
DDOT is installing no turn on red signs, orange reflective signs, improvements are aimed at creating safety. DDOT is not directly addressing congestion on North Capitol St under this project.

Q. Does this project have any tie in with the Florida Ave redesign? Thank you for lifting up pedestrian safety over vehicle traffic.
No, this project is unrelated work.

Q. When will final decision be made to proceed with proposal?
DDOT Notice of Intent deadline is Sep 19

Q. I can understand how an extra lane will increase cars' throughput, but how does it enhance safety? Won't left-turn lanes induce more traffic, accelerate traffic, and encourage even more speeding at these intersections?
There is not a lot of space for speed and aggressive behavior. The idea is that providing space would help ease the turn-heavy patterns at this intersection.

Q. Would suggest that an arrow for left turns would help with the driver frustration as well. I would also suggest that changes underway at "Dave Thomas Circle" may (hope!) improve P St NE traffic as people have less reason to cut through.

Q. You cannot talk about safety for pedestrians without talking about traffic and crossing guards, better crossing times..etc. If you put a left turning lane without addressing the other issues, just

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putting lipstick on a pig

DDOT stated that the crossing times satisfy federal guidance, DDOT will report back on what the timings are. DDOT also noted in response to a follow up question that they will add the clearance interval and the crossing timing.

Q. How will the ANC 5E commissioners vote on this issue?

ANC 5E will vote on the proposal at the upcoming public meeting on Sep 19 and send its feedback to DDOT that day.

Q. Will DDOT be seeking the support of both 5E (for west of NorthCap) and 5F (for east of NorthCap)? What if one votes to support and one votes to oppose?

DDOT has sought support from both, the NOI went to both ANCs 5E and 5F.

Q. Can DDOT bar oversize vehicles and trucks using P St NW

DDOT stated that within DCMR, a truck is permitted to travel on a route that otherwise has truck-related restrictions provided that the delivery is within two blocks. DDOT also stated that the signs at either end of the Unit Block of P Street NW say, "No Trucks Over 1.25 Tons Capacity."

Community comments:

- ANC 5F07 Commissioner Sylvia Pinkney said she supported the removal of parking spots on the unit block of P St NE, since it will help with the flow of traffic given the the 389 unit building that will come online in 2024.
- Polly Anderson from 81 P St NW testified in support of NOI, highlighted the issues with pedestrian safety as well as incidences of crime linked to the parked cars opposite Mundo Verde.
- Joe Killiany from 88 P St NW also testified in support of the NOI, his children go to Mundo Verde.
- Paul Voosen from 100 block of P St NW testified in support of NOI, his children also go to Mundo Verde.
- Sylvia Matthews asked for DDOT to consider adding more crossing guards around schools including the KIPPS campus, and to address bad parking patterns during school pickup and drop off times.
- Dawn from Mundo Verde parents association said a crossing guard had been added, and that parking outside of school is limited to 15 minutes in drop off and pick up times, the children seen in playground after hours are part of the afterschool program.
- Resident asked for DDOT to look at the space on 84 P St NW which could be utilized for

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parking space. DDOT stated that they will look into it and follow up with curbside management.

9. Commissioner Robinson stated that residents and business patrons opposed the removal of parking spaces as they would negatively impact the quality of life of the residents on that block and would also impact the patrons of businesses located on North Capitol St NW.
10. Commissioner Imtiaz asked if there would be any consequences to DDOT not moving ahead with this project now that they are documented safety concerns?
 - a. DDOT: Not sure, but they would still implement some parts of the project and delay the rest if ANC 5E does not approve.
11. Commissioner Lewis informed the participants of the meeting that ANC 5E would take a vote on a resolution on the NOI at the ANC 5E public meeting on September 19, 2023.
12. The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

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