

Government of the District of Columbia ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 3/4G

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ANC 3/4G Resolution Calling for Traffic Calming Measures on Livingston St. NW June 24, 2024

BACKGROUND & RATIONALE

- 1) Livingston Street NW between Western and Connecticut Avenues NW is a residential neighborhood that is home to many small children and is bordered for several blocks by a park with a Little League baseball field and popular tot lot.
- 2) Motor vehicles make heavy use of the street as a cut-through between the two avenues. Many vehicles travel at high speed. Some have sideswiped parked cars, according to neighbors. There have been a number of accidents and pedestrian near misses.
- 3) Residents have been working for more than three years to convince the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) to install traffic-calming measures such as speed humps along the 3900 and 4100 blocks of the street to reduce the risks of injury and damage.
- 4) On July 12, 2022, residents met with DDOT representatives and Commissioner Gosselin to walk the stretch of roadway and discuss how to most effectively seek safety measures. They were told they would need to submit a formal request, which would be handled by the department's Traffic Safety Input Prioritization Model 1.0,

- which agency officials touted as providing an impartial and equitable assessment of all safety requests Districtwide. They were told the request would take time to work its way through the queue; the implication was something on the order of six to 10 months.
- 5) When residents asked for an update a year later, they were told that, in the interim, DDOT had fielded a new TSI system, 2.0, and that their request would have to start its trip through the system all over again.
- 6) When residents asked for an update at the end of Year 2, DDOT's Ward 3 liaison, Christian Pineiro, replied, in part:

"In the grand scheme of things, this area is far from receiving enhancements or considerations for speed humps in the near term. I mentioned the concerns you shared about proximity to the park and the substantial amount of pedestrian activity, but the team and leadership stand firm that we must let the prioritization model run its course. Going outside of the process risks the equity component of the system and makes it harder to justify for other severe locations that warrant more immediate attention."

- 7) In the interval between the end of Year 1 and 2, DDOT installed speed humps at two nearby locations, in the 3700 Block of Legation Street NW and along a stretch of McKinley Street NW.
- 8) Without questioning the need for the humps on Legation Street, there was no public discussion of them or advance notice of the installation to the public or Commisioner Gosselin whose single-member district includes one side of the 3700 block.
- 9) As for the McKinley Street speed humps, DDOT announced their installation. Residents along McKinley criticized the decision. The department reversed itself and said they would not be installed, but then installed them anyway.
- 10) On June 10, 2024, the ANC unanimously approved a resolution similar to what is being sought here. It called for DDOT to expedite a sidewalk project along the 6200 block of 32nd Place NW. Commissioner Zeldin, who sponsored the resolution, said that 32nd Place residents told him the request for the sidewalk was being held up by the TSI 2.0 system.
- 11) On June 17, 2024, Commisioner Gosselin acting on behalf of residents filed a FOIA with DDOT seeking information about its handling of the Livingston Street request for traffic calming measures and the installation of speed humps on Legation and McKinley.

RESOLVED, that ANC 3/4G

- 12) Ask DDOT to respond quickly and fully to Commissioner Gosselin's June 17, 2024 FOIA request and explain its contrasting decisions in the case of Livingston Street on the one hand and Legation and McKinley Streets on the other.
- 13) Request that the Department move up the Livingston Street request for traffic calming in the TSI queue so residents can receive a firm decision and not find themselves in additional years of procedural limbo.
- 14) Recommend that DDOT install traffic-calming speed humps in the 3900 and 4100 blocks of Livingston Street NW between Western and Connecticut Avenues to protect residents and property.

APPROVED at a regular public meeting, notice of which was properly given and at which a quorum of four (4) of seven (7) members were present on June 24, 2024, by a vote of six (6) yes, zero (0) no, and zero (0) abstentions.

Lisa R Gore, Chair

Bruce Sherman, Secretary