

#### GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

# ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 7D

CENTRAL NORTH EAST, DEANWOOD, EASTLAND GARDENS, KENILWORTH, KINGMAN PARK, MAYFAIR, PARKSIDE, AND RIVER TERRACE

December 18, 2017

#### **VIA EMAIL**

Director Jeff Marootian
District Department of Transportation (DDOT)
55 M Street, SE, Suite 400
Washington, DC 20003

#### Director Marootian:

At its December 12, 2017 General Meeting, ANC 7D voted 7-0-0 to draft a letter calling upon the District Department of Transportation and the Metropolitan Police Department to address multiple threats to pedestrian and cyclist safety in the ANC 7D area. This meeting of the commission was a duly noticed meeting and possessed a quorum of more than four members.

On November 25, 2017 Samanta Iqbal, a ward 7 resident, was killed after she was struck by a car at the corner of Kenilworth Terrace and Cassell Place NE. Residents of the area had requested DDOT to take repaint crosswalks and install no parking signs at this intersection since March 2017. Automobiles frequently speed through this area, ignoring the faded crosswalks. Meanwhile out of town commuters and commercial vehicles often park inside these crosswalks, blocking sight lines for both drivers and pedestrians.

Despite repeated requests for assistance made through the 311 app, through the Ward 7 Councilmember's Office, the Mayor's Office of Community Relations, via email to DDOT staff during August and via phone with then acting director Marootian in September, the community's requests for improvements at this intersection have not been addressed<sup>1</sup>.

The threats to community safety are more widespread than a single intersection, and are reflective of a broader systematic problem facing African American Communities across the nation<sup>2</sup>. As a progressive,

<sup>1</sup> Relevant Correspondence and requests have been attached as Appendix A.

<sup>2</sup> https://usa.streetsblog.org/2017/01/10/the-unequal-toll-of-pedestrian-deaths/

forward thinking community, the District must take concerted action and serve as a model for addressing this deadly form of racial inequality. Initiatives like Vision Zero are a good start, but implementation needs to happen in Ward 7. DDOT as an agency needs to become more responsive to community needs in Ward 7, especially those that relate to threats to public safety. This lack of progress is disconcerting, given that multiple Ward 7 residents testified at the FY 18 Oversight Hearings about this very need<sup>3</sup>.

ANC 7D is calling upon DDOT and DC government to act on the following twenty-four requests. Ward 7 residents have worked in good faith with the agency, with their mayor's office and with their elected council member. However, there is scant evidence that their concerns have been addressed. In the past, requests for service have been deferred by DDOT to MPD's 6th district for enforcement. While 6th District is responsive to enforcement requests, it does not have the staffing necessary to make up for all unsafe infrastructure across the Ward.

#### In Kenilworth-Parkside

- 1. Installation of School Zone signs on 3700-3800 blocks of Cassell Place NE, 700 blocks of Parkside Pl and Barnes street adjacent to Chavez PCHS. Placement of blinking School zone light on 3700 block of Hayes street NE.
- 2. Installation of missing "no parking" signs at the corners of the following intersections: Kenilworth Terrace and Cassell NE, Kenilworth Terrace and Burnham St NE, Kenilworth Terrace and Grant street NE, Kenilworth terrace and Foote street NE, Kenilworth Terrace and Roosevelt Street NE, Parkside Place and Roosevelt Street NE, Parkside Place and Foote street NE so that vehicles do not park in crosswalks, nor within 20 feet of crosswalks. This is necessary to improve visibility of pedestrians.
- 3. Installation of Zebra stripe crosswalks at Kenilworth Terrace and Hayes street NE, Kenilworth Terrace and Cassell Place NE, Parkside Place and Hayes street NE, Parkside Place and Cassell Place NE. This is necessary to improve pedestrian safety.
- 4. Installation of crosswalks at the intersections of Hayes street and Barnes street NE, Hayes street and Lily Flower Lane NE, Barnes and Roosevelt NE, Barnes and Foote NE, Foote and Parkside Pl NE, Foote and Kenilworth Terrace NE.
- 5. Improved enforcement against speeding and reckless driving is needed on the 3500-3800 blocks of Hayes and Jay streets NE, 600-700 blocks of Anacostia Avenue, Barnes Street, the 3700-

<sup>3</sup> Commissioner Lini's Testimony is attached as Appendix B.

3800 blocks of Cassell place NE and in the alley of the 3500-3600 blocks of Hayes street NE.

6. Lane markings are missing from the entirety of the Kenilworth Avenue southbound and northbound service drives from the Maryland State line to Benning Road. The lack of lane markings creates confusion in drivers and contributes to the excessive speeds on that street.

# In Deanwood

- 7. The crosswalks on Minnesota Avenue between Deanwood Recreation Center and the metro station- need to be repainted with zebra stripes. DDOT needs to revisit and implement the 2011 *Far Northeast Livability Study* suggestions for this section of Minnesota Avenue.
- 8. Coordinate with DC Water to ensure adequate drainage of CSX and WMATA underpasses on Eastern Avenue.
- 9. At the intersection of Nannie Helen Burroughs and 295 vehicles moving west bound make left turns out of inappropriate lanes and block the box. Residents are unable to use this intersection safely for walking. TCOs and enforcement of traffic laws is needed at this intersection.
- 10. At the intersection of Nannie Helen Burroughs and Minnesota Avenue NE, repaint zebra crosswalks and other markings, improve signage regarding left turns and improve enforcement of illegal left turns made from the middle lane of Northbound Minnesota avenue onto Burroughs.
- 11. Improved lighting needed at the intersection of Eastern Ave and Division Avenue Northeast.
- 12. On the 4600 Block of Polk Street NE, improve street lighting, coordinate police coverage between MPD and Metro Transit Police and School Resource Officers at Ron Brown to improve safety for students traveling from Kenilworth, remove parking adjacent to the Deanwood Metro station to improve visibility. Improve signage for the Deanwood Metro station and remove graffiti from signage and public space.

#### In Central Northeast

- 13. At the intersection of Benning road and 44th street NE and 45th street NE and Benning road drivers frequently do not yield to pedestrians or other vehicles. Signals and enforcement are needed here to protect pedestrians.
- 14. The Minnesota Avenue Phase 2 construction has increased cut through on traffic 44th street NE. More enforcement of speeders is needed here, as well as temporary design measures such as

bollards to lower speeds.

15. At 42nd and East Capitol students traveling to D.C. Preparatory Academy PCS have to cross East Capitol to use the closest bus stop. The safety of this activity would be improved with the addition of a HAWX signal combined with active enforcement.

# In River Terrace

- 16. The crosswalk lights at the intersection of 34th and Benning road NE must be moved to a higher position. PEPCO vehicles entering the Benning Road facility strike the crosswalk signal boxes on the north side of the street and move them out of place. In addition, the beg button at this intersection does not work.
- 17. At 34<sup>th</sup> street and Benning road NE, 36th street and Benning road NE, and Anacostia avenue and Benning Road NE, install no outlet signs to deter cut-through traffic entering the River Terrace community.
- 18. Illegal U turns on Benning road and 34th street NE as well as vehicles exiting the PEPCO facility without right of way make this intersection hazardous for pedestrians attempting to cross the street to board the X2.
- 19. At the intersection of Baker Street and Kenilworth Avenue enforcement drivers often ignore the 4-way stop when exiting 295. Enforcement is needed here, and traffic calming should be explored with nearby residents to better reduce speeds of traffic exiting 295.
- 20. On the 200 block of 34th street NE, 3400 block of Clay street NE and the 3400 block of Barker street NE, conduct a traffic study aimed at calming traffic exiting 295.
- 21. The 400 block of Anacostia Ave at River Terrace Education Campus is not equipped with flashing school signals. Monthly fire drills are dangerous- as students in wheel chairs have to cross the street- drivers frequently. Buses cluster around the site, and kids have to interact. More coordination is needed with Safe Routes to school. The street is very wide in this area and a traffic calming study may be beneficial.

# Issues Impacting Ward 7 on a Broader Scale

- 22. On Benning road between Anacostia avenue and Oklahoma Avenue NE, repaint missing lane markings on westbound lanes.
- 23. Anacostia Riverwalk Trail, install yellow plastic bollards at all entrances where motor vehicles

Jeff Marootian December 18, 2017 Page 5

could potentially enter the trail to deter automobile usage of the trail.

DDOT, DPW and MPD must to collaborate to implement the following Vision Zero policies in Ward 7. The locations of speed cameras mentioned in policy DD 1 must be in service of a Letter to specific threat to the community. Cameras such as those at the 600 block of Kenilworth Avenue<sup>4</sup> NE do not service a community need and delegitimize efforts to improve safety using automated enforcement.

- VU 13: Deter dangerous parking behavior of commercial and delivery vehicles: parking in bicycle lanes, crosswalks, parking abreast / double parking. Publicly report violations monthly via open data on the Vision Zero website.
- DD 1:Strategically deploy photo enforcement. Provide necessary infrastructure for cameras at 100% of high-priority locations. Target violations: stop sign, speed, red light, oversize, and overweight. Use Vision Zero safety map to identify potential locations. Continue MPD "Step-Out" enforcement and formally report citation data.
- TR-10 Establish a Transportation Safety Liaison within each Advisory Neighborhood Commission.

ANC 7D, it's Standing Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and representatives of the Deanwood Citizens' Association, Eastland Gardens Civic Association, Parkside Civic Association, and River Terrace Community Organization all contributed to the creation of this list. The Commission and the community stand ready to work with DC government to swiftly implement the changes necessary to improve the safety of our community.

Sincerely;

Sherice A. Muhammad

Chair, ANC 7D

cc:

Mayor Muriel Bowser

<sup>4</sup> https://www.bizjournals.com/washington/news/2017/12/04/district-sees-soaring-revenue-from-speed-cameras-a.html

> Council Chair Phil Mendelson Councilmember Vince Gray Councilmember Anita Bonds Councilmember Mary Cheh Councilmember David Grosso Councilmember Elisa Silverman Councilmember Robert C. White Jr. MPD Chief of Police Peter Newsham MPD 6th District Commander David Taylor **DPW Director Christopher Shorter** Commissioner Robin Hammond Marlin, Chair, ANC 7B Commissioner Ashley Emerson, Chair, ANC 7E Commissioner Antwan Holmes, Chair, ANC 7C Commissioner Sheila Carson Carr, Chair, ANC 7F Jonathan M. Rogers, Vision Zero Project Manager Sam Zimbabwe, Chief Project Delivery Officer Malissa Freese, President River Terrace Community Organization Nya Hope, President Deanwood Citizens' Organization Rochelle Frazier-Gray, President Eastland Gardens Civic Association Geraldine Bell, Vice President, Parkside Civic Association Inga Spurlock, Vice President, Parkside Civic Association Tiyika Moore, Corresponding Secretary, Parkside Civic Association

Ursula Sandstrom, President of Washington Area Bicyclists Association

# **APPENDIX A**

# Correspondence regarding Cassell and Kenilworth Terrace NE



Justin Lini <jljlini@gmail.com>

# [pollin-memorial-hoa] Fwd: Pedestrian hit Kenilworth Ter & Cassell

#### Justin A. Lini <7d07@anc.dc.gov>

Sun, Nov 26, 2017 at 11:59 PM

To: "Marootian, Jeffrey M. (DDOT)" <jeff.marootian@dc.gov>, Russell Klein <corwynz@yahoo.com> Cc: "Muhammad, Sherice A. (SMD 7D06)" <7D06@anc.dc.gov>, Sylvia Midgett <allveggies@gmail.com>, Parkside Civic Association <parkside-et-al@googlegroups.com>, Pollin Memorial HOA <pollin-memorial-hoa@googlegroups.com>, "Zimbabwe, Sam (DDOT)" <sam.zimbabwe@dc.gov>, "Jones, Tyon L. (DDOT)" <tyon.jones@dc.gov>, David Whitehead <dwhitehead@ggwash.org>, Council <LAtkins@dccouncil.us>, EOM <adrian.sutton@dc.gov>

Director Marootian and neighbors;

Thank you for your reply. We need to move on this as soon as possible. Let me know when your team is available to meet. As you're aware the community has had a number of requests outstanding to combat speeding, lack of visibility and reckless driving in the neighborhood. These requests need to be expedited. These problems are much more widespread then just the corner of Cassell and Kenilworth Terrace. We have many streets and alleys in this neighborhood where drivers speed and operate their vehicles recklessly.

Can you provide an update on the requests that were sent to DDOT in August and September?

On 11/26/17 12:22 PM, Marootian, Jeffrey M. (DDOT) wrote:

Thank you for reaching out to me about this. I will ask our team to review and set up a time for us to discuss safety improvements here.

Jeff

Sent from my iPhone [Quoted text hidden]

\_\_

#### Justin Lini, MA

International Peace and Conflict Resolution
Advisory Neighborhood Commissioner for Paradise and Parkside, (7D SMD 07)

(202) 768-8019 www.justinlini.org On Twitter at @NE\_DC\_11

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You received this message because you are subscribed to the Google Groups "Pollin Memorial HOA" group. To unsubscribe from this group and stop receiving emails from it, send an email to pollin-memorial-hoa+unsubscribe@googlegroups.com.

To post to this group, send email to pollin-memorial-hoa@googlegroups.com.

Visit this group at https://groups.google.com/group/pollin-memorial-hoa.

To view this discussion on the web visit https://groups.google.com/d/msgid/pollin-memorial-hoa/2fa652e5-7acb-3ae1-b1cc-1ebd1acc6874%40anc.dc.gov.

1 of 2 12/19/17, 1:21 PM

**Subject:** Parkside Community Concerns **From:** "Justin A. Lini" <7d07@anc.dc.gov>

Date: 9/24/17, 10:27 PM

To: jeff.marootian@dc.gov, Russell Klein <corwynz@yahoo.com>, "Muhammad, Sherice A. (SMD 7D06)" <7d06@anc.dc.gov>, "2017goodyear773@gmail.com" <2017goodyear773@gmail.com>

Director Marootian;

Good evening, I'm sorry about the delay on getting back to you. I've put together a list of concerns which we discussed. Where appropriate I have provided documentation of our efforts to resolve some of these problems going back several years. I apologize for the volume of material, but I have been encouraged by community leaders to illustrate their frustrations with the agency. I've provided examples of where community members were given contradictory information, or where solutions to problems have been needlessly delayed. I would not raise these particular issue if it weren't for the fact that safety issues are not being addressed in a timely manner.

#### Parkside Access and Traffic Study

I received a copy of the scope of this study as well as the outreach plan for this study before the budget process. I wanted to verify that DDOT still had community meetings planned for this process. Community members are very concerned about decisions being made without their input and consultation. We have had several projects carried out without engagement with the community and these have created problems.

For example, Sidewalk repairs adjacent to Parkside Townhomes were done without discussion with the community. Opportunities to address community concerns street tree roots were not taken. The Parkside Condo Association has been struggling with tree roots damaging water feeder lines. This occurred after Parkside HOA leadership had contacted Urban Forestry to address concerns.

#### Anacostia Riverwalk Trail

The biggest example however was the planning and execution of the Anacostia Riverwalk Trail on Hayes street. The planning for this project bypassed the community and the execution was sprung on residents of Hayes street who had just purchased houses without any indication that this project was going to happen. Although we were able to partially address some of the concerns it will take years to really resolve it. I don't want to repeat that experience with this discussion of Benning Road access I've also attached DDOT's letter regarding the ART (Letter to ANC 7D...), as this is still very much a live issue and one that needs continued engagement with NPS to resolve. This is a very important issue to the community.

#### Street Lighting

Here are the areas where lighting needs to be improved. There are lights in these areas but they aren't providing very even coverage. Residents have been reporting a surge in thefts from vehicles along Foote street. Paradise Apartments has been struggling with a variety public safety issues for the last several years. Improving lighting here would make our community safer.

3600-3800 Blocks of Foote Street NE

3600 Block of Hayes street NE (the north side of the street adjacent to Paradise Apartments is very dark)

#### No Parking Signs at street corners

Here are the 311 requests I have filed regarding Missing No Parking signs at the street corners in the community. The Kenilworth Terrace signs are especially important as the area is used by people walking to and from work/school, and visibility is poor due to parking on corners

Missing No Parking Signs Kenilworth Terr/ Cassell, 17-00422636

Missing No Parking Signs Kenilworth Terr/ Burnham 17-00422638

Missing No Parking Signs Kenilworth Terr/ Grant 17-00422639

Missing No Parking Signs Kenilworth Terr/ Foote 17-00422641

Missing No Parking Signs Kenilworth Terr/ Roosevelt 17-00422640

Missing No Parking Signs Roosevelt and Parkside PI 17-00422642

Missing No Parking Signs Foote/ Parkside PI 17-00422642

Missing No Parking Signs Foote/ Barnes 17-00422644

#### Pavement Repairs on Barnes street and Cassell

This is the pavement issue we discussed on Monday. I have been seeking redress on this issue since 2014. Some cases have been addressed by adding patches, and others have been closed with no action taken.

Relayed to Alberta Paul on 3/28/17 Identified in 2/4/2016 Walkthrough Identified in previous cases:

17-00154044 15-00066435 15-00066431 14-00261954

Potholes 750 BARNES STREET NE 17-00422609

1 of 2

14-00307097

#### Cut through and speeding concerns

We have a number of streets in the community where cars speed down streets. The Cassell and Anacostia streets are of the greatest concern as they're used by students to walk to school. Recently this issue was raised by Neval Thomas ES Principal Davia Walker, and by Mr. Charles Eaves, a community member.

Speeding 715 ANCOSTIA AVE NE 17-00422619

 Speeding
 3725 ALBERT IRVIN CASSELL PLAC
 17-00422622

 Speeding
 600 BARNES STREET NE
 17-00422624

 Speeding
 3720 FOOTE STREET NE
 17-00422626

Cut Through/speeding 730 KENILWORTH AVENUE NE, 17-00422628

In addition, residents on Hayes street have been attempting to get help to reduce speeding and cut-through traffic on their alley for years. Please see the attached communications (Metrotowns at Parkside...- starting on p10, and RE: Question about...). Frustratingly enough, they have been given contradictory information and filed petitions to get assistance. The situation has not gone away.

I know that DDOT does not as a matter of policy conduct studies on alleys, but we have to do something about this alley before we have a kid get hit by a car. We have repeatedly sought MPD coverage for this area, but there are few officers available in our community and many pressing public safety issues. With their current staffing levels they cannot provide consistent enough coverage in this area to deter aggressive driving. Commander David Taylor is seeking to ameliorate the situation with speed cameras on Hayes street, but it is not clear if this will address the safety issue in the alley.

#### Communications with DDOT.

Although we have made great strides in building relationships with DDOT in the last few years we still have some trouble spots. We have been able to maintain consistent communications with your office and with project staff, but have difficulty getting clear answers or resolutions to problems from some of the front line staff members for our ward. I have had to work around some of these staff members in order to make any progress on issues like adjusting street lighting on Barnes street and the 3800 block of Hayes street.

You're familiar with the most recent communications regarding the Hayes street bridge, but they only reached your level after a more than month of circular discussions. Please see the attached correspondence for an example. (Gmail - cleaning of Pedestrian the Pedestrian Bridge)

My neighbors in Eastland Gardens can attest to the difficulty this creates in addressing issues like crosswalk marking. Requests to repaint crosswalks went unaddressed for months without clear communication. Please see my written testimony to council and the attached correspondence illustrating the difficulty the community frequently receives when trying to address issues like crosswalks. (See the RE: Performance Oversight file)

Thank you again for reaching out to me. I truly appreciate your willingness to engage with the community and I look forward to working with you to improve transportation, safety and access in Ward 7. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions or if there is anything I can do to assist. Until later, have a pleasant day.

CC:

Sherice Muhammad, ANC 7D Chair

Linda Fraizer, Parkside Civic Association President

Russell Klein, Parkside Civic Association

--

#### Justin Lini, MA

International Peace and Conflict Resolution
Advisory Neighborhood Commissioner for Paradise and Parkside, (7D SMD 07)
(202) 768-8019

www.justinlini.org

On Twitter at @NE\_DC\_11

- Attachments:	
Letter to ANC 7D Commissioner Justin Lini reAnacostia Riverwalk Trail 3400-3500 Block of Hayes Street NE.pdf	107 KB
Gmail - Cleaning of the Pedestrian Bridge.pdf	116 KB
RE- Performance Oversight of Comments DDOT.pdf	1.2 MB
Gmail - MetroTowns at Parkside Community : "No Parking" signs.pdf	1.4 MB
RE: Question about possible alley safety improvements.pdf	57.6 KB



Justin Lini <jljlini@gmail.com>

# Fwd: ANC 7D Transportation Committee Meeting

9 messages

Sylvia Midgett <allveggies@gmail.com> To: Justin Lini <ililini@gmail.com>

Tue, Mar 28, 2017 at 4:48 PM

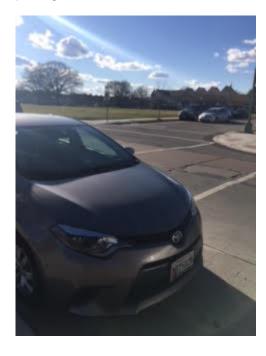
Hi Justin

I'm a little, but I wanted to ask if I could ask DDOT for few repairs/updates in the neighborhood.

Barnes and Cassell has large pot holes and a dip that has been growing larger and larger for a few years, also on Barnes going towards Hayes there is a pothole that the bus repeatedly hits as it goes up and down Barnes, Charlese has complained about this and these are the same fixes the development had been requesting for almost three years. Since the construction trucks should be finished coming up Barnes I think it's time these are fixed.

Also on Cassell and Kenilworth Ter, the crosswalks are very faded to the point that the people who park on the street often park in the cross walks.

It would be great if the could add the crosswalk flags they say yield to pedestrians, I have almost been hit several times when walking to the Meto. Also adding the larger crosswalk stripping and signs not allowing cars to park 10 feet from the intersection like they did all over our development would be great as well, it is hard to see when turning with all the cars parking so close to the end of street into the intersection.



Thanks Sylvia Midgett 716 Barnes Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Nextdoor River Terrace - Lily Ponds - Mayfair" <reply@rs.email.nextdoor.com>

Date: March 28, 2017 at 3:17:24 PM EDT

To: allveggies@gmail.com

**Subject: ANC 7D Transportation Committee Meeting** 

Reply-To: reply+GMZDANBSHE4V64DSN5SHKY3UNFXW4X2QJ5JVIXZUGYZTKNZYGA4A====@

riverterracelilypondsmayfair.nextdoor.com

Justin Lini, River Terrace - Lily Ponds - Mayfair

Neighbors;

Good afternoon, I hope this note finds you well. I'm writing to announce that ANC 7D will be hosting its monthly Transportation Committee Meeting at 10:00am on Saturday, April 1, 2017.

ANC 7D STANDING COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND

**INFRASTRUCTURE** 

10:00am. Saturday, April 1, 2017

Dorothy I. Height Library

- I. Meetings and Reports
- II. Old Business
- A. WMATA Report
- III. New Business
- A. Kenilworth Avenue Projects.

At the last ANC 7D meeting DDOT gave the linked presentation on their 295 projects. The committee will be discussing...Read more

Mar 28 in General to 19 neighborhoods

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This message is intended for allveggies@gmail.com. Unsubscribe or adjust your email settings

Nextdoor, 875 Stevenson Street, Suite 700, San Francisco, CA 94103

# Justin Lini <ililini@gmail.com>

To: Sylvia Midgett <allveggies@gmail.com>

Thank you. I'll forward these along to DDOT right away.

# **Justin Lini**

MA , International Peace and Conflict Resolution (202) 768-8019 www.justinlini.org
On Twitter at @NE DC 11

[Quoted text hidden]

#### Justin Lini <ililini@gmail.com>

To: "Paul, Alberta (DDOT)" <alberta.paul@dc.gov>, Sylvia Midgett <allveggies@gmail.com> Cc: "Lini Justin A. (SMD 7D07)" <7d07@anc.dc.gov>

Ms. Paul;

Tue, Mar 28, 2017 at 4:49 PM

Tue, Mar 28, 2017 at 4:50 PM

Good afternoon, I hope you're well today. I wanted to forward this message along to you and see what we could do to move some of these concerns forward.

# **Justin Lini**

MA , International Peace and Conflict Resolution (202) 768-8019 www.justinlini.org
On Twitter at @NE DC 11

[Quoted text hidden]

#### Paul, Alberta (DDOT) <alberta.paul@dc.gov>

Tue, Mar 28, 2017 at 4:56 PM

To: Justin Lini <jljlini@gmail.com>, Sylvia Midgett <allveggies@gmail.com> Cc: "Lini, Justin A. (SMD 7D07)" <7D07@anc.dc.gov>

Sylvia – to assist me in expediting please call into 311 tonight – get a # -- and then send me the number they assign – I will route to the maintenance team as a high priority

From: Justin Lini [mailto:jljlini@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 28, 2017 4:50 PM
To: Paul, Alberta (DDOT); Sylvia Midgett

Cc: Lini, Justin A. (SMD 7D07)

[Quoted text hidden]

[Quoted text hidden] [Quoted text hidden] [Quoted text hidden] [Quoted text hidden]

Justin Lini, River Terrace - Lily Ponds - Mayfair

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Nextdoor, 875 Stevenson Street, Suite 700, San Francisco, CA 94103

# Sylvia Midgett <allveggies@gmail.com>

Tue, Mar 28, 2017 at 6:13 PM

To: Justin Lini <jljlini@gmail.com>

Cc: "Paul, Alberta (DDOT)" <alberta.paul@dc.gov>, "Lini Justin A. (SMD 7D07)" <7d07@anc.dc.gov>

Justin

Is the Unity Health Clinic responsible for cleaning up the trash on the side of the clinic between the building and the Metro pedestrian bridge on Kenilworth Ter and Hayes?

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 28, 2017, at 4:50 PM, Justin Lini <ili>ililini@gmail.com> wrote:

Ms. Paul;

Good afternoon, I hope you're well today. I wanted to forward this message along to you and see what we could do to move some of these concerns forward.

# **Justin Lini**

MA, International Peace and Conflict Resolution (202) 768-8019 www.justinlini.org On Twitter at @NE DC 11

----- Forwarded message ------

From: Sylvia Midgett <allveggies@gmail.com>

Date: Tue, Mar 28, 2017 at 4:48 PM

Subject: Fwd: ANC 7D Transportation Committee Meeting

To: Justin Lini <jljlini@gmail.com>

Hi Justin

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[Quoted text hidden] [Quoted text hidden]

# Paul, Alberta (DDOT) <alberta.paul@dc.gov>

Tue, Mar 28, 2017 at 6:24 PM

To: Sylvia Midgett <allveggies@gmail.com>, Justin Lini <jljlini@gmail.com> Cc: "Lini, Justin A. (SMD 7D07)" <7D07@anc.dc.gov>

All commercial buildings must clean their fronts ...sides and rear ....call 645 7190 to file a complaint. .DPW will come out and fine the business

Sent via the Samsung Galaxy Note5, an AT&T 4G LTE smartphone

----- Original message ------

From: Sylvia Midgett <allveggies@gmail.com>

[Quoted text hidden] [Quoted text hidden]

[Quoted text hidden]

[Quoted text hidden]

[Quoted text hidden]

[Quoted text hidden]

Justin Lini, River Terrace - Lily Ponds - Mayfair

Neighbors;

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#### Paul, Alberta (DDOT) <alberta.paul@dc.gov>

To: Sylvia Midgett <allveggies@gmail.com>, Justin Lini <jljlini@gmail.com>

Cc: "Lini, Justin A. (SMD 7D07)" <7D07@anc.dc.gov>

DATE CORRECTION. ..MEETING DATE IS 4..18. 2017 AS STATED ON FLYER ...SORRY FOR THE INCORRECT DATE BEING STATED IN THE CONTENTS OF THE EMAIL

Sent via the Samsung Galaxy Note5, an AT&T 4G LTE smartphone

----- Original message -----[Quoted text hidden]

Sylvia Midgett <allveggies@gmail.com>

To: "Paul, Alberta (DDOT)" <alberta.paul@dc.gov>

Cc: Justin Lini <jljlini@gmail.com>, "Lini, Justin A. (SMD 7D07)" <7D07@anc.dc.gov>

Thank you

Tue, Mar 28, 2017 at 9:34 PM

Tue, Mar 28, 2017 at 6:44 PM

Sylvia Sent from my iPhone [Quoted text hidden]

Paul, Alberta (DDOT) <alberta.paul@dc.gov>

Wed, Apr 5, 2017 at 4:48 PM

To: Sylvia Midgett <allveggies@gmail.com>

Cc: Justin Lini <jljlini@gmail.com>, "Lini, Justin A. (SMD 7D07)" <7D07@anc.dc.gov>

DDOT IS TRYING TO CONFIRM - THE DATE OF THE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MEETING FOR MAY-TOO SHARE ON FRIDAY WITH THE ENGINEERS WORKING ON PROJECTS THAT IMPACT YOUR COMMUNITY --- PLEASE ADVISE AND INDICATE LOCATION AND TIME -----THANKS

From: Sylvia Midgett [mailto:allveggies@gmail.com]

**Sent:** Tuesday, March 28, 2017 9:34 PM

To: Paul, Alberta (DDOT)

Cc: Justin Lini; Lini, Justin A. (SMD 7D07)

[Quoted text hidden]

[Quoted text hidden]

Celebrate DC Emancipation Day on Saturday, April 8. Join us for a parade, concert, and fireworks! For more information, go to: emancipation.dc.gov.

# APPENDIX B DDOT Oversight Hearing Written Testimony



3/26/2017

Dear Members of the Committee on Transportation and the Environment;

Good evening, I hope this note finds you well. I'm writing in my capacity as Advisory Neighborhood Commissioner to comment on DDOT's performance in the last year. I represent Single Member District 7D 07, Paradise and Parkside. We're a vibrant and growing community in Ward 7, located between DC 295 and the Anacostia River. Due to my community's unique geography and transportation challenges I work extensively with DDOT. I've had the honor of working with outstanding DDOT staff members and engineers in my time as an ANC. When push comes to shove, they'll come out to our community, listen and do what they can. However good people can only do so much. We need DDOT to be much more systematic and proactive in its approach to community engagement.

# COMMUNICATIONS

Altogether the agency has had a somewhat mixed record in the last year. When necessary the agency and its representatives have come out to the community in response to concerns. However this has typically only happened after significant complaint and deployment of community effort. The agency and its contractors need to be more proactive in engaging with the community in a timely manner to ensure that the community is well informed and that design proposals and execution are not hampered by misunderstanding.

On at least several occasions DDOT has launched construction efforts on DC 295 with minimal notice. Any disruption to traffic flow on 295 has the potential to significantly impact the quality of life for all residents in the surrounding area. For example, in August 2016 a contractor failed to provide more than a week's notice before the launch of a major construction project. After complaints filed by myself the contractors and DDOT staff arranged to have an informational meeting at Dorothy I. Height Library. At that time comments were received that allowed DDOT to tailor the work to reduce disruptions to traffic flow.

In March 2017, a similar announcement regarding lane closures was made less than a week before the closures were scheduled.

DDOT staff and contractors need to more proactively engage with ANCs and Community organizations to communicate projects ahead of time. Communications staff should use community listservs to distribute announcements about disruptions. Communications must occur more than two weeks ahead of time. It's understandable

when emergency work needs to be done, however there is no excuse for projects with extended planning and implementation schedules. Failure to communicate creates significant tension between DDOT staff and the community.

# **ENGAGING RESIDENTS IN THE PLANNING PROCESS**

Overall, DDOT has a long way to go to engage with Ward 7 residents in the planning process. The planning for the Anacostia River Trail is a prime example. This project was planned years ago, but some of the most directly impacted communities were not engaged. A route was chosen that put this trail on Anacostia Avenue NE and Hayes street NE without informing the Civic Association or residents of the immediate area. It's notable that changes in Eastland Gardens area of the trail only occurred because DDOT attended a Civic Association meeting where residents highlighted their concerns. Paradise and Parkside residents were never given this opportunity until they woke up with a trail in front of their houses. This led to DDOT expending a large amount of funds to make adjustments to the trail. This is a waste of tax dollars that could have been avoided if DDOT were more proactive at engaging with the community.

I am concerned that we are following a similar path with DDOT's multiple projects on 295. Instead of having one process in which all modifications to the highway are discussed in a comprehensive manner, this project has been split into at least three portions- a short term fix, a long term fix, and a replacement of the Lorraine Whitlock Bridge. Residents have been given only limited opportunities to comment on specific small portions of this project because ANC 7D has requested that DDOT come to the commission's meeting to answer questions about the project. DDOT has not been proactive in engaging with the community to identify problem areas, collaborate on creating solutions, and to ensure that projects provide benefits to the surrounding communities. Failure to do so creates problems like what we have seen at Nannie Helen Borroughs and 295- where DDOT has expended millions of dollars on infrastructure that did not address the needs of the community and commuters.

# QUALITY OF SERVICE

DDOT needs to develop a schedule for consistently maintaining and cleaning pedestrian bridges. The Hayes street pedestrian bridge, which services my SMD is only cleaned when residents complain about it. This bridge services a community of 3,000 people and four schools. With that level of traffic it needs to be cleared of litter at least twice a week if not more. The current model of clean on complaint is inappropriate.

In August of 2016 several community members and I informed DDOT staff of a number of Crosswalks on Kenilworth Avenue needed to be re-striped. In addition, fences in the median of DC295 at Douglas Street needed to be mended. The gap in the fences was used by children who dashed through highway traffic to cross the street. Despite multiple requests to DDOT staff no action was taken to rectify these deficiencies through January 2017. It took the intervention of the MOCRS and the Ward 7 Councilmembers' Constituent services staff to get the crosswalks striped. This happened in March. To this day no action has been taken to mend the fence.

Overall the quality of signage and street markings need to be improved in Ward 7. Some major routes such as Benning road (at the Ethel Kennedy Bridge) have street markings so faded that they cannot be seen. In other areas such as the corner of Anacostia Avenue and Grant Place NE, Barnes St and Hayes NE, recently installed signs are so poorly connected that they're falling off the posts. In addition, evacuation routes in ward 7 are not well marked. In the event of an emergency most residents would not be able to identify or follow the evacuation routes.

# IN CONCLUSION

We need a DDOT that is more responsive to community needs and more proactive. Engagement is one area where an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. Thank you for the opportunity to file these comments.

Sincerely;

Justin A. Lini

Advisory Neighborhood Commissioner 7D07, Paradise and Parkside

Dear Committee on Transportation and the Environment,

Mary H. Cheh, Ward 3 Councilmember, Committee Chairperson Jack Evans, Ward 2 Councilmember, Committee Member Brandon T. Todd, Ward 4 Councilmember, Committee Member Kenyan McDuffie, Ward 5 Councilmember, Committee Member Charles Allen, Ward 6 Councilmember, Committee Member

My name is Rochelle Gray and I currently serve as the President of the Eastland Gardens Civic Association, which is located in Ward 7. We have many concerns as they relate to transportation in the Nation's Capital. In particular, we feel that the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) agency has not adequately planned for and properly addressed the transportation needs in Ward 7, in the following areas:

- 1. DDOT has not satisfactorily addressed the constant and heavy highway traffic from DC-295, which affects the structural integrity of the homes in my community.
- 2. DDOT has made plans to convert the Kenilworth Avenue Southbound Service Road from a one-way street into a 2-way roadway from Eastern Avenue to Quarles Street and/or Douglas Street, which the residents have vehemently opposed. By their own admission, DDOT neglected to factor in the potential redevelopment of Kenilworth Courts and its effect on the community, when they designed this roadway change.
- 3. DDOT has not shared plans with my community to reduce the amount of excessive commercial and commuter traffic on DC-295, where this roadway carries more than 100,000 vehicles per day.
- 4. DDOT does not provide proper and advanced notices of traffic advisories that will affect our neighborhoods.
- 5. DDOT has not made concerted efforts to ensure pedestrian safety by re-striping the crosswalks in our community (although requests were formalized more than 5 months ago), in particular, at the pedestrian bridge crossings along Kenilworth Avenue.
- 6. DDOT has not provided the community an opportunity to review the plans for a new pedestrian bridge nor provided clearly defined project timelines. In addition, they have not solicited recent input from my community.
- 7. DDOT does not provide the community with the results of traffic studies and evaluations that have guided their decisions to initiate roadway changes in my community.

- 8. DDOT has not clearly marked and identified "Evacuation Routes" for our residents. This is critical, in the event of a citywide emergency.
- 9. DDOT has not included my community in conversations about the plans to redesign of the Kenilworth Terrace, Deane Avenue & Nannie Helen Burroughs Avenue intersections.

To summarize, DDOT has not been a very good community partner and they do not appear to give great weight to the insights and observations of the residents, who are the end-users, when planning for our and the city's transportation future.

We are not oblivious to the fact that DDOT is also responsible for providing all the transportation needs throughout the city, but Ward 7's transportation situation is dire. Thus, plans for our immediate relief coupled with concentrated attention need to be prioritized without further delay.

Although a bit disheartened, we feel like our needs are being ignored and not met. However, we continue to remain hopeful that DDOT's current mode of operation, of not including our residents in the planning process, will soon change for the betterment of our community. In addition, we stand ready to actively participate and to aid DDOT in its future planning.

We are requesting that the Committee on Transportation and the Environment strongly encourage DDOT to become more entrenched in our community by making resolute and specific efforts to 'give us a seat at the table' when planning how to address our community's transportation concerns and problems.

Thank you very much for your immediate attention and assistance.

Sincerely,

Rochelle Gray (202) 352-7264 Rochelle.fraziergray@LNF.com