



GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

## Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2E

Representing the communities of Burleith, Georgetown, and Hillandale

3265 S Street, NW • Washington, DC 20007

(202) 724-7098 • [anc2e@dc.gov](mailto:anc2e@dc.gov)

January 26, 2024

Mr. Ted Van Houten  
Transportation Planner  
District Department of Transportation  
250 M Street SE  
Washington, DC 20003  
[theodore.vanhouten@dc.gov](mailto:theodore.vanhouten@dc.gov)

### **RE: ANC 2E's Requests for the Georgetown Transportation Access and Circulation Study Interim Report**

Dear Mr. Van Houten,

On January 8, 2024 ANC 2E held its regularly scheduled public meeting, which was properly noticed and attended by eight commissioners, constituting a quorum. At this meeting the Commission adopted the following resolution by a vote of (8-0-0) with regard to the above-referenced matter:

On November 15, 2023 the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) requested comments from the Georgetown Transportation Access and Circulation Study's Community Advisory Committee (CAC) members on the draft interim report regarding the delayed study. Members of the CAC requested this interim report after DDOT unexpectedly announced a delay in releasing the study's draft recommendations. The goal was to get a jumpstart on reading the study's data results, analysis, and intended structure for the final report. DDOT agreed to do the interim report, which was not part of the initial study plan.

As requested by DDOT, on December 8, 2023 five of ANC 2E's eight commissioners provided their input to DDOT on the draft interim report via a memo to Ted Van Houten, the lead DDOT staff person on the study. A copy of this memo is in Attachment A. The memo outlines nine main comments and associated requests for changes to the interim report or final report. DDOT staff acknowledged receipt of the ANC's comments and thanked the ANC for our input. Nine items relate to:

- Data prioritization, analysis, and a list of potential solutions
- Out-of-scope issues/solutions
- Timing of data collection

#### COMMISSIONERS:

Kishan Putta, District 1    Topher Mathews, District 2    Paul Maysak, District 3  
Joe Massaua, District 4    Mimsy Lindner, District 5    Gwendolyn Lohse, District 6  
Daniel Chao, District 7    John DiPierri, District 8

- Data input regarding residential priorities
- Scooter and e-bike pedestrian safety
- On-street parking data
- Accessibility
- EV needs
- Other (minor typo)

On December 20, 2023 DDOT issued the final interim report. The final report did not address comments and requests made by the ANC 2E commissioners on the draft report except for a grammatical comment.

On January 5, 2024 one of the ANC 2E members on the CAC held a call with the lead DDOT staff member for the study, a staff member from the study's community engagement consulting firm (LINK Strategic Partners), and DDOT's Ward 2 Community Engagement Specialist. The purpose of the call was to review the December 8, 2023 memo to determine if/how DDOT would address the ANC's requests. On the call, a commitment was made by the DDOT staff and the study consultant that each of the comments and requests in the December 8, 2023 memo would either be addressed within the draft final report or DDOT would specifically respond in writing with a detailed reason as to why the comment and associated request(s) were not addressed and included.

ANC 2E recognizes and appreciates DDOT's commitment to integrate our feedback into the final draft Georgetown Transportation Access and Circulation Study report, especially given that several ANC 2E commissioners have been engaged in the study's CAC for the last year.

Commissioner Gwendolyn Lohse ([2E06@anc.dc.gov](mailto:2E06@anc.dc.gov)) is the Commission's representative in this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gwendolyn Lohse". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Gwendolyn Lohse  
Chair, ANC 2E

CC: Georgetown Transportation Access and Circulation Study Community Advisory Committee

# **Attachment A**

**ANC 2E Commissioner Comments on  
the Draft Interim Report for the  
Georgetown Transportation Access and  
Circulation Study**



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December 8, 2023

[To: Ted Van Houten, AICP  
Transportation Planner  
Planning and Sustainability Division  
District Department of Transportation]

Ted,

We are sharing our comments on the draft Interim Report for the Georgetown Access and Circulation study underway. We look forward to a response from you regarding each of our requests. We are sharing the attached due to our roles in both serving on the study's community advisory committee (CAC), and as residents of our community who were elected to represent those living in Georgetown.

## Background

As you know, we were surprised in October this year to learn that the scheduled draft DDOT recommendations for the Georgetown Access and Circulation study would not be shared in November as planned. We all have been working together for the year, and some before that. Per your communications to us, we understand DDOT leadership felt it needed more time to review the draft recommendations in order to ensure that DDOT has the appropriate data to support the draft set of recommendations. Given this, we requested that an Interim Report with the following be made available to our community:

- Data collected (technical and non-technical) to date by the study's technical consultants being overseen by DDOT, plus any identified gaps in the data and completed analysis.
- Recommendations/ priorities collected from various community members via meetings/events/surveys/tools managed by the study's community outreach consultants being overseen by the Georgetown BID.
- Prioritization/analysis process that will be used for analyzing the data, determining priorities and identifying draft recommendations, plus how the recommendations will be presented to the community including any cost information.

We also asked how this three-to-four month extension will be funded given the consultant contracts and DDOT/GBID staff support was only for a year. We appreciate that you do not know yet, but that you will let us know in early 2024. We look forward to hearing from you on this.

COMMISSIONERS:

Topher Mathews, District 2    Paul Maysak, District 3  
Mimsy Lindner, District 5    Gwendolyn Lohse, District 6    Daniel Chao, District 7

## Comments and Requests

Our comments/requests are separated by **Overarching and Specific**.

### Overarching

1. **Data Prioritization, Analysis and then list of potential Solutions:** It appears Section 8 of the draft Interim Report is intended to address our request that the Interim Report outline how the data will be prioritized and analyzed by DDOT to identify the draft recommendations, and how those recommendations will be presented.
  - a. **Request:** Ensure each data set draws a conclusion, and then the draft recommendations include a clear analysis /finding of the related data set(s), and how DDOT determined how that finding warranted/did not warrant a recommendation(s). Ideas for piloting of recommendations or sharing of lessons learned in other parts of DC/other cities would be very appropriate.
  - b. **Request:** After presenting data analysis, it is assumed that, where appropriate, the report will provide options to address the key findings/challenges identified, rather than only one solution. Every change to Georgetown streets is interconnected with another area, thus options provide a consideration of address this interconnectedness.
2. **Out-of-Scope Issues/Solutions:** Many of our CAC discussions have been about what issues/solutions are in/out of scope of the study. Several items that are out of scope have been consistently identified by the ANC and other community organizations as essential to improving key goals of the study, e.g., reliable bus service (given lack of metro), improved parking enforcement. We understand DDOT may or may not control the out-of-scope items, however these issues need to be addressed if study goals are to be met.
  - a. **Request:** Include an Appendix of all recommendations submitted to the study that were deemed out of scope. Many of these are essential to improving transportation, safety and quality of life challenges in our community.
  - b. **Request:** Work with ANC 2E and other interested CAC members on how to engage DDOT on long-standing issues, e.g. lack of enforcement for a range of transportation issues (illegal parking, speeding, maintenance of unsafe sidewalks that are now expected to accommodate pedestrians, a significant increase in bikers, scooters and EV charging needs), for which the community has consistently requested be addressed.
3. **Timing of Data Collection:** Much of the data outlined, including previously completed reports, was done prior to 1) the significant increase in micro mobility, 2) the impact of COVID on our transportation needs and realities or during the city's COVID Public Health Emergency.
  - a. **Request:** Any recommendation based on data collected prior to the above noted events and during COVID should be recognized as such and carefully analyzed regarding how it fits into today's evolving needs and goals.

## Specific

1. **Data input regarding Residential priorities:** The report does not include any reference or use of a set of residential transportation priorities issued by the Citizens Association of Georgetown (CAG) in mid-2023 to support this study.
  - a. **Request:** Include the CAG residential priorities as a data set of the study; we will forward a copy.
  - b. **Request:** Include other ANC 2E resolutions from last three+ years that were focused on transportation issues (e.g., need for greater enforcement is a key request ANC 2E has brought up to city in numerous resolutions; ANC 2E will reshare these resolutions)
2. **Scooter and E-Bikes Pedestrian Safety:** Each and every day we see challenges with the many different users sharing the sidewalks. We especially see conflicts with pedestrians, scooters and bikes while moving on sidewalks, but also while scooters and bikes are illegally parked blocking sidewalks. These conflicts are a safety and access issue.
  - a. **Request:** Include information and data findings regarding what adjustments can be made and what enforcements must be in place so that bikes, scooters, and pedestrians can - or cannot - safely share sidewalks in Georgetown. Consider lessons learned from other parts of the city, and the unique nature of Georgetown's narrow sidewalks in many areas. Be specific to parking of bikes/scooters versus riding of bikes/scooters.
3. **On-Street Parking data:** The study area impacts our entire ANC, rather than just M St and Wisconsin; however, the data collected regarding on-street parking availability was focused on those streets and based upon only three days of data from NearMap. Residents who conduct their daily lives in our community find it challenging to find a place to park, these residents include elderly, parents with small children, those dependent on their cars to get to their place of employment during off hours (doctors, nurses), those requiring accessibility support and those concerned for their personal safety if arriving home late. The on-street parking is also used by construction workers each and every day. The data collected for on-street parking is insufficient given the important role parking plays in residential quality of life - plus the impact of parking on the income of our businesses - and that buses routes are being cut and Georgetown does not have a metro stop.
  - a. **Request:** Significantly expand the number of days for Near Map data collection; ensure the expanded data scope includes weekends and weekdays in 2023 that are not holidays, or local school breaks, and represents a minimum of two weeks, with ample spacing.
  - b. **Request:** Include 2023 annual parking data set developed by Wells and Associates as required by the Georgetown University (GU)/MedStar Georgetown University Hospital (MGUH) campus plan. The report is finalized each December. This data set studies the impact of GU/MGUH commuters on residential streets; it has been viewed by many as an excellent data set regarding congestion and parking.

- c. **Request:** Ensure the draft recommendations recognize that the statistical limitations of asking employees from GU, private employers, etc. if they illegally park on the on-street RPP zone, which only allows for two-hour parking for non-residents. Address how to account for such limitations.
  - d. **Request:** Two of the maps indicate stretches of the street where car parking has been removed. It's confusing to have those stretches labeled green. They should be labeled gray or some other color to show that their occupancy is basically n/a.
  - e. **Request:** Identify if the study recommendations will/will not consider the role of parking garages/lots and why/why not.
4. **Accessibility:** The data seems to have little focus on accessibility challenges within the study area, including the heavily visited commercial area.
- a. **Request:** Given the goals of the study, including equity, ensure there is appropriate data to analysis accessibility challenges and identify potential solutions.
5. **EV needs:** More and more of our residents are using EV cars, and e-bikes, and the city is promoting usage.
- a. **Request:** As previously requested, EV charging needs should be included and addressed in this study in some way. Spending the study's budget on infrastructure changes that do not take EV needs into account is an outdated approach.
6. **Other**
- a. **Fix:** On page 8 it says 37th Street where it should say 34th St.

We look forward to discussing our comments with you.

Regards

ANC 2E Commissioners

Gwendolyn Lohse, 2E06  
Mimsy Lindner, 2E05  
Daniel Chao, 2E07  
Topher Mathews, 2E02  
Paul Maysak, 2E03

CC: CAC members and ANC 2E Commissioners not serving on the CAC