



ANC 6B
Capitol Hill / Southeast

November 10, 2020

921 Pennsylvania Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20003-2141
6B@anc.dc.gov

Jeffrey Marootian, Director
District Department of Transportation
55 M Street SE
Washington, DC 20003

VIA email: jeff.marootian@dc.gov; ancresolutions@ddot.dc.gov

RE: Request That DDOT Complete & Release the SE Boulevard Draft EA

Dear Director Marootian;

At a properly noticed meeting of Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6B with a quorum present on November 10, 2020, the Commission voted 8-1-0 to express our concerns about the glacial pace of the SE Boulevard & Barney Circle NEPA Study and requests that DDOT attend our January 2021 Transportation Committee Meeting to provide a status update.

It has now been almost 3 years since the ANC6B community has received any substantive information on the study. In January 2018, the Commission sent you comments based on DDOT's presentation and materials provided at its December 11, 2017 public meeting. DDOT provided an informal briefing on the status of the study in June 2018. We have heard nothing since then. According to the study website "The EA began in spring 2017 and is scheduled to conclude in late 2018."

So, where is the draft EA? This project began in 2013 and went through several iterations. That is a span of 7 years so far. We understand, even when the community has an opportunity to review and comment on the draft EA, these comments then must go through a formal process of interaction between DDOT and FHWA before a final EA can be issued. More years ...

Meanwhile, land that could be used for building housing for DC residents is sitting idle. A freeway only for the use of vehicles cannot be converted into a boulevard that would accommodate bicyclists and pedestrians as well as vehicles. A north/south bike/pedestrian path to connect Hill East to Boathouse Row remains only in our imagination. Admittedly, the community has much it wants to say about this project. But we are unable to do so until DDOT releases the draft EA.

Please contact Commissioner Kirsten Oldenburg, ANC 6B Transportation Committee Chair, 6B04@anc.dc.gov, if you have any questions about this request or need further information.

Sincerely,



Brian Ready
Chair, ANC6B

CC: Charles Allen, Ward 6 Councilmember
Andrew Trueblood, Director, DC Office of Planning
Muriel Bowser, Mayor of the District of Columbia
Robert White, At Large Councilmember

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