

**ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 2F
SPECIAL MEETING
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 4, 2004, 7:00 PM
THE WASHINGTON PLAZA HOTEL**

IN ATTENDANCE:

Helen Kramer, Vice Chair
Tom Funk, Secretary
Bob Hinterlong, Treasurer
Miriam Trimble
Jim Brandon

Public Space Request

Helen Kramer reported that the TCBY at 1421 P Street had filed a request for outdoor seating. Tom Funk moved to approve the request for outdoor café tables at TCBY, Jim Brandon seconded.

VOTE: Approved 5-0.

1529 14th Street- Traffic Control Plan for The Phaeton

Douglas Bissanti, the contractor for Georgetown Restoration, met with neighbors affected by the project and two members of the CDC to discuss a traffic control plan. He said that the pedestrian walkway cannot be put into the curb lane, due to the amount of construction going on in the neighborhood. The pedestrian walkway will be close to the current sidewalk. It will be fully enclosed. They will have to interrupt pedestrian traffic to put in water lines and electrical lines. This should only happen two or three times and for a day at a time. Kramer asked how many days pedestrian traffic to the retail stores would be interrupted. Bissanti said he did not know. He wants to close a curb lane and a travel lane on nine Mondays for 14 hours to accommodate the unloading of construction materials. Representatives from DDOT said that 14th Street was a rush hour street and could not be closed during rush hour. Clarissa Bird, Chief of Work Zones and Public Safety for DDOT, said that many other entities would have to be involved in closing 14th Street during rush hour. It is also an emergency evacuation route. Kara McCabe said that Georgetown Restoration offered to pay for police details during these times. The nine Mondays would not be consecutive. Bird said that they will have to specify the dates well in advance of the closing. Bird said that they are asking the three contractors who are constructing new buildings on 14th Street to share the cost of count-down traffic signals at the intersections for public safety. Funk asked Bissanti to email the scope of the information and period of closing dates to him to incorporate in the letter the ANC will send on their behalf. Kramer said that the exact dates would have to be worked out between DDOT and the builder. Hinterlong moved that the ANC recommend sending a letter to DDOT to approve the plan to remove the rush hour restrictions on nine Mondays to accommodate a crane and unloading construction materials. Funk seconded.

VOTE: Approved 4-1, Brandon dissenting

1151-3 14TH Street NW - Traffic Control Plan

Shawn Seaman of PN Hoffman presented the traffic plan for a new project at 1151-53 14th Street. They have had meetings with representatives of Thomas House and DDOT. They are proposing three items to improved pedestrian safety. They are:

- 1) Increasing length of pedestrian walk light across 14th Street

- 2) Improve walkway markings and striping
- 3) Repair uneven concrete and paving on 14th Street.

Representatives from DDOT talked to the signals division to request more time on the pedestrian walk signals. There is going to be more time put on it, and they want to have a count-down signal put in, and they've requested smoothing the roadway surface. During excavation, the contractor must keep the sidewalk open. During the next phase, DDOT will know more about when these improvements will be implemented. Bird said that the developers will put in the countdown signals. Ed Sayre, President of the Thomas House Residents Council, said that the light at L Street is adequate for handicapped residents. He told of one person in a wheelchair who tried to cross 14th Street at the circle and was stranded in the middle with cars coming past on both sides and was in fear of his life. Bird said that another alternative would be to have the developer pay for their shuttle service to get residents across the street. Seaman said that he would rather not deal with that issue unless they had to. Kramer said that it certainly is better to try to improve the walkway, as the CVS is just across the street and would require a shuttle to go completely around the circle to get just across the street. Seaman said that they intended to close the sidewalk during excavation. The truck flow in and out of this site is going to be constant. Sayre said that it was his understanding that PN Hoffman and DRI would be excavating jointly and that Hoffman would be bringing their trucks out the southern end of DRI's property. He also pointed out that there is an alley behind the property where they could exit. Kramer said that the commission cannot agree to approve a traffic control plan that includes closing the sidewalk on the east side of 14th Street until the pavement and signal improvements can be made. Seaman said that that was what they wanted.

Trimble asked what route trucks would take leaving the site. They said plans called for heading north on 14th Street. Bird said that DDOT would decide what route they would take, and that it would have to be the route that would least impact the neighborhood. Sayre asked about using the rear alleys. Bird said that there is not space in those narrow alleys to make the turn in a large truck. Sayre then asked about the construction on Thomas Circle. He said that the cross walk they are discussing would be eliminated by the construction on Thomas Circle. Kramer asked how many months the sidewalk would be closed during excavation. Answer: three to four months. The concrete phase is next and will take another six months. The total will be over a year. Ramona Burns said the contract for Thomas Circle construction is currently out to bid. She said that they will never have the pedestrian crosswalks completely closed. Kramer suggested that the contractors start at the north end of the circle and leave the south end for last. Bird said that she agreed, but also said that smoothing out the pavement would be the first thing to do. She said that they are trying to get a crew coordinated to do that. The signal division said that it will try to add a few seconds to the cross light. Seaman offered to do some of the paving, but there is a protocol in place. Bird said that if PN Hoffman does the paving, they would have to take full liability while they were doing it.

Trimble moved that ANC approve the traffic control plan proposed for 1151-53 14th Street on condition that the roadway on the south side of Thomas circle be repaved to facilitate pedestrian traffic, that new signals be added for countdown and that DDOT reconfigure the lights to allow more time for pedestrian crossing. Brandon seconded.

VOTE: Approved 5-0.

Kramer allowed Ramona Burns, DDOT Ward 2 Transportation Planner, to bring up the issue of the repaving of the alley behind the Whole Foods Market on P Street, NW. Although the alley is to be paved in bricks, Whole Foods has asked to have the area behind its store paved in concrete to accommodate trucks. Kramer moved that it be approved by acclamation. All were in favor.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.