



March 27, 2025

Sharon Kershbaum
Director, District Department of Transportation
1100 4th Street SW, Third Floor
Washington, DC 20004
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RE: NOI #25-56-TPA Permanently Remove Rush Hour Parking Restrictions on M St & Wisconsin Ave NW

Dear Director Kershbaum,

I am writing on behalf of the Citizens Association of Georgetown (CAG) to express our serious concerns with the DC Department of Transportation (DDOT) Notice of Intent (NOI) #25-56-TPA to permanently remove the rush-hour parking restrictions on M Street and Wisconsin Avenue NW in Georgetown.

The rationale for the temporary grant of public space to restaurants, along with the installation of temporary boardwalks, was rooted in circumstances related to the pandemic. That rationale - along with whatever benefits may have been derived from those measures - no longer exists. Needless to say, if there is no valid rationale for temporary measures, there is certainly not one for making them permanent. With no evident benefits, the time is long past to remove structures that place an undue burden on public safety, proper traffic management, and Georgetown's historic character.

We note that in his March 6, 2025, letter to the Mayor, U.S. Secretary of Transportation Sean Duffy requested that you submit a written report to him by April 5, 2025, identifying all potential areas of roadway non-compliance, locations of elevated risk impacting safety for the traveling public, and any proposed plans that may need to be reviewed as a result of these concerns by April 5, 2025. Furthermore, he states, "Any public roadway should use all real property and its associated right-of-way exclusively for the safe mobility of road users and efficient utilization of the roadway," and that DDOT should prioritize safety above all else.

We also note that D.C. Police Union Chairman Gregory Pemberton stated in his letter to the Mayor that the rush hour lanes blocked by jersey barriers and pedestrian sidewalks threaten safety and impede the ability of the Metropolitan Police Department's (MPD) to respond in a timely way to crimes and protect businesses and residents.

We strongly support the ANC 2E Resolution RE: Notice of Intent to Permanently Remove Rush Hour Parking Restrictions on M St and Wisconsin Ave NW (NOI #25-56-TPA). CAG urges DDOT to withdraw the subject NOI and resubmit a revised Notice that addresses our concerns. We ask that you provide clarity on precisely what the current public policy rationale is for removing the rush-hour lanes in (2) two of the (14) fourteen emergency evacuation routes and continuing to allow temporary structures in those lanes and how doing so prioritizes public safety - including during emergencies that may require rapid evacuation; addresses the impact on parking and congestion in residential neighborhoods with streets connecting to M Street and Wisconsin Avenue; and protects the integrity of Georgetown's historic character.

For reference, enclosed are Secretary Duffy's letter to the Mayor, DDOT Notice of Intent, ANC 2E Resolution, and D.C. Police Union Chair's letter to the Mayor.

Thank you for your timely response.

Regards,

Amy A. Titus
CAG Board President