



Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2A

“Serving the Foggy Bottom and West End communities of Washington, D.C.”

August 6, 2020

Mr. Jeff Marootian
Director
District Department of Transportation
55 M Street SE, Suite 400
Washington, DC 20003
jeff.marootian@dc.gov

RE: Proposed Sidewalk Widening and Other Public Health Measures to Support Physical Distancing

Dear Director Marootian,

At its regular meeting on July 15, 2020, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2A (“**ANC 2A**” or “**Commission**”) considered the above-referenced matter. With six of eight commissioners present, a quorum at a duly-noticed public meeting, the Commission voted unanimously (**6-0-0**), after a motion made by Commissioner Harnett and seconded by Commissioner Kennedy, to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the coronavirus pandemic necessitates a rethinking of how the District uses and operationalizes its public space to protect pedestrians and limit the spread of COVID-19, which according to DC Health’s and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s (CDC) guidance, is most effectively spread by close contact with individuals,

WHEREAS, a comprehensive analysis of Foggy Bottom sidewalks using data from the District Department of Transportation’s (DDOT) Open Data archive, last updated in 2019, shows that many are too narrow to support safe physical distancing of two or more individuals passing each other while walking,^{1, 2}

WHEREAS, the safety and health of neighbors and visitors who walk should be protected to the greatest extent possible through recognizing this pandemic for the critical emergency it is,

WHEREAS, restaurants are finding it almost impossible to significantly reduce their operations by limiting to only outdoor seating, and the Commission has an interest in maintaining the viability of our local businesses for the long-term in our neighborhood, and

¹ Wardwell, Jarrod. “Campus sidewalks too narrow for social distancing, new map shows.” *The GW Hatchet*. May 18, 2020. gwhatchet.com/2020/05/18/campus-sidewalks-too-narrow-for-social-distancing-new-map-shows/

² Sidewalk Widths DC.



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WHEREAS, with a commitment to listening to the feedback, thoughts, and recommendations of the community and neighborhood partners, we can protect the health of the thousands of students that live in this neighborhood, the thousands of people who reside in and around this area, the thousands who come to work here, and every one of our neighbors who decides to spend time outside in the weeks and months to come.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2A supports implementing the included list of sidewalk extensions (Attachment A) and other public health measures, starting Monday, August 17th, 2020, to enable safe physical distancing for pedestrians and the expansion of public space to support local restaurants, through a period until no public health measures are any longer necessary to protect our community.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that for any of the attached sidewalk extensions that adjoin or border a non-University residential building, especially those on F Street and 20th Street NW, residential parking should be maintained as much as possible. Commissioner Kennedy will advise DDOT about the best course of action for these sidewalks.

Commissioners James Harnett (2A08@anc.dc.gov) and Patrick Kennedy (2A01@anc.dc.gov) are the Commission’s representatives in this matter.

ON BEHALF OF THE COMMISSION.

Sincerely,

James Harnett
Chairperson

CC: Kenny Marable, Community Engagement Specialist, DDOT
Nicole Goines, Mayor’s Office of Community Relations and Services

Attachment A

**Map of Proposed Sidewalk Extensions
in Foggy Bottom**

As students return to campus in the fall, we need to return public space to pedestrians to give them more room to be physically distant from one another. 91 views [SHARE](#)

Proposed street cafes

I Street NW

Proposed sidewalk extensions

- F Street NW
- G Street NW
- H Street NW
- E Street NW
- 20th Street NW
- 22nd Street NW
- 21st Street NW

Car sharing pickup/drop-offs

- 21st and H Street NW
- Duke's Grocery
- Tonic

