

Government of the District of Columbia
ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 3F
North Cleveland Park • Forest Hills • Tenleytown

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**RESOLUTION TO HELP THE DIVERSE GROUPS OF D.C.'S DISABLED CITIZENS
BY WITHDRAWING PROPOSED BILL 21-175 AT THIS TIME**

WHEREAS: The Residents of ANC 3F broadly support a City which respects, accommodates and, where needed, assists citizens with different abilities and needs, not least the disabled and mobility challenged,

WHEREAS: The Residents of ANC 3F broadly support DC initiatives such as Age Friendly DC, approve of DC support for organizations like IONA, and appreciate the desirability of providing reduced transit rates for the disabled and elderly,

WHEREAS: Many mobility challenged citizens are vehicle dependent because they are unable to use Metro,

WHEREAS: Today the disabled are able to park at City meters for twice the stated time and at no cost,

WHEREAS: At the end of the prior Mayoralty and possibly without legal authority DDOT paid to have hundreds of Red Top Meters installed essentially at random throughout our City,

WHEREAS: Many of the more severely disabled but by no means all of the diverse sub-populations within the broadly labeled category of "disabled" need van and ramp accessible parking access not provided by the majority of standard City parking meters,

WHEREAS: Bill 21-175 as submitted would limit the number of Red Top Meters to one per block, without regard to how many doctors offices or other uses are on the block and without regard to geography,

WHEREAS: The disabled move more slowly than the more physically fortunate and therefore require more time at meters, often exceeding the time generally allowed,

WHEREAS: Bill 21-175 would, by ending the ability of the disabled to receive extra time at all City parking meters, force the mobility challenged to compete for only 10% of City meter spaces or pay CBD garage rates,

WHEREAS: Today the elderly but non-disabled who are able to use Metro can travel to and from the CBD for \$3 and the disabled who require vehicle access pay nothing, Bill 21-175 would

force a disabled person who needs three hours at a meter to pay \$6 (or at least \$12 if lack of meter availability necessitates using a garage),

WHEREAS: DDOT, DPW and other City agencies maintain there is fraud in the use of disability placards, primarily in and around Federal buildings in the Central Business District but not only has made no attempt of any kind to address the presumed fraud but has ignored common sense and Citizen suggestions for ways to do so,

WHEREAS: Bill 21-175 would purport to redress fraud by ceasing the current longer time / no cost support for the disabled,

WHEREAS: City Council Finance Chairman Jack Evans, the sponsor of Bill 21-175, has acknowledged that the City does not need the additional revenue that this legislation might generate,

WHEREAS: Bill 21-175 would allow DDOT – at its sole, unmonitored discretion -- to change parking rules for the disabled by expanding Red Top Meters throughout the City in any number or placement it chooses, and

WHEREAS: Bill 21-175 requires disability placard holders to be notified of changes if and only if the Council passes and the Mayor signs the legislation but not in any way before when the disabled would have an opportunity to express their concerns.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

Bill 21-175 sponsor Councilman Jack Evans and co-sponsor Council Member David Grosso should withdraw the current Bill 21-175,

Require DDOT, DPW, DMV and any other needed government agencies to, within one year, report to the Council and the public any demonstrated inability to otherwise remediate possible placard fraud, including any possible changes; and

Require that any future bill require DDOT to work with interested parties to identify blocks where locations are frequently accessed by the handicapped and locate additional meters accordingly.

[signature page follows]

This resolution was adopted at a duly noticed public meeting of ANC 3F, with a quorum, on June 16, 2015, by a vote of 6-0-0.



Adam Tope
Chair, ANC 3F