

Government of the District of Columbia
ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 3F
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3F06 – Courtney Carlson, Chair



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**RESOLUTION REGARDING DDOT SIDEWALK GAP PROGRAM
PRIORITIES WITHIN ANC3F**

WHEREAS, nearly all streets in ANC3F have a pedestrian right-of-way (city owned land reserved for pedestrians) on both sides of the street but too many are unimproved or even impassable, and

WHEREAS, DDOT recognizes the safety and livability criticality of a complete and accessible-to-all improved sidewalk network in the context of its statutory requirement “to build sidewalks wherever pedestrians are legally permitted in the District” (<https://sidewalkgap.ddot.dc.gov/>), and

WHEREAS, ANC 3F has long requested and prioritized DDOT’s completion of its sidewalk network and formed an ad-hoc Streets and Sidewalks Committee to advocate for this, and

WHEREAS, with occasional exception, each home or business in ANC3F has at least 15 feet and often more city-owned property between it and the improved street, and

WHEREAS, DDOT is required to notify abutting property owners of proposed sidewalk improvements, acts under the admirable practice of consulting with them about any concerns, but is not required to seek their permission for any work in public space, and

WHEREAS, DDOT has proposed new sidewalk construction in ANC 3F during the current year, and

WHEREAS, a visit to the proposed sidewalk improvement project for the south side of Albemarle Street NW from 32nd to 29th Street by ANC 3F commissioners, DDOT staff, and community members identified engineering and tree preservation challenges.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that ANC 3F directs DDOT to consider the following factors in refining its sidewalk gap construction plans in ANC 3F as well as making revisions to its sidewalk gap prioritization analysis for following years:

1. ANC 3F applauds the City and DDOT for increasing the budget and staff capacity for sidewalk improvements and maintenance.
2. ANC 3F supports DDOT's development and refinement of a data-driven prioritization system for development of the sidewalk gap elimination program's capital expenditures.
3. ANC 3F advises DDOT to refine the process to increase prioritization for street sections that lack an improved sidewalk on either side of the street.
4. ANC 3F advises DDOT to continue to listen to ANCs and citizens about where the prioritization system has missed neighborhood priorities for sidewalk connectivity.
5. ANC 3F strongly supports DDOT's prioritization of construction of an improved sidewalk between the end of the existing sidewalk on the 3300 block of Fessenden Street.
6. If DDOT finds the engineering and tree challenges of the proposed Albemarle Street sidewalk construction to be onerous, it should consider the following alternative sidewalk gap segments as priorities in this order:
 - i. Davenport Street between the end of the improved sidewalk on the 3000 block and the intersection with Linnean Avenue, preferably along the south side of the street to minimize the number of crossings necessary to walk west from Linnean.
 - ii. 30th Street from the intersection of Davenport south to the existing sidewalk, preferably along the west side of the street to minimize the number of crossings necessary to continue south from there to Albemarle.
 - iii. Linnean Avenue north from the corner of Davenport to the existing improved sidewalk, preferably along the west side of the street to minimize length (but with due flexibility to avoid disrupting the hedge line while navigating utility equipment placement within DDOT and ADA sidewalk width standards). If advisable and cost-effective, use of the parking lane here for sidewalk construction and traffic calming should be considered.
7. DDOT's sidewalk gap team address the sidewalk gap on 35th Street between Yuma and Alton Streets by taking advantage of nontraditional approaches including traffic calming tools like sidewalk expansion into the parking lane. This is separate from, but synergistic with, existing requests that DDOT make 35th one-way south from Alton to Yuma to reduce traffic danger on 35th as well as traffic congestion at the intersection of Albemarle and Connecticut.
8. DDOT meet again with ANC 3F and neighbors to discuss further possibilities for bridging the sidewalk gap along the south side of Albemarle Street between

29th and 32nd Streets NW by using traffic calming tools, including the possibility of using sidewalk extensions into the current roadbed and alternating parking to achieve reduced speeds through horizontal deflection (https://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/speedmgt/ePrimer_modules/module1.cfm).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Commissioner Carlson is authorized to speak on behalf of ANC 3F regarding this matter.

ANC 3F [approved/disapproved] this resolution at its meeting on July 16, 2023, which was properly noticed and at which a quorum was present, by a vote of [XX] in favor, [XX] opposed, and [XX] abstaining.

Courtney Carlson
Chair, ANC 3F