

ANC 3F Sheridan School Special Exception

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- To Garrett, Elliott M. (DDOT) <elliott.garrett@dc.gov>; Lawson, Joel (OP) <joel.lawson@dc.gov>; Pazmino, Carlos (DDOT) <carlos.pazmino@dc.gov>; Zimmerman, Aaron (DDOT) <aaron.zimmerman@dc.gov>; Jesick, Matthew (OP) <matthew.jesick@dc.gov>
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Mr. Elliott M. Garrett, Associate Director, District Department of Transportation, <u>elliott.garrett@dc.gov</u> Mr. Joel Lawson, Associate Director, DC Office of Planning, <u>joel.lawson@dc.gov</u> Carlos Pazmino, DDOT, <u>carlos.pazmino@dc.gov</u> Aaron Zimmerman, DDOT, <u>aaron.zimmerman@dc.gov</u> Matt Jesick, OP, <u>matthew.jesick@dc.gov</u> cc: <u>cdamiana@dccouncil.gov</u>; <u>matthew.barclay@dc.gov</u>

Dear Mr. Garrett, Mr. Lawson, and colleagues,

As part of its pending Special Exception review before the Board of Zoning Adjustment, Sheridan School has been asked by DDOT to include a Capital Bikeshare Station, extend a sidewalk along their portion of the south side of the 3600 block of Alton Street, and to remove existing parking lot landscape screening along that portion of Alton.

ANC 3F voted in favor of Sheridan's Special Exception request. We support the addition of a bikeshare station as part of Sheridan's TDM plan, and broadly support the completion of the sidewalk network in AC 3F. However, we ask that DDOT modify their request of the Sheridan School, as outlined below.

DDOT's proposal would potentially impact a 120+ inch heritage tree and could disrupt Sheridan's ability to host the New Morning Farms Community Farmer's Market site. Our community has been clear that it wants the farmer's market to remain. The DDOT request would also create a "sidewalk to nowhere" as the remainder of Alton Street between Sheridan's property and Reno Road would fall very low on DDOT's already-overtaxed citywide sidewalk installation program's prioritization list.

In addition, location of the bikeshare station on the northern side of Sheridan's property would not only limit flexibility for the Farmers Market, it would miss an opportunity for bikeshare to be placed on the street in an existing no-parking zone as part of needed traffic calming efforts for this walkable community that still sees excessive vehicle speeds and failure to yield to pedestrians at crosswalks throughout the school day.

Sheridan's proposed work should not be delayed by these issues. This project will address needed ADA accessibility and school safety upgrades and should proceed at pace so that the school can make these needed enhancements and minimize disruption to the students and the neighborhood.

We therefore recommend: Sheridan be asked to enter into an agreement with DDOT for the future construction of a sidewalk on Alton Street, along with any necessary removal of screening vegetation currently in public space <u>if and only when DDOT</u> funds an Alton Street sidewalk project between Sheridan and Reno Road. Also, we recommend that Sheridan be asked to certify that they will work with

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the neighbors and the ANC and DDOT's bikeshare team to site a bikeshare station adjacent to the school but not finalize that location at this point. Such certification should require that Sheridan place the bikeshare station on the northern side of its property if another location cannot be agreed to by the ANC and DDOT before the end of the school's construction under the proposed Special Exception.

Thank you.

ANC 3F Commissioners Marilyn Slatnick, 3F01 Teri Huet, 3F02 Mitchell Baer, 3F03 Claudette David, 3F04 James Tandaric, 3F05 Courtney Carlson, 3F06