

Sherice Muhammad
Committee of Transportation and the Environment
District Department of Transportation
Tuesday, April 30th, 2024

Hello, Councilmember Allen and the Committee on Transportation and the Environment. Thank you for the opportunity to testify today. I am Sherice Muhammad, a Ward 7 resident, and former ANC Commissioner and Chair, and active with the Standing Transportation and Infrastructure Committee to monitor and analyze DDOT projects in Ward 7.

My testimony this afternoon is two-fold, the first is regarding our DDOT Safe Passage request that the Department of Operations & Infrastructure (DOI) and DC Human Resources (DCHR), work in tandem to address adequate recruitment, training, and retention of bus drivers for the OSSE Bus Program for students with disabilities and WMATA bus services for school arrival and dismissal times (MicroTransit Services). The following entities within DDOT should regularly aggregate and release public data on safe passage program effectiveness and usage: DC Vision Zero, School Crossing Guards, Traffic Control Officers, and Kids Ride Free.

As DC PAVE Parents, we believe the aforementioned request will equip us with the needed information to gauge whether the programs students and families depend on across the city are effective in providing those needed services.

The second portion of my testimony focuses on the Minnesota Avenue Revitalization Projects (Phases 1 and II). Phases 1 work was in 2017 when I was an ANC Commissioner. Since the ending of Phase II, I and others have noticed the traffic gridlock along Minnesota Avenue particularly along the corridor:

- Minnesota Avenue and Nannie Helen Burroughs Avenue (accessing Kenilworth Avenue NE)
- Minnesota Avenue WMATA Bus Bay
- Minnesota Avenue and the short street that leads to the DOES Building Parking Lot and Park 7 Apartment Complex
- Minnesota Avenue and Benning Road NE
- Minnesota Avenue and Dix Street NE (across the street from the newly constructed Department of General Service Building)

We need remediation of these chokepoints of traffic during rush hour in the mornings and evenings. I would also add we need improved coordination of traffic along these corridors. We



are collecting actual video footage to show how the traffic impacts in the highlighted areas.

Thank you all for holding this hearing. I welcome your questions.

Sincerely,

Sherice Muhammad

Ward 7 PLE Board Member, PAVE (Parents Amplifying Voices in Education)