D.C. Pedestrian Advisory Council

Meeting Minutes

May 24, 2021, 6:30 p.m.

Remote Public Meeting

Attendees: J.I. Swiderski, Kathy Davin, Eileen McCarthy, Cheryle Adams, James Elliott, Heather Foote, Priscilla Magee, and Mark Rodeffer. Agency reps: Karyn McAlister, Rahul Jain, and Joshua Wolfgram (DDOT), Rita Abou Samra (OP), Dulce Naime (DPR), Sgt. Terry Thorne (MPD). PAC staff: Andrea Adleman.

Start: Elliott convened the remote meeting at 6:35 p.m.

Introductions: Attendees introduced themselves.

Voices from the Wards: At-large member Magee shared observations about pedestrian travel in different wards. She focused on Ward 1 and discussed her familiarity with Petworth, NoMa, and other neighborhoods.

Unfinished business: Swiderski reported on the May 13 Vision Zero roundtable, at which Foote [testified](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1DJ2rDlajhh9KZX9hBtnvzC1_U11wQuw3/view) on behalf of the PAC. Elliott reviewed the matter of a coordinator to distribute PAC statements to public officials and otherwise serve as communications liaison. Swiderski expressed willingness to perform such communications duties and there was consensus to support them in the role.

DDOT report: McAlister reported there are now 22 Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons (RRFB) and 24 High-Intensity Activated Crosswalk (HAWK) signals operating in the District, according to new numbers from DDOT’s Traffic Engineering & Safety Division. Following the May radio announcements, a public education campaign will take place from June to September to educate drivers about speed limits, infrastructure changes, and safety enhancements.

MPD report: Sgt. Thorne reported there have been 17 traffic fatalities year to date. This includes three drivers, one passenger, eight pedestrians, two bicyclists, and three motorcyclists/ATV operators.

Presentation on DDOT signal optimization project: Consultant Joshua Wolfgram and engineer Rahul Jain provided a briefing on the signal optimization program. After reviewing the [presentation slides,](https://drive.google.com/drive/u/2/folders/145CACfGq9FVc0Ub1T4Eb2WAsSiSsZEG9) they answered questions and invited PAC members to contact them as additional questions arise.

Discussion of DDOT budget: The DDOT budget oversight hearing is June 10 in the Committee on Transportation & the Environment. Elliott facilitated discussion of ways the PAC could testify. There was consensus to reiterate statements the PAC previously approved and combine them into official testimony. Swiderski and Adams will prepare the [written testimony](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1q6d4AdWNNTLG32OEnrngSZ4DVmOBwddp/view) and Swiderski will testify at the hearing.

Approval of minutes: McCarthy moved and Swiderski seconded a motion to approve the April 26 minutes. By roll-call vote, the motion passed with eight members voting in favor: Swiderski, Davin, McCarthy, Adams, Elliott, Foote, Magee, and Rodeffer. Swiderski moved and Adams seconded a motion to approve the May 10 minutes. By roll-call vote, the motion passed with seven members voting in favor: Swiderski, Davin, McCarthy, Adams, Elliott, Foote, and Rodeffer. Magee abstained.

Treasurer’s report: Adams reported the account balance is $5,525.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.