

ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 3E
TENLEYTOWN • AMERICAN UNIVERSITY PARK • FRIENDSHIP
HEIGHTS

Lisner-Louise-Dickson-Hurt Home
5425 Western Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20015

December 15, 2006

Mr. David Brlnasky
WMATA
Washington, DC

Dear Mr. Brlansky,

The ANC 3E considered the matter of the bus stop at 4317 Massachusetts Ave., NW again during our regularly scheduled and well publicized meeting on December 14, 2006. The commission voted unanimously to ask WMATA to remove this bust stop. As you may recall, this is the bus stop that was installed at that location in August of 2006. It was installed without notice to the community and without input from nearby residents. The location of this bus stop meant that residents on that side of the street (the north side) lost 3 of the approximate 7 legal parking spots on that side of the street. This loss of legal parking, along with a concern about the stop being so close to the driveway for the Department of Homeland Security prompted residents at 4317 to ask that the ANC 3E consider asking for the immediate removal of the stop.

The ANC 3E first considered the matter during our October 12, 2006 meeting. The agenda item was publicized well in advance. Two members of the audience spoke in favor of removal of the stop, arguing that there are two additional stops servicing the same bus route close by. No one spoke at the meeting in favor of keeping the stop. The ANC declined to vote on a recommendation to remove the superfluous bus stop at the time because there was a desire to make sure that community members were notified of this matter and had time to voice objections to the removal of the stop.

Subsequent to posting the matter in the NW Current, two residents from the adjacent ANC across the street from said bus stop called to ask to keep the bus stop in this location. One resident said that she believed that it was a convenient stop for the nannies and maids from her side of the street (the south side at Westover Place) to use, claiming that during inclement weather it is a hardship to walk either the 100 yards up to Ward Circle to the bus stop there or down the street to the bus stop located approximately the same distance away. An inspection of the site was made, and it became clear that this resident and the caller who left a message on an answering machine were asking that the ANC support the retention of the bus stop in order to allow residents on the opposite side of the street to jaywalk across 4 lanes of traffic on a major thoroughfare. The two adjacent bus stops are located in legal pedestrian walkways; one at a stop light with a pedestrian crosswalk, and one at Ward Circle where pedestrians have a well marked crosswalk across two lanes, an island on which to rest, and then another well marked crosswalk across two lanes.

As the ANC cannot support the retention of a bus stop simply to allow jaywalking across 4 lanes of busy traffic, and because there are two other bus stops servicing the same bus routes within very easy walking distance of the stop in question, the ANC 3E is requesting that WMATA remove the bus stop for westbound buses in front of 4317 Massachusetts Avenue, NW.

Furthermore, if WMATA deems it absolutely necessary to have three of the same types of bus stops within 2 tenths of a mile (as is the case now), then the ANC requests that the middle stop be relocated to in front of the Greenbriar apartments where there is already a no-parking zone.

Thank you for your attention to this matter,

Sincerely,

Anne C. Sullivan
ANC 3E05

Cc: Council Member Carol Schwartz
Mr. Gilbert Williams, DDOT