ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 3E

TENLEYTOWN AMERICAN UNIVERSITY PARK FRIENDSHIP HEIGHTS
c/o Lisner-Louise-Dickson-Hurt Home 5425 Western Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20015
www.anc3e.org

Resolution Regarding DDOT Notice of Intent 11-34-TS regarding the intersection of Military Road and 42nd Street NW

Whereas, the intersection of 42nd Street and Military Road NW has been the site of numerous and regular accidents resulting in part from poor sight lines and speed differentials on Military Road, and

Whereas, the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) as a result of the volume and seriousness of these accidents has given notice that it intends to restrict vehicular movements by both north and south bound traffic on 42nd Street at the intersection of 42nd Street and Military Road to right turns only and may enforce this requirement by erecting some type of channelized barrier, and

Whereas, existing inhibitions on traffic flow in the immediate vicinity including the traffic diverters at 43rd and Jenifer and 44th and Harrison as well as the prohibition on turns from westbound Western to southbound Wisconsin and the fact that the 5300 block of 42nd Place and the 5300 block of Belt Road dead end on both ends and the 5200 block of 43rd Street and the 4100 block of Legation Street dead end on one end all create conditions where some streets and intersections bear a disproportionate share of the neighborhoods traffic burdens and at this point in time 42nd and Military is one such intersection, and

Whereas, ANC 3E unanimously passed a resolution at its February 9, 2012 meeting asking DDOT to consider the impacts of any changes at 42nd and Military on 41st Street NW before proceeding with any changes but DDOT has yet to respond to that resolution and numerous requests for meetings to discuss the resolution and traffic issues on 41st Street , and

Whereas, the 5300 block of 43rd Street NW is a narrow street and is already dealing with high volumes of traffic and the 5300 block of 42nd Place is too narrow for 2 way traffic, and

Whereas, DDOT has yet to report to ANC 3E on any possible impacts to traffic on the 5300 blocks of 43rd Street NW and 42nd Place NW and 41st Street NW between Military Road and Chesapeake Street and the 4100 and 4200 blocks of Jenifer Streets NW, and

Whereas, the 2004 Friendship Heights Transportation study found on page 24 that 42nd Street NW between Jenifer and Ingomar streets was handling an average of 428 northbound cars per day and 460 southbound cars per day, and

Whereas, DDOT in the final paragraph of its August 12, 2011 Memorandum states: "Traveling motorists who seek to access the neighborhood streets south of Military Road NW will continue on southbound 41st Street (thru a signalized intersection) or will use the adjacent intersections

of 43rd Street and 43rd Place [sic] from westbound Military Road NW. No directional signage is proposed, although all existing pavement markings should be refurbished as part of the new traffic restrictions" and says nothing else about adjoining streets which indicates DDOT expects adjoining streets to bear the burden of the additional traffic while making no preparations to better manage it, and

Whereas, the 2004 Friendship Heights Transportation Study examined the intersection of 42nd and Military and made the following short term recommendations on page 78:

- Reinforce turn restriction for northbound vehicles with the addition of supplemental signing on the southwest corner of the intersection
- Remove parking spaces along Military Road on either side of 42nd Street in order to improve sight distance.
- Install parking stall striping to define parking limits.
- Relocate "No parking Here to Corner" sign.
- Install "Do not Block Intersection" signs for both directions
- Provide increased enforcement to raise conformance of restrictions
- Re-stripe pavement markings
- Improve signal timing at the intersection of Military Road and 41st Street to provide additional green time for Military Road

And also made the following long term recommendations for the intersection also on page 78:

- For the northbound approach, increase right turn radius and install a raised channelizing island to force drivers to make right turn only.
- Improvements recommended at 41st Street and at Western Avenue should significantly reduce the queuing problems.

Whereas, DDOT has neither implemented any of the above recommendations from the 2004 Friendship Heights Transportation Study nor conducted a comprehensive examination of the intersection of 42nd and Military as part of this process (or if they have made such an examination they have shared none of the results of the study with ANC 3E or immediate neighbors), and

Whereas, the intersection of Western Avenue and Livingston Street is problematic for both pedestrians and vehicle movements and reducing through traffic on 42nd Street should make this intersection safer, and

Whereas, it is currently illegal for northbound vehicles on 42nd Street to turn left at Military Road to proceed westbound on Military Road and it is also illegal for northbound vehicles to proceed straight through the intersection to continue northbound on 42nd Street but this restriction is rarely enforced by MPD and is commonly ignored by drivers; however no such turn restrictions currently apply to southbound traffic,

Whereas, DDOT has not supplied, despite requests from individual commissioners, a list of the alternatives considered to address the safety issue at 42nd and Military, an analysis of the pros

and cons of each alternative considered, and an explanation as to why DDOT chose the alternative it selected.

Now therefore be it resolved, ANC 3E supports the immediate erection of a temporary barrier to force vehicles northbound on 42nd Street NW to make a right turn onto eastbound Military Road with the following conditions:

- DDOT must also consider implementing the additional recommendations concerning 42nd and Military that are contained in the Friendship Heights Transportation Study and immediately report back to ANC 3E and the nearest neighbors on why the additional recommendations are not being implemented
- DDOT must simultaneously reduce weekday green time for 41st Street at the intersection of 41st and Military to 15 seconds of green time for southbound traffic and 10 seconds of green time for northbound traffic before erecting any barrier
- DDOT must paint sharrows on 41st Street between Western Avenue and Chesapeake Street before erecting any barrier

Be it further resolved, ANC 3E at this time objects to a barrier being erected to restrict southbound traffic on 42nd Street to right turns only at Military Road and requests DDOT to respond to its February 9th, 2012 resolution regarding the impact of a traffic barrier at 42nd and Military Road on 41st Street and to additionally study and report on the impact of both the temporary barrier on northbound movements and the proposed barrier on southbound movements on the 5300 Blocks of 43rd Street and 42nd Place NW as well as the 4100 and 4200 blocks of Jenifer Street NW and the 4100 block of Legation Street NW, and

Be it further resolved that DDOT should present a full written report and presentation of its findings to ANC 3E with regards to adjacent streets and intersections as well as the efficacy of the temporary barrier for northbound traffic 6 months after it is erected. Such report should identify reasonable alternatives to making the barrier permanent, the pros and cons of each alternative considered, and an explanation as to why DDOT selected the alternative it will recommend to the Commission.

ANC 3E approved this resolution at its meeting on May 10, 2012, which was properly noticed and at which a quorum was present. The resolution was approved by a vote of 5-0-0. Commissioners Jonathan Bender, Matthew Frumin, Tom Quinn, Sam Serebin and Beverly Sklover were present.

Respectfully submitted,

ANC 3E
By Matthew Frumin, Chairperson