



## **ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 3E**

**TENLEYTOWN AMERICAN UNIVERSITY PARK FRIENDSHIP HEIGHTS**  
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[www.anc3e.org](http://www.anc3e.org)

### **Resolution Regarding DDOT Notice of Intent 14-57-TOA regarding the intersection of 42<sup>nd</sup> Street NW and Nebraska Avenue NW**

**Whereas**, the series of intersections created by Van Ness Street NW, Nebraska Avenue NW and 42<sup>nd</sup> Street NW create a great deal of confusion and danger for pedestrians and motorists alike, and

**Whereas**, both the 42<sup>nd</sup> Street and Nebraska Avenue NW and 42<sup>nd</sup> and Van Ness Street NW intersections have had numerous vehicle on vehicle and vehicle on pedestrian accidents recently, between the years 2011 and 2013, 18 accidents have occurred at the intersection, the majority during rush hour (78%) and during the week (94%), and most under clear weather (83%), dry surface (72%) and daylight (78%) conditions. This would suggest that the cause of the accidents is due more to the design of the intersection rather than contributing factors such as weather and amount of light. In addition, the vast majority of the accidents occurred with passenger cars (78%), minimizing the factor of disparate vehicles causing the accidents. Of these accidents, 40% resulted in injuries and 12 of the 18 occurred in 2013, a startling jump over the 6 in the previous two years. It is clear to the Commission that the intersection has serious safety issues that need to be addressed, and

**Whereas**, in April of 2011 ANC 3E passed a resolution which stated the following:

1. "The 42<sup>nd</sup> Street corridor abuts or is near National Presbyterian School, Janney Elementary School, American University, IONA Senior Services, Friendship Terrace Retirement Community, and St. Ann's Academy, among other institutions, each of which is associated with considerable pedestrian activity by members of potentially-vulnerable populations."
2. "The 42<sup>nd</sup> Street corridor has generated numerous complaints about speeding, traffic volume, and motorist disregard for pedestrians."
3. "American University intends to move its law school near the 42<sup>nd</sup> Street corridor, which likely will generate additional traffic there."

**Whereas**, Nebraska Avenue's sidewalks are heavily used by pedestrians and cyclists travelling between Tenley and Ward Circles, and

**Whereas**, currently cars travelling southbound on 42<sup>nd</sup> Street have only a yield sign at Nebraska Avenue and cars turning off of Nebraska onto 42<sup>nd</sup> Street often do so at a high rate of speed to beat on-coming traffic, with little regard for the safety of pedestrians and cyclists on Nebraska Avenue,

**Whereas**, the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) has reviewed the intersection of 42<sup>nd</sup> Street and Nebraska Avenue NW and has issued a Notice of Intent (NOI) to replace the

yield sign at the intersection with a stop sign, and ANC 3E believes such a step will make this intersection safer, and

**Whereas**, ANC 3E welcomes DDOT's efforts to curb through traffic on local and collector streets through our neighborhoods and maximize smooth traffic flow on arterials in order to keep higher volume commuter traffic on said arterials, and

**Whereas**, inhibitions on traffic flow such as one-way alleys and turn restrictions often work poorly without consistent police enforcement and significant fines for violations,.

**Now therefore be it resolved**, ANC 3E supports the following:

- Replacement of the Yield sign with a Stop Sign at the northwestern corner of Nebraska and 42<sup>nd</sup> Street.
- Consideration of further measures for the 42<sup>nd</sup> and Van Ness intersection including but not limited to, bulb-outs, raised crosswalks and/or further restrictions to ensure pedestrian safety.

**Be it further resolved**, ANC 3E also respectfully urges DDOT to work with the Metropolitan Police Department to ensure that turn restrictions, stop signs and any additional pedestrian safety measures are vigorously enforced by either MPD personnel or traffic cameras.

**Be it further resolved**, ANC 3E urges DDOT to examine further, more concrete measures and/or reconfigurations to the entire intersection of 42<sup>nd</sup> Street, Van Ness Street and Nebraska Avenue that will encourage more predictable and efficient navigation of the area and that will ultimately lead to a safer environment for pedestrians, bicyclists and vehicles.

The resolution passed by a vote of 5-0-0 at a properly noticed meeting held on March 12, 2015, at which a quorum was present, with Commissioners Bender, Hall, McHugh, Quinn, and Wallace in attendance.

ANC 3E

By Jonathan Bender, Chairperson