

Government of the District of Columbia

Department of Transportation



d. Office of the Director

October 8, 2021

Office of Advisory Neighborhood Commissions (OANC)
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Suite 11
Washington, DC, 20004
oanc@dc.gov

RE: Fast-Tracking Vision Zero Roadway Safety Projects

Advisory Neighborhood Commissions:

I am writing to inform you about DDOT's new administrative processes to fast-track Vision Zero safety improvements to District roadways and sidewalks. An internal agency reorganization has placed all safety programs, including Vision Zero, under a single division, the Project Delivery Administration. This consolidation of safety efforts will enable DDOT to have a more direct impact on safety needs citywide.

In conducting this reorganization, DDOT analyzed timelines for the implementation of roadway safety improvements and found the community engagement process represents the greatest single time requirement in delivering safer streets. As a result, DDOT's efforts to implement safety improvements can extend over many months – and in some instances, years – due to a protracted and drawn-out process.

Effective November 1, DDOT is implementing the following administrative reforms to allow us to move faster in addressing traffic safety issues and more aggressively pursue the District's Vision Zero goals:

1. Discontinue revisions to projects after the completion of any required community engagement processes in accordance with District law or regulations;
2. Reduce the comment period for safety-related improvements;
3. Only issue Notices of Intent as required by the Administrative Procedure Amendment Act of 2000 (D.C. Law 13-249) to modify traffic and/or parking requirements (*e.g.*, new traffic control devices such as traffic signals/all-way stop control, changes to one-way restrictions, or removal of parking spaces); and
4. Discontinue requiring supporting documents from the ANC and community for traffic safety investigation requests.

As part of these streamlining efforts, we will strongly encourage community and neighborhood organizations to go through their ANCs with any roadway safety improvement recommendations. By eliminating and streamlining bureaucratic processes, DDOT will be able to move faster to improve the safety of our roadways. We must do all we can to better ensure the safety of our roadway users, especially our most vulnerable residents.

Should you have any questions, you may contact me at everett.lott@dc.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'E. Lott'.

Everett Lott
Acting Director