



Government of the District of Columbia Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B

By Electronic Mail

July 26, 2021

Everett Lott, Acting Director
District Department of Transportation

RE: Follow-Up on Outstanding Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B Speed Hump Requests

Dear Acting Director Lott:

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B, at a duly noticed public meeting, with a quorum being the “majority of the total number of commissioner positions currently filled in Commission 4B,” at its July 26, 2021, meeting voted with 7 Yeas, 0 Nays, and 0 Abstentions to send this follow-up letter of inquiry regarding the installation of requested speed humps within Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B’s boundaries.

At a meeting with the Commission on July 21, 2020, representatives from the District Department of Transportation (Department or DDOT) expressly instructed Commissioners that speed humps required a Commission resolution and that the Department would install speed humps upon receiving an approved Commission resolution requesting speed humps on a road classified as “local” – as provided in the [District of Columbia Functional Classification Map](#) – and engineering approval for installation.

Commissioners have followed the District Department of Transportation’s express guidance with regard to speed hump requests and worked diligently with constituents to identify roads where speed humps are desired by the community and would improve traffic safety. Commissioners have conducted outreach, visited community groups, and gone door-to-door to determine roads where speed humps are desired and act via a formal Commission resolution to approve these requests. This is in addition to the routine work of filing and supporting Traffic Safety Assessments and 311 requests for traffic safety needs within the community.

Overall, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B has approved numerous resolutions requesting installation of speed humps, including:

- [Resolution 4B-21-0502](#): Requesting Installation of Speed Humps on the Unit Block of Underwood Place, NW (May 24, 2021)
- [Resolution 4B-21-0301](#): Requesting Installation of Speed Humps on the 7100 Block of 9th Street, NW (March 22, 2021)
- [Resolution 4B-21-0202](#): Requesting Installation of Speed Humps on the 300 Block of Longfellow Street, NW (February 22, 2021)
- [Resolution 4B-21-0203](#): Requesting Traffic Calming Within Single Member District 4B04 (6000 block of 7th Street NW) (February 22, 2021)
- [Resolution 4B-20-1101](#): Requesting Installation of Speed Humps on the 200 – 500 Block of Quackenbos Street, NE (November 23, 2020)
- [Resolution 4B-20-1102](#): Requesting Installation of Speed Humps on the Unit Block of Kennedy Street, NE, between North Capitol Street, NE, and 1st Street, NE (November 23, 2020)
- [Resolution 4B-20-1103](#): Requesting Installation of Speed Humps on 7th Street, NW, between Fern Place, NW, and Dahlia Street, NW (November 23, 2020)
- Resolution 4B-20-1104: Requesting Installation of Speed Humps on the 600 Block of Madison Street, NW (November 23, 2020)
- [Resolution 4B-20-1003](#): Requesting Installation of Speed Humps on 6th Street, NE, from Eastern Avenue, NE to Oneida Street, NE (October 26, 2020)
- Resolution 4B-20-1004: Requesting Traffic Calming for the 5700 – 5900 Blocks of Eastern Avenue, NE (October 26, 2020)
- [Resolution 4B-20-1005](#): Requesting Installation of Speed Humps on Dahlia Street, NW between Georgia Avenue, NW, and Piney Branch Road, NW (October 26, 2020)
- [Resolution 4B-20-0901](#): Requesting Installation of Speed Humps and Additional Traffic Calming on Whittier Street, NW, between Blair Road, NW, and Piney Branch Road, NW (September 28, 2020)
- [Resolution 4B-20-0902](#): Requesting Consideration of Speed Humps on 4th Street, NW, between Van Buren Street, NW, and Aspen Street, NW (September 28, 2020)
- [Resolution 4B-20-0903](#): Requesting Speed Humps on Longfellow Street, NW, between Kansas Avenue, NW, and First Street, NW (September 28, 2020)

- [Resolution 4B-20-0904](#): Requesting Speed Humps for the Unit Block of Sheridan Street, NE (September 28, 2020)
- [Resolution 4B-20-0405](#): Requesting Speed Humps on 1st Street, NE (April 27, 2020)

With two exceptions, despite repeated requests from the Commission to provide updates on these speed hump requests and the timing for installation, the District Department of Transportation has failed to update the relevant Commissioners or install the relevant speed humps. Yet, the Department recently began installing speed humps on a street within Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B that is not classified as “local” and with no notice or information to the relevant Single Member District Commissioner or the Commission. While the Commission supports the installation of traffic calming measures, including those here, the Department’s failure to timely install speed humps requested by the Commission according to the instructions provided by the Department, along with its installation of speed humps in a location the Department had told the Commission was not eligible, causes the Commission to question what procedures the Department follows and makes difficult the Commission’s work to adhere to those procedures.

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B has repeatedly expressed concerns about the need for transparency and process improvement at the District Department of Transportation. “To summarize, our Commission’s interactions with DDOT have been characterized by opacity, unclear standards and timelines, and half-finished projects and requests. Significant labor is expended by Commissioners at every stage. DDOT cannot be trusted to initiate projects on their own, even projects that are initiated by community-driven processes, projects that have gone through Commission review without objection, and projects that merely consist of basic infrastructure maintenance.” [Letter of Inquiry Requesting Oversight of the District Department of Transportation](#) (May 27, 2020).

While the Commission has noted some improvements on specific projects and on community outreach, continued opacity continues to plague the District Department of Transportation’s work, especially with regards to the installation of speed humps requested according to the Department’s expressed procedures. With that in mind, the Commission requests that the Department promptly:

- provide the Commission with a list of the speed hump requests they have received from Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B, their status, and a detailed timeframe for installation (or the reason(s) the Department will not install the speed humps);
- provide the Commission with the process and criteria the Department uses for selecting speed humps for installation, including by Commission resolution or on its own initiative; and
- commit to better on-going communication with the Commission with regards to projects with the Commission area.

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4B also voted with 7 Yeas, 0 Nays, and 0 Abstentions to appoint the Commissioner for Single Member District 4B01, Evan Yeats, and the Commissioner for Single Member District 4B02, Erin Palmer, or any member of the Executive Committee in their absence, to be authorized to communicate this letter and represent the Commission in communications with your agency regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

Evan Yeats, ANC 4B01 Commissioner

Erin Palmer, ANC 4B02 Commissioner

cc: Councilmember Mary M. Cheh, Chair, Committee on Transportation & the Environment
Michael Porcello, Legislative & Committee Director, Committee on Transportation & the Environment

Councilmember Janeese Lewis George (Ward 4)

Anovia Daniels, ANC Liaison, DC Department of Transportation