



Advisory Neighborhood Commission 5E

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Advisory Neighborhood Commission 5E Resolution No. 2023-0002 IN SUPPORT OF URGENT SIDEWALK FIXES ON RHODE ISLAND AVENUE NW AND NE AND NORTH CAPITOL ST NW

WHEREAS, the sidewalks on the NB and SB blocks of Rhode Island Avenue NW and NE located in ANC 5E, including but not limited to the unit block, 100, 200, 300 and 400 blocks of Rhode Island Avenue NW and the unit block and 100 block of Rhode Island Avenue NE, and the sidewalk on the 2000 and 2100 blocks of North Capitol St NW are barely navigable by pedestrians due to the narrow width of the sidewalks, as well as the unevenness caused by tree roots.

WHEREAS, the condition of the sidewalks make it impassable for all individuals, in particular those with mobility issues and who are differently-abled.

WHEREAS, residents of the affected blocks have repeatedly expressed concerns and frustrations to D.C agencies and elected officials about their inability to safely use the sidewalks, especially when they are accompanied by children on strollers, or if they are using a physical device for support in walking.

WHEREAS, the D.C. Department of Transportation (DDOT) in the [Mid City East Livability Survey](#) from 2013 acknowledged that the sidewalks in the area posed issues with accessibility. The DDOT report quoted as a recommendation: “North Capitol Street and Rhode island Avenue: Sign maintenance and replacement; and pedestrian improvements including widened sidewalk, pedestrian countdown signals, and restriped crosswalks.”¹

WHEREAS, DDOT does not maintain a similar “Sidewalk Condition Index” for city sidewalks, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)-compliant ramps, or crosswalks, and instead relies on requests submitted by individual residents to schedule repairs.

¹ Page 4-1. https://ddot.dc.gov/sites/default/files/dc/sites/ddot/page_content/attachments/DC%20Mid-City%20East%20Livability%20FINAL%20web_Part1.pdf

5E01 Joyce Robinson-Paul
5E01@anc.dc.gov
202-330-7955

5E03 Fred ‘Phil’ Carver
5E03@anc.dc.gov
202-641-8507

5E05 Kevin Rapp
5E05@anc.dc.gov
202-999-8182

5E02 Karla M. Lewis
5E02@anc.dc.gov
410-705-4070

5E04 Huma Imtiaz
5E04@anc.dc.gov
202-240-2638

5E06 Kirby Vining
5E06@anc.dc.gov
202-213-2690





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WHEREAS, the sidewalks along sections of Rhode Island Avenue NE and NW, and North Capitol St NW are not ADA-compliant, with less than 3 feet of clearance adjacent to numerous tree boxes.

WHEREAS, well-maintained sidewalks and pedestrian infrastructure are essential for the safety of residents.

WHEREAS, Ward 5 Councilmember Zachary Parker's recent letter to the Mayor on budget priorities also advocated for pedestrian safety on Rhode Island Avenue.² This is an opportunity to reimagine this thoroughfare so it works for everyone.

WHEREAS, we urge DDOT to prioritize Service Request nos 23-00099327, 23-00099329 and 23-00097039 for the next phase of the Traffic Safety Inputs prioritization process.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that ANC 5E calls on the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) and all other relevant District of Columbia agencies to take immediate action to act on the recommendations of the Mid City East Livability Study and propose and implement measures to widen the sidewalks to improve pedestrian accessibility.

THIS RESOLUTION came before ANC 5E at a duly-noticed public meeting on March 21, 2023. ANC 5E is composed of 6 Commissioners, such that 4 Commissioners constitute a quorum. With 6 Commissioners present, ANC 5E voted 6 - 0 - 0 to adopt this resolution.

Respectfully Submitted,



Karla M. Lewis
Chairperson, ANC 5E



Frederick W. Carver
Corresponding Secretary, ANC 5E

² https://drive.google.com/file/d/13GBkPfkCKFvKES-ruR0oXcd7g9ww_6tR/view

5E01 Joyce Robinson-Paul
5E01@anc.dc.gov
202-330-7955

5E03 Fred 'Phil' Carver
5E03@anc.dc.gov
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5E05 Kevin Rapp
5E05@anc.dc.gov
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5E02 Karla M. Lewis
5E02@anc.dc.gov
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5E04 Huma Imtiaz
5E04@anc.dc.gov
202-240-2638

5E06 Kirby Vining
5E06@anc.dc.gov
202-213-2690

