



ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 1E
GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

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#1E-2023-0403: RESOLUTION OPPOSING TRAFFIC CAMERA REVENUE REDIRECTION TO GENERAL FUNDS

WHEREAS, The Mayor’s Fiscal Year 2024 Budget redirects revenues from traffic cameras away from life-saving projects to general funds; and

WHEREAS, [The Automated Traffic Enforcement \(ATE\) System Revenue Designation Amendment Act of 2022](#) specifies that revenue from cameras must be reinvested back into traffic safety projects; and

WHEREAS, The Office of the DC Auditor recently noted that the lack of progress on Vision Zero is largely attributed to the “lack of full funding, data and outcome analysis;” and

WHEREAS, Redirecting funds from traffic cameras away from safety projects to balance the budget is in direct opposition to the DC Auditor's recommendation; and

WHEREAS, The expansion of the automated traffic enforcement program and its proposed decoupling from street safety for an all-purpose revenue stream validates public criticism that traffic cameras are predatory; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Bowser stated at a March 22, 2023 budget hearing that “federal infrastructure funds will help pay for traffic safety projects;”¹ and

WHEREAS, The District Department of Transportation is considered a state department of transportation by the federal government and therefore ineligible to apply for the federal [Safe Streets and Roads for All](#) competitive grant program; and

WHEREAS, DDOT has not sufficiently explained why it has not applied for other competitive USDOT grant programs for safe streets programs under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL); and

WHEREAS, DDOT’s own records indicate that it only applied for two competitive grants under the RAISE discretionary grants program under the BIL, only one of which was a Vision Zero related project (the South Capitol Street Trail); and

WHEREAS, In its performance oversight hearing responses, DDOT indicated that when there were grant programs it did not apply to, it was because it “did not have the resources to support the program area;” and

¹ <https://twitter.com/maustermuhle/status/1638555753521840128?s=20>

WHEREAS, DDOT has not explained what resources those would be and how much would be required to seek other competitive grants; and

WHEREAS, As a result of the above, it is not clear to the public where these federal infrastructure funds to pay for Vision Zero initiatives will come from; and

WHEREAS, ANC 1E recognizes the potential shortfall facing the city and need to balance the budget, but we are frustrated that this seems to come at the expense of much needed funds for traffic safety programs; and

WHEREAS, ANC 1E is opposed to redirecting local funds dedicated for traffic safety projects; therefore

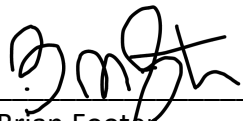
BE IT RESOLVED, That ANC 1E urges the Executive Branch to be more transparent about its approach to applying for grants and what would be needed to get capacity to sufficient levels to apply for the necessary grant opportunities; further

BE IT RESOLVED, That ANC 1E urges the Executive branch and the Council to utilize the revenues from ATE cameras for traffic safety projects.

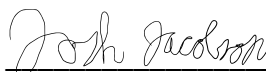
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Certification:

After providing sufficient notice for and with a quorum of 6 present at its April 26, 2023 meeting, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 1E voted, with 3 Yeas, 2 Nays, and 1 Abstentions, to adopt the above resolution.



Brian Footer
Chairperson, ANC 1E



Josh Jacobson
Secretary, ANC 1E

To: Mayor Muriel Bowser

CC: Deputy Mayor Lucinda Babers, Office of the Deputy Mayor for Operations and Infrastructure; Director Jennifer Reed, Office of Budget and Performance Management; Chair Phil Mendelson, Council of the District of Columbia; Councilmember Charles Allen, Chair of the Committee on Transportation & the Environment, Council of the District of Columbia; Councilmember Brianne Nadeau, Council of the District of Columbia