



ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 1E
GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

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#1E-2024-0302: RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF MOBILE BARRIERS FOR OPEN STREETS EVENTS

WHEREAS, Georgia Ave NW is a frequent host of Open Streets events in D.C. with the most recent event taking place October 7th, 2023¹; and

WHEREAS, 2022 Georgia Ave Open Streets cost \$641,178.76²; and

WHEREAS, 48% of the 2022 Georgia Ave Open Streets budget were MPD costs³; and

WHEREAS, these expenses likely reduce the number of Open Streets events that occur, and it would be wise to use savings from any of these initiatives to implement more Open Streets events; and

WHEREAS, many cities have more frequent events at the same locations such as Cambridge, MA closing Memorial Drive on weekends⁴ and car-free Sundays in Golden Gate Park in San Francisco⁵; and

WHEREAS, the Downtown Action Plan mentions a goal to “establish dedicated pedestrian zones, building on ongoing District experimentation”⁶; and

WHEREAS, the DC Public Realm Plan mentions a strategy of “transform[ing] F and G Streets between 7th and 9th Streets into a year-round market”⁷; and

WHEREAS, many intersections at Open Streets are blocked by idling police vehicles and dump trucks in an effort to prevent dangerous drivers from entering Open Streets with a vehicle; and

WHEREAS, these idling vehicles are likely some of the MPD costs; and

WHEREAS, vehicles are not a proven deterrent to stopping dangerous drivers as is evident by a video of a stolen tow truck in Silver Spring easily moving a police vehicle on February 16th, 2024⁸; and

¹ <https://openstreets.dc.gov/pages/open-streets-georgia-avenue-fall-2023>

² See Figure 1 in the Appendix

³ See Figure 1 in Appendix

⁴ <https://www.cambridgema.gov/streetsandtransportation/memorialdrive>

⁵ https://www.calbike.org/our_initiatives/open_streets/

⁶ Page 22 of the Downtown Action Plan. https://www.reimaginedowntowndc.com/s/DCA_Summary2024.pdf

⁷ Page 14 of the Public Realm Plan

https://planning.dc.gov/sites/default/files/dc/sites/op/page_content/attachments/Downtown%20Public%20Realm%20Plan%20WEB_0.pdf

⁸ <https://www.wusa9.com/article/news/local/maryland/custody-apprehended-stolen-mdot-tow-truck-smashes-through-police-civilian-vehicles/65-adda3969-0c82-40b9-8861-862a92ef827e>

WHEREAS, the Archer 1200 Barriers from Meridian have been successfully used at Adams Morgan Day to prevent dangerous drivers from entering the event⁹; and

WHEREAS, these barriers have an official certification as a Qualified Anti-Terrorism Technology by the Department of Homeland Security, which states that “technology is a portable barrier designed to prevent unauthorized vehicle intrusion and vehicle-based attacks”¹⁰; and

WHEREAS, idling vehicles contribute to air pollution and are especially a danger to children, whose lungs are developing¹¹; and

WHEREAS, Commissioners on ANC 1E have received feedback that constituents would like to see MPD engaging with the community more frequently and Open Streets provides an excellent opportunity to get officers out of their vehicles and interacting with the community; therefore

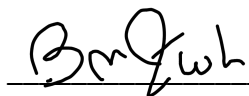
BE IT RESOLVED, ANC 1E recommends replacing a number of the idling vehicles with the mobile barriers in an effort to reduce pollution, more effectively provide protection to Open Streets events, and free up officers for more important activities; further

BE IT RESOLVED, That ANC 1E designates Commissioner Josh Jacobson to represent the Commission in all matters relating to this Resolution. In the event the designated representative Commissioner cannot carry out their representative duties for any reason, ANC 1E authorizes the Chair to designate another Commissioner to represent the Commission in all matter relating to this Resolution.

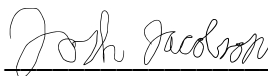
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Certification:

At a regularly scheduled and publicly noticed meeting held on March 27, 2024, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 1E considered the above resolution. With a quorum of 5 Commissioners present, the Commission voted with 5 Yeas, 0 Nays, and 0 Abstentions, to adopt the above resolution.



Brian Footer
Chairperson, ANC 1E



Josh Jacobson
Secretary, ANC 1E

⁹ <https://fox2now.com/business/press-releases/ein-presswire/655640046/washington-d-c-event-made-safer-by-meridian/>

¹⁰ <https://www.betterbarriers.com/app/uploads/meridians-safety-act-designations.pdf>

¹¹ <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/9339225/>

2022

District Bridges	
Personnel	\$93,250.00
Marketing	\$54,246.00
Equipment	\$69,500.00
Entertainment	\$29,000.00
Miscellaneous	\$19,000.00
Subtotal	\$264,996.00
Agency	
DPR	
DPW	\$35,948.00
MPD	\$306,677.76
ORM	\$7,355.00
FEMS	\$24,600.00
DCRA	\$1,602.00
Subtotal	\$376,182.76
Total	\$641,178.76

Figure 1: 2022 Georgia Ave Open Streets budget, FOIA'd from Santiago Lakatos and retrieved via Twitter¹².

¹² <https://twitter.com/Santi4DC/status/1647770749422190595>