August 12, 2015

Director Leif Dormsjo  
District Department of Transportation  
55 M St SE, Suite 400  
Washington, DC 20003

Director Dormsjo:

According to a recent study, the District experienced a 41.78 percent increase in commuting by bike from 2009-2013, the seventh fastest growth rate of the country’s top metro areas. Washington is nationally recognized as one of the most bikeable metro areas in the country and has a history of making serious investments in a wide variety of transportation options, including bicycling infrastructure, to make our city a better place to live.

As DDOT continues to invest in bicycling infrastructure, I wanted to draw attention to several projects that would address shortfalls in Ward 1 and across the District. This list was developed in consultation with bicycling advocates in the ward. Ward 1 priorities include:

• 15th St NW protected bike lane extension north from V St. NW to Euclid St NW
• 14th St NW protected bike lane and a connection of the bike lane gap between Euclid St NW and Florida Ave NW
• 11th St NW protected bike lane and an extension to Spring Rd (and then to Kansas Ave NW)
• Completion of the Florida Ave streetscape project between Sherman Ave and U St NW
• Support for the eastern downtown protected bike lane study and rapid implementation of its findings

I encourage DDOT to consider the construction of protected bike lanes whenever possible. Protected bike lanes have many benefits including safety and fewer illegal parking problems, which is why I have been an advocate for them since my time as an ANC. Welcoming bike lanes also discourage bicyclists from using the sidewalk instead of the street.

Continued investment in bicycle commuting infrastructure will mean less traffic, cleaner air, and healthier residents. Prioritization of these projects would address current gaps in the system and would help to make the District and Ward 1 an even better place to live.

Sincerely,

Brianne K. Nadeau  
Councilmember, Ward 1