



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-1501

November 2, 2015

Stephen T. Ayers
Architect of the Capitol
SB-15, U.S. Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Leif Dormsjo
Director
D.C. Department of Transportation
55 M Street, SE
Suite 400
Washington, DC 2000

Dear Architect of the Capitol Ayers and Director Dormsjo:

I am writing to support bicyclists in the District of Columbia who have gotten the D.C. Department of Transportation (DDOT) to include in its MoveDC plan the construction of a protected bicycle lane facility on Louisiana Avenue NE between Union Station and the U.S. Capitol Grounds. This project has broad support from the community and Members of Congress, and it would provide a vital benefit to the many residents, visitors, and workers that traverse the area by bicycle.

A protected bike lane between Union Station and the U.S. Capitol Grounds on Louisiana Avenue would improve safety and provide a vital link between already existing bike lanes in the area. Union Station and the U.S. Capitol are separated by multi-lane roadways with fast-moving traffic, which poses safety risks to the residents, workers, and visitors destined for Union Station, the U.S. Capitol, and points beyond. DDOT has already constructed protected bike lanes on Pennsylvania Avenue NW and First Street NE and throughout the city. Filling in the missing link on Louisiana Avenue NE would help complete this network of bicycle lanes.

There is uniform support by the surrounding community for a protected bike lane on Louisiana Avenue connecting Union Station and the U.S. Capitol Grounds. Ward 6 Councilmember Charles Allen and Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) 6C have both written to your offices expressing strong support for the bike lane. In addition, my congressional colleagues representing our bipartisan Congressional Bike Caucus, of which I am a member, have written in support of this bike lane. This support shows that a protected bike lane is needed, and will provide a safer and more efficient connection between Union Station, a major transportation hub, and the U.S. Capitol and surrounding neighborhoods.

As you evaluate the feasibility of a protected bike lane facility between Union Station and the U.S. Capitol Grounds, I ask that you keep my office informed. I will have staff follow up with your offices on a timeline for completion.

Sincerely,



Eleanor Holmes Norton

CC: The Honorable Earl Blumenauer, Co-Chair, Congressional Bike Caucus
The Honorable Vern Buchanan, Co-Chair, Congressional Bike Caucus
Councilmember Charles Allen, Ward 6
Mark Kazmierczak, Chair, Transportation/Public Space Committee. ANC 6C
Greg Billing, Executive Director, Washington Area Bicyclist Association