



MURIEL BOWSER  
MAYOR

September 15, 2021

Christy Kwan, Co-Chair  
DC Families for Safe Streets

Chelsea Allinger, Executive Director  
Greater Greater Washington

Kristin Frontiera, Acting Executive Director  
Washington Area Bicyclist Association

Dear Christy, Chelsea, and Kristin:

Thank you for writing and for your vital advocacy. As Mayor of Washington, DC and as a resident and a mom myself, I am heartbroken over the loss of a precious five-year-old child on our streets. My prayers are with Allison's family and all of Allison's friends, classmates, and loved ones. There is simply no pain comparable to the utter heartbreak of losing a child in our community.

I agree with you that the work to build safer streets is urgent and has only gotten more urgent as our city has grown and we have more people living and moving around in neighborhoods across DC. We all want to be able to move around our city safely. We want our children to be able to play outside safely. We want to know that our families, friends, and neighbors are safe when they leave their homes. Earlier this year, as part of this work, I announced a special Summer Safety campaign that would push both infrastructure and cultural change throughout all eight wards, forcing drivers to drive more slowly, and introducing traffic calming measures to prompt slower speeds as well. This will not be a one-time program. In fact, in our upcoming budget, we are investing in the type of multimodal infrastructure called for in your letter, including 25 new miles of bus lanes and 30 miles of protected bike lanes over the next three years.

We also know that enforcement is a critical element of making our roads safer, which is why our Summer Safety campaign included \$5 million for automated enforcement. DDOT analysis has shown that speed cameras reduce injury crashes by more than 30 percent, which is a significant outcome that directly benefits everyone. As we continue to expand and refine our automated enforcement program, we do so with an understanding of the trauma that is caused by every injury or death on our streets and sidewalks.

Finally, our traffic safety investigation program, which processes over a thousand requests in a typical year, has been updated and fortified with additional contract capacity to both complete investigations and construct identified solutions. DDOT is prioritizing this work in close coordination with Advisory Neighborhood Commissioners in all eight wards.

We have work to do to make our city less reliant on cars, to promote safer streets for all, and to advance the overall goals of Vision Zero—I appreciate your commitment to these critical issues.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Muriel Bowser".  
Muriel Bowser  
Mayor