



January 27, 2022

The Honorable Mayor Muriel Bowser  
Executive Office of the Mayor  
John A. Wilson Building  
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20004

Dear Mayor Bowser,

On behalf of the Washington Area Bicyclist Association and its membership of more than 7,500 people in the Washington Region, I write to thank you and your administration officials for the bold vision and leadership you demonstrated in selecting a truly multimodal and safe design for Connecticut Avenue in Ward 3. As you said, investments in projects like this one are giant leaps on our way to a greener DC, a safer DC, and a DC that is less reliant on cars.

Your chosen design will deliver a safe, vibrant pedestrian experience, slower driving with fewer opportunities for crashes, and a transformative expansion to Ward 3's low-stress bicycling network. Over two years of intensive analysis and stakeholder engagement, DDOT staff developed two different visions for Connecticut Avenue: one that puts the safety and mobility of the most vulnerable first, and another that perpetuates the car-first transportation priorities of the past. All four Advisory Neighborhood Commissions that represent the corridor hosted many hours of debate on the merits of this vision and all passed near-unanimous resolutions in support of the multimodal design. Thank you for upholding the decisions of our community representatives, business owners, residents, and DC's values by putting people first on Connecticut Ave.

In this moment of celebration and thanks, I must respectfully remind you that your critical mayoral commitment to Vision Zero, to eliminating traffic fatalities and serious injuries on DC's roads, is painfully far from complete. More work must be done. Every ward in DC has corridors like Connecticut Avenue, where the priorities of the past still haunt the residents, businesses, and travelers of the present. These auto-oriented streets still perpetuate barriers between neighbors, limit access to jobs, and severely injure and kill adults and children with unacceptable frequency.

As you begin the final year of your second term, I urge you to set this decision about Connecticut Avenue as the template to follow and empower your leadership team and talented agency staff to make 2022 a year of transformational change on DC's streets. WABA stands firmly with you in these efforts.

Sincerely,

Ludwig Gaines  
Executive Director

*Delivered electronically*

CC:

Deputy Mayor Lucinda Babers

Director Everett Lott

Ward 6 Councilmember Charles Allen

At-Large Councilmember Anita Bonds

Ward 3 Councilmember Mary Cheh

Ward 7 Councilmember Vincent Gray

At-Large Councilmember Christina Henderson

Ward 4 Councilmember Janeese Lewis George

Ward 5 Councilmember Kenyan McDuffie

Council Chairman Phil Mendelson

Ward 1 Councilmember Brianne Nadeau

At-Large Councilmember Elissa Silverman

Ward 2 Councilmember Brooke Pinto

Ward 8 Councilmember Trayon White, Sr.

At-Large Councilmember Robert White