

2024 DC Council Ward 7 Candidate Questionnaire on Transportation Issues

Host Organizations: Deanwood Citizens Association, Washington Area Bicyclist Association, Friends of the DC Streetcar.

*WABA and other 501c3 organizations **do not endorse** candidates for any political office.*

Responses from Ebbon A. Allen:

Street Car

What actions will you take to ensure that the DC Streetcar is extended to Benning Road Metro Station in a timely manner?

[No response]

Protected Bike Lanes

Protected bike lanes would reward residents who choose to travel in ways that conserve land, energy, and fuel and they also fight climate change. Expanding the number of protected bike lane miles in the ward would make bicycling safer, easier and more popular and also reduces fuel use.

Do you support increasing funding to expand biking infrastructure in your ward?

Yes No

How will you ensure the expansion of off-street paths and protected bike lanes on major thoroughfares and connecting streets that are comfortable for people of all ages and abilities?

We must identify the layout of the bike lanes throughout the District. We must analyze the effects of the infrastructure of the bike lanes throughout neighboring Ward 6 and Ward 8. I would look at the budget to identify what money has been spent to expand bike lanes throughout Washington, DC.

Capital Trails Network

The Capital Trails Coalition seeks to create a world-class network of multi-use trails that are equitably distributed throughout the Washington DC region. The Coalition is in the process of finding funding to complete 800 miles of planned trails into pavement that people can walk and

bike on. Trails are an economic boost for local economies and improve the health and well being of communities. **Would you support D.C. alongside MD and VA, dedicating funding to complete our regional trail network?**

Yes X No

Further explain how you would advocate for the completion and maintenance of the ward's portion of the Trail Network?

I believe the trail network should be able to expand to downtown DC. We must also provide resources so that families can utilize the surrounding districts such as in Maryland and Virginia. We have to build relationships with Maryland and Virginia.

Vision Zero

What plans do you have to pursue more bus-only lanes in Ward 7?

Have a comprehensive plan for bus lanes throughout Ward 7. We must provide the bus only lanes on the cross sections such as Benning Road and East Capitol. Pennsylvania and Branch Avenue. Nannie Helen Burroughs and Division Avenue. I would encourage the community to come to the Wilson building to testify on the importance for creating bus only lanes throughout the entire Ward.

Please discuss your opinion of the Minnesota Ave redesign that DDOT completed in 2023?

The DDOT plan for Minnesota Avenue has been a serious concern for Ward 7 Residents. Many constituents have had major concerns regarding the congestion of traffic daily navigating on Minnesota Avenue and the Benning Road Avenue corridor. There are too many small businesses, retail shops, and schools that surround Minnesota Avenue and to no avail the traffic has been a major concern for constituents. DDOT needs to be held accountable for making sure that the community supports their vision for redeveloping the transportation structure of what we consider as Downtown Ward 7.

Washington D.C. has failed in its goal to eliminate traffic deaths and serious injuries by 2024, what will you do to push the district to one day achieving the goal of eliminating traffic deaths and serious injuries?

Ward 7 has had to deal with traffic deaths for years. We have seen traffic deaths within the Benning Ridge Community. We have also experienced too many accidents on Southern Avenue and Fitch Street SE. ANC 7E while I was a Commissioner had been fighting for a traffic light to be installed. Just 2 months ago, we finally had a four way traffic light stop on Southern Avenue and Fitch Street. We call our efforts a success when there are so many people losing their lives that could have been prevented if the right safety measures were addressed. As councilman, I will continue to hold DDOT accountable in addressing the safety needs for the constituents of Ward 7.

Enforcement

What will you do to ensure the District is holding dangerous drivers accountable?

We must hold dangerous drivers accountable with warnings on their drivers license. Suspension of Drivers license. Constituents taking safe driving courses before have their driver's license reinstated. Dangerous drivers meeting with families they have affected while driving with no discipline. Dangerous drivers committing 100 community service hours in Washington, DC. As councilman, I would also hold dangerous drivers accountable by giving \$350 fines for their disregard of following traffic laws and rules provided by the Mayor and DC Council.