Resolution Regarding Traffic Congestion and Pedestrian Safety at the Intersection of W Place NW and Wisconsin Avenue in Glover Park

Whereas, morning rush hour back-up on southbound (inbound) Wisconsin Avenue in Glover Park and vehicle congestion at the intersection of Wisconsin and W Place NW have combined to create a dangerous situation for pedestrians trying to cross at that intersection. Crosswalks are blocked by backed up traffic. Turning vehicles take any opportunity to get around the corner, regardless of red lights or walk signs. Frustrated drivers do not yield to pedestrians and are often aggressive. The ANC has received many complaints about that intersection, many of them from mothers trying to walk their children to school.

Whereas, this problem is compounded by parked cars along W Place near the intersection, which reduces access to just one lane, backing up vehicles trying to turn in and out of W Place. W Place is one of only two two-way streets that feed into Wisconsin Avenue from the interior of Glover Park (the other is Calvert Street) and consequently W Place has significant traffic, particularly during morning rush hours.

Whereas, the Commission has concluded that these significant safety issues can be resolved in two ways:

1) DDOT should assess the signal timing on southbound (inbound) Wisconsin Avenue between Hall Place NW and 34th Street NW during morning rush hours. From our observations, the backed up traffic is caused by both the volume of traffic and the lack of flow on Wisconsin, due in part to the complicated signals at Whitehaven Street/Whitehaven Parkway and traffic turning left at that block.

2) DDOT should remove one or two parking spots on the south side of W Place at the intersection with Wisconsin Avenue. Parking is allowed too close to the intersection on the south side of W Place, reducing access in and out of W Place to one lane, which causes vehicles to get stuck in the crosswalks. Additionally, the Commission is requesting more effective marking for the no parking zone on the north side of W Place at the intersection – perhaps a yellow curb or yellow lines on the roadway. Illegal parking is routine at that location.

Therefore, BE IT RESOLVED that the Commission urges DDOT to take action to improve pedestrian safety at the intersection of W Place NW and Wisconsin Avenue NW, as described above, by assessing signal timing on Wisconsin Avenue to address traffic back-ups; removing one or two parking spots on the south side of W Place at the intersection to end the congestion that blocks the crosswalks; and providing clearer marking in the spaces where parking is prohibited at that intersection.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chairman of ANC3B and her designee are authorized to represent the Commission on this matter.

This resolution was approved by a vote of 3-0 at a duly noticed public meeting of ANC3B on October 12, 2017, at which a quorum was present (3 of the 5 members constitute a quorum).
Jackie Blumenthal, Chairman

Ann Mladinov, Secretary