RESOLUTION REQUESTING STOP SIGNS ON CATHEDRAL AVENUE NW TO IMPROVE VEHICLE AND PEDESTRIAN SAFETY

Whereas, in the past year our ANC has heard repeatedly from constituents and apartment building managers concerned about speeding on the section of Cathedral Avenue NW between 39th Street NW and New Mexico Avenue NW, where the posted speed limit is 25 miles per hour;

Whereas, speeding vehicles are creating risks every day along that stretch of Cathedral Avenue for people attempting to use the crosswalks to get to and from well-used bus stops on either side of the street or to enter or exit their apartment buildings by car;

Whereas, 8 major apartment buildings are located along that part of Cathedral Avenue, including 6 large condominium or rental buildings in ANC3B housing more than 2000 residents, a large proportion of whom are seniors, all adversely affected by the high speed of traffic on Cathedral Avenue;

Whereas, there is only one traffic signal and no other traffic control device on the entire stretch of Cathedral Avenue between New Mexico Avenue and Massachusetts Avenue and the traffic signal is located at the intersection of Cathedral Avenue and 39th Street, more than 1,000 feet from the driveway at 4100 Cathedral Avenue and Glover-Archbold Park;

Whereas, heavily traveled Idaho Avenue ends at Cathedral Avenue with a stop sign only for traffic on Idaho, which means those vehicles have to turn left or right into a steady stream of uncontrolled traffic on Cathedral;

Whereas, none of the measures implemented by the city to date (including a “Hidden Driveway” sign and 5 diamond-shaped yellow or green signs at pedestrian crossings as well as a series of “Stop for Pedestrians” pylons) have worked to slow traffic or improve street-crossing safety for pedestrians;

Whereas, at the request of ANC3B early in 2016, MPD placed a speed gauge along that part of Cathedral Avenue for a short period, which documented traffic speeds above the 25 mile per hour speed limit, but was removed after a week or two with no lasting effect;

Whereas, residents and building managers on Cathedral Avenue have asked the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) about the possibility of rumble strips or traffic humps to slow traffic on Cathedral Avenue and have been told that those types of traffic calming measures will not be installed because Metrobuses operate in both directions along that section of the street;

Whereas, the driveway serving the Cathedral West condominium building at 4100 Cathedral Avenue NW has extremely limited sight distance due to the curve of the street, exacerbated by overhanging trees and

P.O. BOX 32312    WASHINGTON, D.C. 20007    WWW.ANC3B.ORG    EMAIL: INFO@ANC3B.ORG

3B01
N. GLOVER PARK
ANN MLADINOV

3B02
E. GLOVER PARK
JACKIE BLUMENTHAL

3B03
W. GLOVER PARK
MELISSA J. LANE

3B04
CATHEDRAL HEIGHTS
MARY C. YOUNG

3B05
S. GLOVER PARK
BRIAN TURMAIL
other vegetation in nearby Glover-Archbold Park, which makes it particularly dangerous for vehicles attempting to exit the apartment driveway;

Whereas, Metrobus serves bus stops on both the north and south sides of the street in front of Cathedral West at 4100 Cathedral Avenue on one side and The Cathedral co-operative apartment building at 4101 Cathedral Avenue on the other, with marked crosswalks on Cathedral Avenue for pedestrians to get to and from the bus stops;

Whereas, other busy streets in ANC3B with similar volumes to Cathedral Avenue (for example, Tunlaw Avenue/37th Street) have stop signs at every block, which effectively slow traffic and allow safe pedestrian crossings;

Therefore, be it resolved that ANC3B formally requests that DDOT install two sets of stop signs on Cathedral Avenue: one at the driveways and crosswalks between 4100 Cathedral Avenue and 4101 Cathedral Avenue to allow safe exit from driveways and safe crossing to bus stops; and the other at the intersection of Idaho Avenue and Cathedral Avenue, making that an all-way stop.

Be it further resolved that the Commissioner representing ANC3B-04 or the Chairman’s designee may represent the Commission on this matter.

This resolution was approved by a vote of 5-0 at a duly noticed public meeting of ANC3B on July 13, 2017, at which a quorum was present. (A quorum is 3 of the 5 sitting members.)

Jackie Blumenthal, Chairman

Ann Mladinov, Secretary