

COMMISSION ACTION

NCPC File No.7154



15TH STREET, NW BIKE LANE
FROM EUCLID STREET TO PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE NW

15th Street, NW
Washington, DC

Submitted by the District of Columbia Department of Transportation

September 2, 2010

Commission Action Requested

Approval of preliminary and final site development plans, pursuant to 40 U.S.C. § 8722(b)(1) and (d).

Commission Action

The Commission:

Approves the Preliminary and Final Site Development Plans for the 15th Street, NW Cycle Track, as shown on NCPC Map File No. 00.00(40.00)43141, with the exception of that portion south of H Street, NW running along Madison Place and Pennsylvania Avenue, pending further consultation between DDOT and NCPC staffs to resolve outstanding planning issues.

Commends DDOT for expanding the 15th Street cycle track into the Central Employment Area from adjacent residential neighborhoods, thereby providing an alternative mode of transportation for residents, workers, and visitors, including federal employees living in the District of Columbia, thus supporting the goals of the federal and District elements of the Comprehensive Plan for the National Capital.

Notes that DDOT states that it considers “flexposts” along the length of the bike lane critical for cyclist safety while drivers become accustomed to the presence of bike lanes in the street rights-of-way, and has committed to re-evaluate the safety and effectiveness of flexposts in one year, including consideration of minimizing the number of flexposts, and to consult with NCPC and the U.S. Commission of Fine Arts; to find alternatives to flexposts that would minimize the visual impact on L’Enfant street rights-of-way.

Notes that the District of Columbia Department of Transportation (DDOT) and NCPC staffs have agreed to work together to resolve outstanding planning issues regarding the portion of the proposed cycle track south of H Street, NW running along Madison Place and Pennsylvania

Avenue. NCPC and DDOT will further consult and coordinate with the U.S. Secret Service, U.S. Park Police, the National Park Service, the U.S. Commission of Fine Arts, and other affected federal agencies to accomplish this goal.

Notes that NCPC has determined that the 15th Street, NW Bike Lane, as proposed, will have “no adverse effect” if constructed without the portion proposed on Madison Place and Pennsylvania Avenue south of H Street, NW and provided that DDOT re-evaluate the continued need for the flexposts with NCPC and other relevant federal and District of Columbia agencies one year after installation, and further provided that DDOT continue consultation with relevant agencies on the identification and resolution of effects of a final route for the bicycle lane south of H Street, NW.

Deborah B. Young
Secretary to the National Capital Planning Commission