



ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 6E
PO Box 93020 Brentwood Station, Washington, DC 20090

December 6, 2022

Everett Lott
Director
District Department of Transportation
250 M Street SE
Washington, DC 20003

RE: Requesting that the District Department of Transportation Reinstall Benches that were Removed from the 400 Block of K Street NW

Dear Director Lott:

On October 4, 2022, at a duly noticed and regularly scheduled meeting of the Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6E ("ANC 6E" or "Commission") conducted virtually via videoconference and with a quorum of 4 out of 7 Commissioners and the public present, ANC 6E approved the following resolution by a vote of 4 in favor, 0 against, and 1 abstentions:

WHEREAS, the 400 Block of K Street NW is located in the jurisdictional boundaries of ANC 6E in Single Member District 6E05¹;

WHEREAS, there were previously four benches on the south side of the 400 Block of K Street NW—two each in the two planter alcoves located approximately in front of 448 K Street NW and 462 K Street NW;

WHEREAS, Google Street View shows that the four benches on the 400 Block of K Street NW were removed at some point between September 2021 and August 2022;²

WHEREAS, ANC 6E has queried DDOT as to when and why the four benches on the 400 Block of K Street NW were removed, and DDOT has been unable to provide a satisfactory response;

WHEREAS, between sidewalk cafes and summer gardens, there are over 400 seats for paying customers on the 400 Block of K Street NW³;

¹ Note that after ANC redistricting on January 2, 2022, the 400 Block of K Street NW will be redistricted to the border of 6E01, 6E02, and 6E03.

² See: Appendix 1 of this Resolution

³ ANC 6E estimates there are 401 private seats fronting the 400 Block of K Street NW. Source: <https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1ljDVtdL28o7H9Tnc5f7L6bcAhfkhKthpbyeq1cYe3XY/edit?usp=sharing>



WHEREAS, the abundance of privatized outdoor seating on the 400 Block of K Street NW is starkly contrasted with the current zero public benches on this same block;

WHEREAS, public benches are important social infrastructure that allow residents to pause, rest, observe, socialize, and participate in the fabric of public life without the need to spend money at a restaurant or cafe;

WHEREAS, public benches are important for seniors, persons with disabilities, and anybody that needs to rest, and the removal of benches makes our community less accessible;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 6E requests that DDOT replace the four benches that were removed from the 400 Block of K Street NW;

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 6E requests that DDOT consult with ANC 6E whenever benches are contemplated for removal or relocation;

ON BEHALF OF THE COMMISSION.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Eichler', is written over a horizontal line.

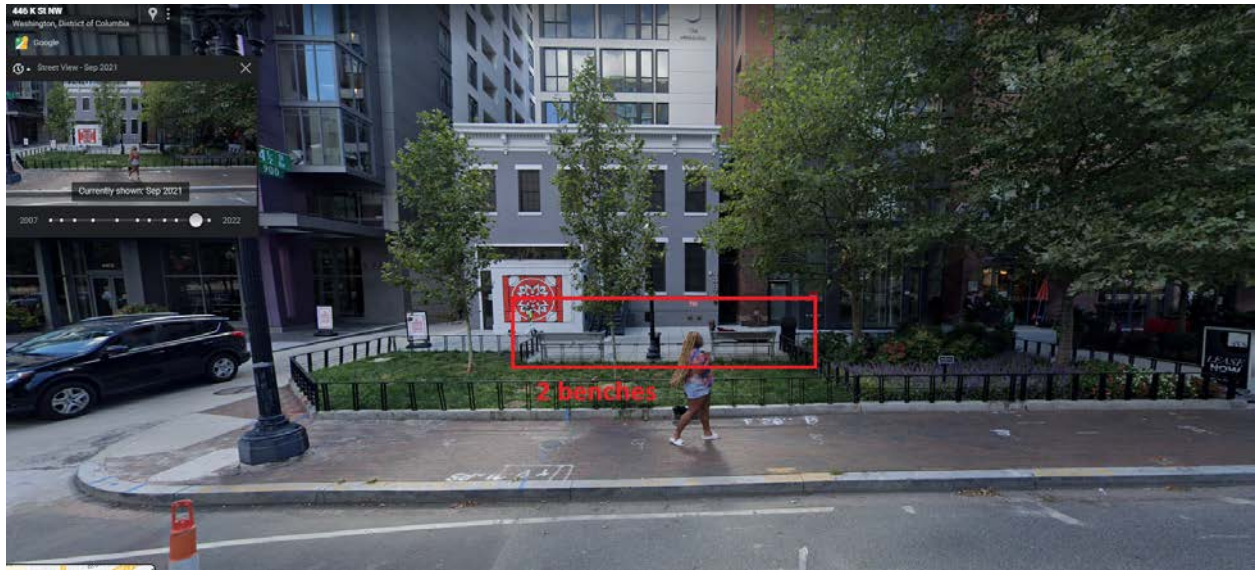
Michael Eichler,
Chair
Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6E

CC: Everett Lott, Director of DDOT
Charles Allen, Ward 6 Councilmember
Abraham Diallo, Ward 6 Community Engagement Specialist, DDOT

Appendix A: Google Map View Evidence of Missing Benches

Missing Benches #1 and #2:

September 2021



August 2022



Missing Benches #3 and #4:

September 2021



August 2022

