



October 17, 2014

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Cathy L. Lanier  
Chief of Police  
Metropolitan Police Department  
300 Indiana Avenue NW, Room 5059  
Washington DC 20001

VIA E-MAIL: [cathy.lanier@dc.gov](mailto:cathy.lanier@dc.gov)

RE: Installation of Red-light Camera on South Side of 7th Street & Pennsylvania Avenue SE Intersection

Dear Chief Lanier:

Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) 6B urges the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) to install a red-light camera on the south side of the intersection of 7th Street and Pennsylvania Avenue SE (Capitol Hill). This intersection is heavily used by pedestrians, walking to and from the Eastern Market Metro station, Eastern Market, and other retail destinations and restaurants clustered about this intersection, and by many visitors to an area that has become a tourist destination. The block between 6th and 7th Streets is unusually long and straight creating a "racetrack" effect and prompting many drivers to try to "beat the light" at 7<sup>th</sup> Street. Close calls are common.

The Program Manager for MPD's Homeland Security Bureau confirmed to resident Norman Metzger by email in May 2013 that the intersection is hazardous. However, despite regular communication on this request, MPD has neither committed a firm date for installation nor denied the request. Rather, MPD has offered a series of evolving reasons; most recently that the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) has a deciding role. However, staff from the DDOT Director's office in an email to Mr. Metzger commented that regarding red-light cameras "we're not really in that mix. MPD evaluates and installs."

As Mr. Metzger noted at a September 24, 2014, Council of the District of Columbia hearing on Automated Traffic Enforcement (ATE):

*The bottom line is that nothing has happened, this after almost two years from the initial request for installation of a red-light camera at a hazardous intersection. What then is or should be the process for install requests? From my experience the process seems at best opaque and perhaps broken. At the very least, MPD and perhaps other agencies need to re-examine how they make decisions on installation of cameras, one that is open and expeditious.*

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ANC 6B Letter to Cathy Lanier

RE: Installation of Red-light Camera on South Side of 7th Street & Pennsylvania Avenue SE Intersection

ANC 6B agrees with this assessment and urges that MPD proceed with installation of a red-light camera at the intersection that it judged to be hazardous. Further, it would be very helpful if MPD would inform the Commission on its policy and procedures for ATE installation requests.

ANC 6B voted 7-0 to send this letter at its regularly scheduled, properly noticed meeting on October 14, 2014, with a quorum present. If you have questions, please contact Commissioner Kirsten Oldenburg at 202-546-8542 or [kirsten6b04@anc6b.org](mailto:kirsten6b04@anc6b.org). Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'B. Flahaven', with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

Brian Flahaven  
Chair

cc: Councilmember Mary M. Cheh, Chair, Committee on Transportation and the Environment  
Councilmember Tommy Wells, Chair, Committee on the Judiciary and Public Safety  
Assistant Chief Diane Groomes, MPD  
Inspector Mario Patrizio, 1st District, MPD  
Lisa Sutter, Homeland Security Bureau, MPD