

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



**d. Office of the Director**

June 11, 2014

Commissioner Brian Flahaven  
Chair  
Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6B  
921 Pennsylvania Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20003

Dear Commissioner Flahaven:

Thank you for your letter of May 26, 2014, providing feedback on the District Department of Transportation's (DDOT's) Open Space Preservation and Enhancement Policy (Departmental Order No. 1-2014) and for your comments and recommendations on how DDOT can improve upon this policy. With this policy, DDOT clarified that the various triangle parks under DDOT's jurisdiction are integral elements of the L'Enfant Plan that should be maintained as parks and preserved as publicly accessible neighborhood amenities for the use and enjoyment of all.

DDOT is also in the process of addressing many of the other issues raised in your letter. DDOT intends to propose amendments to Title 24 (Public Space) of the District of Columbia Municipal Regulations (DCMR) to ensure that, moving forward, all permit applications for improvements to triangle or will maintain open access and will be sent to the appropriate ANC for its review and comment prior to permit issuance. Additionally, DDOT intends to amend the current DCMR definition of "public parking" to specifically exclude U.S. reservations.

I understand your concern that the classification of Reservation 266 as "public parking", in response to the adjacent property owners' request to landscape and maintain the area, carries with it the implication that the adjacent property owners could have exclusive use of the park to the possible detriment of the surrounding community. I want to assure you that this was not the intent of the classification.

DDOT is committed to working with all parties to arrive at a reasonable resolution to improve public access to Reservation 266, while providing the adjacent property owners the opportunity to beautify and maintain the green space immediately adjacent to their home.

I want to assure you that we are working to put regulatory safeguards in place to ensure that future public space applications to make improvements to triangle parks are reviewed by the community and reflect the historic, park, and open space policies presented in the District's Comprehensive Plan.

Sincerely,



Matthew T. Brown  
Acting Director

Cc: Barry Kreiswirth  
Chief of Staff, DDOT

Alice Kelly  
Branch Manager, DDOT