D.C. Pedestrian Advisory Council
Meeting Minutes
March 23, 2026 – 6:30 p.m.
Remote Public Meeting

Attendees
PAC Members: Cheryle Adams, Heather Foote, Paul Harrison, Geoffrey Hatchard, Joe Bishop-Henchman, Dalton Howard, Matt Johnson, Julia Stevenson, J.I. Swiderski, David Tumblin
Agency Representatives: Karyn McAlister (DDOT), Rafael Moreno (Vision Zero Office, DDOT), Elizabeth Jo (Office of Planning)
Members of the Public: Angelo Licastro (Ward 2), Eileen McCarthy (Ward 3), Commissioner Nigro (ANC 2G06)

Welcome and Call to Order
The March 2026 meeting of the DC Pedestrian Advisory Council (PAC) was called to order at 6:36 p.m. Members, agency representatives, and members of the public introduced themselves.

Approval of the Agenda
Harrison proposed amending the agenda to include an update on the District's snow response letter under Old Business. Tumblin moved approval of the agenda as amended and Adams seconded. PAC members voted to approve the meeting agenda.

NEW BUSINESS

Vision Zero Dashboard Update (DDOT)
Moreno presented an overview of updates to the Vision Zero crash data dashboard. The revised dashboard allows users to compare year-to-date crash outcomes with prior-year averages and provides improved functionality for analyzing trends across time periods, crash severity categories, and geographic areas.

Moreno explained that the redesigned dashboard improves accessibility and usability across devices, including mobile phones, allowing community members, Advisory Neighborhood Commissioners, and other stakeholders to more easily review safety trends without needing specialized tools or technical expertise.

The dashboard allows filtering by crash severity, including fatalities and major injuries, and provides visualizations including heat maps and multi-year comparisons. Moreno noted that early 2026 data show several pedestrian fatalities, including some incidents that occurred in late 2025 but were recorded in 2026 due to the timing of determinations by the Chief Medical Examiner.
Members discussed the value of clearer presentation of safety trends and the usefulness of having data accessible in real time to support community advocacy and policy development.

AGENCY REPORTS

District Department of Transportation (DDOT): Karyn McAlister provided updates on sidewalk gap projects and related pedestrian infrastructure work. He noted that Safe Routes to School implementation activity would increase as weather improves and crews resume field work that could not be completed during winter months, including thermoplastic striping and other treatments.

McAlister highlighted progress on a sidewalk gap project along Southern Avenue SE in Ward 7 between approximately Suitland Road and Branch Avenue. She described the segment as approximately 0.36 miles and located on a high-injury corridor. One side of the roadway previously lacked sidewalks, and the project required navigating existing driveways, trees, utilities, and other right-of-way constraints.

She also reported on a sidewalk gap project along Eastern Avenue in Ward 7 between approximately Minnesota Avenue and Coral Street, describing the project as a more typical gap-fill effort connecting an existing sidewalk segment where the pedestrian network had previously been discontinuous.

McAlister referenced additional work near Franklin Street and 16th Street, noting that construction delays had slowed completion but that final landscaping and finishing work remained underway.

McAlister explained DDOT's design standards for sidewalks, noting that six-foot sidewalks are typical, while five-foot or four-foot sidewalks may be used where right-of-way constraints exist. Factors influencing width include proximity to residences, retaining walls, trees, utilities, and neighborhood context.

Members discussed DDOT's use of porous flexible pavement materials around tree roots to preserve tree health while maintaining accessible pedestrian infrastructure. McAlister stated that such materials are generally more expensive and less durable than concrete, and therefore are typically used selectively where tree protection considerations warrant their use.

Hatchard raised a missing sidewalk segment on Franklin Street near Langdon Park and shared a photograph illustrating the gap. McAlister said she would review the location and assess its prioritization among Ward 5 projects.

Adams raised concerns about sidewalk buckling near Jefferson Academy caused by tree roots. McAlister advised reporting such conditions through the District's 311 system so DDOT Asset Management staff can evaluate repair needs.

Members discussed broader tradeoffs between cost, tree preservation, stormwater management, and long-term maintenance considerations in sidewalk design.

Office of Planning (OP): Elizabeth Jo provided updates on Office of Planning initiatives related to land use and public space planning.

Jo reported that recent workshops focused on updates to the Comprehensive Plan future land use map and how the District can accommodate anticipated population and employment growth.

Jo also shared information on upcoming community engagement opportunities related to the RFK Campus planning process, including in-person public meetings and an online survey open from March 30 through April 10.

She additionally described a new study focused on the H Street corridor between 3rd and 15th Streets NE that will examine land use, public space, and economic development strategies to support corridor vitality and cultural activity.

Members expressed interest in inviting the project team to present to the PAC at a future meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

DDOT Oversight Hearing Testimony Coordination: Foote and Swiderski reviewed upcoming oversight hearing dates relevant to DDOT and related agencies.

Members discussed whether the PAC should coordinate testimony as a body or whether members would submit testimony individually. No motion was made to convene a special meeting for joint testimony development.

Snow Response Letter Follow-Up: Foote provided an update on follow-up correspondence regarding the PAC letter concerning snow removal practices and ADA curb ramp accessibility.

Foote reported that agencies had acknowledged receipt of the letter and indicated that a response is under development, noting that recent snow events may have delayed agency follow-up.

Members reiterated continued interest in clarifying agency responsibility for ensuring accessibility of curb ramps and pedestrian routes following snow events.

Signal Timing Enforcement Discussion and Working Group Formation: Johnson introduced discussion regarding pedestrian signal timing enforcement practices and legal inconsistencies related to pedestrian crossing regulations. Johnson referenced prior discussion with MPD regarding enforcement of crossing during the flashing hand phase and described reviewing statutory language governing pedestrian crossing requirements.

Members discussed potential policy implications and agreed that additional research and coordination would be helpful.

Hatchard, Swiderski, Adams, Johnson, and McCarthy volunteered to participate in a working group to further evaluate legal and policy considerations related to signal timing enforcement. Members discussed circulating background materials to support further review.

Members discussed coordinating availability to support participation in working group meetings and ensuring continuity of discussion between monthly PAC meetings.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Licastro expressed interest in opportunities for public engagement with PAC activities and pathways to potential future participation. Members discussed the role of community participation in advancing pedestrian safety priorities and encouraged continued involvement in public meetings and advocacy efforts.

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

Next Meeting: The next PAC meeting is scheduled for April 27, 2026.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:50 p.m.