

---

## GEORGETOWN COALITION FOR PUBLIC SPACES



HONORING OUR PAST, BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE

---

February 28, 2025

Sharon Kershbaum  
Director  
DC Department of Transportation  
250 M Street, SE  
Washington, DC 20003

Dear Director Kershbaum:

On January 20<sup>th</sup>, President Trump signed an executive order requiring federal workers to terminate remote work arrangements and return to work in-person on a full-time basis as soon as is practicable.

As of March 10<sup>th</sup>, DC employees can work from home a maximum of one day per week, a reduction from the previous two days per week.

Last week, Metro reported that ridership has been the system's busiest since before the COVID-19 pandemic began in 2020.

The above policy changes are why we are very surprised to see the DC Department of Transportation's (DDOT) Notice of Intent (NOI) #25-56-TPA which seeks to permanently remove rush-hour parking restrictions in Georgetown.

You cite in Section 3.4 of the NOI that the transit evaluation was taken on August 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023. How can you believe that to be representative of current traffic patterns?

Are you aware the National Park Service has issued a similar NOI to remove one-way rush hour on Rock Creek Parkway? If the major commercial arteries of Wisconsin and M are clogged, it's a safe bet that overflow traffic will end up on the residential streets of Georgetown. The overflow traffic will further compromise already overused and gridlocked Georgetown thoroughfares and side streets.

Further, have you considered the climate component of higher emissions and greenhouse gases and pollutants being released into the air with cars sitting in traffic?

Have you seen the letter from the **DC Police Union** to Mayor Bowser which states, “M Street is the only way to get to Canal Road and Key Bridge – Wisconsin Avenue connects many NW neighborhoods. With the uptick in back-to-office policies moving to eliminate rush hour traffic rules and reduce lanes in Georgetown seems short-sighted.”

We **strongly** encourage you to take a step back and collect more relevant and current data before proceeding with eliminating rush hour parking restrictions in Georgetown.

We look forward to hearing from you with a response to our questions and we are also available for a meeting at your convenience.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Miller  
Stefanie Scott  
Co-Chairs  
Georgetown Coalition for Public Spaces