

District of Columbia
Department of Environment
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Natural Resources Administration
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Washington, DC 20002

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Testimony of Kent Slowinski, ANC 3D01
before the District of Columbia Department of Environment
on the District's Stormwater Regulations

My name is Kent Slowinski, ANC Commissioner for Wesley Heights, ANC3D01. My Single Member District includes portions of Glover Archbold Park, Battery Kemble and Wesley Heights Park. Foundry Branch (aka Deep Branch) and Fletcher's Run (aka Maddox Run) have been severely impacted by stormwater runoff. Delegate Norton recently introduced a resolution to name the main trail in Glover Archbold Park in honor of Rachel Carson.

I'd like to see the District develop a Green Streets program to reduce the impact of stormwater runoff on the District's stream valley parks, which are identified in the District's Comprehensive Plan as being worthy of protection.

According to DDOT, the public right-of-way accounts for approximately 30 percent of the stormwater runoff. The stormwater impacts would be significantly reduced in my district by converting sections of 42nd, 44th, 49th, Edmunds, Fulton, and Garfield streets as well as New Mexico, Cathedral and Massachusetts Avenue into Green Streets.

This could be accomplished by:

1. implementing regenerative stormwater conveyance at the storm sewer outfalls
2. installing bioswales along the street edge in the public right of way
3. removing a parking lane of pavement along the park edge and installing permeable sidewalks and rain gardens. and
4. developing a list of Green Street candidates along with plans to convert the streets so that when the streets are slated for repaving or rebuilding, they can be converted to green streets.

This will require cooperation among DDOE, DDOT, DC Water, NPS and others.

Currently, when an applicant appears before our ANC to request a curb cut, we ask the applicant, where appropriate, to install permeable paving on a 12-24 inch base. Approximately a dozen applicants have agreed to do so. The largest project was approximately 20,000 square feet on the edge of Battery Kemble. In the grand scheme of things, these are little projects. But little projects add up. What if every ANC did this?

What can we do to make the District's stormwater regulations stronger and make the District number one in Green Streets?

Thank you.

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