



## Government of the District of Columbia Advisory Neighborhood Commission 1D

### Resolution Advising Safety Improvements at Intersection of Brown and Monroe Street NW

**Whereas:** Brown St NW and Monroe St NW connect in a T-shaped intersection within Advisory Neighborhood Commission area 1D;

**Whereas:** Brown and Monroe St NW are residential streets connecting all residents northeast of Park Rd and 17<sup>th</sup> St NW with the Mount Pleasant commercial district;

**Whereas:** Community members have observed and photographed<sup>i</sup> repeated and ongoing imminent safety risks, including threats to human life and property;

**Whereas:** Increased enforcement of “No Parking Zone” in the immediate vicinity of the intersection, while not a permanent solution, could result in some safety improvements.

**Whereas:** In 2015, Mayor Muriel Bowser committed to “Vision Zero,” pledging to end traffic fatalities and serious injuries in the District of Columbia by 2024 and implement changes necessary to reach that goal<sup>ii</sup>;

**Whereas:** According to the DC Metropolitan Police Department’s traffic data, traffic fatalities in the District have only risen since 2015 and continue to rise with 40 year-to-date traffic fatalities so far this year, representing a 54% increase from 26 year-to-date fatalities in 2022<sup>iii</sup>.

**Whereas:** The District of Columbia Department of Transportation (DDOT) developed the TSI process to hear from residents on road segments and intersections that they feel pose safety concerns and prioritizes such input based on “objective factors such as roadway characteristics, crash patterns, equity, proximity to Vision Zero High Injury Network corridors, and locations utilized by vulnerable road users such as schools, Metro rails stations, and bus stops<sup>iv</sup>.”

**Whereas:** Community members submitted Traffic Safety Input (TSI) request #22-00456445 more than one year ago on September 21, 2022;

**Whereas:** The Brown/ Monroe intersection meets several of DDOT’s stated criteria for TSI prioritization, including:

- Roadway characteristics with a road design that has repeatedly proven to result in unsafe traffic incidents;
- Crash patterns clearly demonstrated within the photographic and anecdotal evidence<sup>v</sup> submitted by community members;
- Equity as the intersection provides a critical connection for residents in a higher-density part of Mount Pleasant to connect with the rest of the community, including the commercial corridor;
- Proximity to a Tier Two High Injury Network, with the intersection's location just one block from 16<sup>th</sup> St<sup>vi</sup>; and
- Locations utilized by vulnerable road users as the intersection provides access for community members to walk to Bancroft Elementary School and is just one block from three different bus stops;

**Whereas:** Community members have come together to not only document and report unsafe conditions, but also to propose solutions<sup>vii</sup>;

**Whereas:** Proposed solutions have the full support<sup>viii</sup> of every resident who lives within the 3300 block of Brown St NW, including all families who live in close proximity to the intersection;

**Therefore, be it resolved that:** ANC 1D advises the District of Columbia Department of Transportation to prioritize this TSI in its next round of priority setting scheduled for release in FY24 Q2;

**Be it further resolved that:** ANC1D advises the District of Columbia Department of Public Works to increase enforcement effort of existing “No Parking Zone” in the intersection until such time that a permanent change takes place.

**Be it further resolved that:** That the Commission designates Commissioner Angela Allison, ANC 1D06, to represent the Commission in all matters relating to this resolution;

**Be it further resolved that:** That, in the event the designated representative Commissioner cannot carry out their representative duties for any reason, the Commission authorizes the Vice Chair to designate another Commissioner to represent the Commission in all matters relating to this resolution;

**Be it further resolved that:** Consistent with DC Code, only actions of the full Commission voting in a properly noticed public meeting have standing and carry great weight. The actions, positions, and opinions of individual commissioners, insofar as they may be contradictory to or otherwise inconsistent with the expressed position of the full Commission in a properly adopted resolution or letter, have no standing and cannot be considered as in any way associated with the Commission.

**Certification:** At a regularly scheduled and publicly noticed meeting held on October 24, 2023 Advisory Neighborhood Commission 1D considered the above resolution. With a quorum of 5

Commissioners present, the Commission voted with 5 yeas, 0 nos, and 0 abstentions to adopt the above resolution.

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<sup>i</sup> See Addendum I: Photographic Evidence

<sup>ii</sup> Vision Zero <https://visionzero.dc.gov/>

<sup>iii</sup> Metropolitan Police Department Traffic Data <https://mpdc.dc.gov/page/traffic-data>

<sup>iv</sup> DDOT Traffic Safety Input Dashboard <https://ddot.dc.gov/featured-content/traffic-safety-input-tsi-dashboard>

<sup>v</sup> See Addendums I and II: Photographic Evidence and Letter of Support

<sup>vi</sup> DDOT Vision Zero, High Injury Networks <https://visionzero.dc.gov/pages/2022-update>

<sup>vii</sup> See addendum II: Letter of Support

<sup>viii</sup> See Addendum II: Letter of Support

## Addendum I: Photographic Evidence

[Follow this link to see all community-supported photographs of evidence of known hazards at the Brown and Monroe St NW intersection.](#)

Small Sample of Photos Taken by Residents:









## BROWN / MONROE INTERSECTION

To: Director Lott, DDOT; Director Carter, DPW

Cc: Councilwoman Nadeau, Angela Allison

From: Brown St, Monroe St, and Newton St NW Residents, Renters, and Homeowners

Date: October 24, 2023

**We 25 families (including 100% of households on the 3300 block of Brown St) are writing to ask you to implement solutions that address significant and persistent safety risks at the intersection of Brown and Monroe Streets NW, where we've personally witnessed multiple people struck by vehicles in recent years.** These incidents include a car turning left from Monroe onto Brown, striking a family in the crosswalk - hitting the mother in the hip and pinning her child in their stroller. We know these terrifying injuries and close calls will one day cause unnecessary loss for our community if no action is taken.

Both Brown and Monroe are small, residential streets and Monroe is one-way, headed East. It is a pedestrian thoroughfare for Mt. Pleasant, connecting all residents northeast of Park Rd & 17th St NW (including several high-density apartments and condo buildings) with the Mt. Pleasant street commercial area. Adults with many young children, large laundry carts, cyclists, children disembarking the H bus from school, and other pedestrians heavily traffic this intersection daily.

Due to poor intersection design and lackluster parking enforcement, there are a number of safety concerns occurring that regularly endanger residents and require them to assist stuck drivers. Sometimes for as long as 30 minutes, residents must spot oversized vehicle drivers as they reverse many times; ask neighbors to move vehicles; or stop traffic to allow large vehicles to pass the wrong way down a one-way street. Residents have invested countless hours documenting and reporting violations to 311, but DC government has done nothing to address the root causes despite amassing significant evidence of this trouble spot and a stated priority of "Vision Zero."

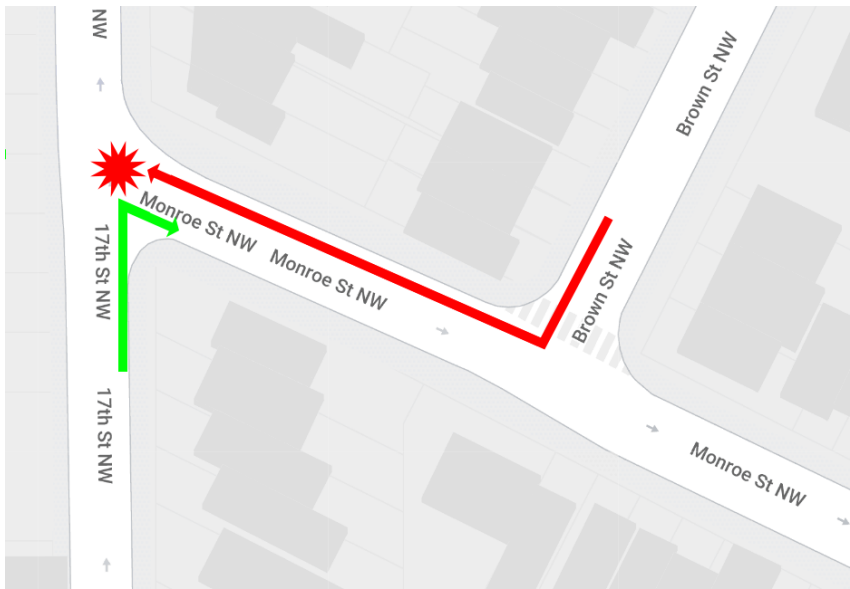
We submitted a Traffic Safety Investigation request (22-00456445) on September 21, 2022. The [TSI dashboard](#) shows a cluster of concern at this intersection.

As the residents who live, commute, work, and recreate all within one block of this intersection, we hope our detailed and consistent observations combined with your leadership can resolve several long-standing issues, detailed below.

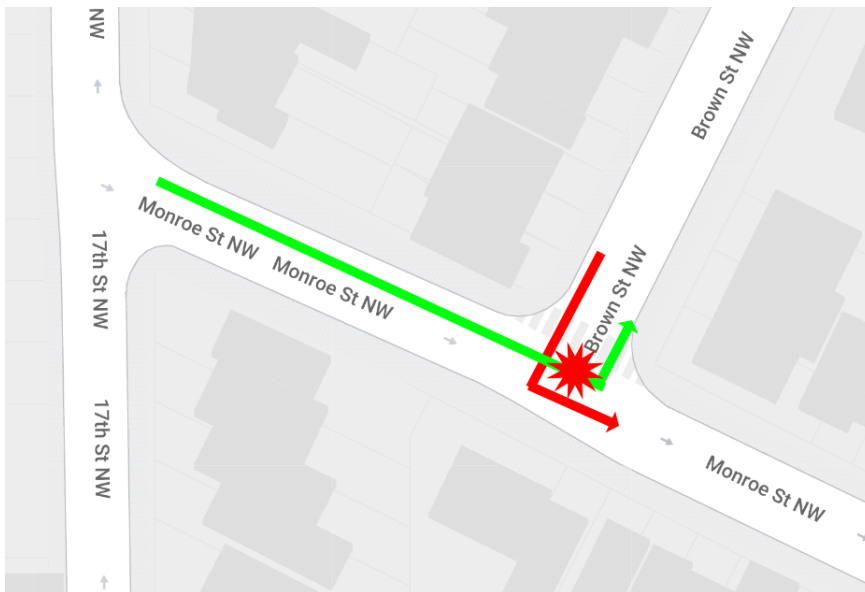
### SAFETY CONCERNS

1. **Danger to pedestrians crossing Monroe from the NW corner of Brown/Monroe to the S side of Monroe** - many vehicles drive at high speed and at least once a day we observe vehicles incorrectly turning the wrong way on to one-way Monroe - Westbound toward 17th, including MANY large vehicles that can't make the left onto Monroe due to size, or illegally parked vehicles. Pedestrians crossing do not even look in that direction, from where there should be NO traffic coming, and we have observed many bumps, clips, and near-misses.





2. **Danger to pedestrians crossing Brown St crosswalk** - cars regularly park at the stop sign or in the crosswalk, blocking pedestrian visibility; cars turn quickly from Monroe on to Brown; trucks very frequently get stuck trying to turn left on to Monroe from Brown and do many-point turns trying to get unstuck.



3. **Danger to drivers and cyclists eastbound on Monroe from 17th** - with cars illegally parked in the crosswalk/at stop sign, Brown St traffic cannot see the stop sign OR oncoming traffic in Monroe. At least one vehicle driving the wrong way down one-way Monroe St is a daily, observable occurrence.
4. **Damage to traffic/public safety infrastructure** - In the last six years, we have personally witnessed damage to (at minimum):
  - a. the fire hydrant on the NW corner of the intersection;
  - b. four stop signs flattened/damaged by stuck trucks; and

- c. the lamppost at the NE corner of 17th and Monroe knocked down by a truck going the wrong way on Monroe; costing the city and taxpayers time and money for repair, as well as reduced safety.
5. **Damage to private property** - In three years, the fence at the corner of 3300 Brown St NW has been backed over twice by a truck that was stuck making the left onto Monroe; and multiple cars parked on the north side of Monroe at the northeast corner of Brown/Monroe have been scraped by trucks trying to make the left turn from Brown.

## DOCUMENTATION OF THE ISSUE

Photos [here](#) document only a tiny fraction proportion of the:

- Trucks, school buses, emergency response vehicles, and other vehicles that have gotten stuck at the intersection.
- Vehicles turning the wrong way down one-way Monroe because they cannot make any of the legal turns.
- Vehicles that have scraped parked cars
- Illegally parked cars making turns impossible for large vehicles
- Traffic being held up by a stuck vehicle.
- Vehicles that would have hit fire hydrants, stop signs, and personal property – and possibly other travelers – if residents did not help drivers navigate their way out.

**Countless 311 enforcement requests have been submitted by residents.**

## CAUSES OF REGULARLY OBSERVED SAFETY CONCERNS

1. Vehicles going the wrong way (West) down Monroe from Brown
2. Vehicles sometimes going wrong way down 17th (South) AFTER going the wrong way on Monroe
3. Vehicles parked illegally on Monroe at the “T” intersection with Brown St
4. Vehicles parked illegally at Stop sign on Brown St
5. Vehicles parked illegally on the northeast corner of Monroe & Brown, on Monroe St.
6. Very large trucks getting stuck even without illegally parked vehicles in the way
7. Vehicles speeding Eastbound on Monroe St
8. Trucks following GPS navigation to turn on to Brown St from 16th via Meridian PI NW and the back down Monroe St to avoid traffic

## POTENTIAL SOLUTIONS

Please see the solutions requested and illustrations below, based on the observations of residents who live and work on this block. Together, the items below would greatly diminish the dangers outlined above.

1. **Raised crosswalk #1** across Brown St, to make pedestrians more visible and encourage drivers to make a complete stop, and slow down.
2. **Raised crosswalk #2 and Stop sign** across Monroe St, just West of the intersection, which is where most pedestrians cross, and where there used to be a crosswalk some years ago.
3. **A concrete bump out (or tree box which would serve other DOEE goals and a lack of street trees in the areas)** on the North side Monroe at the northeast corner to prevent cars from illegally parking past the No Parking sign. This is the first of three key reasons large trucks get stuck.

4. **Hard or soft bollards, bump out, or tree box to stop people from parking at the “T” intersection** with Brown, on the South side of Monroe. This is the second of three key reasons large trucks get stuck.
5. **Hard or soft bollards, bump out, or tree box to stop people from parking at the stop sign and in the cross walk across Brown, at Monroe.** This is the third of three key reasons large trucks get stuck, and makes the intersection very dangerous for the pedestrians trying to cross.
6. **New Stop sign** for Eastbound Monroe traffic at Brown & Monroe, paired with the new crosswalk.
7. **Speed bump between 17th and Brown St on Monroe St**, and refresh of the now flat ones down the rest of Monroe until 16th.
8. **Large, hard bollards on both sides of the northwest corner pedestrian ramps** to stop trucks from hitting pedestrians, cyclists, the Stop sign, fire hydrant, and fence.
9. **Painted left turn only arrow painted** on Brown St roadway approaching Monroe Intersection
10. **Daily parking enforcement** of no parking areas at this intersection.
11. **NO TRUCKS signs** at Brown/Newton, Newton/17th, and Meridian Pl & 16th St to stop trucks from coming down small residential streets they cannot navigate in large vehicles.

## AREAS FOR INSTALLATION



## PROPOSED INSTALLATIONS



As caring neighbors we have diligently looked out for one another and distressed travelers; used official 311 and TSI systems; and collected/documented information that only we can observe as residents. We look to city agencies and leaders for prompt cooperation and response to the root causes of these issues, and will gladly provide any additional support that will keep residents and travelers safer.

Thank you,

The undersigned residents of Brown St, Monroe St, Newton St, and 17th St NW:

- Brian Cook, 3300 Brown St NW*
- Priya Cook, 3300 Brown St NW*
- Ramón Piñol, 3301 Brown St NW*
- Arunima Dhar, 3301 Brown St NW*
- Jason Williams, 3302 Brown St NW*
- Stephen McMahon, 3303 Brown St, NW*
- Matt Bachand, 3304 Brown St, NW*
- Melissa Martin, 3304 Brown St, NW*
- Rachel Abbey, 3305 Brown St. NW*
- L. Misha Preheim, 3305 Brown St. NW*
- Malaika Mumba, 3306 Brown St NW*
- Emily White, 3306 Brown St NW*
- Andrew Inglis, 3308 Brown St NW*
- Renee K. Carl, 3308 Brown St NW*
- Tristan Herink, 3310 Brown St NW*

*Lisa Gregory, 3312 Brown St NW  
Jenna Portnoy, 3314 Brown St NW  
Chido Obidegwu, 3413 Brown St NW  
Emily Roesing, 3413 Brown St NW  
Carl Hultgren, 3415 Brown St NW*

*Kelly Lesser, 1627 Monroe St NW  
Joaquin Espinoza, 1627 Monroe St NW  
Erin Sikorsky, 1641 Monroe St NW  
Jon Stewart, 1641 Monroe St NW  
David Ghatan, 1643 Monroe St. NW  
Ivan Sigal, 1644 Monroe St NW  
Frances Brown, 1644 Monroe St NW  
Harold Leich, 1652 Monroe St. NW  
Donald Braman, 1656 Monroe St NW  
Katharine Richards, 1656 Monroe St NW  
Katerina Semyonova 1658 Monroe St. NW  
Cory Thomas, 1658 Monroe St NW, Apt B  
Benjamin Braun, 1667 Monroe St NW  
Randi Braun, 1667 Monroe St NW*

*Sherrill Berger 1631 Newton Street NW  
Robert Robinson 1631 Newton Street NW  
Anthony Tomlinson, 1640 Newton St NW  
Kathleen Kerr, 1640 Newton St NW  
Henry Presente, 1642 Newton St. NW*

*David Krum, 3327 17th St NW  
Joanna Ruf, 3327 17th St NW*