

Fig. 3.9 MCE Connectivity Map

RECOMMENDATIONS

GOAL #1: Improve mobility and physical connectivity between the neighborhoods of Mid City East and connect the neighborhoods to the

MCE 6.1 - Develop creative ways to connect along and across North Capitol Street in order to knit Mid City East neighborhoods together and improve connectivity for residents. Include this in the Streetscape Study described in MCE 4.1.

MCE 6.2 - Extend or reestablish the DC street grid with any future public or private development or redevelopment including:

- Quincy St. NW between First and 2nd Streets NE in the Bates/Truxton Circle and Hanover area.
- Randolph Place NE between North Capitol Street and First Street NE in Eckington.
- L Street NW between North Capitol Street and First Street NW in the Sursum Corda area.
- Pierce Streets NW to First Place NW in the short term in the Sursum Corda area. potentially continuing to North Capitol Street in the long-term future.



GOAL #2: Reduce or remove physical barriers and provide for safe pedestrian routes and crossings to schools, transit, parks and amenities.

MCE 6.3 - Work with McKinley Tech to explore creating terracing stair connections to the McKinley Tech campus from surrounding sidewalks at walled areas to improve connectivity to and from the school for students and public.

MCE 6.4 - Support the recommendations of DDOT's Livability Study to implement modifications to public streets and sidewalks to improve walkability, safety, and connectivity. These include:

- New York Avenue/North Capitol Street/ N Street - street and sidewalk modifications and improvements.
- Florida/North Capitol Street/Q St./Lincoln Rd. - street and sidewalk modifications and improvements.
- Florida/New Jersey/Rhode Island/S Street/ 4th Street - street and sidewalk modifications and improvements.
- New Jersey Avenue between N Street NW and Florida Ave. NW - street and sidewalk modifications and improvements.
- First Street NW Corridor changes at unsignalized intersections including stop sign control and traffic mini-circles.
- Eckington Place NE Corridor narrowing the roadway between Florida Avenue NE and R Street NE.



Capital Bikeshare Station at First and Rhode Island Avenue, NW

• 5th Street and Rhode Island Avenue - installing crosswalks and curb ramps across Rhode Island Avenue and median along the 5th Street NW alignment, and extending the existing 5th Street bike lanes from Rhode Island Avenue to Florida Avenue.

MCE 6.5 - Work with DDOT to improve wayfinding to the Metropolitan Branch Trail within Mid City East, and add vegetation, lighting, and public art to improve the trail's aesthetics, enhance safety, and encourage increased use.

MCE 6.6 - Identify additional locations for Capital Bikeshare Stations.



4: NEIGHBORHOOD HIGHLIGHTS



OVERVIEW

The previous chapter described the existing conditions, key findings, and recommendations for the core themes of the Mid City East Small Area Plan. This chapter highlights issues, opportunities, and recommendations identified by the Small Area Plan as they relate to each neighborhood.

In addition, the Neighborhood Highlights Chapter references specific stormwater, transportation, connectivity recommendations from DDOT's Mid City East Livability Study, the companion study to the Mid City East Small Area Plan. Please refer to the Livability Study report for complete details.



Bates/Truxton Circle and Hanover

Within the Mid City East planning area, Bates/ Truxton Circle and Hanover refers to the area roughly bounded by New Jersey Avenue to the west, Florida Avenue to the north, North Capitol Street to the east and New York Avenue to the south. **See Fig. 4.1.** This eclectic and architecturally rich area consists of a mix of housing types, institutional uses including several schools, parks and playgrounds, and small businesses.

Major concerns of community members include the need to revitalize commercial areas along North Capitol Street, the conservation of the neighborhood's historic and architectural character, enhancing parks and playgrounds, having access to local school facilities, solving parking issues with the growing number of schools in the neighborhood, and addressing loitering, cleanliness and safety



Bates Street, NW

BATES/TRUXTON CIRCLE AND HANOVER NEIGHBORHOOD PROFILE

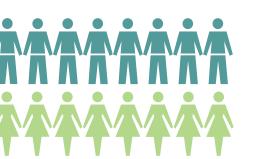


\$438,000 **Average Home** Sales Price



\$59,092° **Median Income**

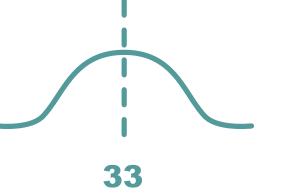
GENDER¹



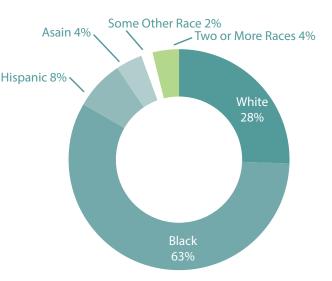
Male 51.2%

Female 48.8%

MEDIAN AGE



ETHNICITY



- 1 Source: DC OTR, Real Property Sales Database
- 2 Source: ESRI Business Analyst



Former Truxton Circle

NEIGHBORHOOD CHARACTER

The Bates/Truxton Circle and Hanover area is home to a large collection of historic landmarks in the planning area. As an area that developed in the beginning of the late nineteenth century and in close proximity to the emerging subdivisions of Bloomingdale, Eckington, and LeDroit Park, these neighborhoods feature a diversity of historic resources including residential, industrial and a clustering of notable school buildings. Several of the historic landmarks in the area lack proper signage and are in need of restoration or rehabilitation. Finding ways to highlight and celebrate these resources will encourage local stewardship, generate heritage tourism, and encourage investment in neglected historic sites.

As the neighborhood continues to grow and attract new residents, the low-scale building stock is also threatened by inappropriate rooftop and other additions. These incompatible additions threaten to change the character of the neighborhood. Major recommendations include:

- Develop a community-led neighborhood conservancy to lead historic preservation efforts and build consensus around preferred preservation strategies for Bates/Truxton Circle and Hanover.
- Consider designating individual buildings under a multiple property document for the row houses on Bates Street.
- Coordinate with DDOT and Cultural Tourism DC to augment existing signage programs where needed or establish new neighborhood signage. Create unique designs including art, landscape, and/or streetscape and street furniture to identify Bates/Truxton Circle and Hanover's distinctive historic character.
- Commemorate the former Truxton Circle and fountain that once served as a neighborhood anchor and landmark. Fig. 4.2 shows existing and potential historic districts and landmarks in Bates/ Truxton Circle and Hanover.

COMMERCIAL REVITALIZATION, REDEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES AND HOUSING

 Pursue an approach to commercial revitalization on North Capitol Street which includes a diverse and robust mix of uses including entrepreneurial production and creative services; day-to-day



Fig. 4.2 Bates and Hanover Historic Resources Locations

Historic Resources

1. JOHN FOX SLATER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, 1891

6. O ST. VOCATIONAL SCHOOL, 1912

- 2. LANGSTON SCHOOL, 1902
- 3. FORMER SITE OF TRUXTON CIRCLE, c.1900 4. NEW YORK AVENUE PLAYGROUND, 1909 5. SAMUEL CHAPMAN ARMSTRONG TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL, 1901-1902
- 7. BATES STREET WASHINGTON SANITARY HOUSING CO., c, 1897
- 8. CHAPMAN GARAGE & STABLE, 1906-1912
- 9. J.C. LETTS GROCERY CO. BUILDING, 1917 10. WASHINGTON ANIMAL RESCUE
- 11. CANTANIA'S BAKERY BUILDING, 1905

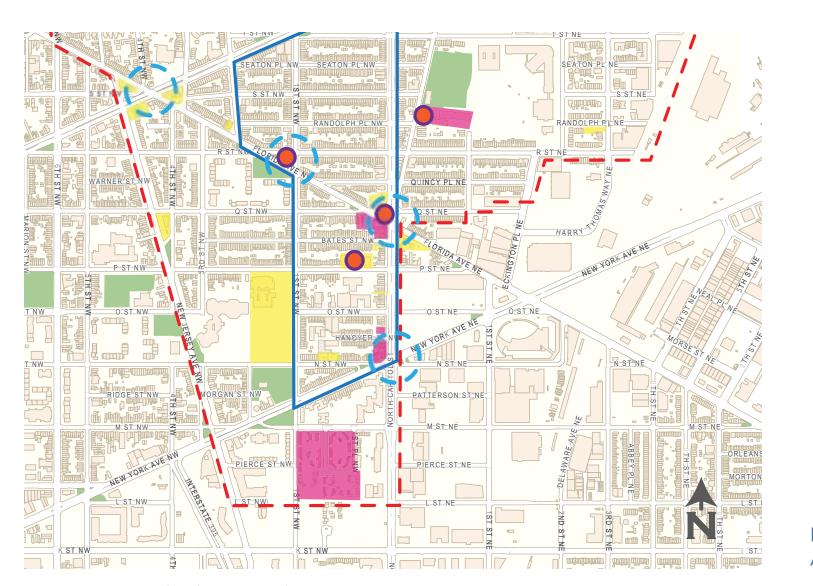


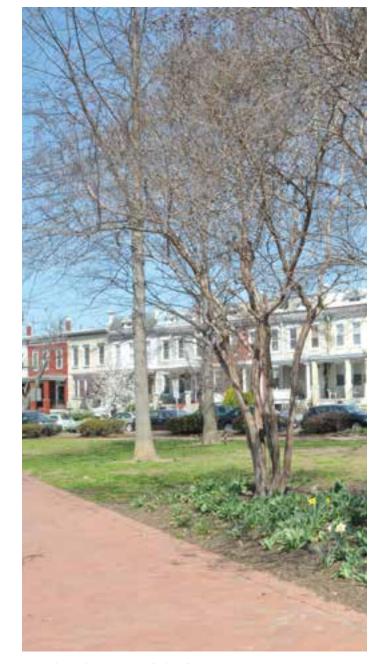
Fig. 4.3 Bates/Truxton Circle and Hanover Revitalization Map



- goods and services; and the expansion of neighborhood dining. **See Fig. 4.3.**
- Support efforts of the North Capitol Main Street organization to provide strategic marketing for neighborhood businesses.
- Pursue a future land use designation change for North Capitol Street, at the intersections of North Capitol Street and New York Avenue and at North Capitol and Florida Avenue, from low density commercial/moderate density residential to moderate/medium density mixed use to encourage mixed-use development and create a thriving neighborhood edge with a welcoming physical environment. See Fig. 4.3.
- Infill vacant parcels and redevelop underutilized parcels in Bates/Truxton Circle and Hanover.
 See Fig. 4.3
- Vacant and underutilized properties at the intersection of Florida Avenue and North Capitol Street should incorporate ground floor commercial uses with entrances facing North Capitol Street.
- Include affordable units in future residential development.

NEIGHBORHOOD PLACEMAKING AND PUBLIC REALM

- Maintain existing and plant additional street trees throughout Bates/Truxton Circle and Hanover where needed.
- Identify Bates/Truxton Circle and Hanover neighborhood groups and civic associations interested in developing strategies for maintaining streetscape and sidewalk cleanliness.



Triangle Park at First and Florida Avenue

- Identify and restore sidewalks needing repair in Bates/Truxton Circle and Hanover.
- Improve neighborhood alley and pedestrian lighting throughout Bates/Truxton Circle and Hanover.
- Engage in a dialogue with MPD to potentially increase police presence at identified problem spots including parts of North Capitol Street and Hanover Place.
- Identify locations for the installation of public art within Bates/Truxton Circle and Hanover. Include public art in any new development or redevelopment to celebrate Bates/Truxton Circle and Hanover's identities. **See Fig. 1.4** for neighborhood placemaking opportunities in Bates/Truxton Circle and Hanover.

PARKS AND GREEN SPACE

- New York Avenue Playground Create more entries to encourage neighborhood use. Explore opportunities for safe, multigenerational design and programming, and adding shade trees.
- Improve small triangular parks through local "Friends of..." groups responsible for making enhancements and maintaining features.
- Extend the P Street Greenway.
- Incorporate a community-accessible green space in any redevelopment of the CAPCS parking lot. See Fig. 4.3.
- Improve the Florida Avenue Park with any future redevelopment of the adjoining

- development. Add vegetation and green space.
- Create a coordinating committee to develop a policy regarding shared access to Dunbar school facilities for public use and recreation.

CONNECTIVITY

- Extend or reestablish the DC street grid with any future public or private development or redevelopment including Quincy Street NW between First and 2nd Streets NE in the Bates/ Truxton Circle and Hanover area.
- The DDOT Livability Study includes recommendations for street and sidewalk improvements at New York Avenue / North Capitol Street/ and N Street.

The DDOT Livability Study prioritizes the following neighborhood streets within Bates/
Truxton Circle and Hanover as pedestrian streets in need of traffic calming as a result of high pedestrian activity and adjacency to parks or schools:

- First Street, NW
- R Street, NW
- O Street, NW
- N Street, NW

See DDOT's Mid City East Livability Study for details.

STORMWATER MANAGEMENT

Intervention	Specific Location
Curb Extension/Bioretention Planters - Curb extension planters would be well suited for four way neighborhood intersections. First phase opportunities include:	5th Street at intersections of R, Q, P, and O Streets NW
	 4th Street at intersections at R and Q Streets NW
	 3rd Street at intersections at R and Q Streets NW
	 First Street at intersections of Q, Bates, and N Streets NW
	North Capitol Street at P Street NW
Tree Box Bioretention Planters - Streets with wide enough sidewalks and lack mature trees may be good candidates for tree box planters. Streets to focus on include:	3rd Street between Florida and New Jersey Avenues NW
	4th Street between Richardson Place & R Street NW
	 4th Street between Q and P Streets NW
	 New Jersey Avenue in discreet locations between Florida Avenue and P Street
	Street between 4th and 5th Streets NW
	Street between North Capitol Street and First Street NW
	N Street between North Capitol Street and First Street NW
Rain Gardens - Opportunities include:	Grounds of Kipp DC: Will Academy along P Street
	 Green space on the southeast corner of New Jersey Avenue and O Street
	 Green spaces along parking lots of Dunbar along First Street between P Street and New York Avenue
Permeable Paving - Permeable paving is most appropriate in alleyways throughout this neighborhood. First phase alleys should be based on the condition of the alley, the presence of utility lines, and the total amount of stormwater than can be captured. First phase opportunities include:	Alleys defined by 5th Street, P Street, New Jersey Avenue, and R Stree
	 Alleys defined by 3rd Street, North Capitol Street, P and Q Streets
	 Alleys defined by First Street, North Capitol Street, N Street, and P Street
Impervious Surface Removal - Few places for impervious surface removal exist with the exception of the paving in front of the former Slater and Langston Elementary School	P Street (Slater and Langston School Site)
Tree Infill - Any places identified as places for tree box planters may also qualify for conventional street tree plantings.	



Bates Street, NW

^{*} Source: DDOT's Livability Study

Bloomingdale, **LeDroit Park**

Bloomingdale and LeDroit Park are two unique neighborhoods within the Mid City East planning area. These areas are roughly bounded by Howard University to the west, the McMillan Reservoir to the north, North Capitol Street to the east, and Florida Avenue to the south. The neighborhoods are traversed by Rhode Island Avenue. Residents are proud of the unique heritage and architectural history of LeDroit Park, and the strong building fabric and architectural character of Bloomingdale's housing stock. Successful clusters of small businesses and new dining establishments have been drawing residents and visitors in recent years. Among the concerns community members expressed about these neighborhoods were the repeated problems with flooding, the unfriendly pedestrian experience along North Capitol Street, the barrier North Capitol Street presents to connecting east-west to Eckington, incompatible vertical additions to buildings or "pop-ups", and safety issues at the Park at LeDroit.

This chapter contains a summary of recommendations from Chapter 3 related to this neighborhood. It also includes specific stormwater and connectivity recommendations from DDOT's Mid City East Livability Study. Please see that study for full details of those recommendations.

NEIGHBORHOOD CHARACTER



BLOOMINGDALE, LeDROIT PARK NEIGHBORHOOD PROFILE



(Bloomingdale) \$619,000 (LeDroit Park) \$750,000

Average Home Sales Price



(Bloomingdale) \$86,568 (LeDroit Park) \$29,086

Median Income

GENDER



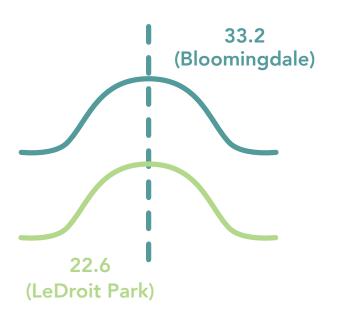
Male (Bloomingdale) 50.8%

Female (Bloomingdale) 49.2%

Male (LeDroit Park) 44.8%

Female (LeDroit Park) 55.2%

MEDIAN AGE

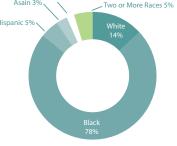


ETHNICITY





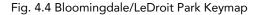
(LeDroit Park)



Bloomingdale is rich in architectural and cultural heritage. As a late nineteenth century

1 - Source: DC OTR, Real Property Sales Database

2 - Source: ESRI Business Analyst



neighborhood that developed outside of the original city boundaries, Bloomingdale features a diversity of historic resources including residential, commercial, and institutional buildings. Its rapid development between the late 1880s and 1920s resulted in low-scale, dense brick row house development that remains largely intact today. As the neighborhood continues to grow and attract new residents, the character of low-scale building stock is threatened by incompatible additions that could change the character of the neighborhood and its lively but uniform rooflines.

Bloomingdale's intact historic fabric makes the neighborhood a strong candidate for listing in the National Registry of Historic Places as a historic district. A historic district designation is a valuable tool that can provide protection from unwanted demolition and inappropriate alterations. Residents are particularly concerned about mitigating unwanted building additions or "pop-ups". LeDroit Park, the earliest of the Mid City East neighborhoods to be developed, was subdivided in 1873 and developed as an architecturally unified residential suburb. Originally established as an exclusively white subdivision, LeDroit Park transitioned to an integrated neighborhood by the turn of the twentieth century. By the 1940s, it was home to some of the city's most prominent and influential African Americans. Today, LeDroit Park is listed as a historic district and retains a high degree of its historic character, scale, and architectural fabric. There are several opportunities in LeDroit Park to increase and update signage to further promote and distinguish the general boundaries of the neighborhood.

Develop a community-led neighborhood

- conservancy to lead historic preservation efforts and build consensus around preferred preservation strategies for Bloomingdale.
- Explore options for designating Bloomingdale as a historic district. Fig. 4.5 shows existing and potential historic districts and landmarks in Bloomingdale and LeDroit Park.

COMMERCIAL REVITALIZATION, **REDEVELOPMENT**

- Host an event that highlights neighborhood businesses and draws attention to North Capitol as a viable commercial street.
- Pursue an approach to commercial revitalization on North Capitol Street which includes a diverse and robust mix of uses including entrepreneurial production and creative services; day-to-day goods and services; and the expansion of neighborhood dining.
- Support efforts of North Capitol Main Street to provide strategic marketing for neighborhood businesses.
- Pursue a future land use designation change for North Capitol Street, at the intersections of North Capitol Street and New York Avenue and at North Capitol and Florida Avenue, from low density commercial/moderate density residential to moderate/medium density mixed use to encourage mixed-use development and create a thriving neighborhood edge with a welcoming physical environment.
- Infill vacant parcels and redevelop underutilized parcels in Bloomingdale and LeDroit Park.



Fig. 4.5 LeDroit Park and Bloomingdale Historic Resources Locations

Historic Resources

1. LEDROIT PARK HISTORIC DISTRICT

8. CRISPUS ATTUCKS PARK

- 2. MARY CHURCH TERRELL HOUSE 3. DR. IONIA R. WHIPPER RESIDENCE/ OFFICE, 1890
- 4. ANNA JULIA COOPER RESIDENCE, 1900 5. LUCY DIGGS SLOWE HALL, 1943 6. OLD ENGINE HOUSE #12 -
- **BLOOMINGDALE FIREHOUSE, 1897** 7. NATHANIEL PARKER GAGE SCHOOL

9. SAMUEL GOMPERS HOUSE, 1902

16. SAINT MARTIN'S, 1902 & 1939

10. HURD HOUSE, 1905

17. RHODE ISLAND AVENUE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, 1902

12. BARNETT ADEN GALLERY, 1910

15. BLOOMINGDALE LIQUOR STORE

13. BLOOMINGDALE COURT

14. SYLVAN THEATER, 1913

18. MEMORIAL CHURCH OF THE UNITED BRETHREN IN CHRIST, 1903-1904

11. BRYANTT STREET PUMPING STATION, 1904

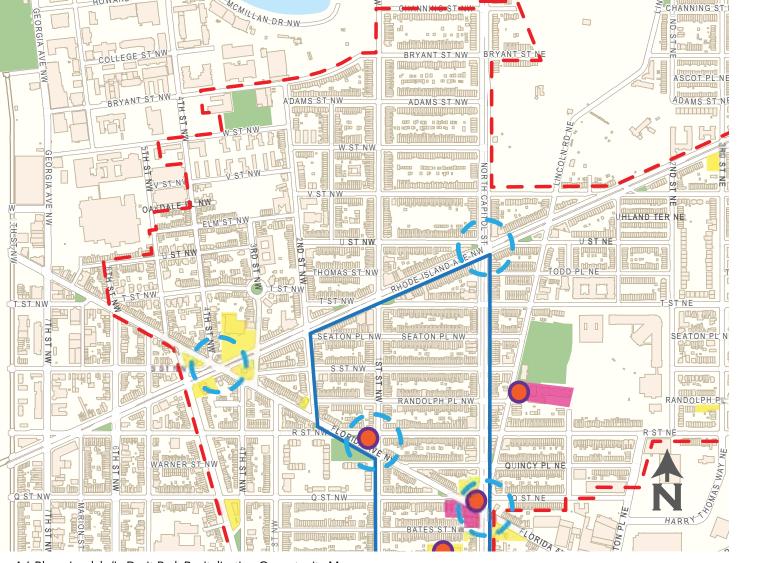


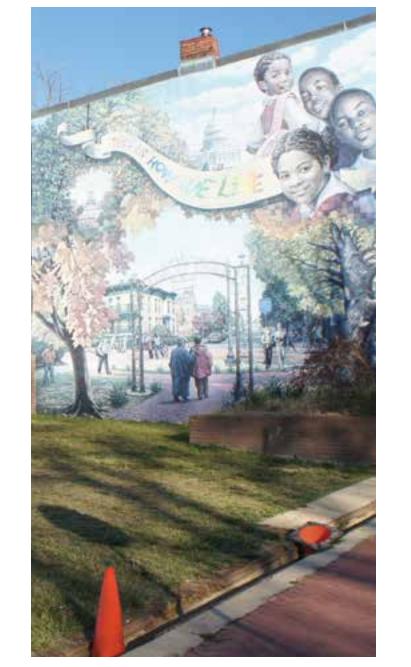
Fig. 4.6 Bloomingdale/LeDroit Park Revitalization Opportunity Map



- Vacant and underutilized properties at the intersection of Florida Avenue and North Capitol Street in Bloomingdale should incorporate ground floor commercial uses with entrances facing North Capitol.
- Include affordable units in future residential development

NEIGHBORHOOD PLACEMAKING AND PUBLIC REALM

- Conduct a comprehensive streetscape and connectivity study for North Captitol Street within Mid City East.
- Maintain existing and plant additional street trees along North Capitol Street and where needed throughout Bloomingdale and LeDroit Park.
- Identify Bloomingdale and LeDroit Park neighborhood groups and civic associations interested in developing strategies for maintaining streetscape and sidewalk cleanliness.
- Identify and restore sidewalks in need of repair in Bloomingdale and LeDroit Park.
- Improve neighborhood alley and pedestrian lighting throughout Bloomingdale and LeDroit Park.
- Engage in a dialogue with MPD to potentially increase police presence at identified problem areas in including parts of North Capitol Street, and the Park at LeDroit.



LeDroit Park neighborhood mural

- Identify locations for the installation of public art within Bloomingdale and LeDroit Park.
- Include public art in any new development or redevelopment to celebrate Bloomingdale and LeDroit Park's identities. See Fig. 4.6.

PARKS, GREEN SPACE

- Howard Playground Create more entries to encourage neighborhood use. Explore opportunities for safe, multi-generational design and programming and adding shade trees.
- Park at LeDroit Improve dog park and add shade trees. Explore opportunities for safe, multi-generational design and programming.
- Triangle parks Improve small triangular parks through local "Friends of..." groups responsible for making enhancements and maintaining features.
- Support a community or privately led Green Deck over North Capitol Street to better connect Bloomingdale and Eckington.

CONNECTIVITY

- DDOT's Livability Study includes recommendations to implement modifications to public streets and sidewalks to improve walkability, safety, and connectivity. These include:
- Florida/North Capitol Street/Q St./

- Lincoln Rd. street and sidewalk modifications and improvements.
- First Street NW Corridor changes at unsignalized intersections including stop sign control and traffic mini-circles.
- 5th Street and R Street NW Install curb ramps at 5th and R Streets to bring intersection crossing up to ADA standard.

The DDOT Livability Study prioritizes the following neighborhood streets within Bloomingdale/LeDroit Park as pedestrian streets in need of traffic calming as a result of high pedestrian activity and adjacency to parks or schools:

- First Street NW
- R Street NW
- T Street NW

See DDOT's Mid City East Livability Study for details.



Neighborhood beautification at First and Q St, NW

STORMWATER MANAGEMENT

Intervention	Specific Location
Curb Extension/Bioretention Planters - One of the better opportunities for adding LID is through the use of curb extension planters located at intersections of neighborhood streets. Since parking is not allowed at intersection corners, curbs can be extended the full width of a parking bay. Many of the intersections on 2nd Street NW and 4th Street NW may be good places depending upon configuration existing. First phase opportunities include:	 6th Street at intersections with U and T Streets NW 5th Street and T Street NW 4th St at intersections with T and U Streets and Florida Avenue NV 2nd St at intersection at W, V, T, S and Randolph Place First Street at intersection with Channing, W, V, and U Streets, Randolph Place, and R Street NW North Capitol Street intersections with Channing, Bryant, W, and Seaton Streets, Randolph Place, and Quincy Street.
Tree Box Bioretention Planters - Streets with wide enough sidewalks and lack mature trees may be good candidates for tree box planters. U Street NW, Seaton Place NW, Randolph Place NW, and First Street NW	U Street NWSeaton Place, NW
Permeable Paving - Permeable paving is most appropriate in alleyways throughout this neighborhood. Alleys are most appropriate where existing alleys are in poor condition and utility lines are far enough below grade to accommodate a reservoir layer. Because many of LeDroit Park's alleys are brick alleys in relatively good condition, we have not recommended placing those. First phase opportunities include:	 Alleys defined by First, 2nd, Seaton, and S Streets NW Alleys defined by First, 2nd Streets, Randolph Place, and R Street NW Alley defined by North Capitol and T Streets, and Rhode Island Avenue NW Alley defined by Flagler, V, First, and U Streets NW. Sidewalks along Rhode Island Avenue from Florida Avenue to 3rd Street Sidewalk inside of park area R Street from First Street to Florida Avenue.
Impervious Surface Removal - Several intersections along North Capitol Street as well as Florida Avenue NW offer places where removing concrete in front of private businesses or homes may be a good alternative. First phase opportunities include:	 2nd Street and Florida Avenue, NW corner Randolph Place and North Capitol Street, NW & SW corners First Street and Rhode Island Avenue, SW corner Bryant and North Capitol Streets, SW corner First and U Streets, SW corner
Rain Gardens - Very few opportunities for rain gardens exist. Crispus Attucks Park may be one possible location. Another may be the Elm Street entrance of the Park at LeDroit. First phase opportunities include:	 Northwest corner of 2nd and W Streets NW. Crispus Attucks Park Entrance at Park at LeDroit
Tree Infill - Any places identified as places for tree box planters may also qualify for conventional street tree plantings.	



Bicycle Art installation at Rhode Island Avenue and First Street, NE



Alleyway at Bryant St., NW

* Source: DDOT's Livability Study

Eckington

Eckington has been a unique neighborhood from its beginnings as land which was the country home of Joseph Gales, Jr., owner of the National Intelligencer newspaper and Mayor of Washington, DC from 1827 to 1830. This neighborhood is roughly bounded by North Capitol Street to the west, Glenwood, Prospect Hill and St. Mary's cemeteries to the north, railroad tracks and the Metropolitan Branch Trail to the east, and Florida Avenue to the south.

This hilly and eclectic neighborhood consists of a variety of housing types including row houses, single family homes, duplexes and low rise multifamily buildings, as well as some small businesses and corner stores. It is also home to a number of institutions, the largest of which is the McKinley



Techology High School, the Harry Thomas Sr.
Recreation Center, and a cluster of industrial or
PDR (production, distribution and repair) businesses
along the railroad tracks which coexist with the
adjacent residential neighborhood.

There is an unmistakable sense of community and pride in Eckington, but also a concern that there is not an identifiable "place" that defines the neighborhood. Among community members other concerns are the lack of accessible, informal green space, the lack of a dog park, and safety issues with the Metropolitan Branch Trail. They also expressed concerns about sidewalk widths and maintenance along North Capitol Street, Rhode Island Avenue and along some internal neighborhood streets. Residents described issues with pedestrian and bicycle connectivity to other neighborhoods across North Capitol Street, and walkability to the Rhode Island Avenue and New York Avenue Metro stations.



Eckington Rowhouses

ECKINGTON NEIGHBORHOOD PROFILE



\$489,000 Average Home

Average Home
Sales Price

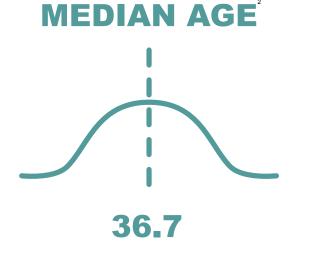


GENDER¹

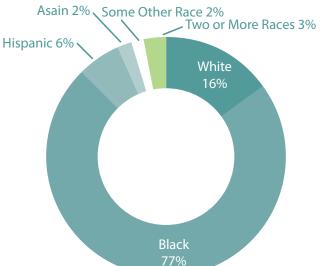


Male 49.1%

Female 50.9%







1 - Source: DC OTR, Real Property Sales Database

2 - Source: ESRI Business Analyst