

A RESOLUTION

22-544

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

June 26, 2018

To declare the existence of an emergency with respect to the need to prohibit buses from operating or parking on certain streets near Southwest Waterfront Park.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the “Southwest Waterfront Park Bus Prohibition Emergency Declaration Resolution of 2018”.

Sec. 2. (a) On October 12, 2017, the first phase of a major redevelopment project (“the Wharf”) opened on the Southwest waterfront. The second phase of the construction will continue for several more years.

(b) The Wharf includes a 6,000-person music venue, dozens of restaurants, hundreds of new residential units, a vibrant cruise boat and tour operation, and hundreds of thousands of square feet of office space, drawing thousands of new residents, workers, and tourists to the Southwest waterfront every day—in addition to the construction workers and vehicles coming in and out of the neighborhood during the second phase of the construction.

(c) The developers of the Wharf expect millions of visitors annually, many of whom will arrive by bus. In addition, the Museum of the Bible opened just north of the Wharf in November 2017, and the International Spy Museum is scheduled to open this fall, both of which bring additional bus traffic to the neighborhood.

(d) The neighborhoods most impacted by this additional traffic are bordered by the Washington Channel on one side and freeways on other sides, leaving few surface streets for local residents entering and leaving the area. Despite the best efforts of the public and private sector, there will inevitably be additional traffic for these residents to deal with.

(e) Southwest Waterfront Park was built as an amenity for neighborhood residents and a quiet public space amid a bustling new development, without intrusion by cars and buses.

(f) The Southwest Waterfront Park Bus Prohibition Temporary Act of 2017, which is currently in effect, expires on September 9, 2018. Absent this emergency legislation, additional bus traffic in the neighborhood will exacerbate already heavy traffic on Maine Avenue, S.W., and disrupt enjoyment of Southwest Waterfront Park.

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Sec. 3. The Council of the District of Columbia determines that the circumstances enumerated in section 2 constitute emergency circumstances making it necessary that the Southwest Waterfront Park Bus Prohibition Emergency Act of 2018 be adopted after a single reading.

Sec. 4. This resolution shall take effect immediately.