



GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2B

November 17, 2015

Matthew Marcou, Chair
Public Space Committee
District Department of Transportation
Public Space Permit Branch
1100 4th Street, SW, Third Floor
Washington, DC 20004

RE: Request by Claudia's Steakhouse at 1501 K Street NW for a Valet Parking Permit

Dear Chair Marcou:

At its regular meeting on November 10, 2015, the Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission ("ANC 2B" or "Commission") considered the above-referenced matter. With 8 of 9 Commissioners in attendance, a quorum at a duly-noticed public meeting, the Commission approved the following resolution by a vote of (8-0-0):

Whereas, Claudia's Steakhouse at 1501 K St NW has applied for a valet parking permit for spaces on 15th St NW;

Whereas, Claudia's Steakhouse applied for a permit after operating valet services without a permit;

Whereas, Claudia's Steakhouse has a public space permit which mandates no furnishings beyond the approved 6-foot perimeter of the cafe and no advertising in public space;

Whereas, on September 20, 2015 Claudia's Steakhouse was observed to be staging vehicles in the 15th St cycle track, without regard to the safety of cyclists;

Whereas, on several occasions since their opening Claudia's Steakhouse has been observed to be in violation of their public space permit, including by placing stanchions in the bike lanes, extending their sidewalk café to the length of their storefront, and placing stanchions in the sidewalk such that only two or three feet of space is available for pedestrian passage (see attachment);

Whereas, on two occasions Commissioner Smith has entered Claudia's Steakhouse to request that non-compliant stanchions be removed from public space, he was told 'no' by the manager on duty;

Whereas, the request for valet parking staging is for a corner adjacent to a cycle track that would unnecessarily put pedestrians, vehicles, cyclists and valet operators at risk of dangerous interactions; and

Whereas, Advisory Neighborhood Commissions rely on strong relationships with businesses to ensure a high quality-of-life for residents and that access to public space and valet permits are not rights owed to businesses.

Therefore, be it RESOLVED that ANC 2B OPPOSES this request for a valet parking permit for Claudia's Steakhouse on the grounds that the proposed valet staging area is unsafe and creates conflicts between vehicle, bike and pedestrian traffic.

Be it FURTHER RESOLVED that Claudia's Steakhouse has demonstrated repeated disregard for the neighborhood they operate in, as evidence by their violation of the conditions of their public space permit, which undermines public trust, public space and public safety.

Commissioners Abigail Nichols (abigail.nichols@dupontcircleanc.net) and Noah Smith (noah.smith@dupontcircleanc.net) are the Commission's representatives in this matter.

ON BEHALF OF THE COMMISSION.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Noah Smith". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "N".

Noah Smith
Chairman

Enclosures

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