

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2B

November 15, 2020

Mr. Matthew Marcou Chair, Public Space Committee District Department of Transportation 1100 4th Street SW, Third Floor Washington, DC 20004 PublicSpace.Committee@dc.gov

RE: Public Space Application by Swahili Village / The Consulate for a New, Un-Enclosed Sidewalk Café at 1990 M Street NW (DDOT #10817734)

Dear Chair Marcou:

At its regular meeting on November 12, 2020, the Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission ("ANC 2B" or "Commission") considered the above-referenced matter. With 8 of 8 Commissioners in attendance, a quorum at a duly-noticed public meeting, the Commission approved the following resolution by a vote of (7-1-0):

WHEREAS, ANC 2B supports the concept of streateries to help existing restaurants and other licensed establishments to survive the economic challenges of the COVID-19 public health emergency,

WHEREAS, ANC 2B supports allowing these establishments to use sidewalk and street public space for outdoor dining at a time when indoor space is limited by public health concerns,

WHEREAS, ANC 2B has advocated for allowing streateries to continue to operate on a temporary basis until restaurants are once again able to utilize 100% of their indoor space capacity,

WHEREAS, Swahili Village / The Consulate, located at 1990 M Street NW, shares a busy pedestrian block with the Honduran Consulate next door, a McDonald's several doors down, and other establishments, and

WHEREAS, ANC 2B is concerned that the proposed sidewalk café does not provide ten feet of sidewalk width for pedestrian passage.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2B opposes the application for a permanent sidewalk café at this time.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2B supports a temporary streatery that would involve using one lane of M Street NW currently used for on-street parking as part of a streatery configuration that would also provide adequate pedestrian passageway and the ANC will work with the licensee and the Public Space Committee to agree on specific dimensions and materials.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2B believes that working to reach an agreement on the configuration of this temporary streatery should be of the highest priority.

BE IF FURTHER RESOLVED that once the configuration of the temporary streatery is agreed to, ANC 2B will offer to work with the applicant on configuration of a permanent sidewalk cafe that could take the place of the streatery once the establishment is permitted to operate indoors at 100% capacity once again.

Commissioners Mike Silverstein (<u>2B06@anc.dc.gov</u>) and Daniel Warwick (<u>2B02@anc.dc.gov</u>) are the Commission's representatives in this matter.

ON BEHALF OF THE COMMISSION.

James Warnick

Sincerely,

Daniel Warwick

Chair