

A RESOLUTION

23-342

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

February 4, 2020

To declare the sense of the Council in support of the Federal City Council's Langston Initiative to improve the quality and function of the 3 federally owned golf courses in the District of Columbia.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the "Sense of the Council in Support of the Langston Initiative Resolution of 2020".

Sec. 2. The Council finds that:

(1) The National Park Service is the custodian of Langston Golf Course, Rock Creek Park Golf Course, and the East Potomac Park Golf Course. Each of these golf courses, which are listed in the National Register of Historic Places, need investments in their infrastructures.

(2) The Langston Golf Course is a historic 18-hole course, which opened on June 9, 1939, named after John Mercer Langston, the first African American elected into public office and the first dean of the Howard University Law School. Since its desegregation in 1941, Langston Golf Course has been a celebrated beacon of African American golf heritage and a place for all residents of the District to learn and enjoy golfing.

(3) The National Park Service has issued a request for proposals for a long-term lease to manage and maintain the 3 golf courses.

(4) The Federal City Council created Langston Initiative Partners, an independent 501(c)(3) corporation, to oversee its efforts to secure a competitive lease for the 3 golf courses from the National Park Service. The Federal City Council chose to brand this effort as the "Langston Initiative" to honor the legacy of the Langston Golf Course and to demonstrate its commitment to connecting the courses to their communities.

(5) The Langston Initiative has indicated that if awarded the long-term lease to manage and maintain the 3 golf courses, it would provide the necessary physical and operational improvements needed to promote greater use and enjoyment of the 3 golf courses by residents and visitors, enhance environmental stewardship on the properties, and preserve the relative affordability of the 3 public courses with scaled greens fees.

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(6) The Langston Initiative has engaged with the community on its proposal for improving the 3 golf courses and indicated that the investment in this project would include community benefits, such as providing residents of the District with job training and employment opportunities and limiting environmental impacts to the Anacostia River.

Sec. 3. It is the sense of the Council that the Langston Initiative is uniquely positioned to make the physical and operational improvements to the 3 federally owned golf courses in a way that ensures that local residents have access to the wide range of programming and amenities that will be offered by the golf courses.

Sec. 4. The Council shall transmit a copy of this resolution, upon its adoption, to the President of the United States, the United States House of Representatives, the United States Senate, and Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton.

Sec.5. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon the first date of publication in the District of Columbia Register.