

A RESOLUTION

23-516

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

September 22, 2020

To declare the existence of an emergency with respect to the need to clarify the authority of the Mayor to enter into an agreement with a Business Improvement District corporation for the maintenance and improvement of public space during a public health emergency and for 30 days thereafter.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the “Public Space Maintenance Emergency Declaration Resolution of 2020”.

Sec. 2. (a) On March 11, 2020, the Mayor of the District of Columbia issued Mayor’s Orders 2020-045 and 2020-046, declaring a public emergency and a public health emergency in the District due to the imminent threat to the health, safety, and welfare of District residents posed by the spread of COVID-19, and has issued several extensions of such emergencies as authorized under the law.

(b) A critical component of reopening the District during the pandemic has been utilizing outdoor public space for various activities to allow for social distancing.

(c) Temporary or permanent modifications throughout the District are necessary to accommodate such activities in public space.

(d) In areas of the District covered by a Business Improvement District, some of this work can be done more efficiently by the District reimbursing a Business Improvement District (“BID”) corporation for the work rather than the District contracting for the work.

(e) The proposed legislation would expand the existing authority to partner with BID corporations by raising the cap from \$250,000 to \$800,000 annually and would clarify that the work to be done in public space is not limited to sidewalks and signage.

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 Public Space Maintenance Emergency Act of 2020 be adopted after a single reading.

Sec. 4. This resolution shall take effect immediately.