GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

District Department of Transportation



Public Hearing on

Proposed Resolution 25-500, Transfer of Jurisdiction of Lots 287 and 998 in Square 5865, Part of Lots 981 and 982 in Square 5865, Part of Parcel 240/6, Part of Parcel 234/41, and a Portion of Reservation 421, S.O. 14-20429, Approval Resolution of 2023

Bill 25-568, Dedication of Lot 841 in Square 5755 for Alley Purposes, S.O. 22-01599 Act of 2023

Bill 25-614, Closing of a Public Alley in Square 5051, S.O. 21-00136, Act of 2023 **Bill 25-636**, Closing of a Public Alley in Square 3701, S.O. 23-06220, Act of 2023

Testimony of
Brant Miller
Manager, Policy and Legislative Affairs Division
District Department of Transportation

Before the Committee of the Whole Council of the District of Columbia

Wednesday, March 20, 2024 2:30 p.m. John A. Wilson Building 1350 Pennsylvania Avenue NW Washington, D.C. 20004



Good afternoon Chairman Mendelson, members of the Council, staff, and District residents. My name is Brant Miller, and I am the Manager of the Policy and Legislative Affairs Division at the District Department of Transportation, commonly referred to as DDOT. I am here today to present testimony on behalf of Mayor Muriel Bowser and DDOT Acting Director Sharon Kershbaum regarding the following bills:

- Proposed Resolution 25-500, the "Transfer of Jurisdiction of Lots 287 and 998 in Square 5865, Part of Lots 981 and 982 in Square 5865, Part of Parcel 240/6, Part of Parcel 234/41, and a Portion of Reservation 421, S.O. 14-20429, Approval Resolution of 2023"
- Bill 25-568, the "Dedication of Lot 841 in Square 5755 for Alley Purposes,
 S.O. 22-01599 Act of 2023"
- Bill 25-614, the "Closing of a Public Alley in Square 5051, S.O. 21-00136,
 Act of 2023," and
- Bill 25-636, the "Closing of a Public Alley in Square 3701, S.O. 23-06220,
 Act of 2023."

The stated purpose of Proposed Resolution 25-500 is to approve the transfer of jurisdiction of Lots 287 and 998 in Square 5865, part of Lots 981 and 982 in Square 5865, part of Parcel 240/6, part of Parcel 234/41, and a portion of Reservation 421 from the United States to the District. This resolution will approve the transfer of jurisdiction of certain real property adjacent to and near the

Anacostia Freeway from the U.S. General Services Administration and the U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service to the District of Columbia. This transfer of jurisdiction is necessary for the completion of the substantial improvements to the I-295/Malcolm X Avenue, SE interchange related to the relocation of the Department of Homeland Security to the St. Elizabeths Campus. We ask that the Council pass this legislation without delay so that this project can be completed.

The stated purpose of Bill 25-568 is to dedicate Lot 841 in Square 5755 for alley purposes in Southeast Washington, D.C. in Ward 8. We look forward to Council approving the recordation of the new plat with the proposed 4-foot dedication with the following conditions, as outlined in the bill:

- The Applicant applies for and obtains a public space permit for the construction of the Public Space Improvements on the Expanded Alley as one project;
- The Applicant enters into a project specific Mitigation Agreement with DDOT for the payment of the design review and inspection costs for the Public Space Improvements;
- Prior to obtaining building permits for the Adjacent Lots, the Applicant must post a bond for the cost of construction of the Public Space Improvements, and;

DDOT has confirmed that the Public Space Improvements on the Expanded
 Alley have been constructed to DDOT standards and specifications and in
 accordance with the public space permit, all statutory warranties have been
 provided, and DDOT has agreed to accept the improvements into the DDOT
 portfolio.

The stated purpose of Bill 25-614 is to close the public alley stub in Square 5051 in Northeast, in Ward 7 adjacent to Dix Street. As outlined in the Surveyor's Order report filed by DDOT with the DC Surveyor on May 21, 2021, the agency objects to the requested alley closure until the Applicant receives approval from the Urban Forestry Division (UFD) for either a tree preservation plan or tree removal permits for the trees located on adjacent properties that will be impacted by the development.

The stated purpose of Bill 25-636 is to order the closing of a 10-foot wide unimproved public alley in Square 3701 abutting Lots 85 and 88 in Northeast Washington, D.C. in Ward 5. As outlined in the Surveyor's Order report filed by DDOT with the DC Surveyor on February 21, 2024, the agency objects to the alley closure as currently proposed and recommends that the closure plat not be recorded until all the following conditions are met:

• The Applicant revises the site plan to include a DDOT compliant site access that utilizes the existing paper alley network to the west or south of the project and secures required public space permits;

- The Applicant revises the site plan to ensure consistency between the proposed development and the Metropolitan Branch Trail (MBT) project, evaluates and mitigates any vehicular turn movements across the MBT to minimize conflicts, and sets the ground floor of the building back from the curb at the intersection of Riggs Road NE and First Place NE to provide a minimum 10-foot shared-use path measured from the top of the adjacent curb ramp, and;
- The Applicant demonstrates that they have received approval for a Tree
 Preservation Plan or tree removal permits for the proposed development.
 This concludes my testimony. Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to testify before you today. I am available to answer any questions that you may have.