

Council of the District of Columbia
OFFICE OF COUNCILMEMBER BRIANNE K. NADEAU
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20004

TO: Chairman Phil Mendelson

FROM: Councilmember Brianne K. Nadeau

RE: Request to Place Emergency Measures on the Agenda for the July 21st, 2020 Legislative Meeting

DATE: July 16, 2020

I am requesting that the following measures be agendized for the July 21st, 2020, Legislative Meeting:

- Park Morton Modified Build-First Site Emergency Declaration Resolution of 2020
- Park Morton Modified Build-First Site Emergency Act of 2020
- Park Morton Modified Build-First Site Temporary Act of 2020

These measures would close a portion of Morton Street, N.W., adjacent to Squares 3039 and 3040, and portions of the public alley system adjacent to Square 3039 in Ward 1; accept the dedication and designation of 6th Street, N.W., Luray Place, N.W., and an extension of Morton Street, N.W., adjacent to Squares 3039, 3040, and 3043, for public street purposes, and accept the dedication of land adjacent to Square 3039 for public alley purposes in Ward 1.

These measures are necessary to advance construction of replacement public housing for the residents of the Park Morton DCHA property in Ward 1. A permanent bill was introduced by Councilmember Nadeau on June 12, 2020. The Park Morton redevelopment has been in progress since the first community planning in 2007, and the Council has committed to the project's goals of one-for-one replacement of public housing and the prevention of resident displacement through the use of "build-first" sites.

In June 2020, the D.C. Court of Appeals remanded Zoning Commission Order ZC-16-11 on the Bruce Monroe site. This has created an additional delay for the project and for Park Morton residents still waiting for new units. The Court's decision did not affect Order ZC-16-12, which applies to the construction enabled by the alley closing in question.

Due to conditions at the Park Morton site that did not exist prior to the appeal, there is currently an opportunity to begin construction of a building that was to be part of Phase 2 of the development for use as a modified build-first site.

The Council has approved numerous measures and budgets endorsing this project, including the original redevelopment plan in 2008 and land dispositions in 2016 and 2018.

A draft copy of the measures are attached. Please contact David Meni, Research Analyst, at dmeni@dccouncil.us or (202) 724-8101 if you have any questions.

cc: Members, Council of the District of Columbia
Office of the Secretary
Office of the General Counsel
Office of the Budget Director