## **MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Chairman Phil Mendelson

**FROM:** Councilmember Christina Henderson

**RE:** Request to Agendize Measures for the July 11, 2023 Legislative Meeting

**DATE:** July 6, 2023

I request that you place the following measures on the agenda for the July 11, 2023 Legislative Meeting:

## **Emergency and Temporary Legislation**

- Automated Traffic Enforcement Worksheet Public Accessibility Emergency Declaration Resolution of 2023
- Automated Traffic Enforcement Worksheet Public Accessibility Emergency Amendment Act of 2023
- Automated Traffic Enforcement Worksheet Public Accessibility Temporary Amendment Act of 2023

These measures would require the District Department of Transportation to make unedited copies of all completed automated traffic enforcement (ATE) assessment worksheets available on its website for the public to access and view. DDOT would be required to publish all assessment sheets that it has written, even for those locations assessed for an ATE camera and where an ATE camera was not installed. The Council allocated funding in Fiscal Years 2023 and 2024 to expand the ATE program throughout the city, and it is crucial that the public understand the assessment process that precedes an ATE camera's installation. DDOT's ATE placement process is meticulous and informed by data, and the information contained in the worksheets comprehensively demonstrates the need for preventative measures that impact drivers' behavior on District roads.

- School Student Vaccination Emergency Declaration Resolution of 2023
- School Student Vaccination Emergency Amendment Act of 2023
- School Student Vaccination Temporary Amendment Act of 2023

This legislation would repeal the requirement that students receive the COVID-19 vaccine as a condition of attending school in the District. In response to learning of the implementation challenges of No Shots No School, on October 27th, 2022, the Council introduced temporary legislation to push back the COVID-19 vaccine requirement to School Year 2023-2024. While the current temporary legislation is set to expire on October 6th, 2023, the temporary is drafted to require that students receive COVID-19 vaccinations by the start of SY 2023-2024, or face exclusion. Currently, no other state in the country has mandated a COVID-19 vaccine to attend school. Additionally, given the end of the public health emergency and the detrimental impacts of students not attending school, it is necessary to implement this legislation and clarify the process for schools and students prior to the beginning of the school year. The Committee of the Whole has held a hearing on a permanent repeal of the COVID-19 vaccination requirement for

students and is planning to mark it up, however, the permanent would not be effective before the start of SY23-24.

- Middle School Career Exploration Pilot Emergency Declaration Resolution of 2023
- Middle School Career Exploration Pilot Emergency Amendment Act of 2023
- Middle School Career Exploration Pilot Temporary Amendment Act of 2023

This legislation would require the Department of Employment Services (DOES) to create a summer pilot program for youth ages 9-13 that provides them with occupational skills, academic enrichment, life skills, career exploration, work readiness, or youth development trainings. Youth may receive an incentive for participating in the program, and DOES would be required to submit a report to the Council upon the conclusion of the program. The legislation would also allow DOES to create a year-round version of this pilot. DOES currently offers the Middle School Exploration program to middle schoolers, but the program as currently instituted has only 3 providers and a total of 225 spots, and participants are neither compensated nor incentivized. Given that there are approximately 17,000 middle school students enrolled in both DCPS and Charter schools in the District, a pilot program is necessary to assess the impact of the program and the demand for a potential year-round expansion. The District's summer programming opportunities are robust, but not all students can or do participate in programming because there is a gap in summer opportunities for middle-school aged youth. Middle schoolers may feel that they are too old for DPR programming, but they are not old enough for the Summer Youth Employment Program. Middle school is a critical time for children's exploration of and exposure to opportunities in their broader community, and it is when youth typically first begin developing skills so that they can eventually earn money. It is critical that youth in this age group have a broad array of hands-on experiences and opportunities to develop new and existing skills during the summer and beyond. This legislation will help lay the foundation for the opportunities necessary to create positive long-term employment outcomes and help middle school youth in the District in the summer of 2023, as this emergency legislation's effective date of June 1, 2023 means that DOES can fully implement the pilot program immediately while the permanent bill is considered by the Council.