

A RESOLUTION

**Proposed
Resolution
20-1032**

**See Emergency
D.C. Act 20-445
20 DCStat 4169**

**Georgia
Avenue Great
Streets
Neighborhood
Retail Priority
Area
Emergency
Declaration
Resolution of
2014**

To declare the existence of an emergency with respect to the need to clarify the boundaries of the Georgia Avenue Priority Area.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the “Georgia Avenue Great Streets Neighborhood Retail Priority Area Emergency Declaration Resolution of 2014”.

Sec. 2. (a) In November, 2009, at the request of the 14th Street Block group, Councilmember Bowser, joined by former Mayor Adrian Fenty, community stakeholders, and District government agencies, participated in a walk-thru along the 14th Street, N.W., corridor from Spring Road to Longfellow Street to begin a strategy for improvements along this section of Ward 4.

(b) The community identified a number of safety improvements needed, including lights, crosswalks, intersections, and stop signs, as well as improvements needed for business façades, vacant properties, new businesses, transportation, and residential properties.

(c) The District’s Office of Planning, including Gizachew Andargeh, Malaika Abernathy, and Tarek Bolden, led a small area planning process with a variety of stakeholders including Advisory Neighborhood Commissioners and civic leaders, property owners, business tenants, residents, and District government agencies to determine how best to revitalize the corridor over the next 5-10 years.

(d) The community engagement process was extensive; over 50 public meetings were held.

(e) The following were active participants and key to the development of the Central 14th Street Vision Plan and Revitalization Strategy Plan: Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4C and 4A; the 14th Street Block Group; representatives from the 16th Street Heights Civic Association; the Brightwood Community Association; Friends of 16th Street Heights Parks; the Crestwood Civic Association; and key involvement from business representatives including members of the 14th Street Uptown Business Association.

(f) This 2.5-year process resulted in a plan that provides guidance on land use, zoning, urban design, and connectivity and is intended to direct economic growth along 14th Street, N.W., by improving neighborhood retail choices and amenities; specifically targeting 3 very distinct commercial nodes.

(g) On October 22, 2012, the Council held a public hearing, and on November 15, 2012, the plan was approved.

(h) To help implement the plan, the Council approved an expansion of the Georgia Avenue Retail Priority Area to include 2 of the 3 distinct commercial nodes, but the legislation inadvertently excluded the 3rd node.

(i) Emergency legislation is necessary to include the 3rd commercial node within the Georgia Avenue Priority Area thus making businesses in this node eligible for Great Streets Small Business Capital Improvement Grants.

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 Georgia Avenue Great Streets Neighborhood Retail Priority Area Emergency Amendment Act of 2014 be adopted after a single reading.

Sec. 4. This resolution shall take effect immediately.