February 1, 2018

Director Christopher Rodriguez
D.C. Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency
2720 Martin Luther King, Jr. Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20032
(202) 727-6161

Dear Director Rodriguez:

Historically, U Street has been one of the most vibrant and exciting areas for residents and guests to gather and celebrate national, local and personal events. The Funk Parade and Festival is an event that will again welcome all Washingtonians, friends and visitors to celebrate the culture, music and arts unique to the U Street community, and to enjoy our many local restaurants and retailers.

The neighborhoods of ANC 1B have more to celebrate than ever and we invite the city to join us. We are one of the most creative, thriving, diverse and growing areas in Washington. There is more live music per city block than any other neighborhood in Washington. There are award-winning restaurants, Grammy-winning musical artists, groundbreaking charter schools, a world-class YMCA, the refurbished and active Howard and Lincoln Theaters, Historic Georgia Avenue, LeDroit Park, and of course Ben’s Chili Bowl. U Street and the neighborhoods of ANC 1B are a great place to celebrate and honor the many talents and gifts its residents bring.

ANC 1B celebrates the growing success and popularity of the Funk Parade, and welcomes its many attendees and performers to the U Street Corridor every year. Though the event brings increased foot traffic to U Street, there are almost no restrictions on vehicle traffic through the corridor outside of the parade hours. We believe that further street closures during the Funk Festival would improve public safety for this event, and be in keeping with the city’s Vision Zero initiative.

ANC 1B, at its regularly scheduled, publically noticed February 1, 2018 public meeting, with a quorum of 11 of 12 present, voted unanimously in support of the U Street Funk Festival to take place on Saturday May 12, 2018. The organizers are to work with the ANC 1B Economic Development Committee on promoting local businesses and with the Transportation Committee to ensure public space is properly utilized and proper amenities are provided for the participants.

ON BEHALF OF THE COMMISSION.

Regards,

[Signature]
Mr. James A. Turner
Chairman, Commissioner 1B09

[Signature]
Mr. Jon Squicciarini
Secretary, Commissioner 1B04

c: The Honorable Brianne Nadeau, Councilmember Ward One

Mr. Matthew Marcou, Associate Director, Public Space Regulation Administration

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