



Friday, September 11, 2020

Phase 3 Update

As the weather begins to change, and District decision-makers begin to look at when to enter into Phase 3 of reopening, HAWDC understands your concerns about the impact to your operations. HAWDC continues to work with District government officials to relay your concerns and seek necessary relief.

While it is still unclear as to when the District will enter into Phase 3, HAWDC wanted to provide members with some updates in the legislative and regulatory area. Earlier this week, the Director of the Department of Health said that the key metrics, as well as levels of community spread, that are required to enter into Phase 3 have yet to be met. If the community spread numbers can be lowered, it is likely that we can enter into Phase 3 in the next couple months.

Lost Wages Assistance Program

Mayor Bowser announced the District will participate in the Lost Wages Assistance Program, created in response to the expiration of Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation's \$600 weekly benefit in July. The Lost Wages Assistance Program will provide an additional \$300 in weekly unemployment benefits. To qualify for these extra benefits, individuals must prove that they are already collecting at least \$100 from a verified unemployment compensation program and show that they are unemployed or partially unemployed due to the pandemic. Those who qualify will receive an additional \$300 per week through the program. The District government expects that individuals will start receiving

payments by the first week of October. They will also receive retroactive payments, which may go back to August 1st, if they qualify.

Emergency Order

The Mayor's Emergency Order is currently set to expire on October 9th. However, it is very likely that it will be extended. The District Council must grant her the authority to extend the emergency order. The Council returns from its recess next week, and will hold a Legislative meeting on September 22nd, at which time they may grant her the authority to extend the order.

7th Street Car Free Lanes Project

The District Department of Transportation ("DDOT") is launching a car free lanes project on 7th Street NW. The 7th Street Car Free Lanes Project will be restricted to buses, trucks, and bicycles 24 hours a day on 7th Street NW between Massachusetts Avenue NW and Pennsylvania Avenue NW, and on G Street NW between 7th Street NW and 8th Street NW. Car Free Lanes will be designated by red paint and white bicycle shared lane markings to designate their use.

Sidewalks will be expanded to allow for social distancing for pedestrians. Designated pick-up / drop-off and commercial loading zones will be installed on the cross streets to accommodate passenger and commercial loading. The sidewalk extensions will be separated from the Car Free Lanes with flexible posts, wheel stops, or planters. Buses will continue to service all existing stops. Click [here](#) for additional information regarding the project.

Regards,
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