



**2017
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August 8, 2017

Chairman Donovan Anderson
Alcoholic Beverage Control Board
Reeves Center
2000 14th Street NW
Washington, DC 20009

RE: Resolution to Extend the East Dupont Circle Liquor Moratorium

At its regular meeting on July 17, 2017, the Board of Directors of the Dupont Circle Citizens Association (DCCA) considered the East Dupont Liquor Moratorium (the Moratorium), which is currently due to expire in September, 2017. With 8 of 11 Board members present, the Board voted 7 to 1 to request the extension of the Moratorium for another 3 to 5 years.

In 2014, the Moratorium was extended for 3 years. At that time, the cap on restaurants, multipurpose facilities and off-premises retailers was lifted, and the Moratorium continued to:

- Cap taverns at two (2) licenses;
- Prohibit the licensing of any nightclubs, or transfer of any nightclub licenses into the zone; and
- Exempt hotels from the restrictions (Currently, there are no hotels in the Moratorium zone.)

DCCA finds the Moratorium has been an effective tool over the duration of its existence to preserve neighborhood-serving retail and service diversity in the Moratorium Zone. Furthermore, the Moratorium has helped protect a measure of peace, order, and quiet in this neighborhood, which is mixed commercial and residential zoning, in an historic area, on a street with mostly low-rise buildings.

The Moratorium extends approximately 600 feet in all directions from the intersection of 17th and Q Streets, NW. This is quite a small area. Commercially zoned buildings are located on just two blocks, between P Street and R Street. They extend east less than half a block on P, Q, and R Streets, and west less than half a block on R Street only. Overconcentration is a real risk in such a small area but residents find that restaurants generally are desirable, provided settlement agreements curtail use of outdoor space according to ANC guidelines. This has worked well. Only taverns and bars present any difficulties.

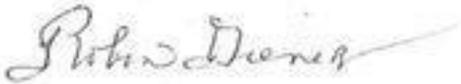
In its decision, the ABC Board continued the cap on taverns and nightclubs, and set forth the ANC reasoning it adopted:

Commissioner Stephens explained that the rationale for retaining the restrictions on CT/DT and CN/DN licenses is due to the issues of peace, order and quiet that remain an ongoing concern for the neighborhood. Thus, the cap on restaurants was lifted to allow for continued growth of a vibrant and active neighborhood, without risking public safety that sometimes accompanies taverns and nightclubs.

DCCA finds nothing has changed in the Dupont East Moratorium area that would obviate the need for continued restrictions on taverns and nightclubs. We note that the Dupont West Moratorium also retained its cap on taverns and nightclubs when last revised, while removing the cap on restaurants.

DCCA urges the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board to extend the Dupont East Moratorium under these same conditions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Robin Diener", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Robin Diener
President, 2017 - 2018