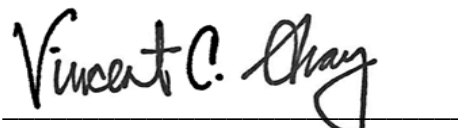




Councilmember Charles Allen



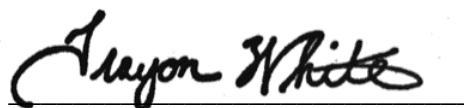
Councilmember Brianne K. Nadeau



Councilmember Vincent C. Gray



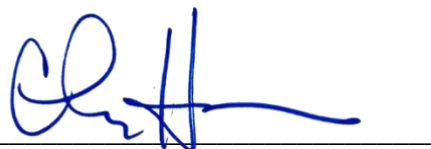
Councilmember Janeese Lewis George



Councilmember Trayon White, Sr.



Councilmember Robert C. White, Jr.



Councilmember Christina Henderson



Councilmember Zachary Parker

A BILL

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

1 To amend the Block Party Act of 2012 to establish Halloween safety streets for the purposes of
2 improving pedestrian safety, and to ensure that applications for Halloween safety streets
3 are approved expeditiously by the District Department of Transportation.
4

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this act may
6 be cited as the “Trick-or-Streets Amendment Act of 2023”.

7 Sec. 2. The Block Party Act of 2012, effective August 24, 2012 (D.C. Law 19-190; D.C. Official
8 Code § 9-631 *et seq.*) is amended as follows:

9 Section 2 (D.C. Official Code § 9-631) is amended by adding a new paragraph (3) to read
10 as follows:

11 “(3) “Halloween safety street” means one or more blocks of a local street closed to
12 vehicle traffic for the purposes of providing safe travel for pedestrians during Halloween and for
13 which there is no admission or entrance fee.

14 Section 3 (D.C. Official Code § 9-632) is amended by adding a new section 3a to read as follows

15 “3a. Halloween safety streets

16 “(a) A District resident, 21 years or older, may submit an application and request a street
17 closing for the purpose of allowing the safe travel of children and families during Halloween. A
18 Halloween Safety Street shall:

19 “(1) Only be permitted on October 31 of any given year;

20 “(2) Only be on a street classified by the Department as a local road;

21 “(3) Not last longer than 12 hours; and

22 “(4) Be permitted to last until 11 p.m.

23 “(b) All activity for a Halloween Safety Street shall conclude by 11 p.m.

24 “(c) Residents of a block or blocks of a permitted Halloween safety street shall be
25 permitted to use the following means to enforce a closure of the permitted street to vehicle
26 traffic:

27 “(1) Signage and temporary barriers consistent with the “D.C. Temporary Traffic
28 Control Manual”, published July 2006, or any successor document; or

29 “(2) Private vehicles, granted that the owner of any vehicle used for this purpose
30 is present and available to move the vehicle in the event of an emergency.

31 “(d) The Halloween safety street application shall:

32 “(1) Be completed on the form provided by the Department;

33 “(2) Identify the street name and cross streets of the block or blocks to be closed;

34 and

35 “(3) Include a list of at least 25% of the residents abutting the section of the street
36 or streets requested to be closed who have consented to the block party, or an indication of
37 support from the affected Advisory Neighborhood Commission;

38 “(4) Identify the means by which the applicants propose to enforce the closure of
39 the street or streets, as identified in subsection (c); and

40 “(5) As applicable, confirmation from the person or persons to be present and
41 available for the full duration of the permitted closure and responsible for any private vehicles
42 blocking the street.

43 “(e) The applicant shall submit a completed Halloween safety street application to the
44 Department either online or in person.

45 Section 4 (D.C. Official Code § 9-633) is amended as follows:

46 Subsection (a) is amended to read as follows:

47 “(a) The Department shall be responsible for approving block party and Halloween safety
48 street applications. No fee shall be charged for the application.

49 Subsection (b) is amended by adding a new paragraph (1) to read as follows:

50 “(1) The Department shall be solely responsible for approval or denial of an
51 application, after taking agency comments into consideration.”

52 Section 5 (D.C. Official Code § 9-634) is amended as follows:

53 Subsection (a) is amended by adding new subsections (c), (d), (e), and (f) to read as
54 follows:

55 “(c) It is the policy of the District to approve Halloween safety streets, particularly
56 for the purposes of reducing pedestrian fatalities.

57 “(c) An application for a Halloween safety street shall not be denied unless:

58 “(1) It fails to meet the requirements of this chapter;

59 “(2) The event would create a public safety concern that outweighs safety
60 benefits to pedestrians, especially for those 17 years of age or younger; or

61 “(3) There is substantial neighborhood opposition to the application.

62 “(d) An application for a Halloween safety street that is not actively denied by the
63 Department within five business days of the application’s submission to the Department shall be
64 deemed approved.

65 “(e) The Department shall not approve an application for a Halloween safety
66 street contingent on reducing the hours of the street closure.”

67 Sec. 3. Fiscal impact statement.

68 The Council adopts the fiscal impact statement in the committee report as the fiscal
69 impact statement required by section 4a of the General Legislative Procedures Act of 1975,
70 approved October 16, 2006 (120 Stat. 2038; D.C. Official Code § 1-301.47a).

71 Sec. 4. Effective date.

72 This act shall take effect after approval by the Mayor (or in the event of veto by the
73 Mayor, action by the Council to override the veto), a 30-day period of congressional review as
74 provided in section 602(c)(1) of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act, approved December
75 24, 1973 (87 Stat. 813; D.C. Official Code § 1-206.02(c)(1)), and publication in the District of
76 Columbia Register.