

ENROLLED ORIGINAL

A RESOLUTION

13-111

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

April 13, 1999

To declare the existence of an emergency with respect to the need to prevent further deterioration, by soil erosion and sedimentation, of certain public and private properties near the O Street Wall.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the "O Street Wall Restoration Emergency Declaration Resolution of 1999".

Sec. 2. (a) In 1976 the O Street retaining wall ("Wall") was constructed to control soil erosion and sedimentation between the 3200-3300 block of Highwood Drive, S.E., and the 3200 block of O Street, S.E.

(b) In early 1996 there was a sudden dramatic subsidence of soil behind the Wall, and the Wall began to crack and shift.

(c) Currently, the Wall has deteriorated to a point that residents who neighbor it, are in danger of losing their property. The residents are vulnerable to a constant threat to their safety and welfare. If action is not taken immediately, the homes on Highwood Drive are in severe jeopardy of foundation failure, mudslide, and condemnation.

(d) Over the past year, a team of engineers, geologists, and construction supervisors have worked to obtain a detailed assessment of the Wall's condition.

(e) The Department of Public Works has determined that structural repairs need to be made immediately to the Wall to prevent property damage from occurring.

(f) Additionally, there are continuing street and sewer maintenance problems and the increasing possibility of rupturing gas lines.

(g) At present, there is \$3,576,000 budgeted to be used for the restoration of the Wall.

(h) To access these funds, legislation needs to be passed authorizing the Mayor to use the allocated funds to make repairs to the Wall.

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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 O Street Wall Restoration Emergency Act of 1999 be adopted after a single reading.

Sec. 4. This resolution shall take effect immediately.