Sec. X. Public health emergency street modification.

(a) The District Department of Transportation ("DDOT") shall create a Public Health Emergency Street Modification permit application and make it available, at no cost, through DDOT’s website.

(b)(1) A District resident, 21 years or older, may submit a Public Health Emergency Street Closing permit application for a block on which the resident lives, requesting that DDOT make a modification to public space during a public health emergency declared pursuant to section 5a of the District of Columbia Public Emergency Act of 1980, effective October 17, 2002 (D.C. Law 14-194; D.C. Official Code § 7-2304.01), including:

(A) Closure of a street to through traffic;
(B) Reduction of travel lanes
(C) Conversion of a street from two-way to one-way operation for motor vehicles.

(2) The application shall include, in a form determined by DDOT:

(A) A description of the street requested for modification;
(B) A list of the days of the week for which the applicant requests the road closure; and
(C) For closure of street to through traffic, evidence of support from 51% of the residents, owners, or business abutting the section of the road requested for closure.

(c) DDOT shall approve or deny a Public Health Emergency Street Modification permit application made pursuant to this section, by providing to the applicant written notice of approval or disapproval, within 15 days after receipt of the Public Health Emergency Street Modification permit application.
(d)(1) DDOT shall approve a Public Health Emergency Street Closing permit application made pursuant to this section if DDOT:

(A) Determines that the application meets the requirements of subsection (b)(2) of this section;

(B) Has received a letter of support for the application from each Advisory Neighborhood Commission ("ANC") that includes the streets for which the application requests a road closure; and

(C) Determines that closing the modification will not cause significant public safety concerns.

(2) A notice of approval shall indicate the type of modification granted and the blocks affected.

(3) DDOT shall modify the public space identified in the notice of approval.

(4) DDOT may modify additional public space contiguous with the request in order to ensure safety and efficacy of the modification.

(e) Notwithstanding subsection (d) of this section, DDOT may modify a street for fewer days than requested in an application submitted pursuant to this section, if the modification is consistent with a letter of support received from an ANC, as described in subsection (d)(1)(B) of this section.

(f) Nothing in this section shall limit DDOT’s ability to propose public street closures where the agency has received reports of residents failing to maintain appropriate social distance while using public space.