Georgetown Decks | 2022 Proposal
TOPS Application #380616

Presented to the Old Georgetown Board December 2nd, 2021
Georgetown BID requests temporary public space permit extension for 60% of existing curb lane deck through 2022

1. No changes to OGB-approved design elements or colors
2. Remove 1,700 linear feet of decks and barriers
3. Restore 64 parking/loading spaces
4. Add 23 (OGB-approved) planters to soften visual impact of interconnected barriers
5. Enhanced enforcement of restaurant aesthetics
6. Continued vigilant maintenance
NBC Nightly News with Lester Holt
Across America series broadcasted from the Georgetown Decks on 11/03
**OGB Approved Temporary Deck Aesthetics**

- **Composite Decking**
  - warm natural gray
  - located as some section ends

- **Concrete Planters**
  - painted dark gray
  - located at section ends
  - planted with begonias (limited options in July)
  - safety reflectors attached

- **Bike Racks**
  - powder coat black
  - located as some section ends

- **Plastic Planters**
  - black color
  - located at ramps

- **Signs**
  - regulatory & directional
  - located on existing sign poles or streetlight poles

- **Jersey Barriers**
  - painted dark gray
  - interconnected, located along traffic side
  - safety reflectors attached
Scooter Racks
- powder coat black
- pilot occurring soon

Bus Stop Bench
- powder coat black
- center armrest
- may pilot this at a few bus stops, see construction set for typical layout

Narrow planter
- black plastic
- 13" wide, as tall as concrete barriers when placed on top of deck
- proposed in widened walking areas and near bus stops, standing on deck against barriers, every 20'-40' as needed
- generously planted to soften impact of long stretches of interconnected barriers, vegetation will be visible from street and trail over street side of barriers
**Planters – reduce 50-70% waterings**
- Altering soil content to increase water retention capacity when winter plantings occur
- Use more heat-resistant plantings
  - Vinca, pink to match petunias on poles
  - Dusty Miller, overwinters as well
  - Sweet potato vine, good when established
  - Upgrading size of evergreen shrubs, Soft Touch Hollies that do well in planters
  - Yellow Pansies winter-spring

**Maintenance – increase safety**
- Streamlining audit process
- Secured deck boards that shifted regularly
- Refined deck removal process for regularly cleaning leaves and debris underneath deck
2022 Restaurant Aesthetics

SIGNS
• No signs on any barriers facing any direction
• No commercial advertising, branding or logos on umbrellas or any other furniture item or on décor
• A-frame sidewalk signs still allowed per DDOT regulations

LIGHTS
• White to warm-white colored lights only
• No neon lights, light ropes, colored lights, flashing lights, or distracting lights
• Catenary bistro lighting is acceptable
• Lights or light poles may not be attached decking or barriers or streetscape infrastructure or trees

FURNITURE
• Quality furniture, well-maintained with an orderly appearance at all hours; avoid having a variety of any one type of furniture
• Planters should have live plants that do not exceed 42" in height above the ground per DDOT regulations

OTHER DECOR
• No artificial greenery, artificial plants, artificial turf, artificial plant walls, etc.
• No trellises or lattices
• Avoid tacky decor that draws attention and doesn’t complement the Georgetown aesthetic
Survey of Visitors
• BID hired firm in June to conduct survey of visitors in Georgetown finding very positive feedback; survey is being repeated in late October
• Worth noting that social media mentions are very positive as well

Survey of Businesses
• Survey results from June show both support for and concerns about deck based on business type and location, concerns mainly due to less convenient parking for patrons especially on Wisconsin Avenue and from service-oriented businesses; survey is being repeated in late October
• BID Executive Committee and Board strongly support continuation of the program for dining and walking in select areas citing use of decks, competition for shoppers and need to maintain a vibrant atmosphere, vulnerability of businesses through covid recovery and competition for tenants

Survey of Residents and Community Meetings
• Survey results from June and community meetings show some support for decks for dining only
• ANC commissioners and CAG support reduced dining areas but do not support extended walking space citing aesthetic concerns, ultimately less concern over parking availability

Anecdotally...
• Decks are well used during peak times and create a desirable urban vibrance by replacing parking with active pedestrian uses
• The decks are a place for visitors to soak in what attracts them to Georgetown, the historic architecture, walkable scale, charming shops and dining; they improve the pedestrian experience
GEORGETOWN BID SIDEWALK WIDENING

Comprehensive Transportation Review - Draft

NOVEMBER 8, 2021

Prepared for:
Georgetown Business Improvement District
1000 Potomac Street NW, Suite 122
Washington, DC 20007

Prepared by Symmetra Design
October 2021 Georgetown exceeded 2019 visitor numbers by 8% (roughly 100,000 more visitors in 2021)
Visits Trend

- Georgetown BID / K Street NW
- Tysons Corner Center / Chain Bridge Rd
- The Wharf / Maine Ave SW
- 14th Street Corridor / 14th Street NW

Decks Installed
Omicron prompts U.S. to prepare tighter travel restrictions
2022 DECK MODIFICATIONS

- EXTENDED SIDEWALK
- BIKE & SCOOTER PARKING
- BUS STOP, BUS STOP ESSENTIAL
- DINING
- FOR REMOVAL, REMOVED
At community request
For traffic or safety reasons
Note that DDOT traffic safety engineers and other city agencies have not provided feedback so additional changes are expected.
Request of OGB

Approve extension of temporary public space permit through December 31, 2022

- No changes to OGB-approved design elements or colors
- Remove 1,700 linear feet of decks and barriers
- Restore 64 parking/loading spaces
- Add 23 (OGB-approved) planters to soften visual impact of interconnected barriers
- Enhanced enforcement of restaurant aesthetics
- Continued vigilant maintenance
End.