



**Government of the District of Columbia
Advisory Neighborhood Commission 5B
Website: www.anc5b.org**

March 20, 2024

Office of the Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development
Great Streets Program
1350 Pennsylvania Ave, NW, Suite 317
Washington, DC 20004

Re: Letter of Support for Taco City #2 Great Streets Grant Application

Dear Great Streets Team:

Commission 5B is writing to express our support for Taco City #2, located at 3740 12th St NE in Brookland, which is within or abutting a Retail Priority Area and qualifies for a Great Street grant. Since opening in December 2021, they have benefited the neighborhood by not only providing a welcome option for dining in or takeout, but also engaging with the community such as the most recent Open Streets event on 12th Street NE in June 2023.

12th Street NE is Brookland's main economic corridor and the Commission is very supportive of small, local businesses, especially restaurants. Restaurants across DC have been struggling since the pandemic – approximately 52 restaurants closed in 2023, much higher than 2022 and 2021¹ – so grants such as this one can provide a significant positive impact and help reverse this concerning trend. Taco City #2 aims to use the grant to acquire new kitchen equipment, provide enhanced patio seating, and resolve plumbing and restroom issues.

This is why Taco City #2's application for a Great Streets grant aligns with the goals of this commercial revitalization initiative, which supports existing small businesses and seeks to transform emerging corridors into thriving and inviting neighborhood centers. It will also help bolster the 12th Street NE corridor as no businesses on 12th Street NE received a grant in FY23.² Commission 5B supports Taco City #2 and endorses their application.

Respectfully submitted,

Prita Piekara, Chair

This letter was adopted on 3/20/2024 by a vote of 6 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstention, with four (4) commissioners required for quorum, at a regularly scheduled and duly noticed public meeting with a quorum present.

¹ <https://dcist.com/story/23/12/26/dc-restaurant-bar-closures-2023/>

²

<https://static1.squarespace.com/static/59cebe6ff09ca495d3b4a940/t/6581d125ccc0f37b658db087/1703006501280/Great+Streets+Awardees+FY23.pdf>