



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
George Washington Memorial Parkway
c/o Turkey Run Park
McLean, Virginia 22101



March 3, 2021

RECORD OF DETERMINATION FOR THE TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF CERTAIN PARKLANDS AT ARLINGTON RIDGE FOR CONSTRUCTION

Pursuant to 36 CFR Section 1.5, the National Park Service is imposing a temporary closure and public use limitation to certain parklands at Arlington Ridge due to staging and construction for a new public comfort station adjacent to the United States Marine Corps War Memorial and the ongoing rehabilitation project at the Netherlands Carillon. The closure of the bicycle and pedestrian trail between the United States Marine Corps Memorial and the Netherlands Carillon will go into place on March 8, 2021, and will remain in effect until this project and the Netherlands Carillon rehabilitation efforts are complete, which is expected to be March 1, 2022.

Due to the construction closure, the National Park Service, in coordination with Arlington County, is establishing detours and rerouting pedestrian and cyclist traffic on Arlington Ridge around the United States Marine Corps War Memorial and the Netherlands Carillon. Closed areas will be marked by fencing, barricades, and signage. Unauthorized entry or activity in closed areas is prohibited.

The temporary closure and public use limitation are not of a nature, magnitude, or duration that will result in a significant alteration in the public use pattern, insofar as these activities are necessary for the construction of a new comfort station and rehabilitation of the Netherlands Carillon. Consistent with NPS regulations, persons wishing to demonstrate may continue to use the remaining open park areas. Indeed, consistent with public safety, park areas subject to this decision, but not yet needed for construction and related activities will remain open until such time as closure is necessary.

Given the safety and security protections necessary in the closed areas for such construction and associated activities, less restrictive measures will not suffice. The closures will not adversely affect the park's natural, aesthetic, or cultural values. The closures do not require significant modification to the resource management objectives, and are not of a highly controversial nature since this is similar to closures that occurred in the past. Accordingly, pursuant to 36 CFR Section 1.5(b), publication as rulemaking in the Federal Register is unwarranted. This is consistent with hundreds of past partial and temporary park closures, the legal opinion of the Office of the Solicitor, and case law.

Pursuant to 36 CFR Section 1.7, notice of this temporary closure will be made through media advisories, fencing, and posting of signs at conspicuous locations in the affected park area.

Finally, pursuant to 36 CFR Section 1.5, this determination is available to the public upon request.

Signed:

Charles Cuvelier
Superintendent
George Washington Memorial Parkway

____March 3, 2021____
Date