

Government of the District of Columbia
Office of the Chief Financial Officer



Glen Lee
Chief Financial Officer

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable Phil Mendelson
Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia

FROM: Glen Lee
Chief Financial Officer 

DATE: March 2, 2026

SUBJECT: Fiscal Impact Statement - The Jewels Way Designation Act of 2026

REFERENCE: Bill 26-308, Draft Committee Print as provided to the Office of Revenue Analysis on February 18, 2026

Conclusion

Funds are sufficient in the fiscal year 2026 through fiscal year 2029 budget and financial plan to implement the bill.

Background

In 1958, Sandra Bears, Grace Ruffin, Marjorie Clarke, and Carrie Mingo formed a singing group called The Jewels.¹ The founders of The Jewels all attended Roosevelt High School. The group worked with R&B guitarist Bo Diddley along with other local DC musical talents, and toured with James Brown for one year, becoming his first female background singers. In 2008, The Jewels were honored by Mayor Adrian Fenty for their contributions to the arts and culture in the District at an event at the Kennedy Center.

The bill symbolically designates 13th Street, N.W. between Upshur Street, N.W. and Allison Street, N.W. as The Jewels Way. This block of 13th Street, N.W. runs along Roosevelt High School.

¹ The group was first named the Impalas, then the Renaults, and then the Four Jewels ([The Jewels - Nation's Capital DOO WOP](#)).

The Honorable Phil Mendelson

FIS: Bill 26-308, "The Jewels Way Designation Act of 2026," Draft Committee Print as provided to the Office of Revenue Analysis on February 18, 2026

Financial Plan Impact

Funds are sufficient in the fiscal year 2026 through fiscal year 2029 budget and financial plan to implement the bill. The District Department of Transportation (DDOT) will fabricate and install two signs to symbolically designate the roadway as The Jewels Way. The signs will cost \$255 and DDOT can absorb the cost within its existing budgeted resources.