



Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2A

“Serving the Foggy Bottom and West End communities of Washington, D.C.”

November 28, 2022

Councilmember Kenyan McDuffie
Chair, Committee on Business and Economic Development
Council of the District of Columbia
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Suite 506
Washington, DC 20004
kmcduffie@dccouncil.gov

**RE: DC Council Bill B24-0454 – the “Rediscover Equitable Central
Occupancy Vitality and Encourage Resilient Yield (RECOVERY)
Amendment Act of 2021”**

Dear Councilmember McDuffie,

At its regular meeting on November 16, 2022, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2A (“ANC 2A” or “Commission”) considered the above-referenced matter. With six of seven commissioners present, a quorum at a duly-noticed public meeting, the Commission voted unanimously (6-0-0), after a motion made by Commissioner Patel and seconded by Commissioner Causey, to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the purpose of DC Council Bill B24-0454 – the “Rediscover Equitable Central Occupancy Vitality and Encourage Resilient Yield Amendment Act of 2021” (the RECOVERY Act) is to provide a comprehensive and inclusive economic recovery package for the central business district (CBD) and the Golden Triangle Business Improvement District (BID),

WHEREAS, the legislation targets the District residents, workers, and businesses hardest hit by the pandemic, with the goal of transforming the CBD from solely commercial uses to a vibrant city core that includes mixed-use developments, affordable housing, jobs, and green space as a driver of growth,

WHEREAS, the pandemic has taken a toll on the CBD, resulting in the loss of thousands of jobs and a steep decline in transit ridership and area foot traffic, leaving millions of square feet of vacant office space and record-high retail vacancy rates,

WHEREAS, through the RECOVERY Act, currently empty or underutilized commercial buildings can be repurposed for the future while generating jobs in both construction and high-growth industries,

WHEREAS, only a fraction of the CBD’s former workforce now works from their offices, causing transit ridership to dramatically drop and daytime foot traffic to all but disappear, resulting in 5 million square feet of vacant office space and retail vacancy rates at record highs due to the COVID pandemic, and



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WHEREAS, this legislation would advance strategies of tax incentives and grant programs that together will catalyze growth for a resilient CBD that benefits the entire District.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2A supports DC Council Bill B24-0454 – the “Rediscover Equitable Central Occupancy Vitality and Encourage Resilient Yield Amendment Act of 2021” to fund a transformative recovery package for downtown and the Golden Triangle Business Improvement District to sustain the District’s recovery as a more equitable and resilient city for the 21st century.

Commissioners Trupti Patel (2A03@anc.dc.gov) and Joel Causey (2A02@anc.dc.gov) are the Commission’s representatives in this matter.

ON BEHALF OF THE COMMISSION.

Sincerely,

Joel Causey
Chairperson