## **Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2A**

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

May 5, 2023

Councilmember Robert White Chair, Committee on Housing Council of the District of Columbia 1350 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Suite 107 Washington, DC 20004 rwhite@dccouncil.gov

**RE:** DC Council's Budget Oversight Hearing for the District of Columbia Housing Authority (DCHA)

Dear Councilmember White,

At its regular meeting on April 19, 2023, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2A ("ANC 2A" or "Commission") considered the above-referenced matter. With seven of nine commissioners present, a quorum at a duly-noticed public meeting, the Commission voted unanimously (7-0-0), after a motion made by Commissioner Courtney and seconded by Commissioner Patel, to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, on October, 19 2022, ANC 2A voted 4-2-1 to adopt a resolution in response to the District of Columbia Housing Authority's (DCHA) audit report by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD),

WHEREAS, on October 18, 2022, the DC Council unanimously passed the Housing Authority Accountability Emergency Amendment Act of 2022 in response to the HUD audit report,

WHEREAS, on February 15, 2023, ANC 2A voted 6-1-0 to adopt a resolution regarding the DC Council's performance oversight of DCHA,

WHEREAS, there is deep distrust of DCHA and increased oversight is needed within the agency to prevent landlord overpayment, which is voucher fraud causing intentional displacement of voucher recipients,

WHEREAS, providing additional funding for the Local Rent Supplement Program (LRSP) is a critical part of the District's affordable housing toolbox as it is one of the few programs that is guaranteed to provide housing to extremely low-income families in need, and

WHEREAS, increasing DC Council oversight of the Department of Human Services (DHS) and DCHA partnership of LRSP would ensure that critical housing resources are being utilized swiftly and efficiently.



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THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2A requests that the FY 2024 budget allocates funding to address areas of DCHA oversight and finances based on the following priorities resulting from recommendations made in hearings by housing experts and advocates:

- enhanced DC Council oversight of the Local Rent Supplement Program,
- any increase in funding for DCHA must attach stipulations of oversight, and
- transparency in finances and operations with regards to building repairs.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2A believes that housing is a universal right and that funding the above priorities will meet the citywide goal of reducing the number of unhoused residents.

Commissioners Trupti Patel (<u>2A03@anc.dc.gov</u>) and Jim Malec (<u>2A02@anc.dc.gov</u>) are the Commission's representatives in this matter.

ON BEHALF OF THE COMMISSION.

Sincerely,

Jim Malec

Vice Chairperson

Jim Malec