



Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2A

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

June 26, 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 May 17, 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 Patel and seconded by Commissioner Bandy, to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, on April 19, 2023, ANC 2A voted 7-0-0 on a resolution¹ advising the DC Council’s Committee on Housing (the committee) on allocation of Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 budget funding,

WHEREAS, on April 26, 2023 the committee released their report for the proposed budget for Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 for all agencies under its purview,

WHEREAS, the committee outlined fourteen policy recommendations directed at the District of Columbia Housing Authority (DCHA) with multiple sub-parts addressing the following areas:

- Ethics & Compliance,
- Integrity & Public Trust, and
- Responsiveness, Effectiveness & Efficiency,

WHEREAS, the committee report recommended new subtitles with regards to the Budget Support Act^{2,3} (BSA) 2024 some of which are:

- Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP) Transparency,

¹ [ANC-2A-RESOLUTION-DCHA-2023-Budget-Oversight-DC-COUNCIL.pdf \(anc2a.org\)](#)

² The annual legislation that contains the legal language necessary to implement the budget and often includes oversight guidelines for city agencies on how to manage their money

³ [B25-202-FY24-BSA-PACKET.pdf \(chairmanmendelson.com\)](#)



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- Housing Authority Accountability,
- Housing Authority Financial Reporting, and
- Local Rent Supplement Program Eligibility,

WHEREAS, ERAP Transparency will lead to future reforms to ensure that the program is effective and is financially stable for the District,

WHEREAS, Housing Authority Accountability makes permanent the following accountability requirements that apply to DCHA since November 2022:

- submitting monthly reports on key metrics such as:
 - operating reserves,
 - vacant public housing units, and
 - use of local funds,
- DCHA board members along with the Executive Director must complete training on critical public housing authority topics, and
- DCHA is subjected to consumer protection laws on the same terms as other landlords in matters starting on or after December 19, 2016,

WHEREAS, Housing Authority Financial Reporting requires a yearly financial report to have greater transparency and that it now be performed by the Office of the Inspector General (OIG), and

WHEREAS, the BSA fully accepted the recommendation to provide additional funding for the Local Rent Supplemental Program in addition to expanding who is eligible for the program, helping the program meet the goal of being a critical part of the District’s affordable housing toolbox as it is one of the few programs that is guaranteed to provide housing that extremely low income families need.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2A supports the DC Council adopting the fourteen policy recommendations put forward by the committee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2A requests that the DC Council focuses its approach to keep the new BSA subtitles between the first vote and the final vote to strengthen and clarify legislation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2A appreciates that the committee report has afforded ANC 2A “great weight” in accepting all policy recommendations that were outlined in the April 2023 resolution, including:

- Enhanced DC Council oversight of the voucher program,
- Any increase in funding for DCHA must attach stipulations of oversight, and
- Transparency in finance and operations with regards to budget repairs.



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

ON BEHALF OF THE COMMISSION.

Sincerely,

Jim Malec
Chairperson