

COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS AND FACILITIES
ROBERT C. WHITE, JR., CHAIR

MEMORANDUM

TO: Chairman Phil Mendelson
FROM: Councilmember Robert C. White Jr.
Chair, Committee on Government Operations and Facilities
DATE: July 29, 2021
RE: Requests for the August 3, 2021, Legislative Meeting



I request that the following measures be agendized for the August 3, 2021, Legislative Meeting:

- **Advisory Neighborhood Commissions Humanitarian Relief Extension Emergency Declaration Resolution of 2021**
- **Advisory Neighborhood Commissions Humanitarian Relief Extension Emergency Amendment Act of 2021**
- **Advisory Neighborhood Commissions Humanitarian Relief Extension Temporary Amendment Act of 2021**

During the public health emergency, at the request of Advisory Neighborhood Commissioners, the Council authorized Commissions to utilize their own funds to issue grants to organizations for the purpose of providing humanitarian relief, including food or supplies, or other assistance with the response to the public health emergency anywhere in the District.

Advisory Neighborhood Commissions have issued thousands of dollars in grants to address immediate community needs across the city. Their authority to continue to do so, however, was tied to the continuation of the public health emergency. Commissioners have reached out with concerns about the end of this authority on July 25th, as additional grants to meet humanitarian needs are in process but would not be able to be awarded without immediate Council action.

These measures would have the effect of extending the additional flexibility previously provided to Commissions to issue humanitarian grants until February 2022, or through the end of the existing public emergency, whichever is earlier.

Emergency legislation is necessary because the public health emergency expired on July 25, 2021. Several Advisory Neighborhood Commissions were in the process of issuing humanitarian grants or planned to issue humanitarian grants in the future to address ongoing community needs during the coronavirus pandemic. Without the extension of this authority, Commissions will have to abandon their plans to issue humanitarian grants as new coronavirus variants spread and case counts increase.

Please contact Shawn Hilgendorf, Committee Director, at (202) 724-8077 or shilgendorf@dccouncil.us if you have any questions.

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