


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:** October 13, 2021  
**RE:** Requests for the Additional Legislative Meeting on October 19, 2021



I request that the following measures be agendized for the Additional Legislative Meeting on October 19, 2021, should one be scheduled:

**Emergency and Temporary Measures**

- **Advisory Neighborhood Commission Pandemic Election Procedures Extension  
Emergency Declaration Resolution of 2021**
- **Advisory Neighborhood Commission Pandemic Election Procedures Extension  
Emergency Amendment Act of 2021**
- **Advisory Neighborhood Commission Pandemic Election Procedures Extension  
Temporary Amendment Act of 2021**

This legislation would authorize the extension of pandemic election procedures to fill vacancies on Advisory Neighborhood Commissions, while also reflecting the reduced role of the Board of Elections in those procedures going forward.

In March 2020 in response to the accelerating public, the Council authorized Advisory Neighborhood Commissions to call meetings, remotely participate in those meetings, and vote on matters before the Commission without being physically present through a teleconference or through digital means identified by the Commission for this purpose through the COVID-19 Response Emergency Amendment Act of 2020, effective March 20, 2020 (D.C. Act 23-0247; 67 DCR 3093), and subsequent legislation,

Under existing law, vacancies in Advisory Neighborhood Commissions occurring outside a regular election cycle could not in practice be filled while Advisory Neighborhood Commissions continued to meet virtually. Therefore, the Council authorized a revised procedure for filling vacancies in Advisory Neighborhood Commissions through the Coronavirus Support Emergency Amendment Act of 2021, effective March 17, 2021 (D.C. Act 24-0030; 68 DCR 3101), and subsequent legislation, that permitted in-person elections, administered outside of Advisory Neighborhood Commission meetings, by the Board of Elections in consultation with the Advisory Neighborhood Commission and the Office of Advisory Neighborhood Commissions.

In July 2021, the Council, recognizing the continued threat of coronavirus to the community and the continued desire by Advisory Neighborhood Commissioners to meet remotely by extending the ability of Advisory Neighborhood Commissions to meet virtually through the Public Emergency Extension and Eviction and Utility Moratorium Phasing

Emergency Amendment Act of 2021, effective July 24, 2021 (D.C. Act 24-0125; 68 DCR 7342). However, the authority of Advisory Neighborhood Commissions to fill vacancies through the special provisions authorized during the public health emergency has since expired.

Under the authority granted by the Council, Advisory Neighborhood Commissions continue to meet virtually across the city, and several have expressed concern about the public health risk of in-person public meetings for the purpose of holding an election. Several vacancies on Advisory Neighborhood Commissions must be filled soon, including a vacancy on ANC 5C. In addition to the need to extend provisions to allow for elections outside of in-person Advisory Neighborhood Commissions, it has also become necessary to require the Office of Advisory Neighborhood Commissions to assume the administrative role for these elections from the Board of Elections.

In order to permit Advisory Neighborhood Commission vacancies to be timely filled outside of the general election cycle, it is necessary to extend and amend the procedures for filling these elections as they were established during the public health emergency.

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