


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

**MEMORANDUM**

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**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

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I request that the following measure be agendized for the Regular Meeting of the Committee of the Whole on October 19, 2021, and if an Additional Legislative Meeting is scheduled for that date, I request that the measure be agendized for that meeting as well:

- **PR24-0311, the “Commission on Fashion Arts and Events Maude Okrah Confirmation Resolution of 2021”**

The Commission on Fashion Arts and Events (CFAE) brings together 8 volunteer representatives of the local fashion and beauty industries, along with 7 non-voting *ex officio* representatives of the District government, to promote the District as a fashion retail destination and ensure that our incredible local fashion and beauty creative professionals have every opportunity to thrive. PR24-0311 would confirm to the CFAE Ms. Maude Okrah, a Ward 6 resident whose business experience includes creating a digital platform that connects Black women and other clients with on-demand hair and makeup artists.

The Committee on Government Operations and Facilities held a public roundtable regarding Ms. Okrah’s nomination on October 7 and determined that her experiences and commitments would benefit the District should she be confirmed to the CFAE. The Committee has therefore recommended that the COW and the Council formalize her nomination.

Although CFAE nominations are typically subject to passive approval, in this case immediate action is warranted. The version of PR24-0311 that was filed at the request of the executive and that will go into effect on October 31 absent Council action states that Ms. Okrah will replace Commissioner Mariessa Terrell. However, based on recent developments unrelated to Ms. Okrah’s nomination, the executive now wishes for Ms. Terrell to remain a member of the CFAE for an additional term, and for Ms. Okrah to instead assume a place on the CFAE previously held by Jason Anthony. At the request of the executive and in consultation with our Office of the General Counsel, the Committee has marked up a version of PR24-0311 that properly reflects the executive’s intent. To ensure that the correct version of PR24-0311 goes into effect, the COW and Council will need to act on the Committee-approved measure before October 31—*i.e.*, next week.

The measure and committee report as marked up by the Committee today are attached. Please contact Shawn Hilgendorf, Committee Director, at (202) 724-8077 or [shilgendorf@dccouncil.us](mailto:shilgendorf@dccouncil.us) if you have any questions.