AT-LARGE COUNCILMEMBER ANITA BONDS, CHAIRPERSON COMMITTEE ON HOUSING AND EXECUTIVE ADMINISTRATION

ANNOUNCES A PUBLIC OVERSIGHT ROUNDTABLE

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Tuesday, November 9, 2021, from 10 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Virtual Hearing via Zoom To Watch Live: <u>https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCgy5EojaMYGtwicWSfg9NeA</u>

on

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL FINAL REPORT No. 20-1-23DB: "DHCD Did Not Effectively and Efficiently Use the Housing Production Trust Fund to Produce Affordable Housing Units for Extremely Low-Income Households"

On Tuesday, November 9, 2021, Councilmember Anita Bonds will hold a public oversight roundtable to discuss the recent report published by the Office of Inspector General regarding the Department of Housing and Community Development's use of the Housing Production Trust Fund. The oversight roundtable will take place via a web conferencing platform at 10 a.m. The Committee will only hear live testimony from government witnesses during this roundtable. Members of roundtable the of the public will be able view the online to at: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCgy5EojaMYGtwicWSfg9NeA

On September 30, 2021, the DC Office of Inspector General released a report entitled, "DHCD Did Not Effectively and Efficiently Use the Housing Production Trust Fund to Produce Affordable Housing Unite for Extremely Low-Income Households". The central finding of the report indicates that while DHCD met or exceeded its statutory goals for disbursing HPTF funds to preserve and produce affordable housing units for Very Low Income (VLI) and Low Income (LI) households, the Agency missed its statutory goals for disbursing HPTF funds to preserve affordable housing units for Extremely Low Income (ELI) households – those households with incomes of 30% or below the Area Median Income (AMI). The public oversight roundtable will discuss the District government's responses to the OIG report as well as HPTF's procedures, policies and intentions for how funds are administered to help DHCD meet all of its statutory goals.

The OIG report provided 20 recommendations to the Agency. Eleven of the factors were met by the agency, however those not met include several factors that possibly led to the Agency not meeting disbursement goals for ELI households including, failure to submit a written request to the Council when falling short of the Agency's goal; and instances of increased payment to projects without requiring an increase in the number of ELI units. DHCD could improve upon its transparency in its reporting and disclosure methods.

In the report, former Director of the Department of Housing and Community Development, Polly Donaldson, acknowledged that the Agency needs to do more to coordinate HPTF investment at extremely low-income levels to produce units that serve their most vulnerable residents. Additionally, she committed to making the production of affordable housing units for extremely lowincome households a priority project evaluation criterion in the District's 2021Qualified Allocation Plan and subsequent Consolidated RFP.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Committee Director, Ram Uppuluri at ruppuluri@dccouncil.us or at (202) 425-4706.