COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COMMITTEE ON HEALTH COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES NOTICE OF JOINT OVERSIGHT ROUNDTABLE 1350 PENNSYLVANIA AVE., N.W., WASHINGTON, D.C. 20004

COUNCILMEMBER VINCENT C. GRAY, CHAIRPERSON THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

AND

COUNCILMEMBER BRIANNE K. NADEAU, CHAIRPERSON THE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES

ANNOUNCE A JOINT PUBLIC OVERSIGHT ROUNDTABLE ON

"THE DEPUTY MAYOR FOR HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES' COORDINATED ASSISTANCE AND RESOURCES FOR ENCAMPMENTS PILOT PROGRAM"

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2021, 11:00 AM
REMOTE ROUNDTABLE VIA ZOOM
BROADCAST LIVE ON DC COUNCIL CHANNEL 13
STREAMED LIVE AT <u>WWW.DCCOUNCIL.US</u>,
<u>WWW.BRIANNEKNADEAU.COM/COMMITTEE</u>, AND
ENTERTAINMENT.DC.GOV.

Councilmember Vincent C. Gray, Chairperson of the Committee on Health, and Councilmember Brianne K. Nadeau, Chairperson of the Committee on Human Services, will convene a Public Oversight Roundtable to consider the Deputy Mayor of Health and Human Services' ("DMHHS") Coordinated Assistance and Resources for Encampments Pilot Program ("CARE" or "Pilot Program"). The roundtable will be held on Tuesday, November 9, 2021, at 11:00 a.m, via Zoom.

This fall, DMHHS announced the Coordinated Assistance and Resources for Pilot Program to address the challenging issue of homelessness in the District. The Pilot Program purports to provide some of the District's most vulnerable residents with the opportunity to participate in intensive onsite case management and behavioral health/substance use support while they relocate from unsuitable living conditions into viable and affordable housing options. DMHHS has identified three sites as a part of the Pilot Program. They include (1) the L Street and M Street underpasses in the NoMa Neighborhood, (2) the Park at New Jersey Avenue and O Street NW, and (3) the parcel of land between 20th and 21st Street, south of E Street NW.

Despite its stated goals, the Pilot Program has been met with criticism from unhoused residents and the greater District community. Critics warn that the Pilot Program prioritizes the removal of encamped residents and places a prohibition on their return, even if they have not moved into housing. Critics have also raised concerns about the execution of the plan. On October 4th, during an encampment clearing under the L Street underpass that was a part of the Pilot Program, an unhoused man was lifted

by a bulldozer and dozens of residents who were still waiting on housing were forcibly displaced by concrete blocks and traffic cones. This roundtable serves as a forum for experts and stakeholders to weigh in on the efficacy of the Pilot Program, for DMHHS to further explain the Pilot Program, and for the Council to ask questions on behalf of the public.

Persons wishing to provide oral testimony should contact Malcolm Cameron, Legislative Analyst of the Committee on Health by e-mail at mcameron@dccouncil.us or by phone at (202) 341-4425 before 9:00 a.m. on Monday, November 8, 2021. When sending an e-mail or leaving a voicemail, please provide Mr. Cameron with the following information:

- Your first and last name:
- The name of the organization you are representing (if any);
- Your title with the organization;
- Your e-mail address;
- Your phone number; and
- The specific bill/s you will be testifying about.

Mr. Cameron will e-mail a confirmation of your attendance with an agenda, witness list, and attached instructions for accessing the Zoom video conference roundtable by close-of-business November 8, 2021.

For accommodation requests, including spoken language or sign language interpretation, please inform the Committee office of the need as soon as possible but no later than five (5) business days before the proceeding. The Council will make every effort to fulfill timely requests, however requests received in less than five (5) business days may not be fulfilled and alternatives may be offered.

Representatives of organization will be allowed a maximum of five minutes for oral testimony, and individuals (and any subsequent representatives of the same organizations) will be allowed a maximum of three minutes. Witnesses are encouraged to submit a copy of their testimony electronically to mcameron@dccouncil.us in advance of the roundtable. Please indicate that you are submitting testimony for this roundtable in the subject line of the e-mail.

Persons who are unable to testify at the roundtable but wish to provide written testimony should e-mail their written testimony to Malcolm Cameron, Legislative Analyst of the Committee on Health at mcameron@dccouncil.us. Please indicate that you are submitting testimony for this roundtable in the subject line of the e-mail. Additionally, voicemail testimony can be provided for the record by calling the Committee's unique voicemail number – 202-350-1927. At the beginning of the message please state and spell your name clearly, provide the name of the organization you are representing and title (if any), the topic of your testimony, and then begin your testimony.

The record will close for all forms of testimony at the end of the business day on Tuesday, November 23, 2021.