COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

MEMORANDUM

To:

Councilmember Janeese Lewis George

Janese Jewis George FROM:

DATE: January 12, 2022

Request to Agendize Measure for the January 18, 2022 Additional Legislative SUBJECT:

Meeting

I request the following emergency measures be placed on the agenda for the January 18, 2022, Additional Legislative Meeting, should one be held:

Foreclosure Moratorium Extension Emergency Declaration of 2022

- Foreclosure Moratorium Extension Emergency Amendment Act of 2022
- Foreclosure Moratorium Extension Temporary Amendment Act of 2022

These measures extend the foreclosure moratorium to June 30, 2022 to allow the federal and District government time to disburse Homeowner Assistance Funds to eligible homeowners facing financial hardship.

The District is entitled to at least \$50 million in federal assistance through the American Rescue Plan Act to assist low- and moderate-income homeowners who experienced new or exacerbated financial hardships due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The current foreclosure moratorium emergency extension lapsed as of January 5, 2022 but was intended to expire February 4, 2022 in tandem with the Coronavirus Support Temporary Amendment Act of 2021, effective June 24, 2021 (D.C. Law 24-9; 68 DCR 4824). The Council's intent throughout the pandemic has been to protect homeowners from foreclosure and displacement while awaiting financial aid to cure debts. Though aid has been made available to renters, homeowners still await federal disbursement of funds. This extension ensures no foreclosure action can proceed until June 30, 2022 while the Homeowner Assistance Fund is being stood up or until Septembers 30, 2022 while homeowners who applied for funds await funding decisions and payments.

A copy of the measure is attached. If you have any questions regarding this measure, please contact Joanna Blotner, Legislative Director, at jblotner@dccouncil.us.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Members. Council of the District of Columbia cc: Office of the Secretary Office of the General Counsel Mayor's Office Policy and Legislative Affairs