COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

COMMITTEE ON HOUSING

ROBERT C. WHITE, JR., CHAIR

NOTICE OF PUBLIC ROUNDTABLE

on

Making Social Housing Work in the District of Columbia

Tuesday, November 28, 2023 1:00 PM

In the John A. Wilson Building, 1350 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W., Room 500 and virtual via Zoom

Those not participating may watch live online via:

https://dccouncil.gov/council-videos/
https://entertainment.dc.gov/page/live-tv
https://youtube.com/@committeonhousingdc

On Tuesday, November 28, 2023, at 1:00 PM, Councilmember Robert C. White Jr., Chair of the Committee on Housing, will hold a public roundtable on Making Social Housing Work in the District of Columbia. Only invited witnesses may testify during this roundtable, but the Committee will accept timely written testimony from all interested parties. Interested parties are encouraged to read this notice carefully as it contains important background information on the Committee's goals and preferences for public input.

Social housing takes different forms in different jurisdictions around the world, but the term typically refers to publicly owned housing where people with a range of incomes can afford to live. Last Council Period, Councilmember Janeese Lewis George introduced B24-802, the Green New Deal for Housing Amendment Act of 2022, with the support of 6 colleagues as co-introducers. The bill sought to establish an Office of Social Housing Developments that would establish and support social housing communities in DC.

On November 22, 2022, the former Committee on Housing and Executive Administration, under the leadership of Councilmember Anita Bonds, held a hearing on B24-802. On March 6, 2023, Councilmember Lewis George reintroduced her bill as B25-191, the Green New Deal for Housing Amendment Act of 2023, again with 6 co-introducers. Council Chairman Phil Mendelson referred B25-0191 sequentially to the Committee on Housing and the Committee on Business and Economic Development. The bill reflects various refinements, many of which appear designed to resolve questions and concerns raised during the hearing on B24-802.

The purpose of an additional roundtable is to bring together a variety of informed voices to build on the record of the prior hearing, and to ensure a thorough understanding of what it will take for the District government to establish and sustain a successful, permanent social housing program.

To accomplish these goals, the Committee on Housing is inviting a selection of thought leaders including local public housing resident leaders, District government regulators in the affordable housing finance space, nonprofit housing developers, and representatives of jurisdictions from our region and around the world who have implemented public housing programs.

The roundtable will take place beginning at 1:00 PM in hybrid format via both the Zoom web conferencing platform and in-person testimony in Room 500 of the John A. Wilson Building. Members of the public who do not testify will be able to view the roundtable at https://dccouncil.gov/council-videos/, https://entertainment.dc.gov/page/live-tv, and https://youtube.com/@committeonhousingdc.

Witnesses who anticipate needing language interpretation, or require sign language interpretation, are requested to inform the Committee of the need as soon as possible but no later than five (5) business days before the proceeding. We 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.

The Committee encourages witnesses and the public to submit written testimony to be included for the public record. Copies of written testimony should be submitted to http://lims.dccouncil.gov/hearings/. The record for this roundtable will close at the close of business on Tuesday, December 12, 2023.