

# COMMITTEE ON HOUSING

ROBERT C. WHITE, JR., CHAIR  
COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Chairman Phil Mendelson  
**FROM:** Councilmember Robert C. White, Jr.  
Chair, Committee on Housing  
**DATE:** May 2, 2024  
**RE:** Requests for May 7, 2024



This memorandum includes a request that legislation be added to the agenda and a notice of intent to move an amendment in the nature of a substitute for the Legislative Meeting scheduled for May 7, 2024.

### Proposed Resolutions

First, I request that the following legislation be placed on the agendas for the additional meeting of the Committee of the Whole, should one be scheduled, and the legislative meeting of the Council on May 7, 2024:

- **PR25-0639, the “Rental Housing Commission Adam R. Hunter Confirmation Resolution of 2024”**

The Rental Housing Commission (“Commission”) is a 3-judge panel that resolves appeals from the Office of Administrative Hearings and from the Department of Housing and Community Development’s Rental Accommodations Division regarding rent stabilization disputes and other matters under the Rental Housing Act of 1985. The Commission also writes and updates administrative regulations to implement programs established in the Rental Housing Act and issues annual certifications of allowable rent increases for rent stabilized units. The Commission is led by a Chairperson, who is one of the 3 judges on the panel.

Chairman Mendelson introduced PR25-0639, the “Rental Housing Commission Adam R. Hunter Confirmation Resolution of 2024,” at the request of the Mayor on February 13, 2024, and referred the legislation to the Committee on Housing on February 20, 2024. This resolution would confirm the appointment of Adam R. Hunter as Chairperson of the Rental Housing Commission for a term to end July 18, 2025. Without Council action, the resolution for Judge Hunter’s appointment would be deemed disapproved on May 29, 2024.

Judge Hunter has been a member of the Commission since April 2022 and meets each of the legal requirements for a Rental Housing Commission position. A Ward 7 resident, Judge Hunter has deep litigation experience, including managing his own practice for over a decade, and a working familiarity of the rental housing judicial system. The Committee unanimously approved his nomination at markup. The Committee’s report with attachments, including an LSD, is included in this transmission and on [LIMS](#).

- **PR25-0663, the “Rental Housing Commission Lisa M. Gregory Confirmation Resolution of 2024”**

Chairman Mendelson introduced PR25-0663, the “Rental Housing Commission Lisa M. Gregory Confirmation Resolution of 2024,” at the request of the Mayor on February 27, 2024, and referred the legislation to the Committee on Housing on March 5, 2024. The resolution would confirm the reappointment of Lisa M. Gregory as a member of the Rental Housing Commission for a term to end July 18, 2026. Without Council action, the resolution for Judge Gregory’s reappointment would be deemed disapproved on June 12, 2024.

Judge Gregory has been a judge on the Commission since January 2018 and meets each of the legal requirements for a Rental Housing Commission position. A Ward 2 resident, Judge Gregory has extensive experience weighing positions among parties in dispute and conducting oversight of civil and human rights matters. The Committee unanimously approved her nomination at markup. The Committee’s report with attachments, including an LSD, is included in this transmission and on [LIMS](#).

### **Amendment in the Nature of a Substitute**

Second, I intend to move the following amendment in the nature of a substitute at the legislative meeting of the Council on May 7, 2024:

- **Amendment in the Nature of a Substitute to B25-0774, the “River East at Grandview Condominium Owners Temporary Act of 2024”**

On April 2, 2024, the Council unanimously passed emergency legislation (B25-0773) to support River East at Grandview/Talbert Street homeowners who were forced to evacuate their new homes in 2021 due to faulty construction. The Council also passed a corresponding temporary measure on first reading. In between first and second readings of the temporary measure, the administration and the Committee on Housing staff worked on updating a few of the provisions to meet the full intent of the support package, using the emergency legislation as the baseline. This includes a provision offering tax relief that required a reprogramming before receiving a clean FIS. Accordingly, the ANS makes the following updates to the underlying measure:

- Updates the definitions section for clarity;
- Adds citations within the text of the bill for specificity regarding the referenced DHCD programs;
- Updates the tax relief section to meet the intent of tax relief for the homeowners, based on OTR’s suggestions;
- Grants tax relief dating back to October 1, 2020, instead of the October 1, 2023; and
- Adds that owners may be prioritized for affordable dwelling units, in addition to inclusionary units, based on DHCD’s suggestions.

The draft amendment in the nature of a substitute is attached.