



January 24, 2024

The Honorable Councilmember Kenyan McDuffie
John A. Wilson Building
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Suite 506
Washington, DC 20004

RE: Performance Oversight Prehearing Questions

Dear Chairperson McDuffie:

In response to the Committee on Business and Economic Development's FY2023 Performance Oversight prehearing questions related to the Washington Convention and Sports Authority t/a Events DC, I respectfully submit the following information.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide these responses to your questions regarding Events DC's FY2023-FY2024Q1 performance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Angie M. Gates". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "A".

Angie M. Gates
President and Chief Executive Officer

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Events DC Summary of Attachments

- Racial Equity Q1 – Community Grants
- Q1 – Organizational Chart
- Q4 – Schedule A
- Q7 – Salaries over \$125,000
- Q8 – Top Overtime Earners
- Q9 – Employee Bonuses
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Racial Equity Questions

- 1. In the context of Events DC (including its Board of Directors) and its mission, what are three areas, programs, or initiatives where you see the most opportunity to address racial inequity?**

The mission of Events DC is to create unique experiences that result in jobs, economic impact, and lasting memories for residents, tourists, and guests. We do that by creating events that entertain, employ, serve as an economic engine, and elevate everyone. Events DC's opportunities to address racial inequity include the following:

- I. EMPLOYMENT:** We are committed to a comprehensive approach to ensuring that the workforce of Events DC reflects the diversity of the District. We participate in hiring events focused on employing District residents from marginalized communities, including women, Black and brown residents, veterans, and returning citizens. We have partnered with the Executive Office of the Mayor, the Department of Employment Services and the Office of Ward 4 Councilmember Janeese Lewis-George to successfully employ District residents. We have also hosted hiring events, including the Events DC Public Safety Talent Affair and Events DC Entertainment and Sports Arena (ESA) Talent Affair.

We provide meaningful career pathways for employees to join the hospitality industry and invest in their long-term success. We have created a workplace culture that nurtures talented people of color, including the early identification of diverse talent through our STRIVE Internship program. While a majority of our staff identifies as African American, we continue to focus on attracting and retaining talent that reflects the full diversity of the District, providing them opportunities to grow and succeed within our organization.

- II. COMMUNITY GRANTS:** The Community Grants program provides a second unique opportunity to further racial equity through our work. The Community Grants program supports youth-focused nonprofit organizations across all eight wards, creating opportunities for young people to access sports, arts, and other enrichment programs. These grassroots organizations are a critical tie to the communities we serve. Acting as a partner to these organizations supports their operational sustainability and enables them to deliver on their mission. In FY23, we provided \$500,000 in grants to 52 organizations, including East of the River Boys and Girls Steelband, Sasha Bruce Youthwork, YAAY Me, Teatro de la Luna, Building Bridges Across the River, and many more. Additionally, the first round of FY24 community grantees are in the process of receiving awards. Applications for the second round of grants closed on February 1, 2024. A full list of FY23 community grantees can be found in **Attachment Racial Equity Q1 – Community Grants**.

- III. **ECONOMIC IMPACT:** Finally, we will continue to be highly intentional in our procurements and partnerships to ensure we leverage opportunities to support local and small DC entrepreneurs and creative talent as well as sponsoring and creating events that celebrate DC's unique and diverse heritage. We have continued to grow our support of local events and content producers that bring attention to the District's rich traditions as well as generate opportunities for entrepreneurs of color to grow and support their businesses. Events DC has taken over management and production of programming previously produced by Cultural Tourism DC, and now hosts WalkingTown DC, with guided tours in neighborhoods in all eight wards, the African American Heritage Trail, and Passport DC. Further, Events DC maintains a marketing partnership with the Greater Washington Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and a strategic partnership with the DC Jazz Festival.

Events DC's Office of Contracts and Procurement Services (OCPS) works to increase our spending with District Certified Business Enterprises (CBEs) and Small Business Enterprises (SBEs) through:

- Utilizing the Department of Small and Local Business Development (DSLBD) website to find certified SBEs and CBEs;
- Soliciting in the CBE/SBE sheltered market when two or more small businesses are identified on DSLBD's website;
- Sending solicitations to DSLBD to send to the SBE/CBE community;
- Posting Solicitations over \$100,000 in the *Washington Informer* and *Washington Post*; and
- Referring DC small businesses to DSLBD to become certified.

OCPS regularly attends events and programs with local SBEs and CBEs, including:

- DSLBD District Connect;
- DSLBD Small Business Expo;
- Government Procurement Conference;
- Greater Washington Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Small Business Event; and
- Fort Meyer Construction Small Business Roundtable.

These efforts to increase opportunities for CBEs and SBEs to partner with Events DC through procurements represent an ongoing commitment to address racial equity and provide opportunities for local and small DC entrepreneurs and creative talent.

2. Do you think there are any areas/programs where Events DC has had success in building racial equity over the past year? Which areas/programs?

Events DC's Community Grants, Cultural Institution Grants, event sponsorships, and District resident focused hiring efforts referenced in our response to Question 1 are examples of Events DC's successful efforts to build racial equity in the District over the past year. These programs represent our ongoing commitment to investing in community programming that celebrates the District's full diversity of culture and heritage, creates opportunities for talented people of color to access career pathways at Events DC and opens doors for entrepreneurs and creatives of color to partner with us on procurements and events.

Additionally, Events DC requires implicit bias training for all staff, a three-part series of conversations and exercises to facilitate transparent conversations among team members about bias and the harm created by acting on stereotypes and prejudices.

3. Consider the demographic data Events DC collects, tracks, and evaluates as part of its operations. Do you collect information on race and geographic area? If not, why not?

Staffing

During the employee onboarding process, Events DC collects both racial and geographic data. This data is assessed as part of our regular reporting for internal review, awareness, and planning purposes.

Events DC has 309 full-time and part-time regular employees. 121 reside in the District of Columbia, 149 in Maryland, and 38 in Virginia, with 1 in another jurisdiction.

Events DC also employs 180 casual/temporary/seasonal workers for a total of 483 employees. Including casual/temporary/seasonal workers, 180 are District of Columbia residents, 243 reside in Maryland, 58 live in Virginia, and 2 reside in another jurisdiction.

Below is a chart with the breakdown by race/ethnicity as of 12/31/23:

Race/Ethnicity	Current Active Regular FT & Regular PT Employees	% Race/Ethnicity
American Indian/Alaskan Native	2	.65%
Asian	10	3.24%
Black or African American	221	71.5%
Hispanic or Latino	18	5.83%
Not specified	25	8.09%
Two or more races	4	1.29%

White	29	9.39%
Total	309	100%

Contracting

In addition, Events DC tracks its contract spending with Certified Business Enterprises (CBEs) to ensure it is meeting or exceeding its local business contracting goals. We are in the process of creating a post-award survey that will ask contractors to voluntarily submit racial, ethnic, and gender data so that we may track these data points more effectively. Finally, we encourage qualified CBEs to also indicate whether they qualify under the new EIE designation to assist in our tracking and measurement.

4. Consider the data Events DC collects, tracks, and evaluates as part of its performance or strategic plan. Do you collect information on race and geographic area? If not, why not?

Events DC does not currently collect, track, or evaluate its performance and strategic plans through the lens of racial equity. We have historically been oriented toward a focus on the economic impact of our work in terms of revenue generation for District taxpayers and support of the hospitality and tourism industries.

As referenced in our response to Question 1, we believe there is an opportunity to further racial equity through our grant programs, career opportunities, community partnerships, and procurements, and look forward to deepening that work as we continue growing our economic impact in the District.

5. What are two areas/programs where Events DC has significant potential to succeed in building racial equity? Please elaborate on why you chose those two areas.

Two of the areas we referenced in our Response to Question 1 provide significant potential to succeed in building racial equity. As noted, each effort increases economic inclusion and access to opportunities for District residents and entrepreneurs of color.

- I. **EMPLOYMENT:** We are continuing to develop and implement comprehensive strategies to ensure that the workforce of Events DC reflects the diversity of the District. It is important that marginalized communities, including women, Black, and brown DC residents, find meaningful opportunities to join our workforce and establish productive careers in the hospitality industry. Our staff, including the Executive team, should reflect our city. We have successfully created an atmosphere that hires and nurtures talented people of color – a majority of our staff identifies as African American. We must continue to focus on hiring, training, and retaining District residents so they are afforded the opportunities

to grow and succeed within our organization, which will support economic inclusivity within the District.

II. **ECONOMIC IMPACT:** We continue to support local events that celebrate DC's unique and diverse culture, creating not only opportunities to bring attention to the District's rich traditions, but also opportunities for entrepreneurs of color to grow and sustain their businesses. Events DC continues to be highly intentional in our procurements, working to increase our spending with District CBEs and SBEs through:

- Utilizing the Department of Small and Local Business Development (DSLBD) website to find certified SBEs and CBEs;
- Soliciting in the CBE/SBE sheltered market when two or more small businesses are identified on DSLBD's website;
- Sending solicitations to DSLBD to send to the SBE/CBE community;
- Posting Solicitations over \$100,000 in the *Washington Informer* and *Washington Post*; and
- Referring DC small businesses to DSLBD to become certified.

Our Office of Contracts and Procurement Services regularly attends events and programs with local SBEs and CBEs, including:

- DSLBD District Connect;
- DSLBD Small Business Expo;
- Government Procurement Conference;
- Greater Washington Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Small Business Event; and
- Fort Meyer Construction Small Business Roundtable.

These efforts to increase opportunities for CBEs and SBEs to partner with Events DC through procurements represent an ongoing commitment to address racial equity and provide opportunities for local and small DC entrepreneurs and creative talent.

6. Consider what a racially equitable District of Columbia would look like. What are three ways Events DC’s operations would reflect this achievement?

A racially equitable District of Columbia would be a place where all residents have equal opportunities to succeed and disparities in health, wealth, housing, education, and more are eliminated through intentional efforts to expand access to opportunities and resources.

Events DC’s operations can reflect and advance this vision by:

1. Creating and sponsoring events that celebrate the District’s rich history and unique culture, ensuring these traditions are lifted up and celebrated by residents and visitors alike.
2. Working to develop and retain a well-trained, well-compensated, diverse workforce of District residents, including harder to employ residents, who receive the training and support to succeed in hospitality as a career.
3. Pursuing partnerships with diverse District entrepreneurs and members of the creative community through procurements that increase our CBE and SBE spending, expanding economic inclusion and opportunity.

General Questions

1. Please provide a current organizational chart for your agency with the number of vacant and filled FTEs marked in each box. Include the names of all senior personnel. Also include the effective date on the chart.

Please see attachment Q1 - Organizational Chart.

2. Please provide a list of Event DC’s current board members and executive board. For each member, please provide the following:
 - a. Name;
 - b. Seat type;
 - c. Whether the member is a District resident and if so, the Ward they live in;
 - d. Whether the member is also a member of the executive board;
 - e. When the member’s term started and expires;
 - f. Who the member replaced in the event they are a recent appointee; and
 - g. Attendance record for calendar year 2023 and 2024, to date.

CURRENT EVENTS DC BOARD MEMBERS					
Member Name	Appointment Date	Reappointment Date	Term Expires	Seat Type	Residing Ward
John Boardman, <i>Vice Chairman</i>	11/17/2000	12/7/2021	5/16/2025	Organized Labor	Ward 4
Denise Rolark Barnes, <i>Secretary</i>	1/10/2012	1/30/2017	5/16/2024	Business Finance	Ward 8
Cherrie Doggett, <i>Treasurer</i>	10/28/2014	12/7/2021	5/16/2025	Business Finance	Ward 3
Nina Albert	10/16/2023	n/a	<i>Ex officio</i>	<i>Ex officio</i>	Ward 5
Jay Haddock Ortiz	1/26/2007	3/7/2023	5/16/2026	Tourism	Ward 6
Solomon Keene	2/22/2013	3/20/2019	<i>Ex officio</i>	<i>Ex officio</i>	Ward 5
Glen Lee	6/28/2022	n/a	<i>Ex officio</i>	<i>Ex officio</i>	Ward 1
George T. Simpson	1/10/2018	1/28/2020	5/16/2024	Economic Development	Ward 5

FY23 Washington Convention and Sports Authority Board of Directors Attendance Record												
Board Member	Meeting Date											
	10/13/2022	11/10/2022	12/8/2022	1/12/2023	2/9/2023	3/9/2023	4/13/2023	5/11/2023	6/8/2023	7/13/2023	8/17/2023	9/14/2023
Keith Anderson							Present	Present	Present	Present		Present
Max Brown	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present		
John Boardman	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present
Denise Rolark Barnes		Present	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present				Present
Cherrie Doggett	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present
Alan Bubes	Present	Present	Present	Present		Present	Present	Present		Present	Present	Present
John Falcichio	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present						
Jay Haddock Ortiz	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present
Solomon Keene	Present			Present	Present	Present		Present	Present		Present	Present
Brian Kenner	Present	Present			Present	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present
Glen Lee	Present	Present	Present		Present	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present		
George T. Simpson	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present	Present		Present	Present	Present

FY24 Washington Convention & Sports Authority Attendance Record			
Meeting Date			
Board Member	10/12/2023	11/9/2023	1/11/2024
Keith Anderson	Present		
Nina Albert		Present	Present
John Boardman		Present	Present
Denise Rolark Barnes	Present		Present
Cherrie Doggett	Present		Present
Alan Bubes	Present	Present	
Jay Haddock Ortiz	Present	Present	Present
Solomon Keene	Present		Present
Brian Kenner	Present	Present	
Glen Lee	Present	Present	Present
George T. Simpson	Present	Present	Present

3. What, if any, are the consequences for board and/or executive members who do not attend their respective meetings or have an overall poor attendance record?

The Authority’s bylaws permit the Mayor to remove a member for neglect of duty but do not specifically address poor attendance.

4. Please provide, as an attachment, a Schedule A for your agency which identifies all employees by title/position, current salary, fringe benefits, and program office as of January 1, 2024. Schedule A also should indicate all vacant positions in the agency. Please do not include Social Security numbers.

Please see attachment Q4 - Schedule A.

5. How many of Event DC’s employees (full and part-time) are District residents?

Events DC employees 121 regular full- and part-time staff who are District of Columbia residents. Inclusive of casual staff, we have 180 staff who are DC residents. Compared to FY22, this is a 31.5% increase in DC residents among full- and part-time staff and a 23.2% increase inclusive of casual staff.

6. Please list as of February 1, all employees detailed to or from your agency, if any, anytime this Fiscal Year (up to the date of your answer). For each employee identified, please provide the name of the agency the employee is detailed to or from, the reason for the detail, the date the detail began, and the employee’s actual or projected date of return.

Events DC has no employees detailed to or from Events DC.

7. For Fiscal Years 2023 and 2024 to date, please list each employee whose salary was \$125,000 or more. For each employee listed provide the name, position title, salary, and amount of any overtime and any bonus pay.

Please see Attachment Q7 – Salaries Over \$125,000.

8. Please list, in descending order, the top 15 overtime earners in your agency for Fiscal Year 2023. For each, state the employee’s name, position or title, salary, and aggregate overtime pay.

Please see Attachment Q8 – Top Overtime Earners.

9. For Fiscal Years 2023 and 2024 (through December 31), please provide a list of employee bonuses including merit/performance bonuses, recruitment bonuses, retention bonuses, employee awards, and relocation awards, that identifies the employee receiving the bonus or award, the amount received, and the reason for the bonus or award.

Please see Attachment Q9 – Employee Bonuses.

10. For Fiscal Years 2023 and 2024 (through December 31), please list each employee separated from the agency with separation pay. State the amount and number of weeks of pay. Also, for each, state the reason for the separation.

Name	Amount	Number of Weeks	Rationale
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	18 weeks	Position elimination
		28 weeks	Position elimination

- 11. For Fiscal Years 2022, 2023, and 2024 (through December 31), please state the total number of employees receiving worker’s compensation payments.**

Fiscal Year	Number of Employees Receiving Worker’s Compensation
FY 2022	7
FY 2023	4
FY 2024	0

- 12. Please provide the name of each employee who was or is on administrative leave in Fiscal Years 2023 and 2024 (through December 31). In addition, for each employee identified, please provide: (i) their position; (ii) a brief description of the reason they were placed on leave; (iii) the dates they were/are on administrative leave; (iv) whether the leave was/is paid or unpaid; and (v) their current status (as of December 31, 2023).**

Please see Attachment Q12 – Administrative Leave.

- 13. For Fiscal Years 2023 and 2024 (through December 31), please list, in chronological order, all Intra-District transfers to or from the agency. Give the date, amount, and reason for the transfer.**

Please see attachment Q13 – Intra-District Transfers.

- 14. Please provide a table showing your agency’s Council-approved original budget, revised budget (after reprogrammings, etc.) for Fiscal Years 2022, 2023, and the first quarter of 2024. In addition, please explain the variances between Fiscal Year appropriations and actual expenditures for Fiscal Years 2022 and 2023.**

Please see Attachment Q14 – Original and Revised Budgets.

15. Please list all memoranda of understanding (“MOU”) either entered into by your agency or in effect during Fiscal Years 2023 and 2024 (through December 31). For each, describe its purpose, indicate the date entered, and provide the actual or anticipated termination date.

Agency	Purpose	Date Entered	Termination Date
CAB	Contract appeals	1/5/2010	N/A
DMPED	Possessory Interest Tax at ESA	12/28/2020	10/5/2037
DMPED	Federal Tourism Grant Program	10/1/2023	9/30/2024
DMPED	Operation of Gateway DC and R.I.S.E. Demonstration Center	10/1/2022	9/30/2023
DCFEMS	DCFEMS trainings at RFK	10/1/2020	9/30/2025
DDOT	Transportation Management at Events DC Venues	1/1/2023	9/30/2027
OCA	Administrative jurisdiction of Carnegie Library	5/1/2011	4/30/2110
OCTFME	202Creates Partnership and Festival Sponsorships	7/27/2023	9/30/2023
OCTO	Internet and Wi-Fi access points at various Authority venues	10/1/2022	9/30/2024

16. Please list all currently open capital projects for your agency (as of December 31st) including those projects that are managed or overseen by another agency or entity. Include a brief description of each, the total estimated cost, expenditures to date, the start and completion dates, and the current status of the project. Also, indicate which projects are experiencing delays and which require additional funding.

Please see Attachment Q16 – Capital Projects.

17. In table format, please list the following for Fiscal Years 2023 and 2024 (through December 31, 2023) regarding the agency's use of SmartPay (credit) cards for agency purchases: (i) individuals (by name and title/position) authorized to use the cards; (ii) purchase limits (per person, per day, etc.); and (iii) total spent (by person and for the agency).

WF Purchase Card Owner	Title/Position	Purchase Card Limits	Total Spent by Card Owner
FY2023			
Andrea Lennon	Director Contracts and Procurement	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 19,456.35
Gerald Wilson	Vice President Public Safety	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 4,780.02
Gerald Green	Contracts & Procurment Manager	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 2,152.13
Jeffrey Hunter	Head Groundskeeper	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 6,213.97
Michel S Pinnick	Director Service Desk Infrastructure	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,746.37
Reginald L. Smith	Deputy General Counsel	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 16,276.20
Ralph Morton	Senior VP, Managing Director SED	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 4,908.85
Jinhee Kim	Chief Creative Officer	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 12,665.53
Sabrina Carter	Senior Director of Human Capital	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 12,693.42
Latice Moore	Executive Assistant	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 20,888.99
Dania Jolley	Deputy Chief of Staff	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 6,800.43
Jessica Moxey	Administrative Assistant	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 4,160.55
FY23 TOTAL			\$ 116,742.81
FY2024			
Andrea Lennon	Director Contracts and Procurement	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 23.52
Gerald Wilson	Vice President Public Safety	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 1,187.00
Gerald Green	Contracts & Procurment Manager	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 1,500.00
Jeffrey Hunter	Head Groundskeeper	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 549.29
Michel S Pinnick	Director Service Desk Infrastructure	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 6,653.50
Shauneille Delaney	Director Facilities Logistics	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 307.10
Reginald L. Smith	Deputy General Counsel	\$ 5,000.00	\$ -
Ralph Morton	Senior VP, Managing Director SED	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 5,083.60
Jinhee Kim	Chief Creative Officer	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 1,061.87
Sabrina Carter	Senior Director of Human Capital	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 3,501.85
Tammy Jeffers	Program Manager, Admin Services	\$ 8,000.00	\$ -
Latice Moore	Executive Assistant	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 235.60
Dania Jolley	Deputy Chief of Staff	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 3,038.10
Alexis Brown	Administrative Assistant	\$ 10,000.00	\$ -
Kevin Vanliew	Business Development Manager	\$ 3,000.00	\$ -
Jasmine Cunningham	Administrative Assistant	\$ 5,000.00	\$ -
Jessica Moxey	Administrative Assistant	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 814.32
FY24 TOTAL			\$ 23,955.75

18. Please provide the following information for all procurements over \$10,000 entered into by your agency during Fiscal Years 2023 and 2024, to date:

- a. Name of Vendor;
- b. Indicate whether the vendor is a Certified Business Enterprise;
- c. Indicate whether the vendor is a District-based business;
- d. Purpose of the contract, including consulting purposes;
- e. Agency employee responsible for monitoring the contract;
- f. Contract term;
- g. Contract cost, including budgeted amount and actual spent;
- h. Funding source; and
- i. Whether the contract was competitively bid.

Please see Attachment Q18 – Procurements.

19. Please describe how your agency manages and limits its mobile, voice, and data costs, including cellular phones and mobile devices.

(a) In table format, if the answer is more than 20 lines, and as an attachment, please provide the following information for Fiscal Years 2023 and 2024 (through December 31), regarding your agency's use of cellular phones and mobile devices: (i) individuals (by name and title/position) authorized to carry and use such devices; (ii) total annual expense (FY) for each individual's use; and (iii) Justification for such use (per person). If the list is more than 20 individuals, group the answer by program, giving the total number of FTEs for that program as well as the number of cellular phones and mobile devices.

Please see Attachment Q19 – Cell Phones and Mobile Devices.

20. Please list all pending lawsuits that name your agency as a party. Please identify which cases on the list are lawsuits that potentially expose the District to significant liability in terms of money and/or change in practices. The Committee is not asking for your judgment as to the District's liability; rather, we are asking about the extent of the claim. For those claims identified, please include an explanation about the issues for each case.

***Johnson v. Events DC, et al*, No. 2022-CA-004302-B (District of Columbia Superior Court).** Johnson alleges she was injured after falling from a wheelchair operated by an Authority employee at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center and seeks damages in the amount of \$300,000. The Authority referred the claim to its general liability insurer for indemnity and defense. It should be noted that because the Authority has a legal

existence separate from the District as provided by D.C. Code § 10-1202.01(a), lawsuits brought solely against the Authority do not necessarily expose the District.

21. Please list and describe any investigations, studies, audits, or reports on your agency or any employee of your agency that were completed at any time in Fiscal Years 2023 or 2024 (through December 31st).

Annual Financial Audits. Beginning in November 2022, the District’s independent auditor, McConnell & Jones LLP, conducted its annual audit of the Authority’s FY 22 financial statements. From October 2023 to January 2024, McConnell & Jones LLP conducted the Authority’s annual independent audit of FY 23 financial statements.

Single Audit for Major Programs in FY2022. From April to June of 2023 BDO USA, LLC conducted a Single Audit on behalf of the District of Columbia of Major Programs receiving funds under the American Rescue Plan Act (ALN 21.027). The Authority was audited as a Major program that received \$26 million in FY 22 for the DC CARES program which provides financial assistance to District of Columbia workers who by reason of their immigration/employment status did not have access to COVID-19-related public relief programs.

The Office of the District of Columbia Audit. In June and July of 2023, the Office of the District of Columbia Auditor, conducted its annual Sufficiency Certification of the Authority’s FY2024 projected revenues and reserves, as required by D.C. Code § 10-1203.05(b).

22. Please list and describe any ongoing investigations, audits, or reports of your agency or any employee of your agency.

None.

a. Are you aware of any staff complaints originating from the Events DC Facilities Department?

No.

b. If so, what efforts – including any formal investigation – have been undertaken to research and resolve matters?

We are not aware of any current complaints from Facilities Department employees. However as set forth in response to Question 24, the Authority has policies and procedures in place to address allegations of misconduct, and those procedures are followed for any complaints received from an employee. In

addition, the Authority has, as necessary, brought in external resources to facilitate mediation between employees and/or managers and to assist with resolving conflicts.

c. Please provide details of any further pending actions.

None.

23. How many grievances have been filed by employees or labor unions against agency management? Please list each of them by year for Fiscal Years 2022, 2023 and 2024 (through December 31st). Give a brief description of each grievance, and the outcome as of December 31, 2023. Include on the chronological list any earlier grievance that is still pending in any judicial forum.

Fiscal Year	Number of Grievances
FY 2022	2
FY 2023	0
FY 2024	0

FY 2022

Grievant: Employee A

Grievant asserted he received an unwarranted written discipline for refusal to provide status updates to his supervisor regarding the tasks and projects that were assigned to him. Grievant had previously received a counseling and a verbal warning for the same issue. The union, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW), grieved the written discipline at the Step I level. The Step 1 Grievance hearing was held on December 7, 2021. Events DC responded in writing to IBEW on December 8, 2021, upholding the discipline as warranted. IBEW accepted the decision and did not advance the Grievance to Step II. Grievant worked a few months after the hearing and resigned in July 2022. Upon leaving the organization, grievant filed an EEOC complaint.

Resolution: On September 12, 2022 the EEOC determined it would not proceed with an investigation of the matter, dismissed the charge and issued Grievant a right to sue notice. Grievant did not file a lawsuit within the 90-day time limit.

Grievant: Employee B

Grievant asserted that he was unfairly terminated by Events DC. Grievant was terminated as a result of his display of workplace harassment of a fellow employee. An internal investigation supported the harassed employee's claim, resulting in the termination of the Grievant. Grievant did not agree with investigative findings. The union, Internal Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) filed a Grievance. The Grievance progressed through Step 3. The Step 3 Grievance hearing was held on January 11 and 12, 2022.

Resolution: The grievance decision was issued and the employee was reinstated with backpay and back benefits. Grievant subsequently resigned.

24. Please describe the agency's procedures for investigating allegations of sexual harassment committed by or against its employees.

(a) If different, please describe the agency's procedures for investigating allegations of misconduct.

(b) List and describe each allegation received by the agency in FY 2023 and FY 2024 (as of December 31st) and the resolution of each as of the date of your answer.

The Authority has policies in place to address both sexual harassment and misconduct. In addition, in accordance with DC Code § 1-546.01 et seq., the Authority has designated a Sexual Harassment Officer (SHO) to accept, review, investigate, track, and report sexual harassment complaints. The procedural methodology for handling such allegations as they arise is as follows:

- (1) Employees may bring allegations of sexual harassment and/or misconduct to any member of the organization's management or senior leadership team with whom they are comfortable.
- (2) All management and senior leadership team members are required to report any allegations of sexual harassment and/or misconduct to the Human Resources Department and the SHO immediately upon receipt of notice of such allegations. This includes turning over any notes, names of possible witnesses and/or documentation received when Complainant brought forth the allegation. Management and senior leadership team members are required to maintain confidentiality regarding the facts and circumstances surrounding the complaint.
- (3) Human Resources/SHO will interview the management or senior leadership team member reporting the claim, review all relevant documents and develop a list of possible witnesses for interview, including the Complainant and alleged perpetrator.
- (4) All relevant witnesses are interviewed by Human Resources/SHO and any pertinent documents, social media, pictures, videos, etc. are reviewed;
- (5) Human Resources/SHO drafts a detailed report including recommendations, and takes required action necessary as the result of its investigation; and
- (6) Human Resources/SHO closes the loop with the Complainant, alleged perpetrator, as well as relevant management or senior leadership team members.
- (7) Allegations related to Human Resources are handled in the same manner as above, except that the Office of General Counsel leads the process.
- (8) Events DC conducts mandatory annual sexual harassment training.

(a) If different, please describe the agency’s procedures for investigating allegations of misconduct.

Please see response above.

(b) List and describe each allegation received by the agency in FY 2023 and FY 2024 (as of December 31st) and the resolution of each as of the date of your answer.

In addition to the grievances set forth in response to Question 23, in FY23 the Authority received one allegation involving potential misconduct. In FY24, the Authority received one allegation involving potential sexual harassment and one allegation involving potential misconduct. Those allegations are as follows:

FY 2023

1. **Complaint:** Complainant alleged his peer verbally harassed him in front of other staff members and a member of contract security.
Resolution: Human Resources conducted an investigation, including interviews with witnesses, and determined that the peer employee was extremely disrespectful, used derogatory and highly offensive language, and berated the Complainant. As a result, the peer employee was terminated.

FY 2024

1. **Complaint:** A male employee complained to Human Resources that he was uncomfortable with a female employee who continuously hugged him each time she encountered him.
Resolution: The female employee was informed her hugs were unwanted and made the male recipient of the hugs uncomfortable. She was further counseled regarding the consequences of sexual harassment in the workplace. The conversation was followed up in writing.
2. **Complaint:** The complainant alleged another employee insulted him by speaking disrespectfully of his religion.
Resolution: An investigation of the complaint is in progress.

25. Does your agency have or use one or more government vehicles? If so, for Fiscal Years 2023 and 2024 (through December 31), please list any vehicle the agency owns, leases, or has assigned to it. You may group the vehicles by category (e.g., 15 sedans, 33 pick-up trucks, three transport buses, etc.

(a) Please list all vehicle accidents involving your vehicles for Fiscal Years 2022, 2023, and 2024 (through December 31st). Provide: (i) a brief description of each accident; (ii) the type of vehicle involved; (iii) the name and title/position of the driver involved; (iv) the justification for using such vehicle; (v) whether there was a finding of fault, and if so, who was determined to be at fault; and (vi) what employee discipline resulted, if any.

The Authority does not use any District government issued vehicles; however, the Authority does own and operate the following vehicle:

- 2010 Global Electric Motorcars (GEM) vehicle. The vehicle is street-legal and has been registered as an automobile through the District Department of Motor Vehicles. As a fully electric-powered vehicle, it is flexible and capable of safely operating in a variety of environments.

The 2010 GEM vehicle has never been involved in an accident.

26. Please list every lawsuit against the agency that was settled or decided by a trial court in FY 2023 and FY 2024 to date. Briefly describe each and the sanction, if any.

Guisbert v. Washington Convention and Sports Authority t/a Events DC, No. 19-02838 (U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia). Plaintiff Guisbert, a former employee, brought a complaint alleging discrimination in violation of the Age Discrimination in Employment Act, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act, and the District of Columbia Human Rights Act. A mistrial was declared in this case on January 27, 2023. The case was settled and subsequently dismissed by the court on September 11, 2023.

Inko-Tariah v. Budweiser Brew House, et al, No. 1:22-CV-01365 (U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia). Plaintiff, who is deaf and partially blind, alleged discrimination based on disability under the Americans with Disabilities Act because closed captioning on a video monitor in a bar at Nationals Park was not activated. The case was dismissed by the court on November 10, 2022 for lack of standing and failure to state a claim upon which relief can be granted, which dismissal was, on appeal, affirmed on June 20, 2023.

Confidential Arbitration (American Arbitration Association).

27. D.C. Law requires the Mayor to pay certain settlements and judgements from agency operating budgets if the settlement is less than \$10,000 or results from an incident within the last two years (see D.C. Code § 2-402(a)(3)). Please itemize each charge-back to your agency for a settlement or judgment pursuant to D.C. Code § 2-402.

None.

28. D.C. Law prohibits chauffeurs, take-home vehicles, and the use of SUVs (see D.C. Code §§ 50-203 and 50-204). Is your agency in compliance with this law?

Yes, the Authority is in compliance.

(a) Please explain all exceptions, if any, and provide the following: (i) type of vehicle (make, model, year); (ii) individuals (name/position) authorized to use the vehicle; (iii) jurisdictional residence of the individual (e.g., Bowie, MD); and (iv) justification for the chauffeur or take-home status.

N/A

29. In table format, please provide the following information for Fiscal Years 2023 and 2024 (through December 31) regarding your agency’s authorization of employee travel: (i) each trip outside the region on official business or agency expense; (ii) individuals (by name and title/position) who traveled outside the region; (iii) total expense for each trip (per person, per trip, etc.); (iv) what agency or entity paid for the trips; and (v) justification for the travel (per person and trip).

Please see Attachment Q29 – Employee Travel.

30. Please provide and itemize, as of December 31, 2023, the current number of contract personnel within your agency. Please provide, in table format, the name of each employee, position title, the length of his or her term or contract, the date on which he or she first started with your agency, and the date on which his or her current contract expires.

Name	Position Title	Contract Length	Contract Start Date	Contract End Date
Patricia Strawley	Accountant	3 months		12/31/2023

31. What efforts has your agency made in the past year to increase transparency? Explain.

The Authority focuses on five priority areas related to increasing transparency:

1. Ensuring public access to monthly meetings of the Authority’s Board of Directors through both livestreaming and in-person attendance. Full recordings of past meetings of the Board of Directors are available on the Authority’s website. <https://eventsdc.com/about/governance>
2. Hosting quarterly public community meetings (and special meetings as necessary) with stakeholders of the RFK Campus community regarding operations and activities that may affect them.
3. Regular communication with community stakeholders through email, virtual town halls, monthly event calendars, and community newsletters to share event information and operational updates, and to receive feedback and answer questions from the public.
4. Facilitating virtual and in-person informational sessions on the Events DC Community Grant Program for both grant cycles.
5. Conducting outreach to Advisory Neighborhood Commissioners, the Mayor’s Office of Community Relations and Services, DC Council Constituent Services, and DC Council Communications staff to share information about Events DC events and activities, such as the Community Grant Program, Day of Play at RFK, and Safeway Feast of Sharing.

The following are some additional transparency efforts the Authority continues to implement:

- A full calendar of events at our venues is available here: <https://eventsdc.com/events>
- A full calendar of permits at the Fields at RFK is available here: <https://eventsdc.com/venue/fields-rfk-campus/calendar>
- A full list of Community Grant recipients is available here, including a Spanish language version the application: <https://eventsdc.com/community/community-grants>
- Current procurement opportunities can be accessed here: <https://eventsdc.com/about/procurement>
- In FY23, the Authority held its first Spanish language community grant informational sessions and provided a Spanish language grant application to increase participation in our community grant program among Spanish speaking applicants.

- Ongoing enhancements to our website to add augmented and virtual-reality capabilities, hi-resolution video, and social media streaming capabilities, all of which allow the Authority to better communicate and provide information to customers, visitors, community members, and other stakeholders;
- Publishing regularly scheduled meetings of the Authority’s Board of Directors in the D.C. Register and Office of Open Government Public Body Meetings Calendar;
- Operating social media platforms such as Facebook, X (formerly Twitter), Instagram, and LinkedIn to communicate and share information to and engage with stakeholders and the public at-large;
- Attending regular meetings of Advisory Neighborhood Commissions and Community and/or Civic Associations where the Authority has venues or hosts events; and
- Participating in annual performance and budget oversight hearings before the Council of the District of Columbia.

32. What efforts will your agency be making to increase transparency? Explain.

In addition to the ongoing efforts listed in response to Question 31, throughout FY24 the Authority is posting monthly notices on our website providing public updates on grant funds received and distributed for cash assistance to excluded workers, which can be accessed at <https://eventsdc.com/excluded-workers>

Further, we remain committed to regular communication with our venue visitors, neighbors, community organizations, and DC government partners to ensure we are proactively engaged, responsive, and accountable to our stakeholders and the public at large.

As structural demolition begins at the RFK Stadium, we are committed to providing proactive, timely, and in-depth information for neighbors and Fields users related to health, safety, noise, traffic, and other concerns during active work at the site. Updates will be shared through public meetings, email newsletters, social media platforms, and through our website at: <https://eventsdc.com/news/rfk-stadium-demolition-updates-october-2023>

33. Please provide an update on the disbursement of the supplemental funding for cash assistance to excluded workers passed in the Fiscal Year 2024 Budget Support Act of 2023.

Following the District's Chief Financial Officer's revised revenue estimate released on September 29, 2023, the District directed \$20 million to Events DC for monetary assistance to District of Columbia workers who by reason of their immigration or

employment status did not have access to COVID-19-related public relief programs. Events DC has facilitated three previous rounds of payments through its DC CARES program, having reached approximately 15,000 eligible excluded workers with total payments of approximately \$3,300 each.

The FY2024 payments will represent the fourth phase of DC CARES. Events DC has disbursed the \$20 million in FY24 funding to our program administrator, the Greater Washington Community Foundation, who, in coordination with Events DC, will engage community partners that will assist with community outreach and monetary distribution of funds to workers. It is expected that outreach to program recipients and distribution of debit cards will commence in Spring 2024 (consistent with timelines from previous years). From program launch to last card distributed, the implementation team estimates that Phase Four will take 5-6 months to complete.

34. Please identify any statutory or regulatory impediments to your agency's operations.

None at this time.

35. Did your agency receive any FOIA requests in Fiscal Year 2023? If yes, did the agency file a report of FOIA disclosure activities with the Secretary of the District of Columbia? If available, please provide a copy of that report as an attachment. Also state here the total cost incurred by your agency for each Fiscal Year 2022, 2023, and 2024 (as of December 31) related to FOIA.

Please see Attachment Q35 - FOIA Requests.

Fees incurred were as follows:

FY 2022: \$0

FY 2023: \$0

FY 2024 (to date): \$0

36. For CBE agency compliance purposes, what is your agency's current adjusted expendable budget; how much has been spent with SBEs; and what percent of your agency's expendable budget was spent with SBEs?

- (a) Further, where SBEs were not available, how much has been spent with CBEs, and what percent of CBE spending, relative to your current expendable budget?
- (b) How many CBE waivers (including dollar amount) did the agency submit? What efforts has the agency taken to reduce the number of CBE waivers submitted?
- (c) What is the CBE spending goal for your agency per the DSLBD SBE Opportunities Guide (Green book)? Give this answer for Fiscal Years 2022, 2023 and 2024 (through December 31).

DSLBD SBE / CBE SPENDING

	FY2022	FY2023	FY2024
Green Book Expendable Budget	\$14.2 million	\$2.8 million	\$54.3 million
SBE Spending Goal	\$7,126,243.50	\$1,395,984.71**	\$27,170,473.98*
\$ Spent w/SBE	\$7,298,850.25	\$8,629,958.74***	<i>in progress</i>
% Spent w/SBE	102.42%	618.2%***	<i>in progress</i>
Pending Exceptions	-	-	\$25,015,317.57*
Anticipated Adjustable SBE Goal	-	-	\$14,662,815.20*

*2024 - \$27,170,473.93 is the DSLBD revised anticipated expendable budget as shown on the DSLBD portal as of 12/31/2023. This number will be adjusted when pending exceptions, such as subcontracting set-asides, determination and findings, and any updates to subsidies and transfers are approved and any additional exceptions are entered when the system reopens in early 2024. At this time, we anticipate the Adjustable SBE Goal being \$14,662,815.20.

**2023 - \$1,395,984.71 is the DSLBD revised anticipated expendable budget as shown on the DSLBD portal. This number will be adjusted with final numbers for FY2023 when the DSLBD portal reopens, and exclusions and exceptions are reviewed and finalized. Such exceptions will include subsidies and transfers, subcontracting set-asides, determination and findings, and any updates to automatic exclusions.

***2023 – DSLBD is reporting \$8,629,958.74 for SBE spend, if we include both SBE and CBE our spending total is \$16,796,975.31. DSLBD has not completed the evaluation which still includes Events DC service partners and set-aside agreements. When the system reopens in the January/February timeframe, any additional adjustments that need to be made will be made at that time.

CBE WAIVERS

For FY2024, the Authority received four (4) CBE waivers, totaling \$1,885,397.52, to date; total contract amount \$4,332,035.04, to date.

For FY2023, the Authority received six (6) CBE waivers, totaling \$2,029,224.03; total contract amount \$4,806,718.90.

Events DC has taken numerous efforts to reduce the number of SBE/CBE waivers requested, including:

- Utilizing the DSLBD website to find certified SBEs and CBEs;
- Soliciting in the CBE/SBE sheltered market when two or more small businesses are identified on DSLBD’s website;
- Sending solicitations to DSLBD partners to share with the SBE/CBE community;
- Posting Solicitations over \$100,000 in the *Washington Informer* and *Washington Post*;
- Referring DC small businesses to DSLBD to become certified; and
- Attending and exhibiting in the following small business forums to share information on becoming a vendor, responding to solicitations, business opportunities and navigating Events DC e-Procurement systems:
 - DSLBD District Connect;
 - DSLBD Small Business Expo;
 - Government Procurement Conference;
 - Greater Washington Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Small Business Event; and
 - Fort Meyer Construction Small Business Roundtable.

37. Please provide, as an attachment, a copy of your agency’s annual business plans for each primary, core line of business.

Please see Attachment Q37-Business Plan.

38. What is Events DC doing to ensure that trees planted as part of its streetscape have appropriate root space and that the trees planted in raised tree boxes are the proper size? What standards does Events DC use to ensure that trees are appropriately planted and/or sized for the streetscape?

The installation of the trees as part of the streetscape project is being performed per the District Department of Transportation-approved plans with only minor field adjustments. During the design phase, soil volumes were increased to the extent

practical given site constraints, agency approvals, and construction constraints. In most cases, soil volumes were increased two or more times over the previously available soil volumes.

The tree sizes, at planting, were dictated by DDOT standard planting requirements, and are consistent with typical streetscape planting guidelines. The sizes chosen generally result in better long-term health for the trees, reducing transplant shock and improving longevity. In a few circumstances, slightly smaller tree sizes were used for smaller planters in accordance with American Nursery and Landscape Association standards for limiting disturbance of root balls and minimizing transplant shock.

The landscape architect of record for the project will evaluate the newly planted trees after they leaf out this spring to ensure their continued health and growth.

39. Please list each new program implemented by the Department during Fiscal Year 2023 and Fiscal Year 2024, to date. For each initiative, please provide:

- a. A description of the initiative;**
- b. Funding required to implement the initiative; and**
- c. Any documented results of the initiative.**

Events DC's Sports and Entertainment Division (SED) and Creative Services Division (CSD) both implemented new initiatives in FY2023 and FY2024 to date.

New SED initiatives include the establishment of a formal Production team and the creation of a Special Events team within the division.

The purpose of creating a Production team is to increase capacity for in-house event productions and programs. Event production will direct large-scale live events with multiple agencies, vendors, and client integration; lead the charge on innovative design solutions for logistics and production; and operate as the leader of production services, ensuring superior end-to-end event experiences. Funding is included in Events DC's FY24 budgets.

SED's Special Events team was established late last year to execute high-caliber events on behalf of Events DC in the District of Columbia that produce a positive economic impact for DC by coordinating with partners to provide exceptional client relations from intake to execution. Their focus and primary responsibilities include:

- DC Government Partnership Management
- Client Consultation
- Large Scale Event Management

- Venue Relationship Management
- Vendor Relationship Management

The Special Events team primarily works on ancillary and hosted client events that are sponsored or co-sponsored by Events DC.

The Creative Services Division developed the following initiatives:

- Phase I of CSD’s mission to develop signature productions: During FY23, we developed a series of partnerships and co-curated five major events that launched in FY23. These included the inaugural 3-day International City Food Festival (October) that leveraged DC’s position as an international city by partnering with over 45 embassies, to Passport DC’s Around the World Embassy Tours, in partnership with over 60 embassies (most ever in its more than 15-year history) that drew over 50,000 attendees and 267,000 embassy visits, to Pandapalooza this past October that saw over 50,000 visitors over two weekends to celebrate the Giant Pandas of Smithsonian’s National Zoo.
- Events DC’s first-ever online content portal GATHER by Events DC launched in September 2020 to convene audiences virtually. It quickly evolved into a virtual destination to discover live events in DC via compelling video content. Since its inception, GATHER has launched 225 virtual programs, 17 live events, secured national distribution on broadcast TV, and won 14 industry awards, including Emmy and Telly Awards, as well as acceptance into renowned film festivals such as DOC NYC, the largest documentary film festival in North America.

40. What are your agency’s key performance indicators (“KPIs”) and what has been your agency’s performance (for each of these KPIs) in Fiscal Year (or calendar year) 2022, 2023, and 2024 to date.

The primary key performance indicators for the Authority include: (i) the number of events hosted in our venues (including the number of citywide conventions)^[1]; (ii) attendance; (iii) room nights, and overall economic impact. The following shows our actuals (where available) or estimates for FY 2022, FY 2023, and the first quarter of FY2024:

^[1] **Citywide:** A convention center event with a forecast pickup of 2,500 or more sleeping rooms in District hotels on the night of greatest contracted hotel occupancy during the event.

**Estimate based on actual number plus forecast number for events that have not reported final numbers.*

EVENTS DC KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS			
Number of Events			
	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024 Q1
Convention Center	95	117	17
St. Elizabeths East	233	206	57
RFK/Armory Campus	120	113	28
Total	448	436	102
Number of Citywides			
	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024 Q1
Convention Center	15	19	5
Attendance			
	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024 Q1
Convention Center	439,219	700,735	108,805*
St. Elizabeths East	118,215	134,113	10,384
RFK/Armory Campus	1,193,237	178,033	34,249
Total	1,754,548	1,010,632	153,438
Room Nights			
	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024 Q1
Convention Center	361,818	315,268	131,264*
Occupancy			
	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024 Q1
Convention Center	54.0%	60.7%	54.5%*
Event Operating Revenue			
	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024 Q1
Convention Center	\$16,973,286	\$22,896,850	<i>in progress</i>
Economic Impact			
	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024 Q1
Convention Center	\$238,973,335	\$355,860,323*	\$107,745,825*

(a) What KPIs have been dropped (or changed) since 2020? List each specifically and explain why it was dropped or changed.

None.

41. What are your top five priorities for the agency? Please provide a detailed explanation for how the agency expects to achieve or work toward these priorities in Fiscal Years 2023 and 2024.

Events DC's top five priorities for Fiscal Year 2024 include:

1. **Develop a new sports business partnership/opportunity for the RFK Campus.** While long-term plans are dependent on resolution of the Federal lease and consensus on the District's plan for developing the campus, we will identify and economically assess

sports partnership opportunities that can temporarily activate one of our currently underutilized RFK Campus assets, with the intention to bring that opportunity online during FY 25.

2. **Conduct a convention center expansion assessment.** The convention center is the primary revenue generating asset for Events DC and is the only convention center within its competitive set that has not added additional revenue-generating event space since its opening in 2003. The Authority’s financial health depends on a fully optimized convention center growing its market and revenue. We anticipate this assessment will take up to six months to complete; given the lengthy development time for major real estate projects, and with current uncertainty about the downtown event marketplace, it is essential that we objectively assess the available options and begin planning the next stage of the convention center’s success.
3. **Secure an event growth opportunity for the Entertainment and Sports Arena.** While we value our relationship with our major tenant at the ESA, we must diversify the arena’s event portfolio as a matter of prudent business practice. We will secure at least one event growth opportunity that will be nurtured into a reliable annual event that is well-received and anticipated by the community and will generate revenue for Events DC.
4. **Develop one annual off-peak Events DC “signature” event.** Each of our venues has a peak booking season and an off-peak booking season based on the market segments the venue serves. We will identify, develop, or secure a second Events DC “signature” event for launch in FY 2025 during an appropriate off-peak season, in addition to our signature Because They’re Funny Comedy Festival. Our new event will engage all eight wards and will attract out-of-town visitation that generates new hotel room stays and restaurant sales.
5. **Develop Events DC Academy.** The continuing post-pandemic challenges of recruiting qualified District residents for hospitality industry jobs demonstrate the continuing need for proactive workforce development and training. We will leverage Events DC’s unique position in the Hospitality Alliance to establish a program that trains District residents for meaningful employment in the events and creative industries and provides paths to employment after successfully completing the program, offering five participant workforce scholarships to the initial class.

42. Are the total number of events in Events DC’s purview back to pre-pandemic levels?

- a. If not, what is Events DC current strategy to achieve these levels and what steps have been taken already?
- b. Please provide annualized data for the last five years.

Comparing FY 23 to FY 19 (the last full fiscal year before the pandemic), we see the following KPIs:

	FY 19	FY 20	FY 21	FY 22	FY 23	FY 23 % of FY 19
Events: Convention Center	151	57	21	95	117	77.5%
Events: St Elizabeths East	418	161	96	233	206	49.3%
Events: RFK - Armory Campus	37	32	71	120	113	305.4%
TOTAL EVENTS:	606	250	188	448	436	71.9%
Number of Citywides	18	10	1	15	19	105.6%
Attendance	1,066,175	569,534	118,119	443,096	702,051	65.8%
Total Hotel Rooms	363,338	151,891	10,812	216,852	315,268	86.8%
Occupancy	70.9%	48.5%	32.5%**	54.0%	60.7%	85.6%
Event Operating Revenue	\$22,725,439	\$10,810,411	\$4,654,872	\$16,973,286	\$22,896,850	100.8%
Direct Economic Impact	\$375,361,399	\$169,021,480	\$12,209,161	\$238,973,335	\$355,860,323	94.8%

**Estimate based on actual number plus forecast number for events that have not reported final number.*

***Includes DGS licensing of exhibit halls for the District’s COVID-10 Alternate Care Facility, October 1, 2020 – March 31, 2021. For event activity only, the occupancy percentage was 13.3%.*

For FY24, citywide events, in-block hotel room pickup, event revenue, and economic impact are all pacing at FY19 levels. The number of events, attendance, and occupancy remain below FY19 levels. This is primarily due to a decrease in public exhibitions (ticketed or free) that occupied one or more exhibit halls (the convention center’s occupancy is driven by rental events occupying exhibit halls). The total number of events is also impacted by a continued decline in business-to-business single-day events; the loss of these events does not significantly impact occupancy, attendance, or revenue.

We are continuing our efforts to book new business for the convention center, and more importantly, to develop bookings into long-term relationships and regular repeat business. While we expect to continue recovering business, we are working to adjust our efforts to reflect changing industry trends and other market forces.

43. Please describe Events DC's response to the cyber attack that it experienced in 2022.

- a. Please provide copies of internal reports investigating and responding to the incident.**
- b. What initiatives has Events DC taken to enhance their cybersecurity?**

A forensic investigation determined that a threat actor associated with the BlackCat SaaS ransomware group was able to enter the Events DC environment to perform a series of reconnaissance activities and was ultimately able to encrypt data residing within the environment. Due in part to the lack of relevant forensic artifacts, along with encryption of various configuration files, the quantity or scope of files the threat actor claimed to exfiltrate could not be independently verified. There has been no evidence, however, of threat actor activity within the Events DC environment since the incident on September 29, 2022. Further, there was no impact to Events DC's cloud-based solutions, nor was there evidence of a compromise of Events DC's Office365 platform.

Reports in connection with the incident were prepared by or at the direction of counsel and therefore comprise attorney-client privileged communications and attorney work product.

Events DC has since made the following enhancements to its technology infrastructure:

- Implemented IT services that drive operational security through policy enforcement and incident response;
- Implemented tools that protect our data from ransomware threats with advanced detection and response capabilities;
- Implemented tools that enhance host security, preventing eavesdropping and ensuring real-time monitoring;
- Implemented endpoint security solutions that secure vulnerabilities, restrict unauthorized access, and provide visibility of all managed devices;
- Implemented tools that ensure secure management of data and provide insights into trends and activities to proactively monitor the network environment;
- Rebuilt our physical and virtual servers to the latest versions and installed the latest patches;
- Implemented 2-step sign-in/user verification process (multi-factor authentication);
- Updated our firewall firmware;

- Instituted new protocols to protect our IT infrastructure that include end point security software;
- Developed and strengthened redundancy and back-up protocols;
- Acquired identify theft and credit monitoring for all employees;
- Conducted mandatory cyber training for all staff;
- Implemented 24/7 monitoring for any threats or irregularities and incident response services; and
- Conduct regular dark web scans.

- 44. Has the Events DC Fiscal Year 2022 audit delayed by the cyber attack been completed?**
- a. If not, when is expected to be completed? What is the reason for the ongoing delay?**
 - b. If yes, please describe what the results of the audit of Events DC after Events DC rebuilt its data?**

The 2022 cyber-attack limited our ability to provide certain requested data to the District’s auditors, McConnell Jones. To address this financial impact of the cyber-attack, Events DC engaged a forensic accounting team and worked closely with them and with OCFO to reconstruct the materials required for the audit, which has since been completed. The auditors issued a clean (unqualified) opinion on Events DC’s FY22 financial statements, consistent with the clean opinions Events DC has received for over two decades.

- 45. Please provide a summary and timeline of discussions and/or negotiations between Events DC and Monumental Sports and Entertainment (“Monumental”) regarding the Entertainment and Sports Arena in the last two years (including before and after Monumental’s December 13, 2023 announcement).**

Other than operational conversations, there have been no negotiations between Events DC and Monumental Sports and Entertainment regarding the Entertainment and Sports Arena in the last two years, including before and after Monumental’s December 13, 2023 announcement.

- 46. Does Events DC anticipate that the Washington Mystics will relocate its home arena from the Entertainment and Sports Arena to Capital One Arena?**

Events DC has a contractual agreement with Monumental Sports and Entertainment through 2037. It is our expectation that our partner will adhere to the terms of that agreement, but if Monumental fails to fulfill its contractual obligations, we will work with Mayor Bowser, DC Council, and other stakeholders on an alternative course of action. Our commitment to the Ward 8 community is unwavering and we will take all appropriate

measures to ensure the Arena and the St. Elizabeths East Campus continue to flourish as an entertainment destination.

47. Please provide an update on the 2024 National Cherry Blossom Festival fundraising and matching grant program.

The grant agreement has been executed and the \$1 million matching grant was transferred to the National Cherry Blossom Festival in January 2024.

48. Please provide an update on Events DC’s grant administration for grounds improvement in Ward 7 for the Washington Nationals Youth Baseball Academy.

The grant agreement has been executed and the \$2 million grant was transferred to Washington Nationals Philanthropies in November 2023.

49. Please provide an update on Events DC’s grant program to support historical research of the District of Columbia.

A grant agreement with the DC History Center has been executed and the \$300,000 grant payment to DC History Center will be made in January 2024.

50. Is the project bringing kiosks to the sidewalk in the 1100 block of 9th St. NW still ongoing?

- a. **What is the status of activating each of the 3 kiosks? If any of the kiosks are still vacant, what is the plan to activate the remaining kiosk(s)?**
- b. **For each of the 3 kiosks:**
 - i. **How much funding has been expended?**
 - ii. **How was the funding spent? (Please provide a project budget/list of expenditures.)**
 - iii. **Who is the current tenant, or if no current tenant, what is the anticipated timeline for a tenant beginning occupancy?**

The construction of the 9th Street retail kiosks has been completed and each of the four kiosks has been leased. One of the tenants, The Gentlemen’s Closet, opened for business in May 2023. The other three tenants are in the process of completing their build-out and/or permitting. OakBerry recently passed their Department of Buildings inspection and is preparing to open in the coming weeks. Brij Coffee is still working to obtain their permits and DC Chi Pie is in the process of securing an architect to begin their build-out. Events DC continues to work closely with the retail tenants to facilitate their openings.

Construction of the retail kiosks was included in Phase One of the Streetscape Beautification Project for the Walter E. Washington Convention Center. Phase One also included installation of granite pavers, raised tree planter boxes, and the renovation of the streetlights around the entire building. The total cost of Phase 1 is \$18.1 million. This budget included construction of the retail kiosks to a warm-lit shell for the tenants. The tenants are responsible for the costs of their respective permits and fit-out costs. In terms of the overall Phase 1 project, we have spent approximately 90% of the total allocated/approved budget.