

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

NOTICE OF PUBLIC OVERSIGHT ROUNDTABLE

on the

District of Columbia Housing Authority

Tuesday, October 22, 2024
12:00 PM

In the John A. Wilson Building, 1350 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W., Room 500
and virtually 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, October 22, 2024, at 12:00 PM, Councilmember Robert C. White Jr., Chair of the Committee on Housing, will convene a public oversight roundtable on the performance of the District of Columbia Housing Authority (DCHA).

The upcoming roundtable will be the 6th time in less than 2 years that DCHA leadership must come before the Committee to report on their progress and plans on the record. This unusual level of scrutiny is warranted due to the critical nature of DCHA's mission and the demonstrated need for ongoing improvement in its performance.

DCHA works to address the housing needs of tens of thousands of lower-income District households through a variety of programs, including federally and locally funded voucher programs and the public housing program. The agency is working to emerge from a period of deep crisis, including stagnant waiting lists, unacceptable housing conditions, and unreliable internal processes and finances.

The Committee on Housing has worked together with the agency's special Stabilization and Reform Board ("STAR Board") to help resolve these issues through local budget infusions, new legislative mandates focused on transparency and accountability, and targeted oversight. The STAR Board hired Executive Director Keith Pettigrew, who took office in November 2023 and has brought in new leaders to head many of the agency's departments.

In June 2024, Director Pettigrew released a Three-Year Recovery Plan, which sets forth 101 strategic goals meant to ensure that various departments are performing at a high level and meeting residents' needs. One purpose of this roundtable is to update the public on the agency's progress

toward these goals and ensure that as many goals as possible are tied to objective and reasonable metrics.

In addition to an oversight update, the roundtable will provide an opportunity to discuss possible legislation on several important topics with the STAR Board, agency leadership, and the public. Potential topics include the future structure of the agency's governing board¹ and safeguards around the agency's long-term plan to convert public housing operating subsidies into other alternatives.

The public oversight roundtable will take place beginning at 12:00 PM in hybrid format via both the Zoom web conferencing platform and in-person testimony in the John A. Wilson Building (Room 500). Members of the public who do not wish to testify will be able to view the public hearing at <https://dccouncil.gov/council-videos/>, <https://entertainment.dc.gov/page/live-tv>, and <https://youtube.com/@committeehousingdc>.

The Committee invites the public to testify in person or remotely or to submit written testimony. Anyone wishing to testify must sign up at <https://dccouncil.gov/hearings> or by phone at (202) 727-8270, and provide their name, phone number or e-mail, organizational affiliation, title (if any), and any preferred personal pronouns by **the close of business on Friday, October 18, 2024**. Witnesses who will testify live are encouraged, but not required, to submit their testimony in writing electronically in advance at <https://dccouncil.gov/hearings>. The Committee will follow-up with witnesses with additional instructions on how to provide testimony in advance of the proceeding.

All public witnesses will be allowed a maximum of four minutes to testify, while Advisory Neighborhood Commissioners will be permitted five minutes to testify. At the discretion of the Chair, the length of time provided for oral testimony may be reduced.

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 also encourages the public to submit written testimony to be included for the public record. Copies of written testimony should be submitted via <https://dccouncil.gov/hearings>. **The record for this public oversight roundtable will close at the close of business on Tuesday, November 4, 2024.**

¹ See "District of Columbia Housing Authority (DCHA) Stabilization and Reform (S.T.A.R.) Board of Commissioners Recommendation for the DCHA successor Board" (July 1, 2024), <https://lms.dccouncil.gov/downloads/LIMS/55882/Introduction/RC25-0207-Introduction.pdf?Id=194698>.