

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2B

April 24, 2019

Mr. Tyrone Garrett
Executive Director
District of Columbia Housing Authority
1133 North Capitol Street NE
Washington, DC 20002
tgarrett@dchousing.org

Ms. Laura Newland
Director
Department of Aging and Community Living
500 K Street NE
Washington, DC 20002
laura.newland@dc.gov

Ms. Sheila Alexander-Reid Director Mayor's Office of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Questioning Affairs 2000 14th Street NW, Second Floor Washington, DC 20009 sheila.reid2@dc.gov

RE: LGBTQ Senior Housing Vouchers

Dear Executive Director Garrett, Director Newland, and Director Alexander-Reid:

At its regular meeting on April 10, 2019, the Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission ("ANC 2B" or "Commission") considered the above-referenced matter. With 8 of 9 Commissioners in attendance, a quorum at a duly-noticed public meeting, the Commission approved the following resolution by a vote of (8-0-0):

WHEREAS, the District of Columbia has a housing shortage that has reached critical proportions,

WHEREAS, that shortage has put upward pressure on rents, making rental units increasingly unaffordable,

WHEREAS, many long-time residents of the District of Columbia are being forced out of homes and neighborhoods as they become unable to afford higher and higher rents,

WHEREAS, older residents on fixed incomes are among those most at risk of being forced out, especially after the loss of a spouse or partner,

WHEREAS, the District of Columbia has the highest percentage of LGBTQ residents of any city in the country, and

WHEREAS, elders in our LGBTQ community are among those at risk who wish to remain in their homes and among friends, neighbors, and community.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2B supports the proposal for the Mayor's Office of LGBTQ Affairs to receive 24 housing vouchers for LGBTQ older adults through the District of Columbia Housing Authority.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2B urges all relevant agencies to acknowledge and address the unmet need for LGBTQ-friendly senior housing, such as has already been established in Chicago, Philadelphia, New York City, San Francisco, and other major cities. The ANC urges the Department of Aging and Community Living, the Mayor's Office of LGBTQ Affairs, and the District of Columbia Housing Authority to work together to fulfill this critical need so that LGBTQ seniors may age in place in our community.

Commissioners Mike Silverstein (<u>2B06@anc.dc.gov</u>) and Kari Cunningham (<u>2B07@anc.dc.gov</u>) are the Commission's representatives in this matter.

ON BEHALF OF THE COMMISSION.

Kari Cunningham

Sincerely,

Kari Cunningham

Vice Chair