

## **Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2A**

"Serving the Foggy Bottom and West End communities of Washington, D.C."

May 9, 2022

Ms. Laura Zeilinger
Director
Department of Human Services
64 New York Avenue NE, 6th Floor
Washington, DC 20002
laura.zeilinger@dc.gov

Councilmember Brianne Nadeau Chair, Committee on Human Services Council of the District of Columbia 1350 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Suite 102 Washington, DC 20004 bnadeau@dccouncil.us

**RE: Solutions to Reform DC's Rapid Rehousing Program** 

Dear Director Zeilinger and Councilmember Nadeau,

At its regular meeting on April 20, 2022, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2A ("ANC 2A" or "Commission") considered the above-referenced matter. With seven of eight commissioners present, a quorum at a duly-noticed public meeting, the Commission voted (6-1-0), after a motion made by Commissioner Omictin and seconded by Commissioner Patel, to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, several residents of ANC 2A use government-provided vouchers to pay for their apartments, including time-limited rapid rehousing vouchers, also known as the Family Re-Housing Stabilization Program (FRSP),

WHEREAS, the Department of Human Services (DHS) has stated that up to <u>913</u> <u>families</u> currently receiving rapid rehousing vouchers will be terminated from the program soon, and by the Department's estimates 90% of these families will not be able to afford rent without continued assistance, and

WHEREAS, DHS has consistently received <u>less funding than needed</u> to sustain the number of rapid rehousing voucher recipients, and a <u>budget deficit</u> restricts DHS from extending rapid rehousing vouchers until recipients are self-sufficient.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2A urges the DC Government, including DHS, to allocate sufficient funds to prevent up to 913 families receiving rapid rehousing from returning to housing instability in this fiscal year (2022) and withdraw any time-limit termination notices issued to this point.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2A urges the DC Government to find solutions to reform the rapid rehousing program and avoid benefits cliffs in the future, including but not limited to:

 a) Creating concrete plans to transition rapid rehousing voucher recipients to more permanent housing subsidies, such as Targeted Affordable Housing (TAH) or Local Rent Supplement Program (LRSP) tenant vouchers,



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- b) Halting time-limit terminations until rapid rehousing recipient families can afford rent without subsidies, and
- c) Investing some of the money spent on case management, which can be up to \$836 per month per family, directly in tenants as a universal basic income to meet their basic needs.

Commissioners Yannik Omictin (<u>2A01@anc.dc.gov</u>) and Joel Causey (<u>2A02@anc.dc.gov</u>) are the Commission's representatives in this matter.

ON BEHALF OF THE COMMISSION.

Toel Causey

Sincerely,

Joel Causey Chairperson