

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 1B

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July 13, 2020

Honorable Phil Mendelson -- via email pmendelson@dccouncil.us -- Via email pmendelson@dccouncil.us -- Via email pmendelson@dccoun

RE: Recommendations for FY21 Budget

At its regular meeting on July 9, 2020, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 1B ("ANC 1B" or "Commission") considered a motion by Commissioner Delaney and seconded by Commissioner Winston, to adopt the following.

Recent police violence demonstrates the need for strategies and programs that strengthen neighborhoods without over-policing them. These concerns are particularly relevant for Ward 1 and ANC 1B, where police are regularly deployed along Georgia Avenue and 14th to assist in crime reduction efforts. 1B residents routinely request more neighborhood law enforcement presence to build productive relationships between the community and the police. However, DC's FY 2021 budget proposes cutting funding for the Office of Neighborhood Safety and Engagement by \$863,203, from \$7,579,217 to \$6,716,014, an 11.4% decrease. This program and others like it are critical to long term crime reduction. Funding should not be decreased, but maintained or increased,

More than 40% of Ward 1's population is non-white. Black and Brown people are more likely to be incarcerated for non-violent crimes and otherwise impacted by structural racism in the criminal justice system. The Criminal Code Reform Commission is invaluable in the efforts to overhaul policies that bias against DC residents of color. DC's FY 2021 budget proposes cutting funding for the Criminal Code Reform Commission by \$348,573, from \$723,217 to \$374,644, a 48.2% decrease. Funding should not be decreased but maintained or increased. Furthermore, allocate funding for work that specifically targets reducing the incarceration rate of non-violent offenders.

Black and Brown people are more likely to be jailed for non-violent crimes and otherwise impacted by structural racism in the criminal justice system. DC's FY 2021 budget proposes cutting funding for Inmate Services – including Inmate Adjustment and Developmental Support – by \$574,000 while increasing funding for Inmate Custody – including Institutional Security and Control, Security Enhancements, and Community Corrections – by \$1.188M. Personal development programs and inmate health are critical to successful future reintegration efforts. Rather than hiring additional security guards, funding should be reallocated from Inmate Custody to Inmate Services to support development and workforce training programs that empower inmates with valuable knowledge and skills.

We recognize and appreciate the need for community-specific policy recommendations from ANC bodies. However, the city budget applies broadly across all DC wards and ANC communities. ANC 1B is one of the few ANC's that annually submits feedback and recommendations to the City Council on their budget proposals. Therefore, the Council's upcoming vote on revisions to the FY21 budget must be considered for ANC 1B insofar as this community is affected by the investment decisions and resources allocated by the City Council.

Cuts to DC Cadet Program – local officers are the local young folks from the city who want to continue being part of policing in the city. The Council Cut the Program. Amendment – homegrown law enforcement pipeline.

The Chair or any Commissioner, as the Chair's delegate, is authorized to represent ANC 1B before any DC agency or the Council.

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Certification:

On July 9, 2020, at a publicly noticed meeting with a quorum of 11 Commissioners present. Advisory Neighborhood Commission 1B voted to approve the transmittal.

Junes A. Turner, Chair ANC 1B Commissioner SMD 1B09 Danny Delaney, Secretary ANC 1B Commissioner SMD 1B10

c: Honorable Muriel Bowser, Mayor, District of Columbia Honorable Brianne Nadeau, Councilmember, Ward 1