The Fair Budget Coalition has provided the following report as the final of a 3 part series to advocate and educate on behalf of DC’s more impacted residents. The policies within this final report were left underfunded, or financially cut thus hindering the advancement of racial equity that is desperate needed in Washington DC.

### Housing Security

- **End Family Homelessness total cost $27M**  
  DC's final vote includes $6
- **Targeted Affordable Housing cost $17M**  
  DC's final vote includes $2M
- **Permanent Supportive Housing cost $10M**  
  DC's Final vote includes $4M
- **End Chronic Homelessness for individuals cost $24M**  
  DC's final vote includes 5M
- **Re-Entry Housing Pilot cost $1.8M.**  
  DC's final vote includes $1M
- **Repair & Maintain Public Housing cost $60M for FY 2021 and FY 2022.**  
  DC's final vote includes $50M for FY 2021 and $15M FY 2022
- **Emergency Rental Assistance Program cost $12M.**  
  DC's final vote includes $6M
- **Affordable housing for people making 0-30% of AMI (HPTF) cost $180M.**  
  DC's final vote includes $60M
- **Local Rent Supplement Funds to subsidize Affordable Housing: cost $24M.**  
  DC's final vote includes $5M
- **Tenant Vouchers for 500 households cost $10M**  
  DC's final vote includes $1M

*DC Council converted funding from recurring to one-time use only.

### Community Safety

- Independent Office of the Ombudsman for Child and Family Services: cost $600K. **DC did not fund this recommendation.**
- Domestic Violence Enhancement Services cost $2M **DC did not fund this recommendation.**
- Increased Authority & Funding for Office of Police Complaints cost $132K. **DC did not fund this recommendation.**

### Economic Justice

- *Childcare Protections for Reopening Facilities cost $10M.**  
  DC's final vote includes $1M
- Independent Office of the Ombudsman for Department of Human Services: cost $1.5M  
  **DC did not fund this recommendation.**
- *Excluded Workers Cash Assistance: cost $30M**  
  DC's final vote includes $9M

### Food Access & Security

- WIC Outreach cost 250K. **DC's final vote includes $175K.**
- Grocery Retail Funding cost $11M  
  **DC did not fund this recommendation.**

### Healthcare Equality

- *Restore Department of Behavioral Health Underfunded due to Council cut of $4M

Despite the narrative created by the DC Council’s Chairman, this year's final budget vote left many of the critical needs of DC residents unmet during a global pandemic.
Housing Security

After every budget season, FBC moves closer to fighting for housing a human right. The fights over providing affordability, protecting renters and ending homelessness consistently leave DC residents struggling at the mercy of decision-makers. Housing insecurity for low-income residents in DC has grown over the past few years. During the FY2021 budget, The Fair Budget Coalition prioritized ending chronic homelessness, protecting renters, re-entry & public housing, and homeless outreach. The investments to eliminate housing insecurity in the FY2021 budget merely scratches the surface of what’s been neglected by DC officials for years.

ENDING HOMELESSNESS
Our proposal to end family homelessness recommended the city dedicate $27M, divided into two different programs. In the final vote

- Targeted Affordable Housing with $17M would have housed 712 families. The final budget vote includes $2M of the proposed $17M.
- Permanent Supportive Housing provides housing for 248 families. The city invested $4M out of the needed $10M in the final vote of the budget.

To end chronic homelessness for individuals in DC, the city needed $24M to ensure 1404 people could receive housing, the final budget only approves $5M. Another component to end homelessness is DC’s successful tenant vouchers. Our proposal recommended the city allocate $10M toward these housing vouchers helping 500 individuals and families. However, the DC Council only provided $1M to connect low-income families with livable units.

AFFORDABILITY & ACCESSIBILITY
This year, we have examined a decrease in the overall amount of money invested in keeping DC accessible through affordability. In this budget season, minimal actions were made to increase deeply affordable housing through the Housing Production Trust Fund. In their final vote, the DC Council devoted only $60M of the $180M needed to increase 0-30% AMI housing availability. In connection to building these new affordable units, DC must provide matching funds through the Local Supplement Rental Program to keep the units affordable over time. LRSP provides monthly rental subsidies that cover the difference between the rents that very low-income families can afford to pay, and the actual monthly rent cost. The FBC urged the council to fund the matching subsidies by $24M; they included only $5M in the final vote.

In comparison to last year’s fight for the preservation of DC’s public housing properties. This year, the city took a more active role in securing investments to repair and maintain DC’s public housing properties. The Coalition proposed the city dedicate $60M for both FY20 & FY21, ensuring the repairs and oversight would be continuous. Combined, both DC Mayor and DC Council invested $50M for FY21 and $15M for FY22.

Finally, the coalition proposed a pilot program to connect citizens re-entering society with stable housing. This

RENTER & HOMELESS PROTECTIONS
Finally, we proposed (3) recommendations to halt evictions, protect renters, and expand homeless outreach. To protect DC renters, the coalition proposed that DC provide an additional $12M for the Emergency Rental Assistance Program, a program that offers immediate assistance to DC renters. ERAP has been a successful tool for curbing the displacement of low-income Black and brown residents in DC. The Council invested $6M to ERAP this budget season, which included a restoration of $1M from the Mayor’s cuts. As the need became more evident due to the COVID-19 pandemic, The Fair Budget Coalition urged the DC Council to carry out wide-sweeping rent cancellation and move the Bill of Tenant Rights. (link to leg)We know from reports in other cities that a wave of evictions will occur once the moratorium is lifted after the pandemic.

As successes this year, the Council fully funded Project Reconnect, a shelter diversion and rapid exit program for unaccompanied adults experiencing homelessness, by $1.7M. In addition to providing full funding to the Homeless Street Outreach program with $2M.
HEALTHCARE EQUALITY

FBC’s approach to eliminating healthcare disparities has been to ensure both the mind and body are protected and have access to care. Years of neglect have led to a lack of or urgent and trauma care for residents in majority Black and brown communities. This year we held our grounds to get rid of punitive healthcare requirements, ensure children have a healthy development, and prioritizing behavioral health for DC residents.

ACCESS TO HEALTHCARE

For years the Fair Budget Coalition has fought to restructure and fund a sustainable recertification process for residents enrolled in the Healthcare Alliance Program. Due to the pandemic, the Council made changes to the recertification process by funding a 2017 amendment with $6M to ease some burden of accessing healthcare for members of DC’s immigrant communities.

HEALTHY DEVELOPMENT FOR KIDS

The Mayor almost provided full funding to the Healthy Future initiative, leaving only a $175K gap out of the proposed 500K. DC Mayor, however, ensured that the Healthy Steps program received total funding at $300K. The coalition advocated for $12M to provide more mental health services for students. In a combined effort, both the DC Mayor and Council fully funded the need to provide more mental health services for students.

PRIORITIZING BEHAVIOR HEALTH

Our last health care proposal emerged after the Mayor proposed a $9M cut to the Department of Behavior Health. During their first vote, the DC Council approved a full restoration of those funds. However, during the final hour, the DC Council voted to renege on their proposal by $4M.

ECONOMIC JUSTICE

The reach for economic stability for low-income Washingtonians is higher than the glass ceiling. Yet Black and Brown’s residents are forced to watch luxury amenities be built with their tax dollars while never being able to partake in those amenities. This year, FBC increasingly looked to provide protections to residents left out of the traditional economy, protect tipped workers from wage thief (again), and ensure childcare facilities were COVID ready.

ECONOMIC STABILITY FOR EXCLUDED WORKERS.

This year, COVID-19 exposed the lack of economic protections in place for DC’s excluded workers. While traditional workers who lose their jobs, or had decreased wages could file for unemployment and receive a federal stimulus, thousands of DC residents were excluded from the coverage. The coalition worked with partners to ensure $30M was set aside as cash assistance for DC’s excluded workers. The DC Mayor and Events DC found $5M in the earlier months of the pandemic. The DC Council added $9M.

EARLY CHILDCARE FACILITIES PROTECTIONS.

Our group proposed $10M to assist childcare providers in meeting COVID-19 health regulations, providing PPE, and purchasing cleaning products in the FY2021 budget. The DC Council found only $1M for this recommendation.

ELIMINATING WAGE THEFT FOR TIPPED WAGE WORKERS.

Though the DC council repelled Initiative 77 and created an amendment to protect tipped wage workers, they did not fully fund the project. This budget season, the DC Council finally provided $535K for the Department of Employment Services and $700K for the Office of Human Rights to ensure tipped workers have protections from the consistent issue of wage theft.

INDEPENDENT OVERSIGHT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

Two proposals that were not funded but would have brought more economic stability and growth for DC residents were our Equitable Vendors License, which needed $300K to decriminalize street vending. Also, our proposal to create an independent DHS ombudsperson was not funded, which would have provided more accountability and access to constituents, as well as help to ensure racial equity.
FOOD ACCESS, SECURITY AND JUSTICE

The lack of grocery stores is a form of racial violence against the poorest and Blackest parts of our city. The residents of Ward 7 & 8 have waited for the city to execute actionable plans to end the years of food injustice East of the Anacostia River. After wasting millions going to conventions in Las Vegas and giving up tax incentives annually, DC has not made sustainable advancements to end these rampant injustices.

MORE GROCERY OPTIONS IN WARDS 7 & 8
Residents in Ward 7 & 8 have waited years for the city to provide true food access to communities EOTR. Our proposal to invest $11M into a DC Good Food Investment Fund was completely ignored by both the DC Mayor and Council. This fund would create small business loans for local grocers and entrepreneurs in Ward 7 and 8 to open their doors and provide fresh produce, dairy, and household items to residents.

EXPAND WIC OUTREACH FOR FAMILIES
Our final recommendation for food equity was an investment of $250K to expand access to the WIC program which provides nutritious foods, breastfeeding support, and healthcare referrals to low-income pregnant women, infants, and children up to age five. The DC Council, however, only found $75K in the FY21 budget for the program.

COMMUNITY SAFETY

The Fair Budget Coalition has always advocated for a holistic, healing, and therapeutic approach to handling crime, trauma, and abuse in Washington DC. The road to safe communities will never be found in the institution of policing. Still, we know to centralize and uplift the voice of those most impacted by community violence brings the best results. The FY 2021 budget ignores the calls from community members to reinvest public dollars into affected neighborhoods.

PROTECTING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SURVIVORS.
In our original proposal, we urged the Mayor and DC Council to provide survivors of domestic violence with a crisis shelter and to enhance domestic violence legal services and culturally specific services. This recommendation would have cost taxpayers $5M, with $3M for the crisis shelter and $2M for the enhancement services. The DC Council could find $3M for the crisis shelter, but the enhancement services went unfunded.

POLICE ACCOUNTABILITY AND HEAVY INVESTMENTS TO BLACK AND BROWN COMMUNITIES.
Before the tragic murder of George Floyd and Breonna Taylor, DC struggled to provide the holiest police accountability. We asked the city to expand the Office of Police Complaints’ investigative authority, an expansion to allow OPC to conduct investigations without a complaint from a resident and hire staffing. This recommendation needed a dedication of $132K, which in the final vote went unfunded.

In the height of police tensions across the nation, FBC joined groups like Black Lives Matter DC and Black Swan Academy to address some of the over investments within the Metropolitan Police budget. In her FY 2021 budget, the DC Mayor gave MPD a $19M raise, which was widely criticized by residents across the city. Our work demanded the Council to look into a divestment of $79M from MPD’s oversized budget (½ billion dollars) to reinvest into neglected policies aimed to help Black and brown communities. This divestment included:

$18M from MPD to halt any proposed increase to the budget;
$50M to prevent MPD from filling any MPD vacancies;
$11M to eliminate School Resource Officers from DC Schools.
Redirect $23M from Education that is an interagency transfer to MPD for School Resource Officers.
The DC Council only seized $15M of the $79M requested as a part of the FY2021 budget adjustments.

Independent Accountability for DC’ Child and Family Services Agency
FBC proposed to the DC Council to establish and fund an independent ombudsman for the Child and Family Services Agency (CFSA). This recommendation would have cost the city

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