Who Is the Fair Budget Coalition (FBC)?
The Fair Budget Coalition is a multi-issue advocacy organization that advocates for budget and public policy initiatives that seek to address systemic social, racial and economic inequality in the District of Columbia. We work to accomplish these goals by leveraging the collective power of our member organizations and impacted community members, particularly those from Black and other communities of color. We were born out of the value that everyone stands to benefit when organizations working to alleviate poverty come together to promote a shared agenda.

Our Process
The Fair Budget Coalition releases an Annual Budget Report to communicate our budget and policy priorities to the Mayor and to the Council. These budget recommendations are the result of a collaborative process engaging constituents, policy experts, direct service providers, and engaged community members. FBC begins our collaborative work in August within our Issue Groups (Housing Security, Community Safety, Food Access, Healthcare, Economic Justice, and Fair Taxes and Public Deals) to determine which priorities will be presented to the membership body for voting. When all Issue Groups have submitted recommendations, they present to our membership and facilitate community education events where constituents are asked to vote on which recommendations they want to endorse. Following voting, our elected Steering Committee scores each recommendation utilizing our decision making rubric. Then they calculate constituent votes, member votes and rubric scores to determine the priorities that will be adopted on our budget platform.
The Mayor's Budget

During the FY20 Budget Season, FBC released our first-ever Mayoral report card, which detailed how much money was devoted to each of our priorities and illustrated the gap to be filled by Council. The intent of the scorecard was to provide an objective measure to hold Mayor Bowser and her administration accountable to their rhetoric around spending priorities—in other words, to provide at least a partial assessment of how well Mayor Bowser was providing low-income communities adequate access to critical services and closing the racial wealth gap. The report card also laid the foundation for the DC Council to see where the gaps in funding remained.
Council Advocacy and Accountability Communications

Every DC Council member received a copy of our budget report and a copy of the Mayor’s report card. They also received a document that suggested different pots of money or revenue sources that we recommended using to fund our priorities. This year, for the first time, we also embarked upon an accountability process for Council that has culminated in this report.

This report is not a scorecard, as we did not think that was reflective of some of the behind the scenes work that happens at the Council, nor does it encapsulate the varying degrees that Councilmembers are involved in each of their Committees, some which are more relevant to our priorities than others. Rather than scoring Councilmembers, FBC simply asked each Councilmember at each stage in the budget process what he or she was doing to fund specific FBC priority programs. From February through August 2019, Councilmembers and key staff in each office were asked to tell us what specific efforts they were taking to increase or decrease funding for FBC priority programs. Because the “how” of funding matters too—a critical value of the FBC is that we should not be funding one program that helps a community with the money from another program that helps the same community—we also looked at the source of funding when we could, and particularly when we had asked for certain sources to be used.

We then supplemented those answers with input from our members on efforts that they witnessed. Every Councilmember except Chairman Mendelson, Councilmember Cheh and Councilmember Todd responded to at least some of our questions. Where a Councilmember did not respond at all or to a specific question, we have noted that so that you will be able to tell that that section of the report is solely based on member input. As not every aspect of the budget process occurs in the light of the public eye, those who answered our request for information will, as would be expected, have more detail.

This report is intended to be a public document that reflects upon the work that was done during Budget Season FY20 and provides some information to judge objectively where Councilmembers stand in relation to FBC priorities. As a multi-issue coalition, it is imperative for us and our constituents to be able to identify who our ‘champions’ are and to have that be assessed not just by public statements or rhetoric but through concrete actions, efforts and votes of our elected officials. It was harder than we expected in many ways, and we faced a lot of pushback and resistance. Because this is our first year developing this type of report, we hope to refine and improve the process in time for next year’s budget season. This report seeks to answer a question we commonly receive on “which Councilmembers stand with FBC priorities?” The answer is “it’s complicated,” and we hope this report sheds light on some of the work that often times is unseen by the general public, as well as to show our community the hard work that is being done not just by community members and advocates, but also within the Wilson Building to ensure our priorities are uplifted and funded.
Community Input:
The Councilmember has monthly office hours in Ward 1 called “Brianne On Your Block.” She also reported having frequent meetings with “members of the community, different organizations, advocates, and stakeholders to discuss their budget concerns and interests.” The Councilmember personally met with members of Fair Budget Coalition multiple times during the budget season. In addition, members of her staff had numerous meetings and communications with individual FBC members.

Mayor Bowser Advocacy (prior to the release of her budget proposal):
Councilmember Nadeau states that she sent a letter to Mayor Bowser asking for increases in, among other programs, Permanent Supportive Housing, Targeted Affordable Housing, homeless services outreach, emergency rental assistance, and public housing repairs.

Public Engagement on FBC Priorities
Councilmember Nadeau asked Fair Budget Members multiple questions about their testimony and raised many of the issues and recommendations from our testimony with the Administration when their representative testified. The Councilmember also solicited suggested questions for the Administration from members prior to hearings.
Funding Priorities as Committee Chair:

As Chair of the Committee on Human Services, Councilmember Nadeau increased funding for ending chronic homelessness for individuals, homeless street outreach and emergency rental assistance, with some help from her colleagues sending money from other Committees. She also sent money to another committee to help fund the Public Restrooms Facilities and Installation Act. She did not decrease funding for any of the programs we support.

Funding Priorities as Committee Member:

Councilmember Nadeau advocated for the Committee on Health to fully fund Produce Rx and Produce Plus. She supported Councilmember Cheh’s soda tax to pay for Produce Rx and the expansion of the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC). (FBC did not take a position on the soda tax but did support the programs it funded.)

Support for Reallocation of Resources (A list of sources can be found here):

Councilmember Nadeau took the lead on developing, introducing and shepherding to passage the “Downloading Lost Revenues Amendment Act of 2019.” The bill reformed the Qualified High Technology Company tax abatement program, freeing up about $15 million that was then dedicated to programs that serve District residents, including permanent supportive housing for individuals, homeless street outreach, Birth to Three programs, and school-based mental health services. She, along with Councilmember Silverman, advocated for the clawback of the Line Hotel tax abatement, and devoted $1 million to public housing repairs in Ward 1 as a result.

Chairman Mendelson Advocacy:

In addition to introducing the “Downloading Lost Revenues Amendment Act of 2019” at the first budget vote, which passed 9-4 on first reading and was included in the full budget by the second reading, Councilmember Nadeau made other efforts to increase funding for Fair Budget priorities in the Committee of the Whole. She states that she sent a letter to Chairman Mendelson requesting funding for 600 additional units of Permanent Supportive Housing for Individuals, 14 units of Targeted Affordable Housing for individuals, $3 million for homeless street outreach, $5 million for emergency rental assistance, $12.5 million for public housing repairs, $10.7 million for mental health services in schools, $22 million for Birth-to-Three, and $1.78 million for adult learners transportation. She also supported using reserves to pay for public housing repairs.
Community Input:
Councilmember did not have any community engagement opportunities for budget priorities. Councilmember Evans did not meet with the Fair Budget Coalition, although his staff did. Councilmember Evans reports that he met with several of our members about Birth-to-Three and homeless outreach funding.

Mayor Bowser Advocacy (prior to the release of her budget proposal):
Councilmember Evans did not advocate for any Fair Budget spending priorities with the mayor.

Public Engagement on FBC Priorities
Councilmember Evans engaged with some of our members on ending chronic homelessness and Birth-to-Three funding.

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CM Evans has been on the Council since 1991.

Committees Served On:
Finance and Revenue (Former Chair)
Government Operations
Business and Economic Development
Transportation and the Environment
Fair Budget Coalition FY20
DC Council Impact Report

**Councilmember:** Jack Evans (Ward 2)

**Funding Priorities as Committee Chair:**
As Chair of the Finance and Revenue Committee, Councilmember Evans modified the child care tax credit to focus benefits on lower-income households. He dedicated the $1.3 million savings to Birth-to-Three. He did not reduce any funding to Fair Budget priority programs.

**Funding Priorities as Committee Member:**
Though Councilmember Evans opposed Councilmember Cheh’s efforts in committee to implement a soda tax to fund Fair Budget food security programs, he ultimately voted in favor of it at mark-up. (FBC did not take a position on the soda tax, but we supported increased funding for the programs it funded.) He states that he also supported funding Birth-to-Three in committees.

**Support for Reallocation of Resources (A list of sources can be found [here](#)):**
Councilmember Evans supported focusing the benefits of the childcare tax credit on low-income households and diverting savings to Birth-to-Three. He voted for Councilmember Nadeau’s “Downloading Lost Revenues Amendment Act of 2019” and held a hearing at which he pledged his support for the changes, freeing up about $15 million that was then dedicated to programs that serve District residents. At the Committee of the Whole, he voted in favor of Councilmember Gray’s amendment to allow Events DC to use its funds to purchase RFK stadium. If the amendment had passed it could have reduced the funding available in future years for public housing repairs. He did, however, vote in favor of using the current surplus in Events DC to fund public housing repairs.

**Chairman Mendelson Advocacy:**
We are not aware of any efforts to advocate for FBC priorities with Chairman Mendelson.
Fair Budget Coalition FY20 DC Council Impact Report

Councilmember Cheh (Ward 3)

Councilmember Cheh did not respond to repeated requests for information about her efforts to fund Fair Budget priorities this budget season, so we have completed this to the best of our knowledge. Her office reports that: “the Councilmember disfavors scorecards and questionnaires, especially where her actions were taken in public view. There are video recordings of the markups, the budget work session, and the vote on the budget legislation.” When provided a draft of this section and asked for edits, the Councilmember directed us to “pages 3-5 and 17-23, the summary pages of our budget report (which, again, is available here).”

Community Input:
We are not aware of any community engagement on budget priorities. Councilmember Cheh's staff met with the Fair Budget Coalition as a whole in the budget season, as well as individual members.

Mayor Bowser Advocacy (prior to the release of her budget proposal):
We are not aware that any Fair Budget priorities were also Councilmember Cheh's spending priorities.

Public Engagement on FBC Priorities
We are not aware of any efforts by Councilmember Cheh to publicly engage with members on Fair Budget priorities.

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CM Cheh has been on the Council since 2007.

Committees Served On:
Transportation and the Environment (Chair)
Judiciary and Public Safety
Health
Labor and Workforce Development

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Councilmember: Mary Cheh (Ward 3)

Funding Priorities as Committee Chair:
Councilmember Cheh established a soda tax in her committee to fund Produce Rx and the expansion of the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC). FBC did not take a position on the soda tax, but we did support increasing funding for those programs. FBC supported undoing the Mayor’s proposal to make the Circulator free and diverting those funds to programs for low-income residents instead. Though Councilmember Cheh cut the funds for the free Circulator, she did not dedicate the savings to FBC priority programs. She did not reduce any funding to Fair Budget priority programs.

Funding Priorities as Committee Member:
We are not aware of any efforts in other committees to fund Fair Budget priority programs.

Support for reallocation of resources (A list of sources can be found here):
She voted for Councilmember Nadeau’s “Downloading Lost Revenues Amendment Act of 2019,” which reformed the Qualified High Technology Company tax abatement program, freeing up about $15 million that was then dedicated to programs that serve District residents. As stated above, she eliminated the free Circulator proposal, but we were unable to find any evidence that the funds were then diverted to Fair Budget priorities.

Chairman Mendelson Advocacy:
We are not aware of any efforts made by Councilmember Cheh to advocate for FBC priority programs with Chairman Mendelson.
Councilmember Todd (Ward 4)

Councilmember Todd did not respond to repeated requests for information about her efforts to fund Fair Budget priorities this budget season, so we have completed this to the best of our knowledge.

**Community Input:**

We are not aware of any community engagement on budget priorities. Councilmember Todd did not meet with the Fair Budget Coalition, however his staff did meet with individual members.

**Mayor Bowser Advocacy (prior to the release of her budget proposal):**

We are not aware that any Fair Budget priorities were also Councilmember Todd's spending priorities.

**Public Engagement on FBC Priorities**

We are not aware of any efforts by Councilmember Todd to publicly engage with members on FBC priorities.

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**CM Todd** has been on the Council since 2015.

**Committees Served On:**

Government Operations *(Chair)*

Human Services

Recreation and Youth Affairs

Health

Transportation and the Environment
Councilmember: Brandon Todd (Ward 4)

Funding Priorities as Committee Chair:
As Chair of Government Operations, Councilmember Todd sent funds to the Committee on Education to fund the implementation of a dating and sexual violence policy and prevention curriculum in all K-12 schools. He did not reduce any funding to Fair Budget priority programs.

Funding Priorities as Committee Member:
We are not aware of any efforts in other committees to fund Fair Budget priority programs.

Support for reallocation of resources (A list of sources can be found here):
Councilmember Todd voted against Councilmember Nadeau’s “Downloading Lost Revenues Amendment Act of 2019” at first reading, which reformed the Qualified High Technology Company tax abatement program, freeing up about $15 million that was then dedicated to multiple Fair Budget priorities. Councilmember Todd voted in favor of Councilmember Gray’s amendment to allow Events DC to use its funds to purchase RFK stadium. If the amendment had passed, it would have reduced the funding available in future years for public housing repairs.

Chairman Mendelson Advocacy:
We are not aware of any efforts to advocate for FBC priorities with Chairman Mendelson.
Community Input:
Councilmember McDuffie held a widely-publicized Budget Engagement Forum to hear from his constituents on their priorities. He also met with the Fair Budget Coalition, and his staff met with several individual members.

Mayor Bowser Advocacy (prior to the release of her budget proposal):
Councilmember McDuffie sent a letter to the Mayor urging her to increase funding for, among many other programs, mental health services in schools and violence prevention (NEAR Act).

Public Engagement on FBC Priorities
Councilmember McDuffie did not answer this question. We are not aware of any efforts by Councilmember McDuffie to publicly engage with members on FBC priorities.
**Funding Priorities as Committee Chair:**

As Chair of Business and Economic Development, Councilmember McDuffie sent funds to other committees to fund the implementation of a dating and sexual violence policy and prevention curriculum in all K-12 schools, violence prevention programs, and permanent supportive housing for individuals. He did not reduce any funding to Fair Budget priority programs.

**Funding Priorities as Committee Member:**

As a member of Transportation and the Environment, Councilmember McDuffie opposed Councilmember Cheh’s soda tax, which dedicated funding to Produce Rx and the expansion of the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC). (FBC took no position on the soda tax, but supported the programs it funded.) Councilmember McDuffie stated that he supported increased funding for those food security programs, but he opposed the approach to funding those programs, namely that he did not believe that Cheh’s committee had jurisdiction to make tax policy changes.

**Support for reallocation of resources (A list of sources can be found here):**

Councilmember McDuffie voted against Councilmember Nadeau’s “Downloading Lost Revenues Amendment Act of 2019” on first reading, which reformed the Qualified High Technology Company tax abatement program, freeing up about $15 million that was then dedicated to multiple Fair Budget priorities. Councilmember McDuffie stated that his opposition at the first vote was based on his belief that the bill should have a hearing prior to coming before the full Committee. After the proposal had a hearing between first and second votes, he did not oppose the changes on the second vote (when the amendment was incorporated into the full budget).

**Chairman Mendelson Advocacy:**

Councilmember McDuffie states that he lobbied Chairman Mendelson to maintain the increases to Birth-to-Three and violence prevention efforts that were included in his committee report.
Councilmember Allen (Ward 6)

Community Input:
Councilmember Allen hosted a Ward 6 Budget Town Hall and attended one of the Mayor’s budget town halls. Councilmember Allen also met with the Fair Budget Coalition as a whole in the budget season, as well as individual members.

Mayor Bowser Advocacy (prior to the release of her budget proposal):
Councilmember Allen reports that he spoke with the Mayor directly, as well as members of her team, about his budget priorities, but he did not say whether he raised any of FBC’s priorities to the Mayor.

Public Engagement on FBC Priorities
At Judiciary hearings, Councilmember Allen engaged with FBC members about both violence prevention programs and domestic violence prevention and services.
Councilmember: Charles Allen (Ward 6)

**Funding Priorities as Committee Chair:**
As Chair of Judiciary and Public Safety, Councilmember Allen sent funds to the Committee on Education to fund the implementation of a dating and sexual violence policy and prevention curriculum in all K-12 schools. He also funded violence intervention programs and a domestic violence housing strategic planning process. He did not reduce any funding to Fair Budget priority programs.

**Funding Priorities as Committee Member:**
Councilmember Allen did not answer this question. We are not aware of any efforts in other committees to fund Fair Budget priority programs.

**Support for reallocation of resources (A list of sources can be found [here](#)):**
Within the Judiciary Committee, Councilmember Allen identified vacancy savings in the Metropolitan Police Department's budget that the Committee reallocated to evidence-based violence prevention and intervention programs like the Office of Neighborhood Safety and Engagement created by the NEAR Act, and the Cure the Streets program. At the Committee of the Whole, he voted for Councilmember Nadeau's “Downloading Lost Revenues Amendment Act of 2019,” which reformed the Qualified High Technology Company tax abatement program, freeing up about $15 million that was then dedicated to multiple Fair Budget priorities. Finally, Councilmember Allen led the charge, alongside Chairman Mendelson, to dedicate excess funds from Events DC to public housing repairs.

**Chairman Mendelson Advocacy:**
Councilmember Allen successfully advocated for and with Chairman Mendelson to redirect surplus from Events DC to public housing repairs.
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Councilmember Gray (Ward 7)

Community Input:
Councilmember Gray reports that he meets monthly with the Ward 7 Leadership Council and solicits their input for budget priorities. The Councilmember did not meet with Fair Budget this budget season. His staff met FBC collectively and separately with some members to discuss specific priorities that his office shared, such as the reforms and funding for DC Healthcare Alliance and Birth-to-Three.

Mayor Bowser Advocacy (prior to the release of her budget proposal):
Councilmember Gray submitted a letter to Mayor Bowser laying out multiple ward-specific and city-wide funding priorities, including DC Healthcare Alliance, Birth-to-Three, and violence prevention.

Public Engagement on FBC Priorities
Councilmember Gray did not answer this question. During the Department of Health Care Finance's budget hearing, Councilmember Gray raised the importance of funding changes to Healthcare Alliance. He also highlighted this funding priority during the Mayor’s budget presentation to the Council. He also engaged with members during hearings about our homeless outreach and school mental health services asks.

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CM Gray has been on the Council from 2005-2011, and 2017 to Present.

Committees Served On:
- Health (Chair)
- Finance and Revenue
- Business and Economic Development
- Judiciary and Public Safety

Mayor Bowser Advocacy (prior to the release of her budget proposal):
Councilmember Gray submitted a letter to Mayor Bowser laying out multiple ward-specific and city-wide funding priorities, including DC Healthcare Alliance, Birth-to-Three, and violence prevention.

Public Engagement on FBC Priorities
Councilmember Gray did not answer this question. During the Department of Health Care Finance's budget hearing, Councilmember Gray raised the importance of funding changes to Healthcare Alliance. He also highlighted this funding priority during the Mayor’s budget presentation to the Council. He also engaged with members during hearings about our homeless outreach and school mental health services asks.
Funding Priorities as Committee Chair:
As the Chair of the Committee on Health, Councilmember Gray dedicated full funding for Produce Plus and some funding for Birth-to-Three. Councilmember Gray did not fully fund the D.C. Healthcare Alliance Program Recertification Simplification Amendment Act of 2017, which would have (1) allowed Alliance enrollees to re-certify annual instead of every six months and (2) allowed Alliance enrollees to re-certify at community health centers. Instead, he allocated funds to pilot community health center recertifications for a period of at least two months. (Councilmember Gray and the Chief Financial Officer had a difference of opinion about the amount of funding it would take to fund this initiative.) The Health Committee's budget recommendations also included a cut to a subsidy for United Medical Center UMC. In reversing part of that cut, the majority of the Council approved an amendment to the budget that restored the UMC money by undoing Councilmember Gray's Healthcare Alliance pilot program allocation. Ultimately, none of FBC's Healthcare Alliance request was funded. He did not reduce any funding to Fair Budget priority programs.

Funding Priorities as Committee Member:
Councilmember Gray did not identify specific steps he took, but he did state general support for several FBC priorities that were funded by committees on which he is a member.

Support for reallocation of resources (A list of sources can be found here):
Councilmember Gray supported Brianne Nadeau's "Downloading Lost Revenues Amendment Act of 2019," which dedicated recaptured revenue from tightening the program to several Fair Budget priorities. He proposed an amendment to allow Events DC to use its funds to purchase RFK stadium, which, if the amendment had passed, could have reduced the funding available in future years for public housing repairs. He also proposed an amendment that would have resulted in taking the money from public housing repairs to increase funding for the Housing Production Trust Fund and grocery store development East of the River. Councilmember Gray states that he opposed these efforts not because he opposes funding public housing repairs, but because he felt that the Council and the public had insufficient time and process to review the measures or consider their impact.

Chairman Mendelson Advocacy:
Councilmember Gray states that he requested additional funding for Birth-to-Three at the Committee of the Whole.
Community Input:
Councilmember White held six Community Engagement Forums in Ward 8 to hear from his constituents about their priorities and needs. He met directly with Fair Budget Coalition and individual members several times over the budget season to talk about FBC priorities.

Mayor Bowser Advocacy (prior to the release of her budget proposal):
Councilmember White sent a letter to Mayor Bowser and met with her about his budget priorities, including increasing funding for violence prevention by $10 million. He states that he also discussed increasing mental health supports for students in his meeting.

Public Engagement on FBC Priorities
Councilmember White did not answer this question. We are not aware of any efforts by Councilmember White to publicly engage with members on FBC priorities.

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CM T. White has been on the Council since 2017.

Committees Served On:
Recreation and Youth Affairs (Chair)
Human Services
Government Operations
Education
Housing and Neighborhood Revitalization
Fair Budget Coalition FY20
DC Council Impact Report

**Councilmember:** Trayon White, Sr. (Ward 8)

**Funding Priorities as Committee Chair:**
Councilmember White identified $250,000 in funding for violence intervention efforts in his committee that he was able to send to the Committee on Judiciary. He also attempted to send money to the Committee on Human Services for homeless street outreach, but there was a dispute about whether those funds could be used that way, so he was not able to do so. He did not reduce funding for any Fair Budget Coalition priority program.

**Funding Priorities as Committee Member:**
Councilmember White introduced legislation to increase the percentage of Housing Production Trust Fund dollars that go to the lowest income households (below 30% of Area Median Income) from 40% to 50%. He was able to get that new language incorporated into the Budget Support Act via the Committee on Housing, meaning that more money is required go to lower income housing than otherwise would have.

**Support for reallocation of resources (A list of sources can be found here):**
Councilmember White supported Brianne Nadeau's “Downloading Lost Revenues Amendment Act of 2019,” which dedicated recaptured revenue from tightening the program to several Fair Budget priorities. He supported eliminating the free DC Circulator proposal, scaling back the K Street streetscape improvements and redirecting funds from the new “workforce housing” program to housing for low-income households. He voted for using Events DC reserves to pay for public housing repairs. However, he also voted in favor of Councilmember Gray’s amendment to allow Events DC to use its funds to purchase RFK stadium. If the amendment had passed it would have reduced the funding available in future years for public housing repairs.

**Chairman Mendelson Advocacy:**
Councilmember White sent Chairman Mendelson a letter asking him to, among other things, increase funding by $7 million for violence prevention efforts. He also states that he advocated for increased funding for tenant vouchers.
Community Input:
Councilmember Silverman states that she had “over a dozen individual meetings” with constituents and advocacy organizations to solicit input on budget priorities. She met with FBC and her staff regularly engaged with individual members throughout the process.

Mayor Bowser Advocacy (prior to the release of her budget proposal):
Councilmember Silverman did not send a letter to the Mayor but many of the issues she states that she championed with the Mayor were aligned with FBC’s budget recommendations, including public housing repairs and expanding affordable housing.

Public Engagement on FBC Priorities
Councilmember Silverman engaged on FBC priorities at multiple hearings, particularly on the Housing Production Trust Fund, public housing repairs, and the Mayor’s workforce housing proposal. She also attended budget hearings on the Department of Human Services and engaged on human services-related priorities even though she is not a member of that committee.

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CM Silverman has been on the Council since 2015.

Committees Served On:
- Labor and Workforce Development (Chair)
- Government Operations
- Housing and Neighborhood Revitalization
- Finance and Revenue
Funding Priorities as Committee Chair:
As Chair of the Committee on Labor and Workforce Development, Councilmember Silverman increased funding transportation for adult learners and sent funds to the Committee on Education to fund the implementation of a dating and sexual domestic violence policy and prevention curriculum in all K-12 schools. She did not reduce any funding to Fair Budget priority programs.

Funding Priorities as Committee Member:
As a member of the Committee on Finance and Revenue, Councilmember Silverman played a leading role in reforming the childcare tax credit and for the resulting savings to be devoted to Birth-to-Three. As a member of the Committee on Housing and Neighborhood Revitalization, Councilmember Silverman advocated for increased funding for public housing repairs, and ultimately identified $1 million for public housing repairs for properties in Ward 1 by leading the effort to defund a tax abatement for the Line Hotel.

Support for reallocation of resources (A list of sources can be found here):
Councilmember Silverman supported Councilmember Nadeau’s “Downloading Lost Revenues Amendment Act of 2019,” which reformed the Qualified High Technology Company tax abatement program, freeing up about $15 million that was then dedicated to multiple Fair Budget priorities. Her staff was instrumental in analyzing the surplus in Events DC and providing advocates with the information and tools needed to pursue those funds for public housing repairs. Finally, Councilmember Silverman along with Councilmember Nadeau, led the charge to claw back the Line Hotel tax abatement with a portion of those savings dedicated to public housing repairs in Ward 1.

Chairman Mendelson Advocacy:
Councilmember Silverman states that she met repeatedly with Chairman Mendelson to press for Fair Budget priorities such as increased funding for public housing repairs, redirecting funding from the Line Hotel tax abatement, the removal of funding for the “Free Circulator,” the shifting of funding from the Mayor’s “workforce” housing proposal, and all increased funding for Birth-to-Three.
CM Grosso has been on the Council since 2013.

Committees Served On:
- Education (Chair)
- Human Services
- Health
- Government Operations
- Labor and Workforce Development

Community Input:
Councilmember Grosso and his staff met with multiple FBC members throughout the budget season, although he did not meet with FBC as a coalition when requested. He stated that he met with numerous constituents and organizations and attended multiple briefings and events around the budget.

Mayor Bowser Advocacy (prior to the release of her budget proposal):
Councilmember Grosso submitted a letter to the Mayor supporting increased funding for school safety and mental health services in schools. He also had multiple meetings with members of the executive branch where he states that he conveyed these priorities.

Public Engagement on FBC Priorities
During performance oversight and budget oversight hearings Councilmember Gross engaged directly with FBC members and members of the public as well the Bowser Administration on a number of FBC priorities.
**Funding Priorities as Committee Chair:**

As Chair of the Education committee, Councilmember Grosso identified funds for the implementation of a dating and sexual violence policy and prevention curriculum in all K-12 schools via full funding of the School Safety Omnibus Amendment Act. He also fully funded the Student Fair Access to School Amendment Act, which reforms school discipline practices. He did not reduce any funding to Fair Budget priority programs.

**Funding Priorities as Committee Member:**

Councilmember Grosso strongly advocated for increased funding for school mental health services and was able to increase those funds via the “Downloading Lost Revenues Amendment Act (see below). He also states that, as member of the Committee on Human Services, he supported many FBC priorities such as ending chronic homelessness, ending family homelessness, restoring homeless outreach dollars, fully funding the public restroom bill, and restoring and increasing funds to the eviction prevention program.

**Support for reallocation of resources (A list of sources can be found here):**

Councilmember Grosso took the lead on raising estate taxes on homes over $1.5 million, a revenue proposal that FBC supported. After hearing concerns from other Council members about the details, however, he and Councilmember Nadeau (with support of FBC) decided that the bill should be introduced as separate legislation to allow for a full hearing and deliberative process. The Residential Real Property Taxes Equitable Alignment Act of 2019 proposes that the resulting increase in revenue be devoted to Birth-to-Three and mental health services in schools. Councilmember Grosso also supported Brianne Nadeau’s “Downloading Lost Revenues Amendment Act of 2019,” which dedicated recaptured revenue from tightening the program to several Fair Budget priorities.

**Chairman Mendelson Advocacy:**

Councilmember Grosso conveyed support to Chairman Mendelson for diverting money from Events DC to public housing repairs, reversing the Line Hotel tax break and reversing the Mayor's investments in free Circulator rides, more police officers and "workforce" housing.
Community Input:
We are not aware of any community engagement on budget priorities. Councilmember Bonds and staff met with the Fair Budget Coalition as well as individual members during the budget season.

Mayor Bowser Advocacy (prior to the release of her budget proposal):
Councilmember Bonds did not answer this question. We are not aware that any Fair Budget priorities were also Councilmember Bond's spending priorities.

Public Engagement on FBC Priorities
Councilmember Bonds did not answer this question. Councilmember Bonds engaged with FBC members and the Administration on housing priorities, particularly on the Housing Production Trust Fund and the Local Rent Supplement Program.
Funding Priorities as Committee Chair:
As chair of the Housing Committee, Councilmember Bonds increased operating funds for affordable housing (through the Local Rent Supplement Program). Unfortunately, she did that by taking money away from the Housing Production Trust Fund, a move that FBC opposed. Her committee increased the proportion of Housing Production Trust Fund dollars (from 40% to 50%) going to the lowest-income households, in accordance with Councilmember Trayon White’s pending legislative proposal. She made additional increases to housing programs in her committee, but not to any of the specific programs that FBC prioritized for funding. (The increase to general Local Rent Supplement tenant vouchers that take people off the waiting list came from Chairman Mendelson, not Councilmember Bonds.)

Funding Priorities as Committee Member:
Councilmember Bonds did not answer this question. We are not aware of any efforts in other committees to fund Fair Budget priority programs.

Support for reallocation of resources (A list of sources can be found here):
Councilmember Bonds voted against Councilmember Nadeau’s “Downloading Lost Revenues Amendment Act of 2019” at first reading, which reformed the Qualified High Technology Company tax abatement program, freeing up about $15 million that was then dedicated to multiple Fair Budget priorities, including housing vouchers (Permanent Supportive Housing).

Chairman Mendelson Advocacy:
Councilmember Bonds did not answer this question. We are not aware of any efforts to advocate for FBC priorities with Chairman Mendelson.
Councilmember R. White (At-Large)

Community Input:
Councilmember Robert White states that he engages constituents on the budget throughout the year through in-office meetings with residents and advocates, as well as through outreach to seniors, students, at Advisory Neighborhood Commission meetings and chairing and attending oversight hearings. The Councilmember met with Fair Budget Coalition right before the first full Council vote on the budget, and his staff met several times with members throughout the budget season.

Mayor Bowser Advocacy (prior to the release of her budget proposal):
Councilmember White submitted a letter to Mayor Bowser requesting additional funding for the following Fair Budget Priorities: $30.2 million for Birth-to-Three, $25 million increase for the Housing Production Trust Fund (above the $100 million baseline), $20 million for the Local Rent Supplement Program, $12 million for emergency rental assistance, and $276,000 for the costs of identification and transportation for returning citizens.

Public Engagement on FBC Priorities
Councilmember White did not answer this question. We are not aware of any efforts by Councilmember White to publicly engage with members on FBC priorities.

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CM R. White has been on the Council since 2016.

Committees Served On:
Facilities and Procurement (Chair)
Education
Human Services
Housing and Neighborhood Revitalization
Labor and Workforce Development
Funding Priorities as Committee Chair:
As Chair of the Committee on Facilities and Procurement, Councilmember White dedicated additional funding to provide transportation and identification subsidies for returning citizens and to implement the Public Restrooms Facilities and Installation Act. He also sent money to other committees to increase funding to end chronic homelessness for individuals, emergency rental assistance, adult transportation subsidies, and Birth-to-Three. He did not reduce funding for any Fair Budget Coalition priority program.

Funding Priorities as Committee Member:
Councilmember White states that he supported the chairs of other committees in increasing transportation for adult learners and ending homelessness and worked with Councilmember Bonds to ensure there were more funds for the Local Rent Supplement Program and public housing repairs. (Note that funds for FBC priorities such as tenant vouchers and public housing repairs came from the Committee of the Whole, not the Housing Committee.)

Support for reallocation of resources (A list of sources can be found here):
Councilmember White supported Councilmember Brianne Nadeau’s “Downloading Lost Revenues Amendment Act of 2019,” which dedicated recaptured revenue from tightening the program to several Fair Budget priorities. He also states that he worked to amend the new expenditure commission to include an assessment of how current tax policies are effective with the stated goal of seeing if there are ineffective policies we can end and direct those savings or additional revenue to our shared priorities.

Chairman Mendelson Advocacy:
Councilmember White stated that he expressed his priorities to Chairman Mendelson early in the budget process and that they included FBC priorities such as affordable housing, homelessness, support for returning citizens and access to jobs.
Chairman Mendelson did not respond to repeated requests for information about his efforts to fund Fair Budget priorities this budget season, so we have completed this to the best of our knowledge.

Community Input
We are not aware of any broader community engagement, but we do know that he met with Fair Budget as a group, and several other members individually.

Mayoral Advocacy
We are not aware that any Fair Budget priorities were also communicated to the Mayor as Chairman Mendelson's spending priorities.

Public Engagement on FBC Priorities
At the Committee of the Whole hearing on the Budget Support Act, Chairman Mendelson only asked one question of a Fair Budget member, yet engaged in extensive discussion with representatives of the business community who were present to advocate for their interests. He did, however, engage with the Administration about many of the programs Fair Budget members had testified in support of.

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Chmn Mendelson has been on the Council since 1999.

Committees Served On:
Housing and Neighborhood Revitalization (Chair)
Education
Judiciary and Public Safety
Recreation and Youth Affairs
Finance and Revenue
**Funding Priorities as Committee Chair:**

As the Chair of the Committee of the Whole, Chairman Mendelson is responsible for putting together the recommendations of all the committees and presenting a new version of the budget to the entire Council for a vote. In his capacity as Chair, he funded the following Fair Budget Priorities: $1 million to tenant vouchers, $3 million for permanent vouchers for families (diverted from Rapid Re-housing as requested), a small increase to emergency rental assistance, a small increase to homeless street outreach, and $24.5 million in public housing repairs. He did, however, reduce funding to the Housing Production Trust Fund from $130 million to $116 million.

**Support for reallocation of resources (A list of sources can be found here):**

Chairman Mendelson supported some of our revenue recommendations and rejected others. He, along with Councilmember Allen, engaged in a very public battle with the Chief Financial Officer (CFO) to use Events DC surplus to pay for public housing repairs, as we had recommended. When the CFO swept the Events DC reserves instead of allowing the Council to appropriate the funding, the Chairman led the charge to redirect cash reserves in the supplemental budget to public housing repairs. He included a Budget Support Act subtitle that devoted half of future Events DC reserves to public housing repairs and included an amendment to recoup the Line hotel tax abatement and dedicate $1 million to public housing repairs in Ward 1. He also diverted an increase in Rapid Re-Housing for families (a short term program) to long term affordable housing for families, as requested.

While FBC had requested that the $20 million in the workforce housing fund be dedicated instead to housing for very low-income households, Chairman Mendelson reworked the workforce housing fund, reducing it from a $20 million fund to a $14 million (over 4 years) tax abatement program. It is not clear where the $6 million reduction went. He voted against Councilmember Nadeau’s “Downloading Lost Revenues Amendment Act of 2019” at first reading, which reformed the Qualified High Technology Company tax abatement program, freeing up about $15 million that was then dedicated to multiple Fair Budget priorities.