

**COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE  
COMMITTEE REPORT**

1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20004

DRAFT

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**TO:** All Councilmembers

**FROM:** Chairman Phil Mendelson  
Committee of the Whole

**DATE:** November 17, 2015

**SUBJECT:** Report on PR 21-365, the “Interagency Council on Homelessness Adam Rocap Confirmation Resolution of 2015”

The Committee of the Whole, to which PR 21-365, the “Interagency Council on Homelessness Adam Rocap Confirmation Resolution of 2015” was referred, reports favorably thereon, and recommends approval by the Council.

CONTENTS

I.	Background And Need.....	1
II.	Legislative Chronology.....	2
III.	Position Of The Executive.....	3
IV.	Comments Of Advisory Neighborhood Commissions .....	3
V.	Summary Of Testimony.....	3
VI.	Impact On Existing Law .....	4
VII.	Fiscal Impact.....	4
VIII.	Section-By-Section Analysis .....	4
IX.	Committee Action.....	5
X.	Attachments .....	5

**I. BACKGROUND AND NEED**

Proposed Resolution 21-365, the “Interagency Council on Homelessness Adam Rocap Confirmation Resolution of 2015,” was introduced by Chairman Mendelson at the request of the Mayor on October 5, 2015 and referred to the Committee of the Whole. The purpose of PR 21-365 is to confirm the Mayor’s nomination of Adam Rocap for appointment as a member of the District’s Interagency Council on Homelessness as a representative from an organization that provides services within the Continuum of Care.

The Interagency Council on Homelessness (“ICH”) was established by the Homeless Services Reform Act of 2005 “for the purpose of facilitating interagency, cabinet-level leadership in planning, policymaking, program development, provider monitoring, and budgeting for the

Continuum of Care of homeless services.”<sup>1</sup> In addition to agency heads from relevant District agencies, members of the ICH include representatives of organizations that provide services within the Continuum of Care, homeless or formerly homeless individuals, and advocates for the District’s homeless population, among others.<sup>2</sup> Annually, the ICH develops and publishes the District’s “Winter Plan” detailing how and where the District will provide hypothermia shelter for individuals and families.<sup>3</sup> In March 2015, the ICH published its 5-year “strategic plan,” *Homeward DC*, which describes the District’s plan to end chronic homelessness in the District by 2020.<sup>4</sup> Going forward, members will work to ensure the plan’s implementation and execution.

Mr. Rocap is a resident of Ward 2 and Chief Program Officer at Miriam’s Kitchen, a District-based service provider. He is a graduate of the Catholic University of America, where he earned a Master Social Work. Mr. Rocap also holds a Bachelor of Arts in Religion from Davidson College. Mr. Rocap has worked for over 10 years in various roles in the social services sphere, in both case management and planning roles. This experience has equipped Mr. Rocap to contribute significantly to the ICH’s ongoing efforts.

The Committee of the Whole recommends his appointment.

## II. LEGISLATIVE CHRONOLOGY

- |                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| October 5, 2015   | PR 21-365, the “Interagency Council on Homelessness Adam Rocap Confirmation Resolution of 2015” is introduced by Chairman Mendelson at the request of the Mayor.  |
| October 6, 2015   | PR 21-365 is “read” at the October 6, 2015 Legislative Meeting; on this date the referral of the PR to the Committee of the Whole is official and the 60-day period for Council review begins. If this measure is not acted upon by the Council before December 6, 2015, PR 21-365 will be deemed approved. |
| October 9, 2015   | Notice of Intent to Act on PR 21-365 is published in the <i>DC Register</i> .   |
| October 23, 2015  | Notice of a Public Hearing on PR 21-365 is published in the <i>DC Register</i> .  |
| November 4, 2015  | The Committee of the Whole holds a roundtable on PR 21-361 through PR 21-372, which is recessed until November 10, 2015 to hear testimony on PR 21-370.   |
| November 10, 2015 | The Committee of the Whole reconvenes the public hearing on PR 21-361 through PR 21-372.  |
| November 17, 2015 | The Committee of the Whole marks-up PR 21-365.  |

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<sup>1</sup> D.C. Law 16-35, Homeless Services Reform Act of 2005 (eff. Oct. 22, 2005).

<sup>2</sup> See *id.*

<sup>3</sup> See *id.*

<sup>4</sup> See *Homeward DC*, available at: [http://ich.dc.gov/sites/default/files/dc/sites/ich/page\\_content/attachments/ICH-StratPlan2.7-Web.pdf](http://ich.dc.gov/sites/default/files/dc/sites/ich/page_content/attachments/ICH-StratPlan2.7-Web.pdf).

### III. POSITION OF THE EXECUTIVE

Mr. Rocap is the Mayor's nominee for appointment as a member of the Interagency Council on Homelessness.

### IV. COMMENTS OF ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSIONS

The Committee received no testimony or comments from any Advisory Neighborhood Commission.

### V. SUMMARY OF TESTIMONY

The Committee of the Whole held a public roundtable on PR 21-361 through PR 21-372 on Wednesday, November 4, 2015, but the roundtable was recessed due to a conflict for Ms. Margaret Hacskaylo, nominated under PR 21-370. The roundtable was reconvened on Tuesday, November 10, 2015 where testimony from Ms. Hacskaylo was received. The testimony summarized below is from both November 4<sup>th</sup> and November 10<sup>th</sup> reconvened roundtable. Copies of written testimony are attached to this report.

*Christina M. Respress, Nominee*, summarized her background qualifications for appointment to the ICH.

*Elizabeth Schroeder Stribling, Nominee*, summarized her background qualifications for reappointment to the ICH.

*Michael L. Ferrell, Nominee*, summarized his background and qualifications for reappointment to the ICH.

*Deborah Shore, Nominee*, summarized her background qualifications for reappointment to the ICH.

*Adam Rocap, Nominee*, summarized his background and experience with homeless services in the District. Mr. Rocap emphasized his commitment to ending homelessness in the District of Columbia and the integral role he believes the ICH plays in achieving this goal. Mr. Ferrell highlighted his direct service experience and the factors he believes will ultimately lead to the elimination of chronic homelessness in the District.

*Nechama Masliansky, Nominee*, summarized her background and qualifications for appointment to the ICH.

*Eric J. Sheptock, Nominee*, summarized his background and qualifications for appointment to the ICH.

*Donald L. Brooks, Nominee*, summarized his background and qualifications for reappointment to the ICH.

*Albert Townsend, Nominee*, summarized his background and qualifications for appointment to the ICH.

*Margaret A. HacsKaylo, Nominee*, summarized her background and qualifications for appointment to the ICH.

*Margaret Riden, Nominee*, summarized her background and qualifications for reappointment to the ICH.

*Jill Carmichael, Nominee*, summarized her background and qualifications for appointment to the ICH.

*Adam Maier, Housing Director, Pathways to Housing DC*, testified that that each of the 12 nominees possesses knowledge and experience in the areas of homeless services policy and service delivery. Mr. Maier recommends approval of all nominees.

The Committee received no testimony or comments in opposition to PR 21-365.

## VI. IMPACT ON EXISTING LAW

Members of the Interagency Council on Homelessness are appointed pursuant to section 4 of the Homeless Services Reform Act of 2005, effective October 22, 2005 (D.C. Law 16-35; D.C. Official Code § 4-751.01 *et seq.*), which established the ICH.

## VII. FISCAL IMPACT

The approval of PR 21-365 will have no fiscal impact. Members are not compensated by the District government and the operations of the Interagency Council on Homelessness are funded through the office of the Deputy Mayor for Health and Human Services.

## VIII. SECTION-BY-SECTION ANALYSIS

<u>Section 1</u>	States the short title of PR 21-365.
<u>Section 2</u>	Confirms the appointment of Adam Rocap.
<u>Section 3</u>	Directs the Council to transmit a copy of this resolution to the nominee and the Office of the Mayor.
<u>Section 4</u>	Provides that PR 21-365 shall take effect immediately upon publication in the <i>DC Register</i> .

## **IX. COMMITTEE ACTION**

### **X. ATTACHMENTS**

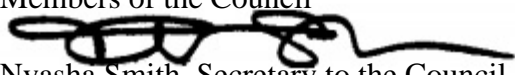
1. PR 21-365 as introduced.
2. Nominee's responses to Committee pre-hearing questions.
3. Written Testimony.
4. Legal Sufficiency Determination for PR 21-365.
5. Committee Print for PR 21-365.

**COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**  
**1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.**  
**Washington D.C. 20004**

Memorandum

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To : Members of the Council

From :   
Nyasha Smith, Secretary to the Council

Date : October 06, 2015

Subject : Referral of Proposed Legislation

Notice is given that the attached proposed legislation was introduced in the Office of the Secretary on Monday, October 5, 2015. Copies are available in Room 10, the Legislative Services Division.

TITLE: "Interagency Council on Homelessness Adam Rocap Confirmation Resolution of 2015", PR21-0365

INTRODUCED BY: Chairman Mendelson at the request of the Mayor

The Chairman is referring this legislation to the Committee of the Whole. This resolution will be deemed approved on Sunday, December 6, 2015 without Council action.

Attachment

cc: General Counsel  
Budget Director  
Legislative Services



Chairman Phil Mendelson  
at the request of the Mayor

A PROPOSED RESOLUTION

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Chairman Phil Mendelson, at the request of the Mayor, introduced the following resolution,  
which was referred to the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

To confirm the appointment of Adam Rocap to the Interagency Council on Homelessness.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, that this resolution may be cited as the "Interagency Council on Homelessness Adam Rocap Confirmation Resolution of 2015".

Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia confirms the appointment of:

Adam Rocap  
2401 Virginia Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20037  
(Ward 2)

as a member of the Interagency Council on Homelessness to serve as a representative from an organization that provides services within the Continuum of Care, pursuant to section 4(a) of the Homeless Services Reform Act of 2005, effective October 22, 2005 (D.C. Law 16-35; D.C. Official Code § 4-752.01)(2015 Supp.), replacing Jean Michel Giraud, and to serve for a term to end August 10, 2017.

Sec. 3. The Council of the District of Columbia shall transmit a copy of this resolution, upon its adoption, to the nominee and to the Office of the Mayor.

Sec. 4. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

October 29, 2015

Chairman Phil Mendelson  
Council of the District of Columbia  
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 2004

Responses to Council questions for 11/4/15 ICH nomination public roundtable - Adam Rocap

1. Please provide a copy of the Financial Disclosure Statement you filed with the Office of Campaign Finance or the Board of Ethics and Government Accountability. If you have not filed a Financial Disclosure Statement, please provide answers to questions 2-8 in lieu of that statement.

See answers to questions 2-8 below.

2. Please provide the name of each business entity transacting any business with the District Government in which you have a beneficial interest valued in excess of \$5,000, including publicly traded stock.

None.

3. Please provide the name of each business entity transacting any business (including consulting) with the District Government from which you or your immediate family have received (or are receiving) income for services rendered in excess of \$1,000 during the past two years.

Miriam's Kitchen.

4. Please provide the name of each business entity transacting business with the District Government in which you or any member of your immediate family serves as an officer, director, partner, or agent. Also list the position(s) held, a brief description of the entity, and any other pertinent details.

Miriam's Kitchen. Chief Program Officer. Miriam's Kitchen is a non-profit agency in DC working to end chronic homelessness in the District through providing healthy meals and connections to housing and services for people experiencing homelessness, providing high-quality supportive housing, and being a leader in advocacy and systems-change work in the city.

5. Please provide the name of any lender and the amount of liability for each outstanding liability borrowed by you or any member of your immediate family in excess of \$5,000. Do not include loans from a federal or state insured or regulated financial institution, or from any business enterprise regularly engaged in the business of providing revolving credit or installment accounts.

None.



6. Please list the location of all real property located in the District of Columbia in which you have an interest with a fair market value in excess of \$5,000.

None.

7. Please list all professional and occupational licenses held by you.

Licensed Independent Clinical Social Worker (DC)

8. Please list any professional organizations of which you are currently a member.

None.

9. Please list all boards and commissions connected with the District government on which you are or have been a member, and include the term of service for each.

None.

10. Please list any other boards (e.g. Boards of Directors of a non-profit) on which you are a member.

None.

11. Do you have any outstanding liability for taxes, fees, or other payments to the District, federal, or other state or local governments, either contested or uncontested? If so, please provide documentation of attempts to pay the amount owed or to resolve the disputed claim.

No.

12. Do you or any member of your immediate family have any interest, financial or otherwise, that may directly or indirectly pose a conflict of interest for you in performance of your duties as a member of the Interagency Council on Homelessness?

No.

13. What do you believe is the purpose of the Interagency Council on Homelessness and the role of its members, and why have you agreed to serve?

I believe that the Interagency Council on Homelessness plays a vital role in coordinating all the work of our community—government, non-profits, business, faith organizations, community members, people with lived experience of homelessness—so that DC can reach the necessary, lofty, and realistic goal of ending homelessness. If everyone who has a stake in ending homelessness does not come together to set common goals, develop measurable targets and accountability for what we need to accomplish, and mechanisms for effective coordination and mutually reinforcing activities, we will never be successful in ending homelessness. This type of broad, collective effort can only happen through something like the Interagency

Council on Homelessness. I believe that now in particular, with the ICH staffing and broad commitment to ICH goals across the government and community, the ICH has the opportunity to make a tremendous impact. The ICH can only be effective, however, if stakeholders across our community not only serve on the ICH but are willing to put significant work into the collective work of the ICH. I have agreed to serve on the ICH because I believe in its goals and its importance to ending homelessness in DC, and I am committed to contributing significantly to its efforts.

14. Please discuss any past and present experience not already mentioned that you believe is relevant to support your appointment as a member of the Interagency Council on Homelessness.

I have been working to end chronic homelessness in DC since joining Miriam's Kitchen in 2007. My work at Miriam's Kitchen has involved significant direct service experience, management of programs critical to ending homelessness such as case management and permanent supportive housing, building leadership of people with lived experience of homelessness, and leadership in ICH and other community system-change efforts, particularly in efforts to end veteran homelessness and build a strong coordinated entry system in DC. I have been involved in the DC ICH since 2006. Before starting at Miriam's Kitchen, I worked as a social work intern at N St. Village, a case manager at Green Door, a community mental health center in Washington, DC, and as a case manager at a homeless services agency for seniors in Oakland, CA. I am a licensed independent clinical social worker.

15. As a member of the Interagency Council on Homelessness, what will be your top five priorities?

1. Helping DC reach the goal of ending veteran homelessness by the end of 2015.
2. Helping DC translate what it has learned through success in ending veteran homelessness to achieve the goal of ending chronic homelessness by the end of 2017.
3. Supporting the voices of people with lived experience of homelessness to be represented in the work of the ICH.
4. Supporting the work of the ICH to balance its efforts in ending homelessness among veterans, chronic homelessness, families, youth, single adults, and other populations.
5. Expand the ICH's engagement of people and organizations in our community who are stakeholders in ending homelessness in DC.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit these answers to your questions.

Sincerely,

Adam Rocap, LICSW  
Chief Program Officer  
Miriam's Kitchen

**Testimony of Adam Rocab, Chief Program Officer, Miriam's Kitchen  
To the Committee of the Whole  
Regarding the Interagency Council on Homelessness Nomination Public Roundtable**

Good morning Chairman Mendelson and members of the Committee. My name is Adam Rocab and I am the Chief Program Officer at Miriam's Kitchen. Miriam's Kitchen's vision is to end chronic homelessness in Washington, DC. We work to end homelessness by providing healthy meals, case management, and housing that address people's physical, mental, and social needs. We advocate for proven solutions to homelessness. And we collaborate with city leaders, service providers, and other local partners to improve the homeless services system to ensure that no one is homeless for years. We are also a leader of *The Way Home*, a campaign to end veteran and chronic homelessness by 2017 that is supported by over 4,000 individuals and 70 organizations including businesses, health care organizations, faith-based groups, and homeless service providers.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak today about my nomination to the DC Interagency Council on Homelessness Plan to End Homelessness.

I believe that the Interagency Council on Homelessness plays a vital role in coordinating all the work of our community—government, non-profits, business, faith organizations, community members, people with lived experience of homelessness—so that DC can reach the necessary, lofty, and realistic goal of ending homelessness. If everyone who has a stake in ending homelessness does not come together to set common goals, develop measurable targets and accountability for what we need to accomplish, and mechanisms for effective coordination and mutually reinforcing activities, we will never be successful in ending homelessness. This type of broad, collective effort can only happen through something like the Interagency Council on Homelessness. I believe that now in particular, with the ICH staffing and broad commitment to ICH goals across the government and community, the ICH has the opportunity to make a tremendous impact. The ICH can only be effective, however, if stakeholders across our community not only serve on the ICH but are willing to put significant work into the collective work of the ICH. I have agreed to serve on the ICH because I believe in its goals and its importance to ending homelessness in DC, and I am committed to contributing significantly to its efforts. I have been involved in the DC ICH since 2006, and am an active member of a number of ICH committees and workgroups.

I have been working to end chronic homelessness in DC since joining Miriam's Kitchen in 2007. My work at Miriam's Kitchen has involved significant direct service experience, management of programs critical to ending homelessness such as case management and permanent supportive housing, building leadership of people with lived experience of homelessness, and leadership in ICH and other community system-change efforts, particularly in efforts to end veteran homelessness and build a strong coordinated entry system in DC.

The primary ways that I hope to support the ICH's important work are to:

1. Help DC reach the goal of ending veteran homelessness by the end of 2015.
2. Help DC translate what it has learned through success in ending veteran homelessness to achieve the goal of ending chronic homelessness by the end of 2017.
3. Support the voices of people with lived experience of homelessness to be represented in the work of the ICH.
4. Support the work of the ICH to balance its efforts in ending homelessness among veterans, chronic homelessness, families, youth, single adults, and other populations.
5. Expand the ICH's engagement of people and organizations in our community who are stakeholders in ending homelessness in DC.

We know that ending homelessness is possible. The progress that we are making on ending veteran homelessness shows us that if we have the right factors in place: commitment from community leadership, adequate housing resources, a housing first approach, coordination on a data-driven plan, and a commitment to a client-centered system. I look forward to the opportunity to support the ICH in living out these best practices to end chronic homelessness and to make homelessness rare, brief, and non-recurring for everyone in DC.

Thank you again for this opportunity to testify.

1 **DRAFT COMMITTEE PRINT**  
2 Committee of the Whole  
3 November 17, 2015  
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7 A PROPOSED RESOLUTION

8  
9 21-365

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11 IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
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16 To confirm the Mayoral appointment of Mr. Adam Rocap to the Interagency Council on  
17 Homelessness.

18  
19 RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That  
20 this resolution may be cited as the “Interagency Council on Homelessness Adam Rocap  
21 Confirmation Resolution of 2015”.

22 Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia confirms the appointment of:

23 Mr. Adam Rocap  
24 2401 Virginia Avenue, NW  
25 Washington, DC 20037  
26 (Ward 2)  
27  
28

29 as a member of the Interagency Council on Homelessness as a representative from an  
30 organization that provides services within the Continuum of Care, pursuant to section 4  
31 of the Homeless Services Reform Act of 2005, effective October 22, 2005 (D.C. Law 16-  
32 35; D.C. Official Code § 4-752.01) (2015 Supp.), replacing Jean Michel Giraud, and to  
33 serve for a term to end August 10, 2017.

34 Sec. 3. The Council of the District of Columbia shall transmit a copy of this  
35 resolution, upon its adoption, to the appointee and the Office of the Mayor.

36 Sec. 4. This resolution shall take effect immediately.