



OFFICE OF CHAIRMAN MENDELSON
COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

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**CHAIRMAN MENDELSON STATEMENT ON
FINAL VOTE ON FY 2020 BUDGET**

WASHINGTON, DC -- Chairman Phil Mendelson released the following statement on the Council's final vote on the Fiscal Year 2020 Budget Proposal.

"I'd like to thank the Council and their staff for all of the hard work that was done on this budget," said Mendelson. "I am proud of this budget and the work that has been done to better support the priorities and needs of District residents."

The highlights include:

- Restoring \$53 million to the budget to renovate and modernize Benjamin Banneker High School, for a total of more than \$141 million, while retaining the Banneker site for the future of Shaw Middle School
- Ensuring United Medical Center will remain open through 2023 as the hospital puts in safeguards to gain better control over its spending – which will see a budget increase to \$22 million
- Increase funding for public education by 3%
- Funding vital urgent public housing repairs by redirecting convention center cash surplus to the housing authority
- Making more dollars available for Arts & Humanities organizations and adopting a funding formula – that arts groups requested and endorsed – in order to ensure a more uniform and equitable process for funding.

"Once again, the Council was able to add dollars to public education and affordable housing above what the Mayor proposed," Mendelson added.