

**COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
NOTICE OF ROUNDTABLE**

1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20004

**CHAIRMAN PHIL MENDELSON
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
ANNOUNCES A ROUNDTABLE**

on

“DCPS Food Service Procurement: Contracts Awarded without Council Approval”

on

Friday, February 10, 2022 at 10:00 a.m.

**Live via Zoom Video Conference Broadcast
DC Council Website (www.dccouncil.gov)
Chairman’s Website (www.ChairmanMendelson.com/live)**

Council Chairman Phil Mendelson announces the scheduling of a roundtable of the Committee of the Whole on “DCPS Food Service Procurement: Contracts Awarded without Council Approval.” The roundtable will be held **Friday, February 10, 2023, at 10:00 a.m.** via Zoom video conference.

The purpose of this roundtable is to receive testimony from government witnesses regarding the execution of two food service contracts by the District of Columbia Public Schools (DCPS) valued at over \$1 million without seeking Council approval. The DCPS food service contracts have been controversial in the past. Parents complain to the Council about the quality of meals at DCPS. However, the contracts were withheld from the Council for almost six months from award on June 30, 2022, until they were finally submitted to the Council on December 14, 2022 (and subsequently reintroduced in Council Period 25. The subject contracts are GAGA-2022-C-0259 (Bill 25-54) and GAGA-2022-C-0260 (Bill 25-53).

Longstanding law in the District requires that all contracts exceeding \$1 million for goods or services must be submitted for approval by the Council. In some instances, a contract will be executed at a value below the \$1 million threshold, and the Executive must then send the contract to the Council for its review after the value increases past \$1 million. In this case, not only were the contracts not timely submitted to the Council, but the District had made over \$6 million in payments under the unapproved contracts before they were submitted in December.

This roundtable will be conducted virtually on the Internet utilizing Zoom video conference technology. Testimony will be posted publicly to <http://www.chairmanmendelson.com/testimony>. While **this roundtable is limited to testimony from specified witnesses**, written statements from the public will be accepted and made a part of the official record. Written statements are encouraged. Statements for the record should be submitted to cow@dccouncil.gov or left by voicemail by calling (202) 430-6948 (up to 3 minutes which will be transcribed). The record will close at 5:00pm on Monday, February 20, 2023.