

**COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE  
COMMENTS ON BILL 25-205**

1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20004

DRAFT

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**TO:** All Councilmembers

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

**DATE:** May 30, 2023

**SUBJECT:** Comments on Bill 25-205, the Fiscal Year 2023 Revised Local Budget Adjustment  
Emergency Act of 2023

The Committee of the Whole, to which Bill 25-205 was referred for comments, provides the following comments.

**I. BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE**

On May 24, 2022, the Council approved the Fiscal Year 2023 Local Budget Act of 2022 (FY 2023 LBA), which delivered a balanced budget and financial plan for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2022.<sup>1</sup>

On March 22, 2023, as part of the proposed Fiscal Year 2024 budget package, the Mayor transmitted an emergency revisions to the FY 2023 LBA: Bill 25-205, the Fiscal Year 2023 Revised Local Budget Adjustment Emergency Act of 2023. As proposed, this measure adjusts certain allocations in the FY 2023 LBA to recognize additional resources, address existing budget pressures, align budgets with revenue, ensure timely repayments of the Contingency Cash Reserve Fund, and balance the Fiscal Year 2024 budget and financial plan. Bill 25-205 will be considered at the May 30, 2023 additional legislative meeting, in conjunction with second reading of the Fiscal Year 2024 Local Budget Act of 2023.

Bill 25-205 includes budget authority for additional emergency rental assistance provided by the federal government. Pursuant to section 446 of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act, approved December 24, 1973 (87 Stat. 774; D.C. Official Code § 1-204.46), those funds must be appropriated by the Council for use in this fiscal year prior to obligation or expenditure. The \$33 million in budget authority was added to the Department of Human Services for Emergency Rental Assistance.

Other changes include:

- Reductions for underspending and vacancy savings across agencies that is being used in FY24 to balance the budget and financial plan; among those reductions is a \$2,082,410 reduction to Department of Behavioral Health to reverse the Mayor’s sweep of the Opioid Abatement Fund;
- Enhancements to agency budgets, including:

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<sup>1</sup> D.C. Law 24-166.

- \$75,000 at DHCD for completion of a TOPA study;
  - \$100,000 at DHCD for funding the Rent Stabilized Housing Inflation Protection Emergency Amendment Act of 2023;
  - \$33,479,304 in budget authority at DHS for the District’s additional Emergency Rental Assistance funds from the federal government, which are budgeted in Emergency Rental Assistance;
  - \$30,000 at DPR to fund the William Dorsey Swann Street Designation Amendment Act of 2023, enacted on May 24, 2023 (D.C. Act 25-103);
  - \$2 million to Non-Departmental for a grant to the Douglass Community Land Trust;
  - \$20 million capital at District Department of Transportation for PaveDC sidewalk and street repair;
  - \$60,050,444 to Workforce Investments Account, per the Mayor’s Errata letter, shifting a portion of charter teacher pay funds within the agency from FY24 to FY23 to facilitate earlier payments;
- Addition of the Opioid Abatement Fund to the Department of Behavioral Health and ongoing budget authority language; and
  - Addition of ongoing budget authority language to the Workforce Investments Account.

Bill 25-205 and Bill 25-206 also contain several legislative provisions, including:

- Adjustments to certain capital project allotments in FY23;
- Direction to transfer certain amounts from certified funds and other revenue to the General Fund (including the FY22 ACFR surplus from HPTF and PayGo capital, which were used by the Mayor) to be made available as set forth in the Fiscal Year 2024 budget and financial plan;
- Authorization to carry over into FY24 remaining unexpended FY23 revenue;
- Authorization for public charter schoolteacher compensation, also included in the Committee of the Whole print for the FY24 Budget Support Act;
- Repeal of subject to appropriation provisions in Law 24-315, the Opioid Litigation Proceeds Amendment Act of 2022, and Bill 25-154, the William Dorsey Swann Street Designation Amendment Act of 2023, both funded in Bill 25-205;
- Amendments to § 47-392.02(j-1), the Fiscal stabilization reserve fund, as included in the FY24 Budget Support Act; and
- Amendments to the FY23 LBA to adjust an allocation to the Council and add a proviso regarding advance payments to DCPS.

## II. ATTACHMENTS

1. B25-205 ANS Circulation Chart