



OFFICE OF CHAIRMAN MENDELSON
COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

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**CHAIRMAN MENDELSON STATEMENT ON INTRODUCTION OF
NATIONALS BALLPARK BUDGET AND MAINTENANCE BILL**

WASHINGTON, DC – Today, DC Council Chairman Phil Mendelson announced the introduction of the “Ballpark Budget and Maintenance Amendment Act of 2023.”

“We are thrilled for the future of Nationals Ballpark in the District,” Mendelson said. “With this recommitment, the revitalization of our stadium can continue to be a staple in the Capitol Riverfront neighborhood. The District owns this stadium and we must keep it in good repair and up to date. This bill also prioritizes paying off existing stadium debt.”

The legislation:

- Establishes a **Ballpark Maintenance Fund** and provides that any Ballpark Revenue Fund balance remaining after bond defeasance is to be transferred into this new fund. The Fund is additionally financed through the following revenue sources:
 - Ballpark sales taxes (That is, sales taxes collected within the ballpark); and
 - Rent paid from the lease of the ballpark.
- Requires that Events DC submit an annual report to the Mayor and Council that details ballpark expenditures from the prior fiscal year and planned spending for the current fiscal year and the next four years.
- Requires that beginning this fiscal year and annually each fiscal year until the Ballpark Revenue Bonds are defeased, the Ballpark Revenue Fund can be used only to pay the District’s ballpark obligations **after** Events DC has first used its funds and excess reserves to pay these costs.
- Prohibits use of the Ballpark Revenue Fund to finance additional bonds.

“It is important to note this legislation is entirely self-funded. It has no fiscal impact, requires no borrowing, and no General Fund revenue is being used for this maintenance,” Mendelson added. “Not only are we providing a stable future for the ballpark and its team, but the on-going upkeep will be paid entirely by the stadium and its fans.”