1	GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
2	Department of Housing and Community Development
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8	Housing Production Trust Fund
9	Advisory Board Meeting
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14	10:07 to 11:35 a.m.
15	Monday, April 6, 2015
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17	
18	DHCD, Housing Resource Center
19	1800 Martin Luther King Avenue, S.E.
20	Washington, D.C. 20020
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22	

- 1 APPEARANCES:
- 2 Board Members:
- 3 DAVID C. BOWERS, Chairman
- 4 STANLEY JACKSON
- 5 JIM KNIGHT (via telephone)
- 6 SUE ANN MARSHALL
- 7 ORAMENTA NEWSOME
- 8 CRAIG PASCAL
- 9 ROBERT POHLMAN
- 10 JACQUELINE PRIOR
- 11 DAVID ROODBERG

- 13 DHCD:
- 14 ALLISON LADD
- 15 OKE ANYAEGBUNAM
- 16 CHRIS DICKERSIN-PROKOPP
- 17 SANDY ALLEN
- 18 AYESHA TRAYNHAM
- 19 MIKAELL BRISCOE

20

- 21 Also Attending:
- 22 MARIBETH DeLORENZO

- 1 PROCEEDINGS
- 2 CHAIRMAN BOWERS: Good morning, ladies
- 3 and gentlemen.
- 4 ATTENDEES: Good morning.
- 5 CHAIRMAN BOWERS: It is Monday, April the
- 6 6th, at 10:07 a.m. I am David Bowers, the Chair
- 7 of the District of Columbia Housing Production
- 8 Trust Fund Advisory Board. We will now call this
- 9 meeting to order. I want to welcome everybody
- 10 here. We are the Department of Housing and
- 11 Community Development. Welcome, members of the
- audience as well as members of the Board. Board
- 13 members, we have your package with information in
- 14 it.
- Why don't we first start by establishing
- our quorum, so we'll go around and just ask
- 17 members of the Board to announce yourself so we
- 18 have on the record as being present. I'm David
- 19 Bowers, and, Jim, why don't we go to you on the
- 20 phone.
- MR. KNIGHT (VIA TELEPHONE): Okay. Jim
- 22 Knight.

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1 CHAIRMAN BOWERS: Great. Thank you, Jim.

- MR. POHLMAN: Bob Pohlman.
- MR. ROODBERG: David Roodberg.
- 4 MS. PRIOR: Jackie Prior.
- 5 MS. MARSHALL: Sue Marshall.
- 6 MR. PASCAL: Craig Pascal.
- 7 MR. JACKSON: Stanley Jackson.
- 8 CHAIRMAN BOWERS: Great. Seeing that we
- 9 do have a quorum we shall proceed.
- Our second order of business on the
- 11 agenda is the consideration and approval of the
- 12 February 2nd, 2015, meeting highlights. I would
- ask members of the Board to take a moment to look
- 14 at, in your packet, the meeting highlights. If
- anyone has any suggested changes, edits, let us
- 16 know, and if not, as you are so moved, we will
- 17 accept a recommendation to accept these.
- 18 [Pause for review.]
- 19 MR. JACKSON: Mr. Chairman, I move to
- 20 accept the minutes.
- 21 CHAIRMAN BOWERS: It's been moved to
- 22 accept the meeting highlights by Mr. Stan

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1 Jackson. Is there a second?
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- MR. JACKSON: Second.
- 3 CHAIRMAN BOWERS: It's been seconded by
- 4 Sue Marshall. Any discussion? Okay. All those
- 5 in favor of accepting the February 2nd, 2015,
- 6 meeting highlights, indicate by saying aye.
- 7 [Chorus of ayes.]
- 8 CHAIRMAN BOWERS: All opposed, nay.
- 9 [No audible response.]
- 10 CHAIRMAN BOWERS: Okay, the ayes have it.
- 11 Thank you, Board members. Thank you to the
- 12 Department staff for putting this together for us
- as part of our ongoing records.
- All right. Our third agenda item. The
- 15 Board, earlier this year, made a decision to put
- 16 together some recommendations for the Department
- 17 as it relates to the annual NOFA that is released
- 18 by the Department, and had an opportunity to do
- 19 that and submit that to the Director and staff.
- Because the March meeting was snowed out,
- we ended up having a phone call to brief and walk
- 22 through this with the Director, but wanted to

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1 make sure, at this month's public meeting, to
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- kind of walk through, allow Board members to walk
- 3 through the recommendations, share them with the
- 4 public as well as with staff that is here, and
- then also have any dialog, any new ideas that
- 6 people have on recommendations, either that are
- 7 included here or things that we think may have
- 8 been new ideas that people may have had
- 9 subsequent to putting this document together.
- So we've asked -- and let me say also
- 11 that Director Donaldson, I spoke to her late last
- week, got called into a meeting with the Deputy
- 13 Mayor on Friday, and so will not be able to be
- 14 here today, and sends her regrets for having to
- miss today's meeting, but has been very open and
- 16 accessible for us in terms of having dialog on
- 17 these recommendations. So I want to say on the
- 18 record to thank her for that.
- Jim Knight and Sue Marshall took the lead
- 20 for the Board in pulling together recommendations
- 21 from Board members, so what I'm going to ask to
- 22 start off with Jim, to kind of walk us through

- 1 some, and then Sue will tag team on some of the
- recommendations related specifically to demand
- 3 measures, let them kind of walk through some of
- 4 these, and then if other Board members would like
- 5 to chime in, you can do that, and then we'll turn
- 6 to Allison, Oke and other members, and Maribeth,
- 7 anybody from the Department who might want to
- 8 provide any updates or feedback.
- 9 So, with that, Jim, I will turn it over
- 10 to you. Jim Knight, are you there?
- MR. KNIGHT (VIA TELEPHONE): Yeah. I had
- 12 you on mute. I'm sorry.
- 13 CHAIRMAN BOWERS: No problem.
- MR. KNIGHT (VIA TELEPHONE): That was
- 15 probably the smartest thing I said all day that
- 16 you didn't get to hear.
- [Laughter.]
- MR. KNIGHT (VIA TELEPHONE): I've had a
- 19 little bit of an unexpected morning here, and
- 20 don't have my hands on the draft as it was
- 21 finally submitted. I worked with it a bit so
- 22 remember some of it but it may be necessary to

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1 get some help from others. You know, similar to

- the call where we processed this with the
- 3 Director, Dave, I wondered if you wanted to
- 4 comment on the two over-arching notions of
- 5 getting affordable covenants lined up and the
- 6 policy lined up, or I can do that if you prefer.
- 7 CHAIRMAN BOWERS: Sure. Sure. I think
- 8 this is all part of the push by the Board since
- 9 we have been reconstituted, to make sure that we
- 10 can work with the Department to try to help
- 11 ensure that the trust fund dollars meet the
- 12 statutory requirements related to income
- 13 targeting, and we always say they're not
- 14 recommendations but requirements and so we've
- 15 constantly been in dialog with the Department
- 16 leadership and the staff about how can we
- 17 collectively come up with ideas and suggestions
- on how the Department can do that, and looking
- 19 for ways to make sure that that can happen, and
- 20 also looking for obviously ways that the
- 21 covenants can be crafted to try to maintain
- 22 affordability at those income levels, as broadly

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1 as possible and also as long as possible, so I'd

- 2 set that as a tone.
- Jim, back to you.
- 4 MR. KNIGHT (VIA TELEPHONE): Yep.
- 5 Indeed. So what we were working with was trying
- 6 to identify the parameters that might best result
- 7 in that sort of production, production that gets
- 8 more 30 percent AMI units, more 50 percent AMI
- 9 units, because those are the ones that
- 10 traditionally do not come in through the RFP
- 11 process as consistently as may be needed to meet
- our regulatory framework.
- So we sort of looked, conceptually, at
- 14 three different ways to incentivize projects
- 15 coming in with the desired qualities, and sort of
- 16 a combination of those three things. One was you
- 17 can establish a threshold requirement and say
- 18 that no project will be funded unless it does
- 19 certain thing, so threshold being sort of the
- 20 heaviest-handed way to ensure that certain things
- 21 arrive in the proposals.
- The second was to use the tiering system

- 1 that DHCD has adopted in the last year or two,
- that allows projects that have a certain amount
- 3 of maturity to them to kind of skip to the front
- 4 of the line, what I think is called Tier 1. So
- 5 allowing proposals to move into Tier 1 status,
- 6 kind of fronter line status, attaching that
- 7 incentive to projects that attempt to meet the
- 8 city's goals.
- And then the third way to incentivize
- 10 projects looking like the city wants them to look
- is to use bonus scoring and points for different
- 12 attributes and projects. So we've taken those
- 13 three ways of encouraging results and sprinkled
- 14 them through the recommendations for some
- 15 qualities we think, in fact, ought to be
- threshold requirement, then additional qualities
- 17 to meet the tiering system, and then finally
- 18 bonus points for others.
- That's the best I'm going to offer. Does
- 20 anybody want to say any more about that?
- 21 CHAIRMAN BOWERS: Sure. No, thank you,
- 22 Jim, and I should say, Jim mentioned the word

- 1 "goals." One of the things, just to say on the
- 2 record -- and obviously this document will be
- 3 part of the record -- there's a section on here
- 4 called "Big Picture and Policy Measures," the
- 5 notion of not just stating that the projects that
- 6 will be selected and underwritten to meet
- 7 statutory income guidelines but also to publish
- 8 the most comprehensive statement of affordable
- 9 housing goals that can be named by the
- 10 administration at the time and affirm that the
- 11 NOFA strives to meet those goals and utilizing a
- 12 combination of requirements, the project hearing
- 13 that Jim referred to, and bonus scoring to meet
- 14 trust fund and other policy objectives, and then
- 15 set specific annual production goals and seek the
- 16 resources to achieve those goals. So Jim's
- 17 comments come in that context and the
- 18 recommendations that were provided come of that
- 19 context.
- Bob, any of these particular things -- I
- 21 had spoken to Bob earlier -- that you would want
- 22 to highlight, that you think might be

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- 1 particularly important to get on the record that
- 2 are captured in these recommendations, that might
- 3 help us get towards the goals?
- 4 MR. POHLMAN: Well, one of the things I
- 5 just observed, as Jim was going through this, is
- 6 that, in fact, DHCD is doing this now, has done
- 7 this. We're talking about tweaking that system
- 8 threshold. Last year they said new construction
- 9 had to add 5 percent PSH, permanent supportive
- 10 housing. Tiering system, obviously they did Tier
- 11 1, Tier 2. We tweaked that though. And then the
- 12 ranking bonus scoring, that's typical in an RFP.
- So we're not talking about anything
- 14 dramatically different here in terms of process.
- 15 We're just saying what should that be, and if
- it's not getting to the goals that have been set
- 17 -- and one of the things that caught my attention
- 18 was the last schedule of projects that showed a
- very heavy weight in the 50 to 80 percent AMI
- 20 category, probably mostly LIHTC projects.
- You know, the DHCD has met that 40
- 22 percent goal in the past. To my knowledge, on

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- annual reports that I've seen, the 30 percent and
- 2 below have met it. Now, they might have met it
- 3 by preserving project-base Section 8 or something
- 4 like that, which made it easy to do 30 percent,
- 5 but this last time around was kind of the first
- 6 time I've seen a real substantial weight toward
- 7 the 50 to 80 percent, disproportionate to what
- 8 it's supposed to be. So I think that's something
- 9 that has to be adjusted, and it gives the
- 10 Department full justification for setting forth
- 11 some requirements, most likely related to LIHTC,
- 12 I think, that will push projects down in at least
- the 30-to-50 percent category, if not lower. So
- 14 those are some of the comments I have.
- I also think -- and I don't want to bring
- these up now, but I think there are some things
- in here, there may be some things, after looking
- 18 at all this, that we can add to this, not
- 19 necessarily change this paper but just discuss.
- 20 CHAIRMAN BOWERS: Sure. Other thoughts?
- 21 Sue, let me turn to you on the demand side, if
- there are some specifics you want to raise on the

- 1 demand side recommendations.
- MS. MARSHALL: Well, I don't want to walk
- 3 through them specifically but I do want to really
- 4 appreciate the codification of demand side as a
- 5 part of the bonus and incentive structure. I
- 6 think that that's something else that's very
- 7 different about this process. And since we're
- 8 going to take a look at the Interagency Council's
- 9 strategic plan, I want to also emphasize that
- 10 everything we put in here about demand side
- initiatives are highly consistent with the
- 12 Mayor's priorities, as well as the priorities
- 13 that you're going to hear about in the overview
- of the Interagency Council on Homelessness's
- 15 strategic plan.
- And I also wanted to commend you on the
- 17 piece yesterday about the need for subsidy,
- 18 because I think that also is a very, very key
- 19 part of bringing all of the demand and supply
- 20 side factors closer together and more in
- 21 coordination. So the focus on employment and
- training, financial literacy, and early childhood

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- 1 development, and providing incentives and
- 2 guidance for project developers to bring that to
- 3 the table as a part of an RFP, I think, is
- 4 tremendous progress.
- 5 CHAIRMAN BOWERS: Thank you. Thank you,
- 6 Sue. Comments by other Board members on the
- 7 recommendations? Thoughts that people have that
- 8 we want to make sure we lift up before I turn it
- 9 over to Allison and the staff?
- 10 [No audible response.]
- 11 CHAIRMAN BOWERS: And I will just say
- again, for the record, that because we won't walk
- 13 through point by point here, but that the record
- 14 will include this written document so that as
- 15 folks listen to or read this recording, the
- 16 actual recommendation document will be part of
- 17 the record.
- Allison, let me turn it over to our Chief
- of Staff, Allison Ladd here, to see if you or any
- 20 other folks from the team might want to provide
- 21 any updates or just comments around the
- recommendations.

- MS. LADD: Sure. Thank you, Mr.
- 2 Chairman. It's a pleasure to be here with
- 3 everybody. It's been a great couple of months to
- 4 be here at the Department of Housing. I've
- 5 enjoyed my time in the transition. And we've
- 6 spent a lot of time, since I started talking
- 7 about the Housing Production Trust Fund, and how
- 8 we can continue to meet the statutory
- 9 requirements, and I know that's something that's
- 10 very near and dear to Oke, too, for us to ensure
- 11 that we're meeting the goals.
- As we've looked at the performance
- measures that we've been capturing over the last
- 14 couple of years, I see the same numbers that you
- 15 do, that we haven't meet the statutory
- 16 requirements, and we need to. It's something that
- we will definitely be focusing on in the upcoming
- NOFA, and it will be a requirement this time
- 19 around. It's very important not only to Director
- 20 Donaldson but also to the Mayor, that we're
- 21 achieving the goals that were set forth in the
- 22 statute, and the leadership of this Board, I

- 1 think, has really helped guide that decision-
- 2 making process. So, thank you for all the work
- 3 that you're doing to ensure that this department
- 4 is meeting the goals that we were set forth to do
- so with the HPTF dollars. So that's a great
- 6 thing for us.
- 7 Second, I'd like to talk a little bit
- 8 about the Mayor's proposed budget. I think
- 9 everybody saw that the Mayor released her
- 10 proposed FY16 budget last Thursday. The great
- news for everyone here, I know Board member
- 12 Pohlman, I'm sure you're delighted about this.
- [Laughter.]
- MS. LADD: And it's a smile for those
- 15 that didn't notice, for Jim, Member Knight. You
- didn't see Member Pohlman's smile, but he smiled.
- [Laughter.]
- MR. POHLMAN: I sent an e-mail to
- 19 Elizabeth Falcon and I said, "I'm going to frame
- 20 page 56A of Volume 3, Trust Fund Budget, \$100
- 21 million."
- [Laughter.]

MS. LADD: Absolutely. So we were just

- as delighted as all of you were to see that the
- 3 Mayor placed \$100 million in FY16 budget. We also
- 4 were pleased to see that there was also a set-
- s aside amount outside of the \$100 million to fund
- 6 the securitization debt service for the new
- 7 communities bonds that are outstanding, so that
- 8 even gives this trust fund board, as well as the
- 9 Department, additional monies available to
- 10 produce and preserve affordable housing. So that
- 11 was a big change, I think, that we saw with that,
- 12 actually this year, you know, with Council
- approval, we'll be able to have the
- 14 securitization dollars outside of the trust fund
- 15 \$100 million, so that was really great news.
- Also, as many of you know, the budget
- 17 will continue to go through this -- I'm sorry --
- 18 the Council will continue to review the budget
- 19 process and they're looking to approve the budget
- June 16th. For this department, our oversight
- 21 hearing in on April 20th, so feel free to come
- 22 and continue to support the trust fund and any

- 1 other program that you're excited that the
- 2 Department is working on.
- So, as far as the funding there, it kind
- 4 of brings us back to the original conversation
- s around the policy and the larger, bigger picture
- 6 discussion, is that with these dollars that are
- 7 going to come in FY16, it's really incumbent upon
- 8 all of us, the Board as well as the Department
- 9 staff here, for us to meet those statutory
- 10 requirements. And so it's a very important thing
- 11 to the Director, again, as well as to the staff,
- so I do want to make sure I convey that very
- 13 clearly so that there's not a concern as we move
- 14 forward.
- 15 CHAIRMAN BOWERS: That's great. Thank
- 16 you, Allison. I appreciate that. Let me insert
- 17 for the record here, so we'll note on the record,
- 18 that Board member Oramenta Newsome is present.
- 19 Thank you, Allison, for the update. Much
- 20 appreciated. I do think it's great news, and the
- 21 record can reflect smiles across multiple Board
- 22 members for the news around the increased

- 1 resources coming, so we appreciate the Mayor
- keeping to the commitment to include those funds
- 3 in the budget. And this process that we're going
- 4 through with these recommendations and other
- 5 ideas that will be discussed, again, we're hoping
- 6 that we can, again, when we go back to when the
- 7 board was reconstituted, help the Department and
- 8 the administration think through how to (1) make
- 9 sure the dollars are used the way they're
- supposed to be used, (2) leverage so we can
- 11 stretch the dollars and get more bang for the
- 12 buck out of the dollars that are being used.
- I appreciate all the Board members, the
- input on the recommendations, and I want to say a
- 15 special thanks to Jim Knight and Sue Marshall for
- 16 pulling the recommendations together, and others
- 17 who worked with them, the multiple Board members,
- 18 to get specific recommendations around how to
- 19 provide either requirements and/or incentives
- 20 that will help move the market, if you would.
- I think, historically, part of what has
- 22 happened over the years, when the trust fund

- dollars have not met the statutory requirements,
- part of what we've heard, for years back, has
- been, "Well, those are the projects that come
- 4 in," and so kind of, what do you do? Those are
- 5 the projects that come in. So I certainly think
- 6 this Board has taken more of an approach in
- 7 working with the Department to try to say what
- 8 can the Department do in ways that make sense to
- 9 require and/or incentivize a way to move market
- 10 producers, nonprofits and for-profits, to use
- 11 these dollars in ways that meet requirements.
- Let me stop here and ask if there are new
- ideas that people may have. Bob, you had
- 14 referenced you may have, and other Board members.
- 15 If anyone has any new ideas or suggestions to put
- on the table beyond what's in the recommendations
- 17 here. Bob?
- MR. POHLMAN: Yeah. As I said, I don't
- 19 necessarily feel that it has to be included in
- 20 this paper, but one thing I've been thinking
- 21 about is the study that the Urban Institute is
- 22 supposed to be completing. I know, under

- 1 contract, they completed Phase 1. I'm not sure
- what the status of Phase 2 is, but that's some
- 3 baseline data that we've said we wanted and
- 4 needed, as we start to really make
- 5 recommendations, not for this RFP but future
- 6 ones, is where the need is. And you talked about
- 7 specific production goals -- that should be
- 8 related to that specific need. So maybe at a
- 9 future meeting we can have Peter Tatian and Urban
- 10 come, if the report is complete, and do a
- 11 presentation on that.
- The other thing, again, it's not in here
- 13 because you're talking policy here, but stress
- 14 the importance of getting the dollars out the
- 15 door. I know that based on the report that Oke
- 16 did and others last time, all the dollars were
- 17 spoken for, but getting them out the door is
- another matter, and the cash balance that's in
- 19 the trust fund always gets the attention of the
- 20 Council, and they don't really understand why
- 21 there's so much money available, and we're
- raising taxes, and we're appropriating dollars,

- 1 and all this money is sitting in the trust fund.
- So it's important to move it. It's also
- 3 important for us to do some education, and I
- 4 think maybe if it comes from some of us on the
- 5 Board, in addition to DHCD, but that would be
- 6 helpful as to what the realities are. You're
- 7 always going to have a huge balance of cash in
- 8 the trust fund. That's a given. It has to be
- 9 there in order to commit to a project, by law, by
- 10 anti-deficiency, and you know it can't possibly
- 11 get spent in less than 2 years. So you're going
- to have 2 years worth of cash in there at all
- 13 times, and it's going to get bigger, so we just
- 14 need to be doing an educational piece.
- I think showing how housing production,
- specifically, relates to homelessness and the
- 17 problem that has gotten so much attention -- I
- don't think we've ever really done that. The
- 19 solutions are usually short-term leasing, those
- 20 kinds of things. We have to do something
- immediately. I don't know that we've ever shown
- 22 -- and I'm not sure we had a strategy in the

- 1 past, other than last year with the PSH, to
- 2 specifically target a substantial amount of the
- 3 trust fund for production that will address
- 4 homelessness in the future. I think that's
- 5 critically important now, particularly with the
- 6 Chairman who oversees the whole homelessness
- 7 issue, and, frankly, I would just say, based on
- 8 past discussions, as a skeptic about whether DHCD
- 9 can get the money out the door, whether they
- 10 really need that much money, and so forth. So I
- 11 think showing, this time around, specifically,
- 12 how it's going to be used to address homelessness
- is going to be crucial.
- And finally, preservation. The DC
- 15 Preservation Network recently did a paper that we
- issued on preservation. It is mentioned in here
- under, on page -- giving priorities to certain
- other projects. That's a tough one because
- 19 preservation, you know, is not permanent
- 20 supportive housing, typically. Now, I guess it
- 21 could be, but some of it, you know, you usually
- 22 occupy buildings. But preservation is another

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- 1 area that we haven't really talked about very
- 2 much, and obviously preserving the stuff that we
- 3 have is important. It's referenced in here, but
- 4 as we go forward -- and this is just in the
- 5 beginning stages -- I think the Department and
- 6 Preservation Network are going to want to develop
- 7 some specific strategies and priorities for
- 8 preservation. Not everything should be
- 9 preserved. Some of it is just way too expensive,
- 10 for example, and would drain the trust fund. But
- on the other hand, it shouldn't just be left to
- 12 chance what gets preserved.
- So those are the comments I had.
- 14 CHAIRMAN BOWERS: Great. Thank you, Bob.
- 15 Let me ask Allison a question, actually, on Bob's
- 16 first point about Urban Institute. Any sense of
- 17 any updates on timing of their report or status
- 18 of their Phase 2?
- MS. LADD: Mr. Chairman, you know, I know
- 20 I saw the first version, and I think Phase 1 was
- 21 released last week. I'm looking at Chris
- 22 Dickersin-Prokop, but sorry, I wanted to make

- 1 sure I'm saying it properly.
- 2 CHAIRMAN BOWERS: Chris, announce
- 3 yourself for the record.
- 4 MR. DICKERSIN-PROKOPP: Sure. Chris
- 5 Dickersin-Prokop, Program Analyst, DHCD. Phase 1
- 6 was released a while ago, and that was mostly an
- 7 assessment of the inclusionary zoning program,
- 8 and Phase 2 has been underway for a while. We've
- 9 seen a close to final draft and are reviewing it
- 10 among agencies, and I guess now we're at the
- 11 point of just setting a date when it will be
- announced. I think it's close to being ready.
- 13 And that has two parts -- the needs assessment
- 14 but also a developer survey that should shed some
- 15 light on ways we can improve our process, ways
- 16 agencies can coordinate across the district.
- 17 CHAIRMAN BOWERS: That's great. And I do
- 18 think, to Bob's point, when that's done we can
- work to schedule a time for Urban to come to one
- 20 of the meetings and be a part of a dialog,
- 21 presentation and dialog. Thank you, Chris and
- 22 Allison.

- MS. LADD: Thanks, Chris, and, Mr.
- 2 Chairman, I think that what we'll see is that --
- 3 and what I thought was a very extensive analysis
- 4 of Phase 2, and I think that this board and
- 5 others will be pleased when the report is finally
- 6 published.
- 7 CHAIRMAN BOWERS: Okay. I want to go
- 8 back also to the idea that Bob raised about
- 9 basically doing a skull session for
- 10 councilmembers and staff about the cash balances
- 11 piece, just trying to think logistically. I
- agree and I think that's come up before, the need
- to educated electeds and staff on the Council
- about this issue, and I'm wondering if any Board
- 15 members have suggestions on perhaps the most
- 16 effective way to do that, whether it's to do a
- 17 session down at Council and invite members and
- 18 staff to come to sessions, is it inviting them
- 19 here, is it going there and doing a separate
- 20 session, or something totally different? Any
- 21 ideas?
- I would welcome any suggestions people

- 1 have now or in the near future, because I do
- 2 think Bob's point is well taken that providing
- 3 that education from multiple angles could be
- 4 helpful. I'm sure some of us do it individually
- 5 when we go and have meetings. I know that the
- 6 Department does it, but perhaps doing it as a
- 7 Board could be a helpful function. So any
- 8 thoughts anybody has on that? Oramenta?
- MS. NEWSOME: This is explaining why the
- 10 numbers look different for the trust fund, in
- 11 terms of having dollars still there?
- 12 CHAIRMAN BOWERS: Right. Right.
- 13 Exactly.
- MS. NEWSOME: Would we start with the
- 15 Housing Committee as opposed to the whole
- 16 Council?
- 17 CHAIRMAN BOWERS: Right. Right.
- MS. NEWSOME: I mean, part of the thing
- about opening the door and explaining something
- 20 is that you know what's behind the door, and when
- you make the explanation you don't come out worse
- 22 than you started. So maybe it's a smaller group

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1 we want to start with. I met with -- her last

- 2 name Kang.
- MS. LADD: Irene. Irene?
- MS. NEWSOME: That's right, Irene, who
- s asked me that same question when I met with her,
- 6 and I said, well, I can theorize but I can't give
- 7 you the answer. So I know that it's a question
- 8 that Councilmember Bonds has asked. So my
- 9 recommendation would be to start with a small
- 10 group like the Housing Committee or Councilmember
- 11 Bonds.
- MR. POHLMAN: Yeah, I agree. I think
- 13 start with Councilmember Bonds. I know CNHED --
- 14 and I was somewhat involved in this -- presented
- 15 some information on that very thing, starting out
- with a schedule that all of the money is really
- 17 spoken for, and it's a matter of moving it
- 18 through the process, and she had some real
- 19 concerns about it. I was told that she was now
- 20 completely satisfied, but I think it's critical
- 21 that she, of all people, absolutely knows, and
- 22 the hearing will be coming up, of course, and it

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- 1 will come up there, that she knows, preferably
- 2 before that hearing, exactly what the deal is
- 3 with this, and can speak to it herself.
- But I agree with Oramenta. When you said
- s a briefing of the Council, there are going to be
- 6 some people that -- first of all, you can take
- 7 political advantage of this, even if you
- 8 understand it, because if you want something else
- 9 and you're opposed to putting this much money in
- 10 a trust fund, as maybe one or two people would
- 11 be, you can just use it, so sometimes the more
- 12 education, the worst result.
- So I'd keep the ear to the ground as to
- 14 people asking questions. Start with the Chair of
- 15 the Committee and ask her, are there
- 16 councilmembers who need a specific briefing on
- 17 this. If it's a big issue and a problem with the
- 18 a councilmember, absolutely I think you need to
- 19 go see them. But if she says, "No, I've talked
- 20 to the Committee and the Committee is good. I
- 21 talked to other people, the Chairman is good" --
- that's a key one -- in other words, don't explain

- 1 a problem if it isn't a problem.
- 2 CHAIRMAN BOWERS: Are there thoughts --
- 3 I'm curious, Allison, if you all have heard, in
- 4 preparation for the hearing, if you all have
- 5 heard any feedback from members of the Council
- 6 where they have that concern? That's one
- 7 question. The second question is, is there an
- 8 explanation that's already on the record or one
- 9 that would be kind of forthcoming that could
- 10 equip members of the general public but also the
- 11 Board, really in a detailed way, kind of how to
- 12 explain that in a way that makes sense?
- MS. LADD: Sure, Mr. Chairman.
- 14 Absolutely. I think what Member Pohlman was
- 15 taking about makes a lot of sense, as well as
- 16 Member Newsome. Where we are is, I can tell you
- 17 since our oversight hearing on performance, which
- 18 was in February, we have had various briefings
- with both councilmembers and their staff. So
- 20 we've talked with Councilmember Bonds -- we've
- 21 talked to her staff; we talked to Councilmember
- 22 Silverman -- we've talked to her staff -- and

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- we're going to be reaching out more to
- 2 Councilmember Nadeau, who we know has a
- significant amount of knowledge about housing,
- 4 given some of her staff that's there, former
- 5 CNHED members, but we also wanted to better
- 6 inform Councilmember Nadeau on where we are,
- 7 since all three of them are members of the
- 8 Committee for Housing and Community Development.
- 9 So I think echoing anything that the
- 10 Department is saying would make a lot of sense.
- 11 I also think, from your own perspectives, will
- make a lot of sense to share those types of
- 13 stories or success, or even challenges with the
- 14 councilmembers. We found them to really want
- work in partnership with us, along with the
- 16 Mayor, to figure out how we can, again, meet the
- 17 goals of the trust funds. So that's really
- 18 everyone's focus as it relates to the balance
- 19 that we carry forward. That is something
- 20 significant, and it is something we have to
- 21 explain.
- I will tell you yes, of course, when I

- 1 started I might have had an idea of why there was
- 2 a balance. Today I am much more well-versed in
- why there's a balance, and that's something
- 4 that's very important for us, is to figure out
- 5 how do we address pipeline projects or legacy
- 6 projects, and it's something I know Oke and I
- 7 have been talking about. We don't have a
- 8 solution at this point but we have been talking
- 9 about how do we handle moving projects through a
- 10 pipeline faster.
- But I think if the Director was here,
- something she would say is that it starts with
- 13 the application and the NOFA process. It starts
- 14 with how prescriptive we are and what we require
- when we are actually asking developers or
- 16 partners to apply for the dollars. So that's on
- us. That's on the Department, and we welcome, of
- 18 course, the guidance that the Board has given us,
- and that's what we're working on right now, is
- 20 how do we do that better. How are we more clear
- 21 about what is required?
- 22 So I will ask for a little bit of

- 1 patience, but we're close. We're working to
- 2 figure that out, and as it relates to when the
- 3 next upcoming NOFA will be, it will be sometime
- 4 spring, summer, but I think summer, like June
- 5 23rd or something like that. But sometime in
- 6 June is what we're thinking for the next funding
- 7 round. I know you've heard before, we were
- 8 thinking about May, but I think that given where
- we were with the budget process and where we are
- 10 with the commitments, we wanted to make sure that
- we were really looking forward to FY16's proposed
- 12 budget for new projects, because, as you all
- 13 know, when you look at the dollars, they are
- 14 committed -- I guess air quotes is appropriate --
- 15 but they are committed for projects, so it's up
- to us to figure out what we do with the legacy of
- 17 pipeline projects and then what do we do going
- 18 forward. So we're working on that now, and I'd
- 19 say that within the next month we'll have a
- 20 better response to you and to the Board.
- 21 CHAIRMAN BOWERS: I appreciate that. One
- of the things that would be helpful, I think, for

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- 1 Board members and for general public is some sort
- of the one-page or the bullet points on why -- I
- 3 know, in past meetings, we've had the
- 4 conversation over the last year, year-plus, as
- 5 we've had conversations about what's in the
- 6 pipeline, what's moving through, et cetera, et
- 7 cetera, and there have been explanations when
- 8 articles have hit in the Post, about projects,
- 9 and kind of explanations of what's what and why
- 10 it is.
- So my sense is that members of the Board,
- 12 for various reasons, kind of understand and have
- a sense of that. I do think for, again, general
- 14 public and also so the choir is singing from the
- 15 same hymn book that there be kind of a standard
- 16 explanation that the Department has that can be
- used by people to say "this is why." And,
- obviously, if there are issues that are related
- 19 to needing to move projects through more
- 20 expeditiously, or either kind of move them or get
- them off the books, that's separate from the
- 22 general process and why at certain points monies

- are just going to seem as though they're sitting
- there, even though they're already committed.
- 3 That's a separate piece and I think that's the
- 4 piece we're talking about we need to make sure
- 5 that members of the Council and their staff are
- 6 clear about. And so I think that could be a
- 7 helpful piece to have.
- MS. LADD: We'd be happy to, Mr.
- 9 Chairman. Not a problem.
- 10 CHAIRMAN BOWERS: That would be great.
- 11 Thank you. Other comments folks have on any of
- 12 this before we move on? Yes, sir. Stan Jackson.
- MR. JACKSON: Mr. Chairman, I wanted to
- 14 just say I think it would be also helpful if
- 15 there is a way that we can sort of better show
- the relationship and the correlation between
- 17 housing and economic development. One of the big
- 18 things that I hear a lot in our community
- meetings is this whole notion around economic
- 20 development and they tend to separate the value
- of what housing plays as a key component in help
- 22 stimulating economic development.

So I think it would be interesting to

- 2 look at, as we look at the demand side, and the
- 3 location of that demand, against where the
- 4 economic transformations are occurring, or where
- 5 the desire for transformation to occur would be
- 6 important as well, so that people see the
- 7 relationship between housing -- it's almost going
- 8 back to your article as to holistic approach to
- 9 why all of it is connected. We've got to be able
- 10 to create a pipeline of skill sets where even if
- 11 you produce affordable products that people can
- afford to stay in those products because they're
- making a wage that allows them to at least
- 14 compete.
- So I think that it's important to create
- 16 that sort of connection between the value of what
- we do here with HPTF, and also the
- 18 securitization, because that, to me, I think, is
- 19 a brilliant thing that we have been talking about
- 20 for some time now, of being able to have a trunk
- of money now to really move this new community,
- 22 and around a new community, as you know, it's

- 1 supposed to be sort of a third, a third, a third,
- 2 plus other amenities that make sort of a vibrant
- 3 experience. So it certainly would be interesting
- 4 to create correlation between while the
- 5 production of housing is so instrumental to the
- 6 stability and sustainability of economic
- 7 transformation in our communities.
- 8 CHAIRMAN BOWERS: You know, to that
- 9 point, Sam, I'm wondering if, within government,
- 10 if there are any, like the Cap City Fellows or
- interns and/or outside of government any think
- 12 tanks. I know studies and analysis have been
- done, in general, about the correlation but I'm
- wondering if there would be a way to engage
- 15 somebody, either within government or outside of
- 16 government to do specific analysis of the
- 17 investments of district dollars into housing that
- 18 serves folks long continuum, and the benefits
- 19 that they have around economic development,
- 20 stabilizing education, et cetera, et cetera, so
- that going to the notion of as this push on
- 22 budget gets made to have at least \$100 million

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- 1 every year, and more, and people have
- 2 discussions, in a budget context -- I think to
- 3 Bob's point earlier -- would be interesting to be
- 4 kind of armed with data and analysis that shows
- 5 why this investment is important for multiple
- 6 reasons.
- So I don't know if there -- are there --
- 8 do you think, Allison, there may be resources?
- 9 It's something we can all kind of dig into, if
- 10 there are resources either within government that
- 11 could perhaps do that kind of analysis. I mean,
- 12 there are plenty of think tanks, certainly, in
- town, and it may be worth having a conversation
- 14 with some of them, even folks at Urban since
- they're doing analysis, to see if there's an
- overlay that could be done with the analysis
- 17 they're doing on that.
- 18 Yes, Bob.
- MR. POHLMAN: Just a comment, and it's
- 20 specific to Stan. You talk about economic
- 21 development. I was walking here from the Metro
- 22 this morning and looking at the big empty lot,

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- 1 and saying, "That's going to have a huge impact
- on Anacostia," one that, really, Anacostia
- 3 residents have been calling for a long time, and
- 4 the only way that could get done if it's an
- 5 assisted project. A market-rate project is not
- 6 going to get done there.
- 7 Are there two projects like that in that
- 8 vicinity or just one?
- 9 MR. JACKSON: Well, there are a couple of
- 10 projects there. On Howard Road there's a
- 11 project, and right off Howard Road there's a
- 12 project.
- MR. POHLMAN: But that case can be made
- 14 right now --
- MR. JACKSON: Oh, absolutely.
- MR. POHLMAN: -- in a hearing with the
- 17 DHCD, DHCD's hearing and so forth, because I
- 18 haven't seen anything quite that direct before,
- where housing dollars -- yes it's going to
- 20 produce affordable housing, but the bigger
- impact, frankly, is going to be on economic
- 22 development in Anacostia.

MR. JACKSON: And to your point -- and

- you're right off a transportation-oriented
- 3 position that's certainly ripe for redevelopment,
- 4 and then it's a quarter mile to St. E. So, to
- 5 your point, it's sort of like a perfect
- 6 opportunity.
- 7 MR. POHLMAN: And then the other thing I
- 8 just wanted to mention, when we talk about
- 9 economic development we always talk about the big
- 10 projects in development, and more recently in
- 11 talking about the support of housing and resident
- services, we've been talking about economic
- 13 empowerment, which is economic development for
- 14 the individual, which is another aspect that we,
- 15 I think, can be emphasizing a lot more.
- 16 Supportive services is thought of as, well, you
- 17 help people with addiction or something like
- 18 that, but the direction we're going here is going
- way beyond that, helping people with jobs, job
- 20 training, all that kind of thing, and that's a
- 21 powerful statement to make.
- MS. MARSHALL: And I would encourage us

- 1 to think as much about housing retention services
- 2 as we do social services in this context.
- 3 CHAIRMAN BOWERS: Sue, say another word
- 4 about that, housing retention.
- 5 MS. MARSHALL: Housing retention. If you
- 6 have a job that pays a market wage, that helps
- 7 you maintain the housing as much as social
- 8 services. I'm sure there's a body of research
- 9 somewhere that looks at the correlation between
- 10 wealth-creation and the need for so-called
- 11 supportive services.
- 12 CHAIRMAN BOWERS: Absolutely. You know,
- 13 I was thinking, Allison, would all be willing to
- 14 check, maybe have a conversation with Urban to
- 15 see if doing that kind of -- basically, how long
- 16 it would take them, what it would cost, whether
- 17 they did it or just in general, to do that kind
- of overlay on the needs analysis, to show kind of
- 19 impact?
- MS. LADD: Yes, Mr. Chairman. We'll ask
- 21 them.
- 22 CHAIRMAN BOWERS: Because it would be

- 1 interesting to know how long it would take, what
- 2 it would cost, and then we'd kind of figure for
- 3 X, if you would -- again, whether it's them or
- 4 someone else who is doing it -- because I do
- 5 think having that kind of information and data to
- 6 make the case could be powerful, make the case
- 7 specific to D.C., because, again, there's plenty
- 8 of reports that have been done about, generally
- 9 speaking, why investments in housing are
- important, but to make it specific to D.C. could
- 11 be helpful, and to look at some specific examples
- in a district context could be helpful for all
- 13 the reasons.
- Okay. Other comments, questions, on any
- of these issues before we move on?
- MS. LADD: Mr. Chairman, may I just make
- 17 a couple of comments --
- 18 CHAIRMAN BOWERS: Yes. Sure.
- MS. LADD: -- about three other matters
- 20 that were brought up? So, one, for Member
- 21 Jackson, it seems as if maybe -- I know we're in
- the same building but I think you were in my

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- 1 office this morning when I was talking to the
- 2 Director. She was just saying that this morning,
- 3 as well, is that we needed to not only focus on
- 4 affordable housing efforts but also neighborhood
- 5 revitalization, community development, and that
- 6 we needed to continue to figure out how to be
- 7 more collaborative in that effort, as well.
- 8 Again, it's not something that we had a solution
- 9 on but it's something that I know that she would
- 10 like us to start looking at, as well. So we're
- 11 definitely in the same line of thinking.
- Also, on two other matters about
- 13 preservation -- I know that's also a key topic
- 14 for this department is to think about
- 15 preservation and not only from a funding
- 16 standpoint but also from a, I guess, regulatory
- 17 approach. And I know we don't talk a lot about
- 18 TOPA, or inclusionary zoning, or ADUs compliance
- in this meeting but it is something, as all of
- 20 you know, is something that this department works
- on as well. So we look at preservation from a
- variety of different components and some of it is

- 1 through a funding mechanism, through like the
- 2 HPTF but others or other regulatory aspects. So
- 3 perhaps there's a way for us to share that
- 4 information at another time.
- And then the last one, which I think will
- 6 lead into the next presentation is just about
- 7 linking the trust fund priorities to the other
- 8 plans that have been adopted by the city, so
- 9 including the ICH strategic plan that was adopted
- 10 last week. So I know we're going to be hearing
- 11 some more about that, but given that the fact
- 12 that Director Donaldson is also the co-chair of
- 13 the Housing Solutions Committee for the ICH,
- there's definitely a crosswalk, and it's
- something that we'll be very focused on in the
- 16 upcoming NOFA.
- So I do want you and the members all to
- 18 know that we are listening, and so we're
- 19 definitely going to figure out how to make this
- 20 upcoming funding round echo what's being talked
- 21 about here today.
- CHAIRMAN BOWERS: Great. Thank you. All

- 1 right. That's great. Thank you very much.
- We'll now turn to Maribeth DeLorenzo for
- 3 item number 4, the Interagency Council on
- 4 Homelessness 5-year plan to end homelessness.
- 5 MS. DeLORENZO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
- 6 I'm Maribeth DeLorenzo. I'm a housing
- development advisor here in the Office of the
- 8 Director at DHCD, and we've prepared a very brief
- 9 PowerPoint for you today, which is also on this
- 10 wall for those of you aligned that way, if you
- 11 don't want to get a crick in your neck. But this
- is just an overview. As Allison Ladd mentioned,
- 13 this plan was approved by the Interagency Council
- on Homelessness last week in a full meeting,
- 15 chaired by the City Administrator, and we wanted
- 16 to give you an overview of what's in the plan and
- 17 point out some key items where there is a linkage
- 18 with the Housing Production Trust Fund which may
- 19 be of interest for future discussion.
- The strategic plan overview -- and I know
- 21 that some of you have been involved in this
- 22 intimately and some of you maybe less so. It was

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- 1 a very long process. It began in June 2014. It
- 2 concluded in March 2015. APT Associates and
- 3 Corporation for Supportive Housing worked very
- 4 extensively with the city. There were over 25
- 5 community meetings and there were 2 public
- 6 comment sessions to get input on the plan. There
- 7 were over 300 comments that were received, so it
- 8 was an extremely participatory process.
- In terms of the context, I know that all
- 10 of us work with homelessness and housing very
- 11 broadly, but sometimes it's helpful to pull back
- 12 and look at how this plan is defining
- 13 homelessness, and it focuses on the fact that
- 14 homelessness takes many forms and it can be
- unsheltered -- persons who live on the street or
- 16 camp outdoors, live in places that are not safe
- 17 for human habitation -- sheltered persons who are
- 18 staying in either emergency shelters or
- 19 transitional housing program, and then, lastly,
- 20 persons who are doubled up, who are staying with
- 21 friends and families who may be moving from
- 22 pillar to post to get housing.

1 This plan, importantly, is focused on the

- 2 first two groups, those who are unsheltered and
- who are sheltered either in emergency shelter or
- 4 transitional housing settings, which are still
- 5 considered homeless by the HUD definition. And
- 6 then to point out that DHCD, who we'll see
- 7 referenced in this plan, is working on a broader
- 8 affordability housing action plan for the city,
- 9 and this is in its infancy and something that the
- 10 Board will be hearing more about. This relates
- 11 to, as Chief of Staff Ladd mentioned, this is
- 12 around interagency collaboration and looking at
- 13 the Comprehensive Housing Strategy Task Force
- 14 that was completed several years ago, and then
- 15 looking at how does that need to be updated or
- 16 adjusted to fit in with the ICH plan.
- And then in terms of moving down a layer
- 18 from homelessness generally to chronic
- 19 homelessness. Chronic homelessness indicates
- 20 that a head of household has a disabling
- 21 condition, has been living on the streets or in
- 22 emergency shelter, and has been continuously

- 1 homeless for a year or more, or has had four
- 2 episodes in the last 3 years. So just keeping in
- 3 mind as the plan refers to homelessness and
- 4 chronic homelessness that these are the
- 5 definitions being used.
- And then in the District of Columbia
- 7 there are specific subpopulations that the
- 8 district has done very, very well at addressing,
- 9 and others where there is a little bit more
- 10 trouble. As you know, every January there is a
- 11 point-in-time count that is conducted to count
- 12 the unsheltered persons, whether in households or
- 13 singles in the District of Columbia, and well as
- in all other jurisdictions through the country,
- and from our most recent point-in-time count,
- which is still 2014, referenced here -- not 2015
- where the count was conducted in January but the
- 18 data is not fully compiled -- homelessness among
- veterans is down 20 percent from 2010, so that's
- 20 a real victory consistent with, you may have
- 21 heard about New Orleans and some other
- 22 jurisdictions across the country who have made

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- 1 real dents in veterans' homelessness, and the
- 2 district is also moving in that direction.
- And then with chronic homelessness among
- 4 single adults, that's also down almost a quarter,
- 5 24 percent from 2010. But, troublingly, on the
- 6 flip side of that coin, homelessness is
- 7 increasing more broadly, and homelessness among
- 8 families has increased 50 percent since 2010,
- 9 which is very notable.
- If you have a chance, we included for the
- 11 Board members the Homeward DC plan in your
- 12 packets. It's great bedtime reading. It's not
- 13 quite beach reading season yet but it's really a
- 14 wonderfully well-written, composed plan. This is
- a still a draft version, and for the public the
- 16 finalized version will be available in about 10
- 17 days. It's just going through copy editing and
- 18 sorting right now. But it's a great plan that
- 19 talks a lot about what does that mean in terms of
- 20 family homelessness, how does that compare to
- other jurisdictions, and it actually drills down
- 22 to the fact that family homelessness, it's very

- 1 similar in terms of what's happening in other
- right-to-shelter jurisdictions. There are only a
- 3 few right-to-shelter jurisdictions in the
- 4 country, of which D.C. is one, and family
- 5 homelessness has increased in most of those
- 6 jurisdictions.
- 7 So what's causing the increase in family
- 8 homelessness? You're all experts on this topic
- 9 so this is not a news flash to any of you, but as
- you know we have over 75,000 households who are
- 11 cost-burdened in the district, meaning they're
- spending more than 30 percent of their income on
- 13 their housing costs. Forty thousand of those are
- 14 severely cost-burdened, meaning they're spending
- over half of their income on their housing costs.
- 16 So we have a lot of people who are really
- 17 burdened with their housing costs.
- And then there's intense competition for
- 19 the affordable units, and that people who end up
- 20 in the homeless systems in the District of
- 21 Columbia often have issues around poor credit, or
- they may be returning citizens, returning from

- incarceration, they may have unstable support
- networks or not a very extensive or, indeed,
- 3 perhaps in some instances, any job history. So
- 4 they are not the most competitive applicants when
- 5 you're looking at, just on the open market,
- 6 getting an apartment. So when there are
- 7 affordable units, there's intense competition for
- 8 them, and people who are very vulnerable often
- 9 don't have the factors that someone else might.
- And then, lastly, there's a skills
- mismatch among job-seekers in the district and
- 12 available jobs. So back to Mr. Jackson's point
- about economic development and community
- 14 revitalization, thinking about that we have a lot
- of people who don't have high educational
- 16 attainment and maybe don't have a lot of job
- 17 experience.
- And particularly, as most of you know, in
- 19 family homelessness there are a number of --
- 20 greater than 40 percent, slightly less than 50
- 21 percent of the family households are single-
- 22 headed parents, and the head of household is

- 1 between 18 and 24. So if you think about that for
- 2 a minute, you can see that you wouldn't have had
- 3 very much time to build stable support networks,
- 4 and if you've had children very young you may not
- 5 have some of the advantages that other households
- 6 might have competing for the same affordable
- 7 units.
- 8 So the vision and goal, the sort of meat
- 9 and potatoes, or tofu and potatoes, depending on
- 10 your persuasion --
- [Laughter.]
- MS. DeLORENZO: -- of this plan, the
- vision and goals by 2020, homelessness in the
- 14 District of Columbia will be a rare, brief, and
- non-recurring experience. That's the vision for
- 16 this plan -- by 2020, homelessness in the
- 17 District of Columbia will be a rare, brief, and
- 18 non-recurring experience.
- And then the goals of the plan. We will
- 20 end homelessness among veterans by December 2015,
- 21 and chronic homelessness among families and
- 22 individuals by December of 2017, and, again, this

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1 is why we pulled out the definitions earlier, to

- 2 just remind you of the distinctions between
- 3 general homelessness and chronic homelessness.
- 4 Chronic homelessness, a subpopulation to be
- addressed by December 2017, and then ensure
- 6 anyone experiencing a housing crisis is re-housed
- 7 in an average of 60 days or less by the year
- 8 2020. So very ambitious goals, very ambitious
- 9 vision for this plan.
- And then the guiding principles behind
- 11 the plan -- and, again, you can read more details
- around this -- that homelessness is unacceptable
- and that it is expensive, that it actually costs
- 14 more to use temporary shelters and hotels that
- we've all been reading about than it does to
- 16 actually move persons toward permanent, stable
- 17 housing. There are no homeless people but people
- who have lost their homes and deserve to be
- 19 treated with dignity and respect. And then very
- 20 important for this advisory board, homelessness
- 21 is about a lack of housing that is affordable to
- 22 households at different income levels.

The next principle speaks to Housing

- 2 First, and how important that is. You know, the
- 3 national shift away from this idea that we had to
- first get people into treatment, get them sober,
- 5 deal with any kinds of behavioral health issues,
- 6 and then move them into housing. As Sue Marshall
- 7 can speak to very eloquently, nationally there
- 8 has been much more of a trend to move towards
- 9 Housing First, which is housing is a critical
- ingredient for household stability, and only when
- 11 you are housed can you then begin to work on some
- of your other issues.
- And transformation of the homeless system
- 14 will require data-driven decision-making and a
- 15 strategic use of resources. Better coordination
- of mainstream anti-poverty programs is needed to
- 17 prevent homelessness, and then that there is
- 18 strength in collaboration, so that this is a very
- 19 lift in terms of those ambitious goals and it
- 20 will require every agency in government to be
- 21 aligned, as well as the nonprofits, and community
- 22 members, intermediaries, philanthropic community,

- 1 everyone has a seat at the table to move us
- towards these goals.
- And then the plan moves to specific
- 4 strategies that will be critical to achieving the
- 5 vision and goals, and we're going to talk, for
- 6 the HPTF Advisory Board, the key strategies are
- 7 number 2 and number 3. In fact, there are some
- 8 specific call-outs for the Housing Production
- 9 Trust Fund. Broadly speaking, the strategies
- 10 are, Strategy 1, develop a more effective crisis
- 11 response system, and this speaks to the fact that
- 12 the challenge of this plan is trying to meet all
- 13 the shelter needs of households, which is
- 14 required by the district law -- as we talked
- about, the district is a right-to-shelter
- 16 jurisdiction -- while we simultaneously move to
- 17 shift more of the resources within the
- 18 homelessness services system towards permanent
- 19 housing solutions. So really moving people
- 20 towards permanent housing solutions is kind of
- 21 the backbone of this plan.
- So 2, increase the supply of affordable

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- 1 and supportive housing, which is why we all come
- 2 to work every day; 3, reduce barriers to
- supportive and affordable housing; Strategy 4,
- 4 increase the economic security of households in
- 5 the system; and Strategy 5, increase homelessness
- 6 prevention efforts to ensure that fewer people
- 7 are coming in the front door of the homelessness
- 8 services system because their needs have been met
- 9 by prevention or diversion and they've been able
- 10 to be helped in a way that they have not become
- 11 literally homeless.
- So to do a little bit of a deeper dive on
- 13 Strategies 2 and 3, for the Board members here
- we've provided the full Homeward DC plan, and on
- 15 pages 47 to 49 there are action items affiliated
- 16 with Strategy 2, increase supply of affordable
- and supportive housing, and Strategy 3, reduce
- 18 barriers to supportive and affordable housing.
- 19 And you'll -- there's also a two-page handout
- 20 which is the shortened version. I'm not sure if
- that's in the packets, but it should have gone
- 22 for public comment, for the public members as

- 1 well, or for public review, rather.
- 2 So the first action item on Strategy 2 is
- 3 really the purview of this body -- align the
- 4 annual Housing Production Trust Fund investments
- 5 via the joint RFP process to help meet the
- 6 permanent supportive housing and TAH -- which is
- 7 a new acronym, maybe your new one for the week,
- 8 the targeted affordable housing -- the needs
- 9 specified via the strategic plan. Ensure
- 10 dedicated units are filled via the coordinated
- 11 assessment system and prioritize Housing First
- 12 programming.
- So you'll see that there are a number of
- 14 agencies that are tagged with a role there, DHCD
- 15 being a lead that includes the Housing Authority,
- 16 Department of Behavioral Health, Department of
- 17 Human Services, Health Care Finance, and
- 18 Department of Health, and if you unpack that
- there's actually a powerful amount of work in
- 20 that one little statement. So ensuring that the
- investments are targeted to the need -- that's
- 22 the first piece -- then ensuring that dedicated

- 1 units are filled with coordinated assessment.
- You all have heard about the SPDAT tool,
- 3 the Service Prioritization Data Assistance Tool.
- 4 So that will actually be -- there's a VI-SPDAT,
- 5 which works for individuals, and an F-SPDAT,
- 6 which is for families, which actually looks at
- 7 vulnerability factors so that every person, no
- 8 matter where they enter the system, can be
- 9 assessed for their vulnerability and their actual
- need for housing, relative to others in a way
- 11 that is consistent.
- So helping to ensure that dedicated units
- are filled through the coordinated assessment
- 14 system, to make sure that we're serving the most
- 15 vulnerable among the chronically homeless and the
- 16 homeless, and then prioritize Housing First
- 17 permanent supportive housing programming, to make
- 18 sure that we are adhering to this idea that there
- shouldn't be a barrier to entry, based on your
- 20 behavioral health status or any kind of past
- 21 experience that you have had.
- To the Chairperson's earlier point,

- 1 complete an analysis of the housing units or
- slots, part of a dedicated inventory. There was
- 3 an initial analysis that was done as part of this
- 4 plan, working with the housing inventory, the
- 5 HIC, the Housing Inventory Chart. That's
- 6 compiled by TCP, who worked very, very
- 7 collaboratively with all of the stakeholders in
- 8 this plan. Develop a common protocol to assist
- 9 with the identification of individuals and
- 10 families ready to move on from permanent
- 11 supportive housing -- and this was in
- 12 recognition, this is Action C, in recognition of
- 13 the fact that there may be households who
- 14 actually are ready, don't need the intensive
- 15 level of services in permanent supportive
- 16 housing, and need affordable housing but may not
- 17 need the service intensity.
- So that's where this -- we talked earlier
- 19 about the targeted affordable housing, and that's
- where that comes in. The targeted affordable
- 21 housing, in planning terms, was being called flow
- 22 housing, to increase the system flow within the

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- 1 homelessness services system, but those are units
- 2 for persons who are economically vulnerable,
- 3 mostly at 30 percent AMI or lower, but may need a
- 4 lower intensity of services and supports than you
- 5 would find in permanent supportive housing. And
- 6 that's important because, as we know, permanent
- 7 supportive housing is one of the most important
- 8 interventions for those who are very vulnerable
- 9 but it's also very expensive because there's a
- 10 high intensity of services. So you just want to
- 11 make sure that households are matched to the
- 12 level of intensity of services that they require.
- Lastly, in terms of items in the action
- 14 column, conduct an analysis of the transitional
- 15 housing stock in the community and think about
- 16 those projects that may be ready to move from
- 17 transitional housing to more permanent housing
- 18 solution status. And there is an analysis that's
- 19 complete and there are some pilots, there are
- 20 some projects that have already successfully
- undergone that transition, and some that are in
- 22 place.

Our chief of staff here at DHCD, Allison

- 2 Ladd, mentioned earlier that Director Donaldson
- 3 is the co-chair for the Housing Solutions
- 4 Committee of the ICH, and I'd like to invite all
- of the Advisory Board members, as well as members
- 6 of the public, if you would like to attend that
- 7 meeting, which is scheduled regularly -- it
- 8 occurs on the first Thursday of every month, from
- 9 2 to 3:30 here at DHCD, and our next meeting is
- 10 May 7th. I know that many of you already
- 11 participate in that, but that is the body, in
- addition to this body, with which DHCD will work
- 13 to see what does this actually mean.
- This plan makes a good point of saying
- 15 that it's a road map; it's not a blueprint. This
- 16 plan is one that has very specific action items
- 17 for implementation, and you'll see that DHCD is
- 18 listed in a number of the items here on Strategy
- 19 2, as well as on Strategy 3, where there are some
- 20 other important pieces where DHCD has a role.
- 21 And the idea, really, is to get the best input
- 22 from all of the members of the community, all of

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1 the stakeholders around the table, to see how we

- 2 can implement most successfully.
- And I would turn it back over to the
- 4 Chairperson to say I hope this overview has been
- 5 helpful, and it's probably a topic that the Board
- 6 will want to consider as you get a chance to dig
- 7 into its details.
- 8 CHAIRMAN BOWERS: Absolutely. Thank you
- 9 very much, Maribeth. Comments, questions from
- members of the Board on anything you've heard?
- 11 Oramenta.
- MS. NEWSOME: Just thing in terms of
- 13 looking at the census. Do you have the data
- 14 which would tell you much about those who are
- aging out of foster care, and whether they are
- becoming a part of that population?
- MS. DeLORENZO: I might defer to Sue
- 18 Marshall on that. I can speak a little bit
- 19 generally, that I know that is, there's a special
- 20 emphasis on unaccompanied youth, and there also
- is some -- so there's a special group within the
- 22 ICH that is focusing on that, and that there is

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- 1 some suggestion that youth aging out of foster
- 2 care retain unique vulnerabilities that do
- 3 involve them in the homeless services system, but
- 4 Sue may be able to speak to that, as well.
- MS. MARSHALL: And we do regularly. We've
- 6 been in community partnership with Department of
- 7 Human Services and Child and Family Services, do
- 8 a regular data bump, so we can actually track how
- 9 many come into our system, and Child and Family
- 10 Services has its own Rapid Re-Housing Program so
- 11 that they've started to be proactive and do
- 12 housing plans with graduated subsidy for youth
- aging out, and the last time we quantified it was
- 14 between 5 and 6 percent of the young families
- 15 that we see actually aged out.
- MS. NEWSOME: We call it graduated
- 17 housing.
- MS. MARSHALL: I say graduated subsidy.
- MS. NEWSOME: Subsidy. That's it. Okay.
- 20 All right.
- MS. MARSHALL: In other words, as they
- 22 are connected to education and employment and get

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- 1 some income, their subsidy goes down.
- MS. NEWSOME: Goes down. Okay.
- 3 CHAIRMAN BOWERS: David.
- 4 MR. ROODBERG: I know our primary focus
- 5 is on the Housing Production Trust Fund and new
- 6 product, but something that resonates with me is
- 7 the whole credit issue, because I know of our
- 8 existing product, and then as we build new
- 9 product, the number of people coming in that we
- 10 deny, or are forced to deny because of bad
- 11 credit, and so you can be building new product
- and creating, but sometimes we have vacancy
- 13 because of lack of credit. And I wonder about
- 14 the amount of focus on it, because even when I
- read the economic security, a lot of it is about
- 16 job training and things like that.
- But even if people are trained, if poor
- 18 credit exists, it's a problem, and whether
- 19 there's thoughts on use of some kind of, creating
- 20 some kind of quarantee fund or something that
- 21 could give comfort to developers and owners and
- 22 things like that. It just seems like there's a

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- 1 lot of vacant units, both existing and being
- 2 created, because so many people come in with bad
- 3 credit.
- 4 CHAIRMAN BOWERS: Go ahead. Sue and then
- 5 Jackie.
- 6 MS. MARSHALL: And one of the things that
- 7 we've been looking at, again, around the whole
- 8 intake process is whether or not we should do
- 9 credit screening. Now, that's a hot-button
- 10 issue, but we are looking at whether or not we
- 11 should incorporate that as a part of the intake
- 12 process, so that we know, on the front end, and
- 13 have also had some conversations about -- because
- 14 we do pay bad debt. There are limits, and now
- one of the things we see are, among the hardest
- to serve is that they have these massive debts,
- 17 but whether it makes sense to actually pay that
- 18 off, in terms of getting our families placed in
- 19 housing.
- 20 CHAIRMAN BOWERS: Jackie and then
- 21 Oramenta.
- MS. PRIOR: One of the things that I'm

- 1 seeing more and more with our job training
- 2 grantees is that incorporated within that is
- 3 financial literacy and credit repair as part of
- 4 that job training program. It's not an instant
- 5 cure, but I think, again, if this is what we have
- 6 to do is we have to incorporate all these -- it's
- 7 not just housing and it's just not jobs. It's
- 8 the whole package.
- 9 CHAIRMAN BOWERS: Oramenta.
- MS. NEWSOME: I was just going to ask why
- 11 that was a hot-button issue.
- MS. MARSHALL: I'll buy you lunch.
- MS. NEWSOME: Oh, okay.
- [Laughter.]
- MS. MARSHALL: What I will say publicly
- is, in a right-to-shelter jurisdiction with the
- 17 legal infrastructure that is on the ground, it
- 18 takes a degree of maturity that I have yet to
- 19 see, to have that conversation.
- 20 CHAIRMAN BOWERS: David, you mentioned
- 21 the issue of possible guarantee fund, in terms of
- 22 like a pool of funds that could be used to

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- 1 provide that kind of back-stop guarantee for
- 2 families, that could allow them to then get into
- 3 units, and obviously it's almost like a certain -
- 4 you hope you never tap it but if a resident
- 5 goes out, that fund could be tapped?
- MR. ROODBERG: Yeah. I mean, look, I
- 7 didn't create this. I've heard it from others,
- 8 you know, because a lot less money is needed in
- 9 that for the number of people it would serve
- 10 because not that many people would ever default.
- 11 But once somebody's got bad credit, particularly
- if it's to a previous landlord, I mean, we're not
- 13 going to touch them. I mean, you know, people
- 14 can be critical of that or whatever, but, as an
- owner-landlord, is not going to touch it.
- So where are they going to go live?
- 17 They're clearly not -- our peers are doing the
- 18 same thing, so they're clearly having to triple
- up, live with somebody else, or living in
- 20 something private that's off the radar of
- 21 businesses that are owning and managing.
- But if there was some kind of, you know,

- 1 quarantee fund or something behind it, you know,
- that hopefully nobody would ever touch, and then
- 3 it also repairs their credit over time, you know,
- 4 it could go a long way. You could end up serving
- 5 lots of families with a fairly limited amount of
- 6 money.
- 7 CHAIRMAN BOWERS: Maribeth or Sue, to
- 8 that point, any sense of quantifying that issue?
- 9 Do we have a sense of for how many families or
- 10 individuals that issue becomes the barrier? Is
- 11 that -- I noticed that was --
- MS. DeLORENZO: I think it's a
- 13 significant barrier for a large percentage of the
- 14 households, and one thing to note is that the
- 15 Department of Humans in the Rapid Re-Housing
- 16 Program is doing a little bit of moving towards
- 17 the guarantee program that you're suggesting,
- 18 because they've found, you know, the Rapid Re-
- 19 Housing Program certifies households for 4 months
- 20 at a time for up to a year, and landlords are
- 21 saying that's very challenging because how do I
- 22 know what's happening to a household in 4 months,

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- or 8 months, so that the Department is working
- with providing a guarantee to landlords for 1
- year. So that's a step in that direction and
- 4 then hopefully those households --
- MS. MARSHALL: I want to comment on that
- 6 because the lease for Rapid Re-Housing is 1 year.
- 7 What the Department is working on is a
- 8 fundamental change to the Rapid Housing Program
- 9 model, to recognize that a number of the
- 10 customers we serve, 4 months is not long enough,
- 11 so to be more realistic about that in the
- 12 planning.
- This also relates to the point you were
- 14 making about the need to convert some of the
- 15 transitional housing. If you look at people who
- 16 have the longer lengths of stay in transitional
- 17 housing, a lot of it is because they have this
- 18 particular barrier to existing. They've done
- 19 everything except clean up the credit, which is
- 20 beyond their economic means, so point very well
- 21 taken.
- 22 CHAIRMAN BOWERS: So I wonder if that's

- 1 an issue, how Board members think about exploring
- 2 that issue in further detail, perhaps having
- 3 conversation with Department of Human Services as
- 4 a potential -- I'm not saying it should be done
- 5 but as something to just explore the pros and
- 6 cons of potentially using trust fund dollars for
- 7 that purpose.
- Jim, I think I was hearing you on the
- 9 phone?
- MR. KNIGHT (VIA TELEPHONE): Yeah. I
- 11 apologize, guys. It's not possible to follow all
- 12 the communication so I may be redundant or
- 13 missing a gap here. But one question I would
- 14 have for this guarantee idea is, what percentage
- of the households that we're talking about would
- 16 have a subsidy and what would not? How many of
- 17 these are PSA households? How many of these are
- 18 folks who are going to have RSP vouchers?
- 19 Because I think it's less of an issue when they
- 20 are accompanied by a permanent subsidy.
- 21 CHAIRMAN BOWERS: That's a good point.
- 22 Good point. Good question. Other issues or

- 1 questions that folks would have? Oramenta.
- MS. NEWSOME: Yeah. I just wonder,
- 3 though -- there's two sides to the credit issue.
- 4 There's those who get themselves in trouble but
- 5 there's a whole system out there that's almost
- 6 designed to get people into trouble. And so when
- you dive into this issue, I don't know if you can
- 8 just only dive in in one end of the pool, because
- 9 if you say to an individual, "You need to work on
- 10 your credit," you then have to look into the
- 11 system that creates this, and I know that
- 12 probably is a third rail.
- So I'd just say that if you're going to
- 14 look at one end of it, you have to look at the
- other and what goes with that. So just word to
- 16 the wise, I would say.
- 17 CHAIRMAN BOWERS: Jim?
- MR. KNIGHT (VIA TELEPHONE): Dave, one
- 19 more thing on the credit. We've been aware, in
- 20 our shop, of what a large challenge this is for
- 21 so many families and have two different credit-
- 22 building pilots underway with some partners. One

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- of them I would like to suggest that the city
- more broadly and that is that right now if you're
- a regular renter, you're on-time rental payments
- 4 are not building your credit score. They're not
- 5 reported. It is possible for housing providers
- 6 to qualify to report credit for on-time rent
- 7 payments. So we're in the process of doing that
- 8 at Jubilee, and are hopeful that others are going
- 9 to want to do it as well.
- Another point, related point is we're
- 11 piloting a credit enhancement, or enhancing loan
- 12 product with some partners that couples financial
- 13 education and coaching alongside an actual loan
- 14 product where -- and LISC has done some of this
- in Chicago, actually, and we're following the
- model there -- where the loan funds are really
- 17 embargoed for the life of the loan and there's
- 18 sort of a guaranteed better credit performance
- 19 for the borrower.
- So just two things to be aware of, as
- 21 this is such a significant issue as a blockage,
- 22 to have them. And then just kind of tagging back

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- on the guarantee idea for a second, I don't know
- 2 if David knows off the top of his head how many
- 3 folks they're having to turn away for poor credit
- 4 who have subsidy.
- I would like to suggest that the city
- 6 could consider requiring, or incentivizing
- providers to accept people with subsidies, as
- 8 that is a lesser risk for the housing provider
- 9 when the subsidy is there, and I just want to
- 10 make sure we're thinking about all the ways to
- incentivize its use, or its acceptance, by
- 12 landlords.
- MR. ROODBERG: Yeah, I agree. The
- 14 subsidy goers a long way when they're a city
- 15 subsidy attached to it. The bigger problem is,
- 16 you know, the number of people every week without
- 17 a subsidy with poor credit that are coming in.
- 18 So definitely the city subsidies do go along way
- 19 to overcoming -- because that is sort of a
- 20 partial guarantee -- overcoming credit issues.
- 21 It won't always but it does go a long way. So
- 22 the bigger issue are the ones without.

1 CHAIRMAN BOWERS: I'm wondering too, if

- perhaps we could, at a future meeting, have
- 3 conversation with, Maribeth, I think you said
- 4 Department of Human Services is working on a
- 5 guarantee, to kind of see how, what their
- 6 experience is like and how that's coming forth
- 7 for them.
- 8 Other ideas or thoughts people have on
- 9 the guarantee issue in particular, or other
- 10 issues that were brought up by Maribeth in the
- presentation?
- MR. KNIGHT (VIA TELEPHONE): Dave, I've
- 13 got one more comment on the presentation.
- 14 CHAIRMAN BOWERS: Yeah. Please. Go
- 15 ahead, Jim.
- MR. KNIGHT (VIA TELEPHONE): So I
- 17 understand this one is sensitive in some ways,
- 18 and I understand the city and the nation are
- 19 moving more and more towards this Housing First
- 20 approach and I support that it be a foundation
- 21 for the plan. I do support that. I am
- 22 concerned, however, that we not move to a place

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- 1 where all housing dollars are going only to
- 2 housing products that are "Housing First," that
- 3 there are a number of other effective ways to
- 4 support households and particularly ways that
- 5 enable them to grow economically and be able to
- 6 move out of the subsidy category altogether over
- 7 time.
- 8 One of the downsides of the Housing First
- 9 model can be that once the permanent subsidy is
- in hand, there is a disincentive to households to
- 11 continue to grow economically. And so we just
- want to be careful -- I guess maybe it's a
- 13 question. Are we talking about heading to a day,
- 14 this RFP or subsequent, where only Housing First
- 15 products are being funded, and then just to sort
- of emphasize that there still are some special
- 17 needs categories of households who can do better
- 18 sometimes with an intermediary step.
- So I'm just a little bit concerned an
- 20 all-or-nothing approach, if that's what we're
- 21 talking about.
- CHAIRMAN BOWERS: Great. Thank you, Jim.

- 1 Any thoughts or comments on that?
- [No audible response.]
- 3 CHAIRMAN BOWERS: Okay. Thank you, Jim.
- 4 Maribeth.
- MS. DeLORENZO: Mr. Chair, may I correct,
- 6 for the record, the service the SPDAT? I tripped
- over my tongue on that acronym and I want to make
- 8 sure that I'm giving it to all of you correctly.
- 9 The SPDAT is the Service Prioritization Decision
- 10 Assistance Tool, and I had called it the Data
- 11 Assistance Tool. So just to correct my earlier
- 12 acronym there.
- 13 CHAIRMAN BOWERS: Sounds good. Thank
- 14 you. Thank you for that. One question I had was
- 15 the, on page 48, going into 49, it's item F,
- 16 talking about developing a comprehensive housing
- 17 affordability strategy for the district, to help
- 18 stabilize the households and slow down the annual
- 19 flow into the homeless services system. It says,
- 20 "The strategy is complete. Implementation is
- 21 ongoing."
- I wanted to just make sure -- I guess a

- 1 question to Maribeth or Allison -- the strategy
- 2 that is complete, is that this strategy, the
- 3 Homeward DC? Is that the old Comprehensive
- 4 Housing Task Force Strategy that was done a
- 5 couple of years ago? I want to make sure which
- 6 strategy that's referring to.
- 7 MS. DeLORENZO: I believe that that's the
- 8 comprehensive -- it's referring back to the
- 9 comprehensive housing affordability strategy that
- 10 is, was completed a several years ago --
- 11 CHAIRMAN BOWERS: Right. Okay.
- MS. DeLORENZO: -- but that we referenced
- 13 earlier that there's an interagency effort
- underway that's in its infancy, to actually
- updated that and see how that dovetails with the
- 16 plan. So there has been a -- there's a strategy
- 17 that is complete but that by -- just meaning the
- 18 interagency and public/private body that
- 19 conducted the Housing Affordability Task Force,
- 20 but that there will be some crosswalk to the ICH
- 21 plan.
- [Recorded voice on telephone line.]

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1 CHAIRMAN BOWERS: Jim, are you still
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- there? Jim, are you there?
- [No audible response.]
- 4 CHAIRMAN BOWERS: We'll see how long --
- 5 MR. KNIGHT (VIA TELEPHONE): I am.
- 6 CHAIRMAN BOWERS: All right. We wanted
- 7 to make sure we didn't lose you.
- 8 Maribeth, any sense -- has there been any
- 9 time line identified on kind of at least a target
- 10 goal on when the update would be completed?
- MS. DeLORENZO: I don't believe that
- 12 there is, but let us get back to you, Mr. Chair,
- 13 and let you know.
- 14 CHAIRMAN BOWERS: Okay. All right.
- 15 Other thoughts, comments, questions on this
- 16 report, commended to folks reading, per
- 17 Maribeth's suggestion, and we can have more
- 18 feedback and dialog on this in the months to
- 19 come.
- [No audible response.]
- Okay. Anything else in item number 4?
- [No audible response.]

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1 CHAIRMAN BOWERS: Okay. Thank you very

- 2 much, Maribeth. Very helpful.
- MS. DeLORENZO: Thank you.
- 4 CHAIRMAN BOWERS: Item number 5,
- 5 discussion on the collaboration among district
- 6 housing agencies. I think we'll turn to Allison
- 7 for that one.
- MS. LADD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This
- 9 item was placed on the agenda more for sharing
- 10 purposes, to let those that may not be aware of
- 11 some of the efforts that the Department of
- 12 Housing is undertaking. One, of course, is the
- 13 Interagency Council on Homelessness, and
- 14 crosswalking the recommendations that are here
- with the strategies associated with this Homeward
- 16 DC plan, and linking it to some of the funding
- 17 that's available. So not absolute crosswalk but
- 18 there's got to be a linkage between what's going
- on in other agencies and other plans associated
- with what we're doing here at the Department.
- The second one is also linking our --
- 22 speaking more with the Department -- I'm sorry --

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- 1 with the Housing Authority as it relates to
- 2 having subsidies, so the local rent supplement
- 3 program and having vouchers that will be able to
- 4 be used for future HPTF units, and so trying to
- 5 meet halfway, or all the way, frankly, between
- 6 what the needs are for 30 percent of AMI and
- 7 below units and also what type of operating
- 8 subsidy is needed.
- 9 So I think if you look in this year's
- 10 FY16 proposed budget, you'll be able to see that
- 11 there is a better correlation between what the
- 12 Department of Housing things the need is as far
- as the number of units, to also how many vouchers
- 14 will be requested by the Housing Authority, and
- the number is about 200 units, or 200 vouchers.
- 16 So that was the second thing.
- And the last item was really something
- 18 that Director Donaldson is starting to work on,
- is how do we review the work of the Comprehensive
- 20 Housing Strategy Task Force and then move forward
- 21 with, say maybe we need to revise the production
- of preservation goals, given that we're a couple

- 1 years later, or how do we further implement some
- 2 of the strategies that were recommended in that
- 3 task force report a few years ago? So just
- 4 letting you know it's still on the Director's
- 5 mind and it's something that we're moving
- 6 forward.
- 7 So those are probably three areas as far
- 8 as collaboration.
- 9 CHAIRMAN BOWERS: Okay. That's great.
- 10 Craiq.
- MR. PASCAL: Good morning, everybody. I
- 12 just want to compliment the Director and the team
- 13 at DHCD on being more proactive regarding the
- 14 rental subsidies issue. Oramenta and I, I always
- say this, we've been on the NOFA review process
- 16 since the beginning of age [ph] and it's always
- 17 continuously improving, and that was always one
- of the gaps is that when we came to the table to
- 19 consider good projects it's not having a firm
- 20 handle on whether there would be the subsidies
- 21 there if the Housing Production Trust Fund money
- 22 would move forward.

And so just with other improvements that

- 2 been made to NOFA over the years, I want to
- 3 compliment that improvement because that will
- 4 help, hopefully, streamline the process to make
- 5 transactions move forward better in the future,
- 6 and better analysis, so I want to the compliment
- 7 the Director and the Department on that.
- 8 CHAIRMAN BOWERS: That's great. Thank
- 9 you, Craig. Other comments or questions on item
- 10 number 5?
- 11 [No audible response.]
- 12 CHAIRMAN BOWERS: Okay. New business is
- 13 really old business. We have one issue on number
- 14 6, actually, is the Acquisition Loan Program.
- 15 I'll ask Allison to just make any comments on the
- 16 ALP.
- MS. LADD: Yes, Mr. Chairman. As it
- 18 relates to the Acquisition Loan Program, the
- 19 Department -- we're still reviewing the work
- that's been done, so I don't have a more formal
- 21 update, but we will have one for May.
- 22 CHAIRMAN BOWERS: Okay. That's great.

- 1 Thank you. Oramenta.
- MS. NEWSOME: I heard a rumor the
- 3 Director did not particularly like the name
- 4 "ALP."
- [Laughter.]
- MS. LADD: Yes. It's something that
- 7 she's asked us to review.
- 8 [Laughter.]
- 9 CHAIRMAN BOWERS: As part of the broader
- 10 comprehensive review?
- 11 [Laughter.]
- 12 CHAIRMAN BOWERS: Everything is on the
- 13 table. That's great.
- MS. LADD: Yes, ma'am.
- 15 CHAIRMAN BOWERS: Any new business to
- 16 come before, from Board members?
- [No audible response.]
- 18 CHAIRMAN BOWERS: Public comment. This
- is the portion where we go to the public. Any
- 20 comments from the public that is here?
- [No audible response.]
- 22 CHAIRMAN BOWERS: Okay. Seeing none,

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- 1 what I would like to do, by way of -- I want to
- 2 review, because we prepared a closed -- for our
- 3 May meeting, I have seven items beyond the
- 4 general call-in for the quorum and the review of
- 5 the meeting highlights that I wanted to see if
- 6 this makes sense.
- One, the Deputy Mayor was scheduled to
- 8 join us at our March meeting. That got snowed
- 9 out. Allison was going to ask -- I believe the
- 10 Director was going to be in communication, but I
- 11 just wanted to ask if the Department can handle
- inviting the Deputy Mayor --
- MS. LADD: We'd be happy to.
- 14 CHAIRMAN BOWERS: -- for our May meeting.
- 15 This was, again, a follow-up. When the Board
- 16 sent the letter to the Mayor asking the Mayor to
- meet with the Board, share goals that the Mayor
- 18 has around affordable housing, and for the Board
- 19 to provide an opportunity to give updates on the
- 20 work we've been doing, and so what came back was,
- 21 flowed from that was a meeting with the Deputy
- 22 Mayor, to come to one of our meetings to start of

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1 with. So that will be great to have if we can

- get the Deputy Mayor for May.
- Any updates on the NOFA piece would be
- 4 great. I would like to get, if we can, maybe a
- 5 quick update on the pipeline, from Chris,
- 6 perhaps, and the team. A fourth piece would be
- 7 just a brief sharing around the cash balance
- 8 issue that was discussed, kind of -- I don't want
- 9 to say talking points but kind of a brief, some
- 10 sort of written explanation that can be on the
- 11 record of why cash balance is, again,
- 12 historically, how kind of structurally that's
- 13 going to be there, again, aside and apart from
- 14 projects that kind of -- the efficiency issue,
- 15 just structurally, why that will be there, and I
- 16 think just having something that we can look at,
- share, and then that's on the record, and then
- 18 people can use that as appropriate in their own
- 19 meetings and conversations with councilmembers.
- We may look at, either for May or June,
- 21 connecting with DHS -- I don't know, Maribeth, if
- you will have a contact there -- and that may be

- 1 more for the June meeting, but to have, perhaps,
- somebody from DHS come and talk with us about the
- 3 guarantee program, how they're using it, the
- 4 good, the bad, and the ugly, kind of what's
- s working or not. So if you all can maybe help us
- 6 get someone from there for the June meeting that
- 7 could be helpful.
- At our meeting in May, we would invite
- 9 the Director to give an update on the pact that
- 10 the district, Prince George's County, and
- 11 Montgomery County signed around homelessness, and
- 12 then any update on the currently named ALP, but
- 13 the program formerly known as ALP and the efforts
- 14 to provide for leveraging.
- Are there other items for the May meeting
- 16 that Board members would like to see on the
- 17 agenda?
- [No audible response.]
- 19 CHAIRMAN BOWERS: Okay. Any
- 20 announcements -- yes, Bob.
- MR. POHLMAN: Just a report on the Urban
- 22 Institute report, I mean status report.

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1 CHAIRMAN BOWERS: Thank you. Yeah.
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- 2 Status on Urban report. And if there's, again,
- 3 any feedback by that point from them about the
- 4 analysis they could do and what it would cost
- 5 them, timing wise, to do the overlay about impact
- on economic development and education, et cetera,
- 7 would be helpful.
- 8 Any other items for the May meeting --
- 9 again, the DHS will be June.
- 10 [No audible response.]
- 11 CHAIRMAN BOWERS: Okay. Any
- announcements Board members have, or staff?
- [No audible response.]
- 14 CHAIRMAN BOWERS: Okay. I want to thank
- 15 Board members for coming. Allison, Maribeth,
- Oke, and others, thank you very much for coming.
- 17 It's 11:35 a.m. and we are officially adjourned.
- Jim, thank you. We're done, Jim. Thank
- 19 you.
- [Whereupon, at 11:35 a.m., the Housing
- 21 Production Trust Fund Advisory Board meeting
- 22 concluded.

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