

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT  
*Office of Communications and Community Outreach*



**\*\*\*Press Release\*\*\***

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## **DHCD WELCOMES POLLY DONALDSON AS ACTING DIRECTOR**

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**WASHINGTON, DC** – Today, the DC Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) welcomed Polly Donaldson as the Acting Director of the agency. Donaldson holds over 25 years of experience working in affordable housing and homelessness services and international community development. She leaves her posts as the Executive Director of the Transitional Housing Corporation and the President of the Coalition for Nonprofit Housing and Economic Development’s Board of Directors to join the Bowser Administration. The non-profit housing executive promises to hit the ground running and focus on Mayor Bowser’s priority of preserving and producing more affordable housing in the District of Columbia.

***“It gives me great pleasure to become the Acting Director of the Department of Housing and Community Development. I have worked with DHCD as a partner for many years and through these experiences I have seen the progress and growth the agency has made. It is my hope to expand DHCD’s efforts to ensure we are able to provide affordable housing across all 8 wards and include the city’s most vulnerable populations, such as homeless families, and those with mental and physical disabilities,”*** said Donaldson. ***“I would like to thank Mayor Bowser for believing in my leadership and for laying out a vision to address the growing housing needs of District residents. I look forward to pursuing the challenges ahead of us with confidence and conviction.”***

In this role, Donaldson will be responsible for leading DHCD to create and preserve opportunities for affordable housing and economic development, and to revitalize underserved communities in the District of Columbia. She will serve as the agency’s Acting Director until she goes before the District Council for confirmation. Donaldson lives in the Mt. Pleasant neighborhood in Ward 1 with her wife, Susan Rees, and daughter, Florence, and is an active member of St. Margaret’s Episcopal Church in DuPont Circle. Donaldson holds a Bachelor’s degree in social and behavioral sciences from The Johns Hopkins University.

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*The mission of the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) is to create and preserve opportunities for affordable housing and economic development and to revitalize underserved communities in the District of Columbia.*