

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 REACHES AGREEMENT TO KEEP AFFORDABILITY AT MOUNT VERNON PLAZA
Qualified tenants able to return to their units at affordable rents

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WASHINGTON, DC – The D.C. Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) is proud to announce an agreement has been achieved with Bush Construction Corporation (Bush) to preserve sixty-three (63) units at the Mount Vernon Plaza Apartments for qualified persons and families whose annual income is at or below 50% of the Area Median Income (AMI).

Through negotiations, DHCD was able to reach an agreement with Bush, preserving for seven (7) years and the sixty three (63) units for income qualified tenants. This agreement also restored and extended the reserved unit restrictions until December, 2021.

“This is an example of DHCD’s ability to actively work with our partners in the community to identify solutions and ensure the preservation of the affordable housing for all of our residents,” said Michael P. Kelly, DHCD Director. “We would like to thank all of our partners who diligently worked on these negotiations and to the residents we say thank you for your patience and loyalty.”

As part of this agreement, it allows tenants who vacated a Mount Vernon Plaza reserved affordable unit in the last 12 months to have the option of returning to the property. It is Bush’s responsibility to notify these tenants to determine their interest in returning to the property.

Mount Vernon Plaza is a multi-family apartment complex with two hundred fifty (250) mix of one and two bedroom units located at 930 M St., NW, in the Shaw neighborhood. The affordability restrictions on units at this property expired and rents for the tenants were expected to increase to market rate. In October 2014, DHCD stepped in on behalf of the tenants and sent a cease and desist letter to Management asking them to refrain from raising rents on the restricted units and to ensure they were in compliance with applicable agreements.

Media seeking interviews with the DHCD Director or spokesperson should coordinate with the media contact, listed above, as soon as possible.

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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.