

**GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**

**Executive Office of the Mayor**

Office of Communications



**PRESS RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:** Wednesday, November 20, 2013

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## **Mayor Gray, Deputy Mayor Hoskins and DHCD Director Kelly Announce Historic \$187 Million Investment in Affordable Housing**

**(WASHINGTON, D.C.)** – Mayor Vincent C. Gray, Deputy Mayor of Planning and Economic Development (DMPED) Victor L. Hoskins and Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) Director Michael P. Kelly today announced the unprecedented investment of more than \$187 million to produce and preserve affordable housing throughout the District of Columbia.

***“As our city continues to grow and evolve, it is critical that we do everything we can to ensure the economic diversity of our city and to protect our long-time residents from being pushed out,”*** said Mayor Gray. ***“The commitment we are delivering on today helps guarantee the District remains a welcoming place to residents of all income levels – and my administration will continue to make these important investments in building and maintaining our vibrant and diverse neighborhoods.”***

In his State of the District address in February 2013, Mayor Gray committed \$100 million towards creating or preserving 10,000 affordable housing units by 2020. Over the last eight months, the Mayor has worked closely with the Office of the Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development, the Office of the Deputy Mayor for Health and Human Services and DHCD to identify development opportunities and community partnerships and leverage additional resources to meet this commitment. As a result of this work, the District will create and preserve nearly 3,200 housing units throughout the city.

“I want to personally thank the Mayor on behalf of the entire Comprehensive Housing Strategy Task Force for accepting our challenge and recommendations,” said Deborah Ratner Salzberg, Co-Chair of the District’s Comprehensive Housing Strategy Task Force and President of Forest City Washington, Inc. “The Mayor’s commitment to affordable housing and creating one city will help the District of Columbia be a place for all to live, work and play.”

“As the cost of living continues to rise throughout the city, the value that permanent supportive housing, workforce housing and the critical role that our community-based organizations play will continue to be

amplified,” said Kelly. “I am pleased to say that 46 percent of the units that will be created as the result of this Notice of Funding Availability will be permanent supportive housing units, aiding our residents in dire need.”

To date, 2,521 affordable housing units have been completed under the Gray Administration. In addition, there are 2,770 affordable units that have closed or are currently under construction. The Gray Administration also forecasts another 3,130 units to deliver between fiscal years 2017 and 2020. Combined with the nearly 3,200 units we are announcing today, this puts the District on track to exceed the Mayor’s 2020 goal.

“It has been my honor to support the Mayor in spearheading economic development in the city,” said Deputy Mayor Hoskins. “As we move forward with bringing new retail and building new housing in the city, it is the mission of my office to ensure this great city remains economically diverse.”

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