



DC HOUSING PRESERVATION STRIKE FORCE

18-MEMBER TEAM DEVELOPED SIX RECOMMENDATIONS TO PRESERVE AFFORDABLE HOUSING

The DC Housing Preservation Strike Force, created in June 2015 by Mayor Muriel Bowser, was charged with developing an action plan to preserve the District's existing affordable housing covenants set to expire by 2020.

Overview

To accomplish its mission, the 18-member advisory group met several times to develop an action plan that focused on affordable housing preservation in all eight wards using a two-fold approach:

1. assessing tools at the city's disposal, such as the Housing Production Trust Fund (HPTF) and the District Opportunity to Purchase Act (DOPA) which requires rental property owners to give the District the opportunity to purchase housing accommodations consisting of five more rental units, as long as at least 25 percent are "Affordable"); and
2. discovering innovative and effective ways of leveraging those resources.

The Strike Force made initial recommendations in June 2016 that served as a basis for a final November 2016 report.



Six Recommendations

- **Recommendation 1 – Establishing a Preservation Unit:** A preservation fund officer will be hired in Spring 2018.
- **Recommendation 2 – Creating a Public-private Preservation Fund:** This fund will provide seed money that will enable earlier investments in preservation deals and increase the likelihood of successful outcomes. The \$10 million fund was established in the FY 2017 budget and a fund manager will be hired in Spring 2018.
- **Recommendation 3 – Expanding Resources to Preserve Small Properties.**
- **Recommendation 4 – Adopting Regulations for the District Opportunity to Purchase Act (DOPA):** Draft regulations were issued in December 2017 and will be finalized in Spring 2018.
- **Recommendation 5 – Advancing Preservation through the Tenant Opportunity to Purchase Act (TOPA).**
- **Recommendation 6 – Enhancing Programs to Allow Low-income Seniors to Age in Place.**

For More Information

Visit our website at <https://dhcd.dc.gov/service/dc-housing-preservation-strike-force>