



## ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 8A

Government of the District of Columbia  
Anacostia/ Fairlawn/ Hillsdale/ Sheridan

**Executive Officers**    October 5, 2016

Natalie Williams  
Chairperson

Tina Fletcher  
Vice Chairperson

Cynthia Simms  
Treasurer

Troy Donté Prestwood  
Secretary

The Honorable Chairwoman Anita Bonds (D-At-Large)  
Committee on Housing and Community Development  
District of Columbia City Council  
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Suite 110  
Washington, DC 20004

VIA EMAIL: ABonds@DCCouncil.us; ikang@dccouncil.us

RE: Historic Preservation of Derelict District Properties Act of 2016

**Commissioners**

Holly Muhammad  
SMD 8A01

Barbara J. Clark  
SMD 8A02

Cynthia Simms  
SMD 8A03

Troy Donté Prestwood  
SMD 8A04

Charles E. Wilson  
SMD 8A05

Tina L. Fletcher  
SMD 8A06

Natalie Williams  
SMD 8A07

Dear Chairwoman and Committee Members:

At its regularly scheduled, properly noticed meeting on October 4, 2016, with a quorum of 6 Commissioners present, Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) 8A voted 6-0-1 to support B21-0837, the "Historic Preservation of Derelict District Properties Act of 2016."

The Act, which proposes that the District convey four abandoned, yet historic homes located at **1648 U Street, SE; 1518 W Street, SE; 1326 Valley Place, SE; and 1220 Maple View Place, SE** in Historic Anacostia to the L'Enfant Trust for the purposes of renovation and development as workforce housing, has widespread support from residents who live near these homes, as well as, from the greater 8A community.

The Trust has successfully rehabilitated and sold two historic single-family homes in the Anacostia neighborhood that were long vacant and near collapse. Based on these results, we believe the Trust is best suited to undertake the rehabilitation of the proposed properties and return them to productive use as workforce housing and remove longstanding neighborhood blight.

The Trust funds these projects using its nonprofit revolving fund, which it maintains for the purpose of rehabilitating such properties without the necessity of making a profit. Since the bill would also require the rehabilitation to conform to historic preservation standards, the restoration cost could exceed the threshold of workforce affordability. We ask the Committee to explore ways to provide additional resources such as grants to help offset construction cost.

This legislation has the potential to stimulate the local economy, create safer streets, and preserve the community's rich architectural heritage. Therefore, we the Commissioners of ANC 8A, urge the Committee on Housing and Community Development, and the full DC Council, to support B21- 0837, the "Historic Properties of Derelict District Properties Act of 2016."

Sincerely,

Natalie Williams, Chair  
Advisory Neighborhood Commission 8A