



MURIEL BOWSER  
MAYOR

JAN 24 2020

OFFICE OF THE  
SECRETARY  
2020 JAN 24 PM 12:17

The Honorable Phil Mendelson  
Chairman  
Council of the District of Columbia  
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Suite 504  
Washington, DC 20004

Dear Chairman Mendelson:

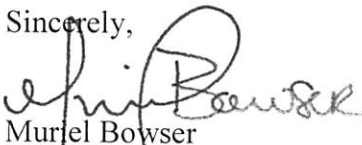
I am transmitting to the District of Columbia Council for review and consideration the "Urban Renewal Plan for the Shaw School Urban Renewal Area and Downtown Urban Renewal Area Termination Approval Resolution of 2020." As currently drafted, the Urban Renewal Plan for the Shaw School Urban Renewal Area ("Shaw School Urban Renewal Plan") and the Urban Renewal Plan for the Downtown Urban Renewal Area ("Downtown Urban Renewal Plan") are set to expire in 2028. This resolution would amend the plans to terminate effective immediately.

Early termination of the Shaw School and Downtown Urban Renewal Plans, which have been in effect since the late 1960s, is desirable because their goals have largely been fulfilled and because they espouse outdated, suburban planning principles unsuited for the vibrant urban settings where they apply.

The urban renewal plan amendment process is governed by DC Code § 2-1225.31(b), which provides for the Mayor to submit a proposed urban renewal plan amendment first to the National Capital Planning Commission ("NCPC") and then to the Council. In the fall of 2019, the Office of Planning, on my behalf, submitted the proposed amendments to NCPC for its review, and on December 5, 2019 NCPC approved them.

I look forward to your favorable consideration. Thank you.

Sincerely,

  
Muriel Bowser

Enclosures

  
Chairman Phil Mendelson  
at the request of the Mayor

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A PROPOSED RESOLUTION

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IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

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11 To approve modifications to the Urban Renewal Plans for the Shaw School Urban Renewal  
12 Area and the Downtown Urban Renewal Area, as approved by the National Capital  
13 Planning Commission on December 5, 2019.

14 RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this  
15 resolution may be cited as the “Urban Renewal Plan for the Shaw School Urban Renewal Area  
16 and Downtown Urban Renewal Area Termination Approval Resolution of 2020.”

17 Sec. 2. (a) Pursuant to Section 501(b) of the National Capital Revitalization Corporation  
18 and Anacostia Waterfront Corporation Reorganization Act of 2008, effective March 26, 2008  
19 (D.C. Law 17–138; D.C. Official Code § 2–1225.31(b)), the Mayor may propose changes to the  
20 active Urban Renewal Plans by submitting the modifications to the National Capital Planning  
21 Commission (“NCPC”) for a 30-day review period and to the Council for a 45-day review  
22 period, during which if the Council does not approve or disapprove the proposed resolution it is  
23 deemed approved.

24 (b) The Council finds that:

25 (1) On November 1, 2019, the Mayor, through the Office of Planning, referred  
26 proposed modifications to terminate the Urban Renewal Plan for the Shaw School Urban

1 Renewal Area (“Shaw School Urban Renewal Plan”) and the Urban Renewal Plan for the  
2 Downtown Urban Renewal Area (“Downtown Urban Renewal Plan”) to NCPC.

3 (2) On December 5, 2019, NCPC approved the proposed modifications.

4 (3) The Shaw School and Downtown Urban Renewal Plans predate Home Rule  
5 and have largely been fulfilled. Moreover, they impose suburban-style design and regulatory  
6 standards in the urban settings of Shaw and Downtown and do not reflect the current ways in  
7 which residents live, work, and move through the District. Their continued application is  
8 inconsistent with current planning efforts of the District of Columbia and NCPC.

9 (4) Termination of Shaw School and Downtown Urban Renewal Plans, which are  
10 currently set to expire in 2028, is necessary to eliminate this impediment to the current planning  
11 efforts of the District of Columbia and NCPC.

12 (c) The Council approves the proposed modifications to the Shaw School Urban  
13 Renewal Plan and Downtown Urban Renewal Plan, as approved by NCPC on December 5, 2019,  
14 as follows:

15 (1) Section 670.00 of the Shaw School Urban Renewal Plan is amended to read as  
16 follows:

17 “670.00 The Plan shall terminate effective [date the resolution becomes  
18 effective].”.

19 (2) Section 670.10 of the Downtown Urban Renewal Plan is amended to read as  
20 follows:

21 “670.10 The Plan shall terminate effective [date the resolution becomes  
22 effective].”.

23 (3) Section 670.11 of the Downtown Urban Renewal Plan is repealed.

1           **Sec. 3. The Council adopts the fiscal impact statement of the Chief Financial Officer as**  
2 **the fiscal impact statement required by Section 602(c)(3) of the District of Columbia Home Rule**  
3 **Act, approved December 24, 1973 (87 Stat. 813; D.C. Code § 1-233(c)(3)).**

4           **Sec. 4. The Secretary to the Council shall transmit 3 certified copies of this resolution,**  
5 **upon its adoption, to the Secretary of the National Capital Planning Commission.**

6           **Sec. 5. This resolution shall take effect immediately.**