

2021 Legislative Priorities

Each year The Government Affairs Department, in collaboration with the Public Policy Committee, produce a guiding document for our Association to work from as we engage on public policy matters. The Public Policy Committee's main mission is to track, respond, and engage in issues that could affect the real estate industry in Washington, D.C.



COVID Response & Recovery: Though much of the housing economy has bounced back from the lockdown it faced in the first half of 2020, the pandemic is still upon us and we are still trying to keep things moving forward. Full recovery in the real estate sector, including property management and rentals, will take months if not years to ensure.

Taxes: DCAR works closely with the Council on tax initiatives that promote homeownership such as the Reduced Tax Rate for First-Time Homebuyers. The Association advocates against taxes that create barriers to homeownership. For example, the recordation and transfer tax rates in the District are amongst the highest in the nation and an impediment to homeownership, as they substantially increase down payment costs.



Housing Affordability: DCAR has formed an Affordable Housing Task Force and is working with local and national colleagues to understand and provide recommendations to alleviate the affordable housing issue in the District of Columbia. A primary legislative priority for DCAR is warding off rental housing policies that adversely affect small housing providers. Policies such as Rent Control place heavy financial burdens on housing providers that own ten or fewer units.

Community Development: DC's housing market correlates directly with the city's economic vitality. Innovative economic opportunities are particularly important in our dynamic City. DC must consistently pursue policies which will attract the economic opportunities necessary to expand our tax base, provide housing choices and employment, and deliver necessary services to its residents.

