

DCAR Budget Wins

D.C. Council Committees have all now adopted their budget reports, recommending changes to the Mayor's proposed budget for the District. These recommendations typically receive substantial deference in the next stage of the budget process when Chairman Mendelson will propose a complete budget for a Council vote on July 14<sup>th</sup>.

Due to the tireless work of DCAR members and staff over the last month, DCAR has secured critical investments and reforms at the Committee stage of the budget process, including eliminating the HPAP Lottery and adding nearly \$2 million to the program.

[Click here for a full list of DCAR budget wins.](#)

As the budget process moves forward, DCAR will continue to work to protect these priorities. We will also continue advocating for more investment in homeownership and restoration of the budget sweep from the Real Estate Education and Guaranty Fund, while fighting against any increases in property or real estate taxes.

DCAR Advocacy in Action

Over the last month, DCAR has been advocating at the Wilson Building for investment and reform that strengthens the housing market and addresses the needs of our members, small housing providers, homeowners, and renters.

On Monday, June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2025, Public Policy Committee Chair, Hillary Nash, testified before Councilmember Robert C. White, Jr., advocating for TOPA, eviction, and HPAP reform, promoting investment in homeownership and small housing providers, and defending the Real Estate Education and Guaranty Fund.

On June 18<sup>th</sup>, before Chairman Mendelson, Asia Tyler Morse reiterated DCAR's advocacy on these critical issues and further highlighted the importance of funding for housing and support services for survivors of domestic violence.



(DCAR Public Policy Committee Chair Hillary Nash, testifying)

Finally, DCAR sent a letter earlier this month to Chairman Mendelson in support of the One Front Door Act of 2025, which would roll back unnecessary regulations and expand the supply of housing in the District.

- [Testimony of Asia Tyler Morse](#)
- [Testimony of Hillary Nash](#)
- [Letter on One Front Door Amendment](#)

Director Tiffany Crowe of the Department of Licensing and Consumer Protection Joins the Public Policy Committee Thursday, July 10 – Register Today!

The Public Policy Committee is happy to announce that Director Tiffany Crowe of the Department of Licensing and Consumer Protection has agreed to share an update on the important work of her Department and engage in a conversation with our members on topics including education, licensure, and the Real Estate Commission.

All DCAR members are invited to join this important conversation on Thursday, July 10<sup>th</sup>, at 10 am at the DCAR offices at 1615 New Hampshire Avenue NW, Third Floor.

[RSVP here >](#)



2026 NAR Regional Vice President Chris Suranna!

Congratulations to Chris Suranna, whom earlier this month was elected by the National Association of REALTORS® Board of Directors to serve as the Region 3 Vice President next year. Chris was unanimously supported by the National Directors of the 5 states that comprise Region 3: D.C., Delaware, Maryland, Virginia and West Virginia.

Chris will be our region's eyes and ears and key liaison to the NAR leadership team. He will visit every state in the region to make sure our voices are heard at the national level. Chris is a former president of both the D.C. Association of REALTORS® (DCAR) and the Greater Capital Area Association of REALTORS® (GCAAR). Thank you for your service Chris!



DCAR Endorses Mike Austin for Ward 8 Councilmember

The DCAR RPAC Trustees have endorsed [Mike Austin](#) in the July 15<sup>th</sup> Special Election for Ward 8 Councilmember. Mike is a former council staffer who will hit the ground running. His pro-business and pro-housing policy positions will make him a great supporter of REALTORS®.

If you live in Ward 8, please consider voting for Mike.

To vote, you may do one of the following:

- [Mail](#) in the ballot you received.
- [Drop it off](#) at a voting box.
- Vote at an [early vote center](#)  
Friday, July 11 - Monday, July 14.  
Polls are open daily 8:30 am to 7 pm.
- Vote on [Election Day](#)  
Tuesday, July 15.  
Polls are open 7 am to 8 pm.



Cocktails and Closings: A Look Back at a Powerful Evening of Insight and Networking

On June 12<sup>th</sup>, the DCAR Young Professionals Network (YPN) hosted Cocktails and Closings at The Roost – bringing together real estate professionals for a lively evening of insight and connection.

Our expert panel – [Kim Palmer \(Appraiser\)](#), [Jack Cordes \(Insurance\)](#), and [Ben Colbert \(Solar\)](#) – shared practical tips on avoiding common closing roadblocks. From appraisal issues to solar complications, attendees left better equipped to navigate complex transactions.

Thanks to everyone who joined us for a fun, informative night. Stay tuned for more YPN events!



Global Reception: St. Kitts, Nevis & The Bahamas Honoring Caribbean Heritage Month

On June 25<sup>th</sup>, guests gathered at the D.C. Association of REALTORS® (DCAR) office for a vibrant and informative reception celebrating Caribbean American Heritage Month. The event offered a unique opportunity to explore the rich culture and economic potential of the Caribbean.

Attendees heard directly from [Mr. Stanley Jacobs, Director of the Saint Kitts Investment Promotion Agency](#) and [His Excellency Calvin St. Juste, Chairman of the Citizenship by Investment Unit of Saint Kitts and Nevis](#), as well as from [Mr. Derek Newbold, Chief Investment Officer at the Grand Bahama Port Authority](#), representing The Islands of The Bahamas. Presentations highlighted innovative investment opportunities and exclusive Free Trade Zone for foreign investors.

The evening fostered meaningful connections among top industry professionals, offering a dynamic space for networking and cultural exchange. Guests enjoyed light refreshments while experiencing the warm and lively spirit of the Caribbean. The event proved to be both engaging and insightful for all in attendance.



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