

# DC Women's Agenda

## 2012 DC Budget Update

### Mayor Gray's Budget:

The [Mayor's 2012 Budget](#), released on April 1st, cuts nearly \$200k from the District Budget. These cuts fall disproportionately on services for low-income families. Of the cuts, 67% are to human services.

- Housing Production Trust Fund: \$18 Million
- Housing Vouchers: \$4 Million
- Emergency Rental Assistance: \$5 Million
- Homeless Services: \$11 Million
- Interim Disability Assistance: Eliminated
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families: benefit reduction to \$257 a month

### Council Approved Budget:

On May 25, 2011, the DC Council approved the [Budget Request Act](#) and [Budget Support Act](#) with a number of important modifications. The Council restored funding to a number of critical programs and services that were cut or eliminated in the Mayor's budget.

- **\$17 million was restored to homeless services**, addressing most of proposed cuts of about \$20 million.
- **\$1.5 million was restored to the Interim Disability Program**, which had been eliminated in the Mayor's budget. This would serve less than half of the 1,000+ current IDA participants.
- **\$4.9 million was restored Temporary Assistance to Needy Families**, which allow cash assistance benefit levels for needy families with children to remain at current levels in 2012 and delay additional reductions to fiscal year 2013.

Program/Services	Cuts	Restorations
Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)	\$5M	\$4.9M
Homeless Services	\$20.5M	\$17M
Local Rent Supplement (ERAP)	\$4M	\$0M
Housing Production Trust Fund	\$18M	\$0M
Interim Disability Assistance (IDA)	\$4.8M	\$1.5M
Childcare Subsidy	\$2.2M	\$0M
Children's Mental Health	\$7M	\$0M
Healthcare Alliance	\$11M	\$0M
Victim's Services	\$3M	\$4.1M

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The Council voted 8-5 to **eliminate an amendment to reinstate the Mayor's proposed tax increase for those earning over \$200,000** from 8.5% to 8.9%. The Council voted to include a measure that would generate \$13 million in revenue by eliminating the current tax exemption on out-of-state bonds.

### Contingency for Additional Estimated Revenue:

The June revenue forecast is anticipated to be stronger than previously projected. Of any additional revenue, \$22 million would be set aside to move personnel expenses from the capital to operating budget. Any additional funds would be divided 50/50 between the District's Fund Balance and restoring funding to the following programs:

Priority	Program/Services	Restorations
1	Hire additional Police Officers	\$10.8 M
2	Housing First Program	\$1.6 M
3	Department of Mental Health	\$5.5 M
4	Housing Production Trust Fund	\$12 M
5	Interim Disability Assistance	\$3.3 M
6	Housing Production Trust Fund	\$6 M
7	Children's Mental Health Services	\$900,000
8	Homeless Services	\$3.2 M

Note that only the first eight of the amended budget are listed here. A full list of the original list can be found in the [Budget Support Act](#), TITLE VII. FINANCE AND REVENUE, SUBTITLE Q. CONTINGENCY FOR ADDITIONAL ESTIMATED REVENUE

An amendment to the Budget Support Act, which passed 7-6, removed a \$13.4 million allocation which would have repealed the tax on out-of-state bonds included in the Budget Request Act rather than supporting needed services. This measure enabled the Council to reprioritize additional funds to restore programs including the Interim Disability Assistance Program, Housing Production Trust Fund, Children's Mental Health Services and Homeless Services.

### What's Next for the 2012 Budget?:

The inclusion of the Budget Support Act amendment which eliminated the potential repeal of the out-of-state bond tax is strongly opposed by several Councilmembers.

To assure that this amendment which would free additional revenue which would be used to restore funding to safety net programs is included in the final vote, please continue to [contact](#) your Councilmember to voice your support of this measure. The second and final vote on the Budget Support Act scheduled for June 14.

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*The DC Women's Agenda is a broad-based coalition that promotes women and girls' equality, advancement, safety, and well-being through advocacy, education, and community input.*

