

# DISTRICT BUDGET FOR FOOD PROGRAMS

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April 10, 2024





# Land Acknowledgment

**Washington DC and its surrounding areas sit on the ancestral land of the Nacotchtank and Piscataway peoples. We want to recognize those indigenous peoples and their communities, along with others across the country, and to lend our voice to theirs to uplift their past, present, and future communities.**





# AGENDA

- 01 ----- What is the Budget Process?
- 02 ----- Why is it important to engage?
- 04 ----- How to share your voice?
- 03 ----- What is in the Mayor's Budget for the DC Food System?
- 05 ----- Q&A



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**WHAT IS THE  
BUDGET PROCESS?**

**WHY IS IT  
IMPORTANT TO  
ENGAGE?**

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# BUDGET PROCESS

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## Agency-level Planning

Agencies submit their budget requests to the Mayor.

## Mayor's Proposal

Mayor submits a proposed budget to the DC Council (April 3)

## Final Budget

Council Committees make changes (May 8 - May 10)  
Then, the full Council votes on a final budget.  
(1st Vote: May 29, 2nd Vote: June 12)

FALL

JAN - FEB

MID-MAR

MAR - APR

MAY - JUNE

## Performance Oversight Hearings

Council Committees hold public hearings about how each Agency is serving residents needs and their effectiveness in implementing last year's budget.

## Budget Oversight Hearings

Council Committees hold public hearings about each Agency's proposed budgets for the next fiscal year.  
(April 4 - May 3)

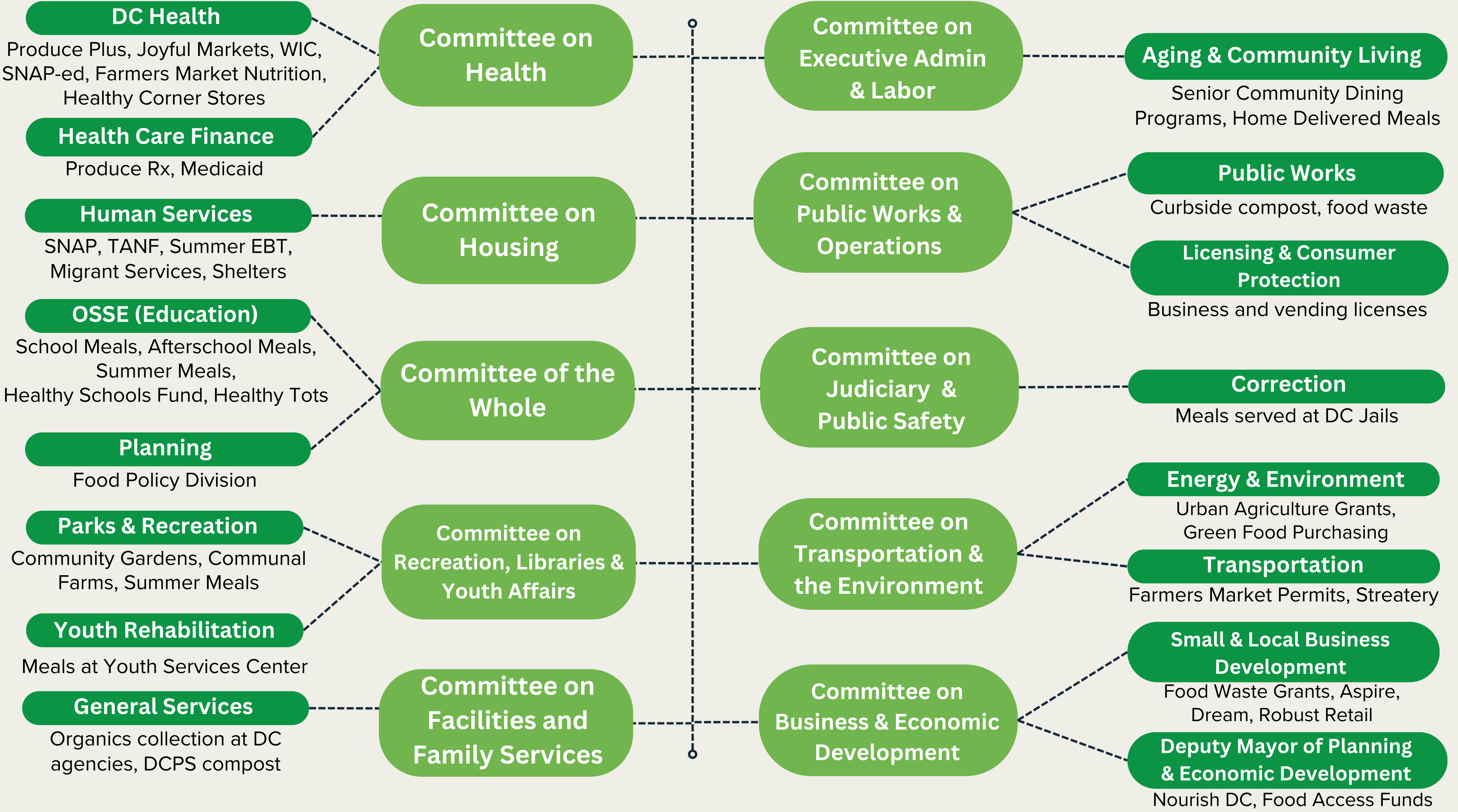


# COMMITTEE PROCESS

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- Mayor's Budget Proposal is Submitted to Council
- Committee Process:
  - **Referral:** Individual Agency budgets are referred to Council Committees with Jurisdiction
  - **Hearings:** Committee holds budget oversight hearings on each agency within their purview, where they hear from the public and agency leadership
  - **Committee Markup:** Committee makes proposed changes to agency budgets based on what they learn from these hearings and public engagement
- Committee versions are consolidated into a new package that is voted on by the full Council (twice!)
  - Note: There is additional engagement and changes at the full Council stage







# ROLE OF PUBLIC FEEDBACK

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- Highlight programs that you think are important (make sure they stay funded!)
- Identify funding gaps or cuts that should be restored
- Identify new/additional areas of investment
- Suggest questions for Committee to ask Agency
- **Important budget changes are often made in response to public feedback**
  - **It's a big budget; the more eyes on it the better!**



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# HOW CAN YOU SHARE YOUR VOICE?

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# YOUR VOICE MATTERS

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**Testify** at a Budget Oversight Hearing



**Submit** a written or voicemail testimony



**Contact** Committee and your Councilmember  
(between now and June - earlier the better!)



# TESTIFYING LIVE (VIRTUAL OR IN-PERSON)

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Before you testify:

1. **Register** at the Council's Hearing Website **2 business days** before
2. **Language or ASL interpretation:** request 5 business days before
3. **Write** your testimony
4. **Upload** your written testimony on the Council's Hearing page
5. **Practice** reading at loud

How to sign up & submit a written testimony:

- Watch a video recording at [dcfoodpolicy.org/get-involved/budget-guide/](https://dcfoodpolicy.org/get-involved/budget-guide/)



# UPCOMING BUDGET OVERSIGHT HEARINGS

Department	Date	Committee
Aging & Community Living	4/22	Executive Administration & Labor
Office of Planning	4/24	Committee of the Whole
Licensing & Consumer Protection	4/26	Public Works & Operations
Youth Rehabilitation Services	4/26	Recreation, Libraries & Youth Affairs
Energy and Environment	4/29	Transportation & Environment
Healthcare Finance	4/29	Health



# TIPS FOR WRITING TESTIMONY

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In written testimony:

- **Greet** the Committee Chairperson, Committee members, and staff
- **Introduce** yourself and, if applicable, your experience/interest in the topic
- **Explain** why you think a particular policy or program is important. Share any **personal experience** with the policy or program.
- Be clear about your **specific asks and recommendations**, to the extent possible.
- Close by **thanking the Committee** for the opportunity to testify.

Note:

- Following your testimony, the Committee may ask follow-up questions.



# CONTACT COMMITTEE & YOUR COUNCILMEMBER

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Call, email, or schedule a meeting with Council offices **throughout** the process

- Share your concerns and recommendations
- To Contact a **Committee**: email the Committee Chairperson and Committee Director
- To Contact a **Councilmember**: include the member and their Legislative Director

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**FY25 MAYOR'S  
PROPOSED BUDGET**

**FOOD PROGRAMS  
HIGHLIGHTS**

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# LOCAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

Agency	Program	FY23	FY24	Proposed FY25
Department of Health	Produce Plus	\$1,401,394	\$1,500,000	\$1,500,000
	Healthy Corner Stores	\$750,000	\$750,000	\$750,000
	Medically-tailored, Home Delivered Meals	\$1,025,000	\$1,335,000	\$1,335,000
	Joyful Food Markets	\$1,825,000	\$1,825,000	\$1,825,000
Department of Health Care Finance	Produce Rx	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$500,000
Department of Human Services	Give SNAP a Raise	N/A	\$~40 million	\$0

# SENIOR & CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAMS

Agency	Program	FY23	FY24	Proposed FY25
Department of Aging and Community Living	Community Dining Services	\$5,483,000	\$5,166,000	\$5,240,000
	Home Delivered Meals	\$8,154,000	\$7,346,000	\$8,035,000
	Grocery Plus & Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program	\$410,000	\$410,000	\$533,000
	Nutrition Supplement	\$26,000	\$777,000	\$777,000
Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE)	Healthy Schools Fund	\$6,839,990	\$5,690,000	\$5,690,000
	Healthy Food Curriculum Grant	\$1,600,000	\$1,900,000	\$1,900,000



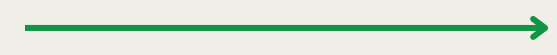
# AGRICULTURE & REDUCING WASTE

Agency	Program	FY23	FY24	Proposed FY25
Department of Energy and Environment	Urban Agriculture Infrastructure & Operation Grant	\$86,236	\$86,236	\$0
	Donation & Reuse Grant	Unconfirmed	\$75,000	\$0
Department of Public Works	Curbside Composting Pilot	\$4,536,791	\$2,828,280	\$3,043,615
Department of Small and Local Business Development	Food Waste Innovation Grant	\$500,000	\$300,000	\$0
Office of Planning	Food Policy Council Operation	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$25,000

# FOOD BUSINESS SUPPORT

Agency	Program	FY23	FY24	Proposed FY25
Department of Small and Local Business Development	Aspire to Entrepreneurship	\$250,000	\$250,000	\$250,000
	Robust Retail Grant	\$500,000	\$680,000	unconfirmed
	Dream Grants	\$600,000	\$500,000	\$600,000
Deputy Mayor's Office for Economic Planning and Development	Nourish DC	\$500,000	\$0	\$0
	Food Access Fund	\$23,778,000	\$0	\$0
	Locally Made Manufacturing Grant	unconfirmed	\$1,400,000	unconfirmed
	Neighborhood Prosperity Fund	unconfirmed	\$3,000,000	unconfirmed





**QUESTIONS?**



Contact: [dcfoodpolicy@dc.gov](mailto:dcfoodpolicy@dc.gov)

