

April 20, 2020

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
317 Russell Senate Office Building  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
235 Cannon House Office Building  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Charles E. Schumer  
322 Hart Senate Office Building  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy  
2421 Rayburn House Office Building  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20510

Majority Leader McConnell, Speaker Pelosi, Minority Leaders Schumer and McCarthy:

As Congress works to address the devastating effects of the COVID-19 public health and economic crisis, we applaud your efforts to keep our communities safe and to protect workers, businesses, and the broader economy from the impacts of this crisis.

As representatives of more than 250 members of the Business Community of the Metropolitan Washington region, we write today to express serious concern over the allocation of funding for the District of Columbia in the CARES Act. The relief package allocated at least \$1.25 billion in direct payments to every state, but allocates only \$500 million to the District of Columbia by treating it the same way as a territory. We urge you to correct for this funding shortfall in future legislative action and ensure adequate support for the District of Columbia for the purposes of relief going forward. We ask you to consider the following information in the context of this critical issue:

- The District of Columbia is being hit especially hard during the crisis. As of April 20, the District has almost 2,800 confirmed coronavirus cases, which outpaces nearly two dozen states. It has also been designated as an emerging “hot spot” for the virus.
- The District is not only the Nation’s Capital in which the Capitol and White House are located, but it also is also home to more than 700,000 residents—making it more populous than some states—and, as a densely populated urban center, the District is especially vulnerable to the spread of the virus. These residents need access to the same support that has been granted to other parts of the country.
- Due to strong oversight and sound fiscal management, the District entered this crisis in a strong financial position, but it is already experiencing significant economic losses due to the ongoing public health emergency. The District’s tourism, hospitality, and restaurant industries, along with its world-class colleges and universities, are already suffering, as are small businesses throughout the District. Current estimates project revenue losses of more than \$600 million by the end of September.
- The District’s contributions to the federal government are unique and substantial. Not only do DC residents contribute more federal income taxes on a per capita basis than any other state or territory, but the District is also the seat of the federal government and is thus obligated to protect the health and safety of hundreds of thousands of federal workers.
- This deadly virus is not limited to any particular geographical boundary. Jeopardizing the District’s ability to respond to the crisis puts the entire region at an increased risk.

It is critical that the District of Columbia receives the funding it needs to ensure that adequate services can be provided both to official federal Washington and to District residents and visitors. As members of the business community of the Metropolitan Washington region, we urge the federal government to ensure that the District of Columbia receives no less than the minimum allocation of \$1.25 billion provided to each state in the CARES Act via the Coronavirus Relief Fund program, and to ensure adequate support for the District in all future Congressional actions taken to rescue and recover from this global health pandemic. This aid is essential to the District government's ability to protect its residents, federal employees, and its economy.

The undersigned organizations support this important effort—and support is still growing. We come together to urge you to support this policy change and the region's collective response to this public health and economic crisis.

Sincerely,

Federal City Council  
Greater Washington Board of Trade  
District of Columbia Chamber of  
Commerce  
Greater Washington Partnership  
The 2030 Group  
Greater Washington Hispanic Chamber  
of Commerce  
Monumental Sports & Entertainment  
Marriott International, Inc.  
Graham Holdings Company  
United Bankshares, Inc.  
WC Smith  
Urban Land Institute  
EDENS  
Hines  
Washington Gas  
The Donohoe Companies, Inc.  
Restaurant Association of Metropolitan  
Washington  
Hoffman + Associates  
American Beverage Association  
ECS Federal, LLC  
Akridge  
CityBridge  
Washingtonian Magazine  
HOK Inc.  
Winged Keel Group, Inc.  
Savills, Inc.  
Finn Partners, Inc.  
Womble Bond Dickinson (US) LLP  
Martin Diamond Properties  
Miller & Long DC, Inc.  
Jackson & Campbell, PC

The LINE Hotel  
Hickok Cole Architects, Inc.  
The Wilkes Company  
Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLC  
Fort Lincoln Realty  
SRB Communications, LLC  
SmithGroup  
Bennett Group  
The Levy Group  
EYA, LLC  
Wingate Hughes Architects, PLLC  
Roadside Development  
Goulston & Storrs  
Doggett Enterprises, Inc.  
Georgetown Suites Hotel  
Bazilio Cobb Associates PC  
SRB Communications  
Carr Properties  
STUDIOS Architecture  
Abdo Development LLC  
Julyan & Julyan  
The Hill Group, Inc.  
Landmark Parking, Inc.  
Gorove/Slade Associates Inc.  
The Concordia Group  
Community Three Development  
Georgetown University  
Trinity Washington University  
Howard University  
Trent & Co.  
Redbrick LMD  
Western Development Corporation  
BELL Architects, PC  
Compass Realty

Corenic Construction Group, LLC  
Marcus Asset Group, Inc.  
SCahill LLC  
Flywheel Development LLC  
Bohler DC  
Dantes Partners LLC  
Perseus TDC  
Bundy Development Corporation  
CSG Urban Partners LLC  
Lourenco Consultants Inc.  
Eagle Integrated Solutions LLC  
Teass Warren Architects  
UIP Property Management, Inc.  
Property Group Partners Development,  
LLC  
David M. Schwarz Architects, Inc.  
Critical Systems, LLC  
Pillar Construction, Inc.  
Republic Properties Corporation  
Colonial Parking, Inc.  
Studio Crowley Hall pllc  
Taylor Adams Associates  
Guggenheim Parking Inc.  
Broughton Construction Company LLC  
Friedman Capital  
The Excalibur Group  
D. H. Lloyd & Associates Inc.  
Bridging Technologies LLC  
RMS Investment Group  
J Street Companies  
Eastbanc Technologies  
Adrian L. Merton Inc.  
Oliva Consulting, Inc.  
American Management Corporation  
Linda Roth Associates Inc  
Tildora Systems LLC  
Sustainable Facilities Management  
Services  
Smoot Construction of DC  
National Mall Coalition  
Destination DC  
JMA Solutions, LLC  
AmeriHealth Caritas District of  
Columbia  
Plenary Enterprises  
Cordia Partners  
Dinan Associates  
Bluestone Lane  
TransitScreen  
The Phoenix  
Sweet Science Coffee

OceanPro Industries Ltd  
Hopscotch Ventures  
Ideal Electrical Supply  
DP Consultants, Inc.  
Clear Real Estate Services, LLC  
City Permit  
Urban Pace  
Misra Law PLLC  
Atlantic Services Group, Inc.  
Halcyon Georgetown LLC  
Hemphill Artworks LLC  
Lars Etzkorn Law PLLC  
Oculus Realty, LLC  
Inscape Studio  
Reston Limousine Service  
District Cutlery  
Healing Hands Physical Therapy  
Services  
Al's Twin Air, LLC  
Abstract Orange  
The Ford Agency, Inc.  
Dimples Dental Suite  
Jefferson Apartment Group  
Fitness Destino LLC  
Modern Trousseau DC  
J R Jennings Enterprises LLC  
Olivia Macaron  
CMIT Solutions of Capitol Hill  
Natural Healing Products LLC  
Nai Xander, Inc.  
Peak Technology Solutions, Inc.  
Lyn-Phill Construction, LLC  
O Museum in the Mansion  
Executive Contractors LLC  
Green Step LLC  
Shepherd Electric Supply of  
Washington DC LLC  
PT2SO Investments LLC  
Global Government and Industry  
Partners, LLC  
PIR Marketing  
Help Unlimited Temps  
DC Fire Protection LLC  
Premium Title & Escrow, LLC  
XediaLabs  
Alpha Power and Alarm Company  
Daylily Landscaping LLC  
A&A Rental Station  
JLA Law  
Code IT Inc.  
Church Hall DC

EMB International, LLC  
The Jackson Investment Company, LLC  
Cultural Tourism DC, Inc.  
Georgetown Business Improvement  
District  
Capitol Riverfront BID  
District of Columbia Hospital  
Association  
Eastern Market Main Street  
Hayat Brown LLC  
H.H. Leonards, Associates  
Prognosis, LLC  
CNM Global LLC  
Newton Grange Consulting  
Venturi  
Danna's Joy LLC  
Carleton Holdings  
Ristorante Piccolo  
14th Mini Market  
727 Market  
7-Eleven 14th St NW  
Agua 301  
All Souls Bar  
Ambassador Restaurant  
Brightwood Mart  
Cafe Divan  
Capitol Hill Exxon  
Capitol Hill Care Pharmacy  
Cinder Neighborhood BBQ  
Columbia Heights Pharmacy  
Dollar 1  
Eclectic Café  
Elsa Kitchen  
Exxon Columbia Heights Gas Station  
Georgetown Exxon  
Georgetown Shell  
Here's The Scoop  
Jamaican County Kitchen  
Keren Cafe & Restaurant  
Lamont Market  
Metro Motor Towing  
Naanwise Indian Cuisine  
Neighborhood Pharmacy  
Parkers Exxon  
Peaches Kitchen  
Penn Ave Exxon  
Petworth Market  
Pho Viet  
Pizza Mart  
Rolands Grocery  
Rosemarino d'itali

Say Cheese!  
Seven Market  
Sospeso  
The Coffee Bar  
Sprig and Sprout  
Teddy's Roti Shop  
Toki Underground  
The Corner Market  
The Capital Candy Jar  
Carleton Holdings  
DC Life Safety, LLC  
Center for the Creative Economy  
National Federation of Federal  
Employees of the IAM-AW/AFL CIO  
NRGCO Court Reporters and  
Transcribers  
CCS LLC  
College Track  
Washington Performing Arts  
Essential Media Partners  
Wiles Mensch Corporation - DC  
Align Development  
The Nicholson Project  
DMV Food Truck Association  
Blossom Dentistry PLLC  
Russin & Vecchi PC  
Multi-Therapeutic Service, Inc.  
Il Canale  
Harris & Associates LLC