Resolution Concerning:
B22-0663 -
Comprehensive Plan Framework Amendment act of 2018

Whereas over 3,000 amendments have been proposed to the Comprehensive Plan, more than ten times the number of proposed amendments the Office of Planning received during the 2010 amendment cycle;

Whereas neither the public nor the Advisory Neighborhood Commissions have been given the opportunity to review and comment on the proposed amendments, as required by law;

Whereas amendments to the zoning definitions will allow larger and taller buildings and tend to rebuff court actions that communities are using to curb overdevelopment;

Whereas the tremendous loss of lower income, and largely African American, residents has been described as a voluntary migration due to “family ties, increased opportunities and lower cost of living,” and not the displacement caused by rising housing costs and taxes;

Whereas the Mayor’s bill, B22-0663 the Comprehensive Plan Framework Amendment Act of 2018, would severely limit citizens and their elected Advisory Neighborhood Commissions from effectively challenging unfavorable development projects for noncompliance with the Comprehensive Plan;

Whereas B22-0663 eliminates the requirement to color code the Generalized Policy Map and the Future Land Use Map, effectively removing the clarity and or predictability that residents rely on to make decisions;
Whereas B22-0663 replaces definitions in the current Plan with imprecise descriptions and flexible terms that developers and the Zoning Commission could interpret quite freely, with very little restrictions;

Whereas B22-0663 fails to force land use decisions that will address the city’s serious income divide, lack of affordable housing, unemployment and displacement, and instead removes any meaningful community participation in land use decisions;

Therefore we, the DC Federation of Civic Associations by unanimous vote of the 16 delegates present at the General Assembly of February 28, 2018, resolves that the Council of the District of Columbia amend B22-0663, the Comprehensive Plan Framework Amendment Act of 2018, to support community participation and address the adverse effects detailed above.

Graylin W. Presbury
President