

## NOTICE OF DEBATES TO THE RESIDENTS OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

The Office of Campaign Finance (OCF) will conduct debates on May 16<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, and 19<sup>th</sup> in the contested races for the Offices of Mayor, Attorney General, Council Chairperson, and At-Large Member of the Council. These Offices are scheduled for election during the June 21<sup>st</sup> 2022 Primary Election in the District of Columbia. All Candidates certified to participate in the Fair Elections Program (FEP) who are in contested city-wide elections must participate in the debates. Any Candidates in the Traditional Campaign Finance Program (Traditional Program) who have qualified for ballot access will be invited to participate. Where there is no other FEP participating candidate or willing non-participating candidate, the mandatory debate requirement is waived.

The Fair Elections Program was established in the Office of Campaign Finance to provide for publicly funded political campaigns. The FEP is voluntary and became fully funded in 2018. The Program is designed to provide matching and lump sum base amount payments to individuals registered and certified as participating candidates, in an election cycle, who agree to lower contribution limits and restrictions on the sources of contributions. The 2022 Election Cycle is the second election cycle under the FEP and the OCF is again eager to share information with District Residents about the upcoming virtual debates the Agency plans to sponsor.

To date, in the June 21, 2022 Primary Election, there are a total of three (3) certified Participating Candidates in the Fair Elections Program who are seeking the office of Mayor of the District of Columbia; one (1) certified Participating Candidate seeking the Office of Chairperson of the Council of the District of Columbia; two (2) certified Participating Candidates for the Office of Attorney General of the District of Columbia; and five (5) certified Participating Candidates for the Office of At-Large Member of the Council. Additionally, in the Traditional Campaign Finance Program, there are two (2) Candidates on the ballot for the Office of Mayor; two (2) Candidates for the Office of Council Chairperson; and one (1) Candidate for the Office of Attorney General.

The FEP participating candidates and non-participating candidates running in these citywide contested elections will receive a notice informing them of the registration process for the debates. The OCF will also inform and invite the public to participate in the debate process. Information about the debates will be communicated to the public through various media formats, including digital media and public service announcements.

Please continue to check the OCF website for updated information concerning the details regarding the scheduled date, time, and registration process for the public to attend virtually and participate in the debates. In the interest of continuing to ensure the safety of our residents, the OCF sponsored debates will be conducted using a virtual platform.