

# Third Olmstead Townhall

Proposed District Olmstead Plan 2025-2027 Overview  
Improving Community Integration of Disability Services



Gillian Patterson, Art Enables



# Housekeeping

- Accessible bathrooms are available via the lobby of THEARC
- ASL interpreters are joining us virtually. They have been spotlighted for those who are here in person. Please mute yourself unless you are speaking, and please take turns speaking so the interpretation is clear.
- When you speak, please do so loudly and clearly so the interpreters and everyone can hear.
- Introductions –
  - Mathew McCollough, Director, ODR (facilitator)
  - Peter Stephan, Attorney Advisor, ODR (emcee)



## Quick Recap - What is an Olmstead Plan?

- Title II of the ADA requires the District government to provide services in the most integrated setting appropriate to people with disabilities.
- The District's Olmstead plan is a responsibility and opportunity to improve services across many agencies for people with disabilities to live and work in the community.



Photo Courtesy Disability:IN

# Quick Recap - Why do we need an Olmstead Plan?

- The Olmstead Plan helps demonstrate the District is complying with the integration mandate under Title II of the ADA.
- The District is required to create and maintain an Olmstead Plan under District law. D.C. Code § 2-1431.04(8).



Photo Courtesy Disability:IN



# Drafting the 2025-2027 Olmstead Plan

- Phase One – Focused on gathering input on community concerns to address and identifying existing District government programs to address these concerns.
- Phase Two – Focused on gathering input on community solutions where existing programs cannot readily address community concerns.
- **Phase Three – Refining and finalizing the 2025-2027 District Olmstead Plan**





# What Have We Done – Consulted Existing Plans and Data

- Current and previous District Olmstead Plans and data
- FY23-24 Performance Oversight Responses from relevant agencies
- DD Council Advocacy and Public Policy Agenda
- DACL State Plan 2023-2027
- DC Age-Friendly's Plan
- WIOA State Plan
- DDS State As a Model Employer Goals
- OSSE Strategic Plan





# What Have We Done – Gathered Public Input and Discussed with Agencies

- Gathered extensive public input from the first Olmstead Townhall in February, focus meetings in March and April, second Olmstead Townhall in June, feedback to the first draft and comments at the July virtual meeting to address with agencies.
- Held discussions with agency leadership and program management to bring forward comments and concerns raised at these meetings.





# Agency Partners



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# What Have We Done – Discussed Housing Concerns

- Discussed with DCHA and DHCD issues around ensuring an adequate supply of affordable, accessible housing for people with disabilities through inclusionary zoning, single family rehabilitation projects, and affordable, accessible public housing units, and creating a guide to locate resources.
- Discussed with DOC, DBH, MORCA, and DACL improving transitions from nursing facilities, jails and prisons, and psychiatric facilities for people with disabilities to the community, tracking voucher program usage, discharges from St. Elizabeths and psychiatric residential treatment facilities.
- Discussed with DDS and DACL increasing access to technological solutions through safe at home projects, remote library and personal care services to increase transitions and ensure people with disabilities remain in the community while maximizing privacy and independence and expanding Safe at Home to include kitchen modification.





# What Have We Done – Discussed Healthcare Concerns

- Discussed with DDS, DHCF, and DACL improving high quality services and supports for people with disabilities to ensure they can transition to and remain in the community through self-referrals for community-based services, assessing for community-based mental health services, reinstating Medicaid upon re-entry into community.
- Also discussed implementing service plans quickly while complying with high quality standards, and expanding access to community-based long-term care services.





# What Have We Done – Discussed Employment Concerns

- Discussed with DDS improving and enhancing seamless transitions for students age 16-22, and tracking DC RSA outcomes.
- Discussed with DCHR ways to increase hiring, retention, and promotion of people with disabilities within the District government. Working with DDS to coordinate the State As a Model Employer initiative.



# What Have We Done – Discussed Transportation Concerns

- Discussed with DFHV expanding wheelchair accessible vehicle capacity
- Discussed with DDOT addressing sidewalk repairs, curb ramp remediations, audible pedestrian signal installations, creating a curb space plan, and improving accessibility of bus stops.
- Discussed with DOB reviewing District building codes to ensure full accessibility for new construction/major renovations.





# What is Phase Three?

- Phase Three is focused on refining and finalizing the 2025-2027 Olmstead Plan.
- The second draft is still under review, we submitted it in early August. As soon as it is released, we will share it for final comments and feedback.
- We have asked agencies to continue working on ways to address concerns raised by the Olmstead public input and provide baseline data and benchmarks where that is still missing for the final draft.
- If the second draft changes do not reflect the comments you have raised, please know we have not forgotten and continue our discussions with District agencies to address concerns.





## Topics for Additional Input

We want to open the floor for topics for additional input, particularly for anyone who has been unable to attend other Olmstead Townhalls.

- Finding and obtaining affordable, accessible housing
- Ensuring high-quality healthcare and long-term care supports
- Expanding employment of people with disabilities in District government
- Ensuring curb space for people with disabilities among competing priorities
- Improving public transportation accessibility







# A Look Ahead – Important Upcoming Dates

- Second Draft Release (est. October 2024)
- Second Public Notice and Comment (est. October 2024)

## Phase Three

- Third Townhall (October 1, 2024 – today!)
- ODR discussions with partner agencies (October-November 2024)
- ODR drafts Third Draft (November 2024)
- Final Draft Released (December 30, 2024)





# Questions

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