



District of Columbia Government
Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6A
PO Box 15020
Washington, DC 20003



May 19, 2026

Via email and the ANC Resolutions website

Dear Mayor Bowser, Members of the Council, DC CFO Lee, and DCCAH Commission Chair Sims,

At a regularly scheduled and properly noticed¹ meeting on May 14, 2026, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6A voted 5-0-0 (with four (4) Commissioners required for a quorum) to send this urgent letter of concern regarding the withholding of previously approved funds for Large Capital Improvement Grants for the following organizations:

- Atlas Performing Arts Center - Ward 6
- Theater Alliance - Ward 6
- Project Create - Ward 8

It is our understanding that \$3,474,390 in committed funding across these three grants is now effectively frozen as a result of fund reallocations and altered revenue estimates for the current FY 26 budget, and that funds may instead be allocated to other purposes in the FY 27 Budget.

These are not funds associated with future asks. Rather these are funds that were recommended by DCCAH grant review panels and that were accepted by DCCAH. Blocking their payout as from “non-lapsing funds” signals that awarded funding is never truly secure and impairs the ability of organizations to invest in the arts, the humanities and ultimately in the human and financial wellbeing of the communities they serve. This issue is of particular relevance to ANC 6A because two of the three affected grantees are located in Ward 6 and the Atlas Performing Arts Center is located in ANC6A, where it serves as a magnet for tens of thousands of visitors each year, who not only attend performances, but who also eat and drink in local establishments and shop in local stores. Atlas and these nearby businesses generate jobs and sales taxes that benefit our community and greater DC. Finally, in the case of capital projects, construction firms and workers also benefit.

The unprecedented alliance in the proposed FY 27 budget on reallocating fund balance from previously committed programs undermines trust in government, essentially breaking the contract between voters and the government concerning what tax dollars and other revenues will be used. Accordingly, we ask that DC government act in a timely manner to:

- Preserve Access to the CAH Fund Balance.
- Do Not Treat Dedicated Arts Funding as a Gap-Filler
- Fully Fund Existing Commitments (including Large Capital Grants)
- If the fund balance is preserved, those dollars should be used to meet existing obligations, especially large capital grants that organizations around which recipient organizations have already invested in planning

Thank you for giving great weight to the views of ANC 6A. Should you wish to discuss this letter with the Commission, please feel free to reach out to me at 6A04@anc.dc.gov, or Commissioner Shapiro at 6A03@anc.dc.gov.

On behalf of the Commission,



Amber Gove

Chair, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6A

¹ANC 6A meetings are advertised electronically on anc-6a@googlegroups.com, and in newhilleast@groups.io, at www.anc6a.org, and through print advertisements in the *Hill Rag*.