

COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS AND FACILITIES
ROBERT C. WHITE, JR., CHAIR

MEMORANDUM

TO: Chairman Phil Mendelson
FROM: Councilmember Robert C. White Jr.
Chair, Committee on Government Operations and Facilities 
DATE: December 16, 2021
RE: Requests for the Additional Legislative Meeting on December 21, 2021

I request that the following measure be added to the agenda for the Additional Legislative Meeting on December 21, 2021:

- **Limited Coronavirus Procurement Extension Emergency Declaration Resolution of 2021**
- **Limited Coronavirus Procurement Extension Emergency Amendment Act of 2021**

These measures have been prepared to address concerns raised by the Mayor in her letter dated December 2, 2021, requesting the restoration of expedited emergency procurement authority associated with the declared public emergency. The administration has indicated a need for emergency legislation to, among other things, expedite the deployment of antigen test kits, ramp up vaccination testing sites, and complete information technology projects related to the coronavirus response.

Specifically, as currently drafted, these measures reflect a limited authorization of emergency procurements conducted for specific purposes identified by the administration as areas of key concern, for a limited amount of time, and only if a summary of each procurement is provided to the Council and made publicly available online at least two business days in advance of a proposed contract award.

This approach reflects an attempt to balance our shared goal of efficiently addressing public health and safety concerns with the need to ensure appropriate oversight given prior failures to provide timely reporting of emergency procurements, concerns raised in recent audits about the use of emergency procurement authority during the public health emergency, and the desire to restore the procedural safeguards that exist in normal procurement operations.

I anticipate that continued engagement with the administration will result in changes to this legislation prior to December 21, but I request that these measures be added to the agenda now to allow time for continued discussion, without jeopardizing the Council's ability to act before the end of the year.

Please contact Shawn Hilgendorf, Committee Director, at (202) 724-8077, or shilgendorf@dccouncil.us if you have any questions.