



CHEVY CHASE **FORWARD**

Building Community, Bridging Divides

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Chevy Chase Forward Endorses Candidates for Mayor and At-Large Councilmember

Washington, D.C. - Today, Chevy Chase Forward (CCF), a diverse coalition of residents united around our commitment to the neighborhood's future while also prioritizing the District and its residents beyond local borders — endorses **Kenyon McDuffie** for Mayor and **Dyana Forester** for At-Large Councilmember in the June 16, 2026 Democratic primary election and **Elissa Silverman** for At-Large Councilmember in the Special Election. Each of these candidates is a dynamic champion for social justice, increased diversity in high-opportunity neighborhoods, and significantly more affordable housing in Ward 3.

In response to CCF's questions, [Mr. McDuffie](#) stated that the planned development of the Chevy Chase Civic Core represents "a real opportunity to add homes in a part of the city that has zero dedicated affordable housing units and has resisted growth for decades." To do otherwise would be "a failure of public stewardship." He has pledged to "take action on this [project] in my first 100 Days." Mr. McDuffie supports "delivering maximum affordability across a real spread of income levels." "Teachers, nurses, sanitation workers, and city employees deserve access to a neighborhood with these amenities and this transit access." As Mayor, he will also direct the Office of Planning to "add housing potential" as they develop a new Comprehensive Plan to address a "history of restrictive covenants, discriminatory lending practices, and the deliberate displacement of Black families." "This approach lets Chevy Chase grow in a way that fits its context while meaningfully contributing to the city's housing shortage." Mr. McDuffie's goals coincide with CCF's core objectives, and we urge Democrats to select him as their candidate for Mayor.

[Ms. Forester](#) has a deep understanding of housing issues in the District. She considers development of the Chevy Chase Civic Core site "a once-in-a-generation opportunity" that "respects the public investment in facilities, delivers housing and affordability [that] the District desperately needs, and creates a Civic Core worthy of one of DC's most vibrant neighborhoods." She recognizes that the community has engaged in "one of the

most robust community planning processes in recent DC history,” and, as a Councilmember, she will “use every tool available to me . . . to make sure this project is delivered on time, on budget, and with the community benefit commitments that make it worthy of the decade of work the Chevy Chase community put into making it possible.” She supports a mix of deeply affordable, workforce, and market rate housing, including family-sized units. She advocates for modifications to the Comprehensive Plan to “ensure that new buildings match the scale, materials, and streetscape of existing homes, even when they contain two, three, or four units inside.” Ms. Forester will bring to the Council extraordinary expertise and passion on affordable housing, and we urge voters to select her. Under the District’s ranked choice voting procedure for this At-Large Democratic primary race, CCF also highly recommends that voters rank [Lisa Raymond](#) as their second choice and [Candace Nelson](#) as their third choice behind Ms. Forester.

[Ms. Silverman](#) knows the Chevy Chase neighborhood well, appreciates the need for new public facilities, and supports the vision for the Civic Core site reflected in the Chevy Chase Small Area Plan, including mixed-income affordable/workforce housing. She supports increasing the number of planned housing units and an income mix that avoids “squandering an opportunity to develop affordable housing that will benefit more people.” She sees “these new residents as future customers” for the retail business along Connecticut Avenue. Finally, she believes that “small multifamily buildings [in Chevy Chase] could be consistent with the overall look and feel of the neighborhood and help enhance it.” Based on Ms. Silverman’s prior service on the Council and her strong commitment to equitable housing opportunities, we urge voters to select her in this Special Election.

To learn where the candidates stand on the issues that matter most to our neighborhood, we encourage all residents to read their full questionnaire responses at <https://www.ccfoward.org/candidate-endorsements>. Chevy Chase Forward will be actively campaigning for our endorsed candidates in the weeks ahead. We invite our neighbors to join our efforts on the ground to ensure collaborative, courageous governance is represented at the ballot box.

About Chevy Chase Forward:

Chevy Chase Forward is a 501(c)(4) nonprofit that seeks to ensure that Chevy Chase contributes its fair share to a stronger, more accessible Washington, DC. Learn more about Chevy Chase Forward at <https://www.ccfoward.org>.