



DR. MYRTLE P. ALEXANDER FOR DC MAYOR

PRESS STATEMENT

For Immediate Release March 19, 2026

Statement from Dr. Myrtle P. Alexander, Certified 2026 Independent Mayoral Candidate for the District of Columbia

Yesterday morning, I had the opportunity to meet Mr. Van Drunen in person at the Harriet Tubman / St. Josephine Bakhita Women's Shelter, accompanied by Ms. Adams. I appreciated the chance to address several ongoing concerns, and I welcome the steps now being taken to resolve them.

However, I must publicly address a broader and deeply concerning pattern that continues to affect my ability to participate fully in the 2026 Mayoral Race.

As a certified mayoral candidate, every debate, forum, and community engagement is the functional equivalent of a **job interview** for the position of Mayor of the District of Columbia. These events are where candidates present their qualifications, articulate their vision, and engage directly with residents. Full access to this interview process is fundamental to a fair and democratic election.

Yet, as the only unhoused candidate in this race, I continue to face repeated denials of reasonable extended-arrival accommodations from the shelter where I currently reside. These denials jeopardize my bed placement and force me to choose between maintaining shelter access and fulfilling my civic responsibilities as a candidate. No other candidate in this race faces such barriers.

This pattern is not only unjust — it raises serious concerns about **political discrimination** and unequal access to the democratic process.

The issue is especially urgent in light of the upcoming **Mayoral Candidate Forum on Homelessness**, scheduled for **March 31, 2026**, at Pilgrim Baptist Church. The event flyer states that *“Doors open at 6:30 p.m.”* and the program will run into the evening. As someone who has lived the realities of homelessness, my participation in this forum is not symbolic — it is essential.

I have requested written approval for extended arrival times for this and all future campaign events. I have also notified several Councilmembers of the ongoing pattern of denials, and I will continue to document each incident for the appropriate legal and oversight channels.

Every candidate deserves equal access to the interview process for the office they seek. Every resident deserves a fair and transparent election. And every voice — especially those of our unhoused neighbors — deserves to be heard.

I remain committed to running a campaign grounded in dignity, accountability, and the belief that democracy must be accessible to all.

Dr. Myrtle P. Alexander

2026 Independent Mayoral Candidate - District of Columbia

DR MYRTLE P ALEXANDER DC MAYOR

1506 Park Road NW, Apt B. Washington, District of Columbia, 20010-2205 U.S.A.

Email: vote@drmyrtle4dcmayor.com Website: www.drmyrtle4dcmayor.com Phone: [+1 202-341-6020](tel:+12023416020)