

**GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**  
**DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL SERVICES**



Written Testimony of Delano Hunter  
Director of the Department of General Services

B26-0103, “Fairness in Use and Negotiation for All Recreational Property Act of 2025”

Before the  
Committee on Facilities  
Council of the District of Columbia  
The Honorable Councilmember Janeese Lewis George, Chairperson

The John A. Wilson Building  
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20004  
Room 123

Wednesday, December 3, 2025  
10:30 a.m.

Good morning, Chairperson Lewis George, members of the Committee on Facilities, and members of the public. I am Delano Hunter, Director of the Department of General Services (DGS). I'm here today to testify primarily regarding B26-103, the "Fairness in Use and Negotiation for All Recreational Property Act of 2025," also known as the "FUN Act." I also have brief comments on the other three bills for discussion today: B26-0112, the "Department of Parks and Recreation Field Priority Access Amendment Act of 2025," B26-0113, the "Department of Parks and Recreation Hours Expansion Amendment Act of 2025," and B26-0132, the "Expanding Community Access to Safe and Clean Recreational Space Act of 2025."

DGS is responsible for building, maintaining, and sustaining over 1,000 District properties and plays a key role in increasing the sustainability of our District properties and reducing our impact on the environment. In addition to these overarching duties, the portfolio management division of DGS manages leases and short-term uses of District properties. DGS also negotiates the disposition of school properties that are no longer required by DC Public Schools (DCPS) and other surplus government properties.

In our Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) portfolio, DGS maintains 37 aquatic centers and outdoor pools, over 100 playgrounds, 37 splash parks, 116 athletic fields, 20 dog parks, and close to a thousand acres of park space. I want to thank Mayor Muriel Bowser for her support in our efforts to protect these valuable resources. We work closely with our partners at DPR to ensure that these spaces are available for the public to use and enjoy generally and use through rentals for sports, parties, and other activities.

DGS appreciates the intention behind the legislation to bring more transparency regarding the use of the District's recreational facilities. We work closely with partner agencies when there is an opportunity to report under DC Code 10-801 regarding long-term leases.

As introduced, the FUN Act requires an annual audit to ensure compliance with terms for exclusive agreements. Currently, DPR collects information annually, which could be shared with the Council and made public. Ultimately, DGS defers to DPR on whether the work DPR does currently fulfills the annual audit reporting to Council.

The current definition for recreational space, as defined by this bill, includes parks, playgrounds, recreation centers, community centers, sports fields, and aquatic centers, which are DPR properties, but also DCPS buildings or similar recreational spaces. We recommend that the definition of recreational space be limited to DPR properties to ensure it meets the goals of the legislation.

#### Additional Bills Under Consideration

Regarding the other three bills: B26-0112, the "Department of Parks and Recreation Field Priority Access Amendment Act of 2025," B26-0113, the "Department of Parks and Recreation Hours Expansion Amendment Act of 2025," and B26-0132 the "Expanding Community Access to Safe and Clean Recreational Space Act of 2025," we support the intention to expand access to facilities for community use. There will, however, be a cost to the District for the additional wear and tear on playgrounds and fields, janitorial services, trash and recycling services, vehicle needs, and pest control. These costs should be provided upfront as a part of the bill's funding so that community

groups will have fewer barriers to utilizing these spaces. Additionally, security may still be needed to ensure the safety of players and attendees.

### Conclusion

DGS supports the intention of the legislation to bring more transparency to how recreational spaces are used. The District has amazing facilities. We want the community to be able to enjoy our playgrounds, fields, and other recreational spaces to the fullest extent possible.