

**Leave No One Behind**

**2022 GLAA Questionnaire - Brianne K. Nadeau Ward 1**

*Please give more than a simple "yes" or "no" response to our questions — though you should begin with a "yes" or "no." The depth and completeness of your answers play a major role in determining your final rating.*

*Your record is part of your rating. Please list any actions that you have taken that may help illustrate your record on behalf of LGBTQ people. Feel free to link relevant documents such as letters to the editor, legislative testimony, campaign literature, etc.*

**Housing**

* Do you support providing sufficient affordable housing units for all households earning less than 30% of the Area Median Income (AMI), such as, allocating vacant apartments to very low-income households, ensuring sufficient funds for the Housing Production Trust Fund are dedicated to these renters, and strengthening inclusionary zoning laws?

*Yes. We are living in a time of prosperity for the District, but far too many of our residents struggle with housing, homelessness, and displacement. Unless we preserve and build new subsidized, affordable housing, the District’s growth will come at the expense of pushing out low-income families and people of color, particularly the communities that have made Ward 1 so vibrant and resilient. I’m fighting to create new affordable housing and preserve the affordable and family-sized housing we already have, through increased subsidy and increased legalization of housing, with a focus on our lowest income, most vulnerable families.*

*I believe in a “Yes, and” approach to housing. Legalizing more housing capacity and Inclusionary Zoning units that come with it are one piece of the puzzle, but an incomplete solution. I’ve voted to expand funding to the Housing Production Trust Fund and tenant-based vouchers, and I support Community Land Trusts, strengthened rent control, limited-equity cooperatives, and unique tools like the Tenant and District Opportunity to Purchase Act. All are essential components of our housing vision.*

*I have also been the Council’s main champion of using publicly-owned land to meaningfully expand our stock of deeply affordable housing. There is no reason the public sector should only be managing a stable or shrinking stock of social housing, and I believe DC should use its significant resources to acquire properties and scale up a robust social housing program.*

*Here are some, but not all, of the things I have done as Councilmember to increase affordable housing:*

* [*Introduced the Public Housing Preservation and Tenant Protection Amendment Act*](http://lims.dccouncil.us/Legislation/B23-0627)*, which would protect public housing tenants from displacement in the event of renovation of a Housing Authority property.*
* [*Co-introduced the Rental Housing Source of Income Amendment Act*](http://lims.dccouncil.us/Legislation/B23-0528)*, which would prevent discrimination against housing voucher holders in accessing rental units.*
* [*Introduced the On-Site Services Act of 2019*](https://www.brianneknadeau.com/updates/press-release/nadeau-bill-provides-site-services-residents-certain-multi-unit-buildings)*, which provides services like healthcare, legal services, food and nutrition, childcare, after-school care to multifamily buildings occupied by tenants that receive housing assistance.*
* [*Introduced a bill*](https://www.brianneknadeau.com/updates/press-release/nadeau-bill-would-bring-dc-housing-authority-under-mayoral-control) *that would move the DC Housing Authority from an independent agency to one under Mayoral and Council control, making the agency accountable to city government and better prioritize the needs of public housing residents.*
* *Supported the passage and funding of the Rental Assistance for Unassisted Seniors Amendment Act of 2018, which provides a rental subsidy to low-income seniors who are rent burdened up to $600 a month to help them stay in their homes.*
* [*Introduced the Land Disposition for Affordable Housing Amendment Act of 2019*](http://lims.dccouncil.us/Legislation/B23-0240)*, which establishes the same affordable housing requirements on land owned by quasi-governmental entities (like WMATA and DC Water) as those that exist for District-owned land.*
* [*Opposed a bill that eroded the Tenant Opportunity to Purchase Act*](http://www.brianneknadeau.com/nadeau_statement_on_tenant_opportunity_to_purchase_act_vote) *– one of the only Councilmembers to do so.*
* [*Introduced the Mixed-Use Affordable Housing Property Tax Exemption Act*](http://lims.dccouncil.us/Legislation/B22-0035?FromSearchResults=true)*, which ensures that buildings which would otherwise be eligible for tax relief for providing affordable housing are not prevented from receiving such tax relief simply because a portion of the building is used for a community purpose such as a dental office or medical clinic.*
* [*Co-introduced the Affordable Cooperative Task Force Act*](http://lims.dccouncil.us/Legislation/B22-0099?FromSearchResults=true)*, which would establish a task force to provide policy recommendations to improve affordable limited-equity cooperatives and assist in the formation of new cooperatives.*
* [*Co-introduced the Home Purchase Assistance Program Amendment Act*](http://lims.dccouncil.us/Legislation/B22-0682?FromSearchResults=true)*, which increases the maximum amount of down payment assistance for the lowest income homebuyers.*
* *Introduced and funded the Relocation Expenses Recoupment and Lien Authority Amendment Act, which allows the DC Office of Tenant Advocate to seek reimbursement from a landlord when the landlord’s negligence was responsible for displacement of a tenant.*
* Do you support improving access to housing voucher programs by increasing the number available, as advocated for by The Way Home Campaign and LGBTQ+ Budget Coalition, and reforming program eligibility rules?

*Yes. As the chairperson of the Committee on Human Services, I have invested more in ending chronic homelessness than any Councilmember before me. Each year I have added housing units to the budget through the regular budget process as well as bold amendments to the budget in the Committee of the Whole. For FY22 I was the architect of the housing element of the Homes and Hearts Amendment, putting $65 million in the budget annually for housing for those experiencing homelessness, about 2,400 units. This included specific units for LGBTQ residents. I organized the progressive coalition that overcame the conservative bloc on the Council to pass this amendment, raise taxes on our wealthiest residents, and invest in those most in need. I am proud to work with both the Way Home Campaign and the LGBTQ+ Budget Coalition on these priorities.*

**Workers’ Rights**

* Do you support enacting legislation decriminalizing sex work for adults, including the selling and purchasing of sex and third party involvement not involving fraud, violence or coercion?

*Yes. I co-introduced legislation that would do this in the prior Council period and participated in the hearing before the Judiciary Committee. I look forward to co-introducing the bill again.*

* Do you support repealing the subminimum wage for tipped workers?

*Yes. I support it now, and I have supported it in the past. When voters went to the ballot 4 years ago to raise the tipped minimum wage and won, the Council should have let it stand. I was a dissenting vote in the effort to repeal this initiative, which was a crushing defeat for tipped workers. I stand with tipped workers on this issue.*

* Do you support funding the Office of Human Rights (OHR) at a level that ensures the agency ends its case backlog, completes discrimination cases in a timely manner, and effectively engages in community education and outreach?

*Yes. This is a critical issue for our most vulnerable residents, who deserve access to justice. I continue to work with my colleague Robert White on this and have advocated for additional funding to address the backlog.*

**Health**

* Do you support establishing overdose prevention facilities in the District to reduce deaths from drug overdoses?

*Yes. I was thrilled when Mayor Bowser announced last year that she would be opening a sobering center in or near Ward 1, where many residents grapple with addiction both publicly and privately. We need to ensure we have these facilities and that they are culturally competent and provide language access for all those who need services. In FY22 I also funded a dedicated team to work with those suffering from alcoholism in Columbia Heights. I’m pleased with the progress our team has made and hope to expand this effort to other parts of the Ward in the FY23 budget.*

* Do you support removing the criminal penalties for drug possession for personal use and increasing investments in health services?

*Yes. Addiction is a disease that needs be treated as a health issue, not a crime. Arresting people for personal drug use simply creates additional hurdles for those struggling with addiction that can lead to job loss, housing instability and hurts families. More outreach and a stronger continuum of care for those grappling with addiction are what we need.*

**Policing and incarceration**

* Do you support reducing D.C.’s total pre-COVID-19 incarcerated population by one-third to one-half by FY30?

*Yes. This begins with investing in good jobs, more youth programming and overall opportunities throughout our communities in need. I’m incredibly proud of the work I’ve to make deep investments in these areas whether it’s the Out-of-School Time programs that fund tutoring, mentoring, sports and other extracurricular activities for kids both during the school year and in the summer. The Roving Leaders program is both in our schools and in our community connecting kids to programming in our recreation centers. The Pathways Program has made targeted investments in those adjacent to violence to prevent them from going down that path. These investments, along with fair and effective sentencing as well as restorative justice programs that allow for healing along with accountability can help us reach that goal.*

* Do you support better oversight, transparency, and accountability in the process of investigating and improving D.C. jails, including establishing an independent oversight body, addressing issues impacting transgender individuals, repairing jails, and changing staff culture?

*Yes. Lawsuit after lawsuit has demonstrated that greater oversight is needed of DC Jails. An independent entity, whether it’s a commission or an ombudsperson could have an impact on improving current conditions and also ensuring that the new facility will be held to the highest standard. It should not have taken a lawsuit to implement common sense, dignified and safe options for transgender occupants of the jail, but the bravery of Sunday Hinton in filing suit will improve conditions for those who come after her.*

* Do you support divesting from the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) to further invest in vital programs, including anti-poverty, violence prevention, crisis intervention, and reentry?

*Over the past several years I have joined my colleagues in reallocating funds underutilized by MPD for programs that support victims, invest in communities and prevent violence. I supported the Comprehensive Police and Justice Reform Act, authored legislation banning the use of chemical weapons by MPD, I established a quarterly overtime report that will allow Council to act quickly if MPD begins to go over its budget, I have supported the expansion of human services and supportive services repeatedly as both the chair of the Committee on Human Services and a member of the Committee on Health. I have co-introduced legislation to decriminalize sex work, have authored legislation to decriminalize street vending, have invested more in behavioral health services and in particular the school-based mental health program, and made historic investments in housing for those experiencing homelessness and housing instability. I have supported ending MPD’s role in traffic enforcement and in schools and authored this op-ed regarding ending Stop and Frisk (which was met with a rebuttal by former Chief Newsham):* [*https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/localopinions/end-stop-and-frisk-in-dc/2019/02/14/cdd59c2c-2fab-11e9-8ad3-9a5b113ecd3c\_story.html*](https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/localopinions/end-stop-and-frisk-in-dc/2019/02/14/cdd59c2c-2fab-11e9-8ad3-9a5b113ecd3c_story.html)

*Please return your questionnaire responses in PDF format* ***by 11:59pm ET on Friday, April 22*** [*here*](https://forms.gle/BY2LdSwFxyURMwRN8)*. If you have trouble submitting your response through the form, you can email it to equal@glaa.org. GLAA will rate each response at our meeting on April 26 at 7pm ET.*