

# Fred Hill

Democratic Candidate, DC Council At-Large

## Response to GLAA 2026 Primary Election Questionnaire

Submitted April 2026

Thank you to GLAA for 55 years of holding DC candidates and elected officials accountable to the LGBTQ+ community. I am Fred Hill, a long-time Washingtonian, and I am running for DC Council At-Large in the June 16 Democratic primary. For over a decade, I served as Chairman of DC's Board of Zoning Adjustment (BZA), presiding over more than 2,000 cases and 400 public hearings — many involving LGBTQ+ residents, businesses, and community organizations seeking stable housing, accessible spaces, and equitable treatment. That experience gave me a firsthand understanding of how government decisions shape the lives of DC's most vulnerable residents, including LGBTQ+ Washingtonians. I also bring 25+ years of federal contracting and small business experience, and a commitment to practical, accountable governance.

I am proud to respond fully to this questionnaire as detailed below.

### 1. Fight for Home Rule

---

*To protect DC's LGBTQ+ communities, will you oppose every single effort to infringe on DC's autonomy?*

**YES.** I will oppose every effort to infringe on DC's autonomy. Home Rule is the foundation upon which DC's LGBTQ+ community has built its legal protections. The current federal administration has made clear its hostility to LGBTQ+ rights. Any erosion of DC's autonomy is, directly, an erosion of LGBTQ+ protections. As a Councilmember, I will use every legislative and oversight tool available to resist congressional interference with DC law.

### 2. Stop Enabling Federal Overreach

---

*Will you refuse to cooperate with the Federal Government in its undemocratic use of power, including the authoritarian deployment of National Guard troops?*

**YES.** I will refuse to cooperate with the federal government's undemocratic use of power. The deployment of National Guard troops in DC without the consent of its residents is especially threatening to LGBTQ+ residents, immigrants, and communities of color who are the primary targets of this administration's enforcement priorities. I will support the Mayor and DC Attorney General in pursuing every available legal challenge to unauthorized federal exercises of power in the District.

### 3. Invest In a Just Legal System

---

*To support LGBTQ+ people involved in the legal system, do you support limiting pre-trial detention at a minimum to the evidence-based laws in place before 2023 and investing more resources into civil legal help?*

**YES.** I support limiting pre-trial detention and I strongly support investing resources in civil legal help for DC residents.

Pre-trial detention disrupts housing, employment, healthcare, and family stability in ways that cause lasting harm even when charges are ultimately dropped or result in acquittal.

On civil legal help: access to civil legal assistance is a fundamental equity issue. LGBTQ+ residents facing eviction, employment discrimination, family law matters, or denial of public benefits need legal help that many cannot afford.

#### 4. Safe and Warm Homes

---

*In light of disproportionate representation of LGBTQ+ among people without stable housing, do you support strengthening and enforcing the existing laws and investing the District's resources to end homelessness in DC?*

**YES — strongly.** There is disproportionate representation of LGBTQ+ people among DC's unhoused population — particularly LGBTQ+ youth.

I support: fully funding the Housing Production Trust Fund at its statutory level with a priority on deeply affordable units (30% AMI and below). I support DC's investment in housing specifically designed to serve LGBTQ+ individuals, including youth shelters and transitional housing operated by organizations with demonstrated competence in serving this community.

My BZA experience is directly relevant here. I presided over hundreds of cases involving housing development, zoning variances for residential uses, and special exceptions for supportive housing facilities. I understand the land use and regulatory landscape that either enables or blocks housing production.

#### 5. Abundant and Nutritious Food

---

*Do you support increasing the nutrition assistance program benefits to fill the gap created by the federal government?*

**YES.** I support DC's investment in nutrition assistance which fills the gaps created by federal cuts and benefit restrictions. Too many members of the LGBTQ+ community face elevated rates of food insecurity.

The federal government's ongoing cuts to SNAP and other nutrition programs are a direct attack on DC's most vulnerable residents.

As a Councilmember, I will work to ensure that no DC resident — LGBTQ+ or otherwise — goes hungry because the federal government chose to cut the programs they depend on.

#### 6. Power to the People

---

*Do you commit to providing economic relief to DC's LGBTQ+ residents and businesses by investing in energy and water infrastructure that prioritizes the needs of those facing energy poverty?*

**YES.** Energy and water affordability are equity issues, disproportionately affecting low-income residents, including a substantial share of DC's LGBTQ+ community.

I support the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program and DC's utility affordability programs that invest in energy efficiency upgrades in affordable housing to reduce utility costs for low-income tenants.

LGBTQ+-owned small businesses also face disproportionate economic vulnerability. I will look for ways to assist LGBTQ+ entrepreneurs with energy costs and infrastructure investments, building on DC's existing certified business enterprise framework.

#### 7. Health Care is a Human Right

---

*Will you use every tool within your power to ensure transgender youth and adults have access to healthcare in DC?*

**YES.** The federal government's attacks on gender-affirming care are a direct threat to the health, safety, and lives of DC's trans community.

I support mental health services specifically designed for trans youth, who face elevated rates of depression, anxiety, and suicidality; and oppose any federal effort to weaponize DC's budget or laws against trans healthcare access.

## 8. Health Care is a Smart Investment

---

*Do you commit to opposing cuts to the Health Care Alliance and Medicaid health insurance programs to balance DC's budget?*

**YES.** These programs are lifelines for tens of thousands of DC residents, including a substantial portion of DC's LGBTQ+ community—who have no other access to healthcare.

I will look to targeted spending efficiency before I will ever support cuts to healthcare for DC's most vulnerable residents.

I recognize that the federal 'Big Beautiful Bill' and related Medicaid restrictions are already squeezing DC's healthcare safety net. As a Councilmember, I will work with DC's federal delegation, the Mayor's office, and advocacy organizations like Whitman-Walker Health to fight federal cuts and to ensure DC's local budget backstops the loss of federal healthcare funding to the maximum extent possible.

## 9. Access to Public Benefits

---

*Do you commit to creating the most accessible system for program beneficiaries possible to maximize LGBTQ+ people being able to access benefits due to bureaucracy?*

**YES.** I commit to reducing bureaucratic barriers and making DC's public benefits systems as accessible as possible for LGBTQ+ residents. Administrative burdens disproportionately prevent LGBTQ+ residents from accessing the benefits they are entitled to.

As a Councilmember, I will: support legislation and oversight that reduces unnecessary barriers in all benefits-administering agencies and will support technology investments that make it easier to apply for and maintain benefits without repeated in-person visits.

My 25+ years of experience in federal contracting and public administration have given me a deep understanding of how bureaucratic systems can either serve or obstruct the people who depend on them. I will bring that expertise to reforming DC's benefits systems on behalf of all residents, including LGBTQ+ Washingtonians.

## 10. Fight Crime At The Source

---

*Do you support decriminalizing sex work and making better investments in violence prevention activities?*

**YES.** I support decriminalizing sex work among consenting adults, and I strongly support investments in violence prevention.

Criminalizing consensual sex work drives the industry underground, away from health services and legal recourse, and exposes workers to violence, exploitation, and arrest.

Decriminalization, paired with robust health services, housing access, and economic alternatives, is the approach that best protects workers' safety, health, and human rights.

I strongly support directing resources toward proven community violence intervention programs, mental health co-responders, and trauma-informed services. The best approach to reducing violence is addressing the conditions that generate it: housing instability, poverty, mental health crises, and lack of economic opportunity.

*I am grateful for GLAA's review and welcome any follow-up questions.*

**Fred Hill — DC Council At-Large (Democratic Primary, June 16, 2026)**