



The District's Dime

Going Beyond the Budget Book

The DC Fiscal Policy Institute blog
www.dcfpi.org

January 23, 2015

Budget Season Is Nearly Here

By Kate Coventry

Excitement is building around the DCFPI offices because DC budget season is nearly here. The season kicks off on Monday, February 2nd with the release of the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR), the audit of revenues and spending in 2014. We will find out how much more money was collected than was spent in fiscal year 2014 – the surplus. Then on Thursday, the Chief Financial Officer, Jeff DeWitt, will answer questions about the CAFR during a DC Council hearing.

Hearings on the performance of DC government agencies begin the next week. These hearings give you the opportunity to testify before councilmembers about your interactions with DC government, your ideas to improve performance or fill gaps in services that matter to you, and ways the agency could save money. The full calendar and instructions on how to sign up to testify is [here](#).



The CAFR and performance hearings are the beginning of a process that will stretch into June and lead to adoption of a new budget for next year. DCFPI developed a guide to the entire budget process to help you out. Find it [here](#).

A few performance hearings to highlight:

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| Feb. 13 | Department of Behavioral Health |
| Feb. 18 | DC Public Charter School Board |
| Feb. 19 | DC Public Schools |
| Feb. 20 | Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs
Department of Employment Services |
| Feb. 25 | Healthcare Benefit Exchange |
| Feb. 26 | Department of Housing and Community Development
DC Housing Authority |

March 5	Deputy Mayor for Education
March 9	Department of Healthcare Finance
March 10	Office of the State Superintendent for Education
March 12	Department of Human Services