

## December 2023 Revenue Estimate

December 29, 2023

Office of the Chief Financial Officer Government of the District of Columbia

### **DC Economic and Fiscal Outlook Unchanged from September**



- Despite facing high and rising interest rates, the U.S. economy has been resilient, and real GDP grew by 5.2% in Q3 2023.
- Strong personal consumption expenditures and increased inventory investment drove economic expansion nationally, but depleted excess household savings may force consumers to cut spending.
- Inflationary pressures are easing, and the Federal Reserve is signaling potential rate cuts in 2024, but there remains uncertainty regarding the magnitude and timing of the rate cuts.
- The District's economy lags the national and regional economy in all indicators except for personal income, which grew faster than the nation's in Q2 of 2023.
- DC's job market is tight, but growth has slowed. Resident unemployment has risen from a record low of 4% in 2022 to an average of 5% in the past five months.
- DC's population is growing again after the COVID-19 pandemic declines. The latest data from the U.S. Census Bureau shows an increase of 8,023 residents (1.1%) from July 2022 to July 2023.
- Mortgage rates are high, and commercial office vacancy rates remain at the high levels as anticipated in our previous forecast.



#### **December 2023 Revenue Estimate Compared to Previous Estimate**

| Preliminary  |         |                 |                 |          |           |          |
|--|---------|-----------------|-----------------|----------|-----------|----------|
|  | Actual  | Actual          | Estimated       |          | Projected |          |
| Local Source, General Fund Revenue<br>Estimate (\$M) | FY 2022 | FY 2023         | FY 2024         | FY 2025  | FY 2026   | FY 2027  |
| September 2023 Revenue Estimate                      | 9,886.8 | 9,890.8         | <b>9,909.</b> 7 | 10,190.0 | 10,393.4  | 10,667.3 |
| December Revision to the Estimate                    |         | 82.9            | 0.0             | 0.0      | 0.0       | 0.0      |
| December 2023 Revenue Estimate                       | 9,886.8 | <b>9,973.</b> 7 | 9,909.7         | 10,190.0 | 10,393.4  | 10,667.3 |
| <b>Revenue Change From Previous Year</b>             |         |                 |                 |          |           |          |
| Amount   |         | 86.9            | (64.0)          | 280.3    | 203.4     | 273.9    |
| Year-Over-Year Percent Change                        | 13.3%   | 0.9%            | -0.6%           | 2.8%     | 2.0%      | 2.6%     |

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## **Risks to Outlook**



- ✓ National:
  - Federal government shutdown and decisions on spending levels
  - Geopolitical turmoil: escalation of the war in Ukraine and Middle East
  - Risk of U.S. recession from high-interest rates diminished but still looms

✓ District:

- Potential reduction in Metro Service
- Remote work expands beyond current levels
- Significantly larger deterioration in the commercial real estate market
- Federal employment continues to decline
- Population recovery stalls



# Questions?

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