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## Homes Not Stadiums Ballot Initiative Campaign Responds to Legal Hurdles and Will Resubmit New Initiative

Campaign Demands DC Council Hold a Referendum in lieu of Ballot Initiative if DCBOE

Ultimately Won't Approve Ballot Measure

**WASHINGTON, DC** — Homes Not Stadiums, a ballot initiative campaign working to block the construction of a publicly funded professional football stadium on the RFK Stadium site, is preparing next steps as the D.C. Board of Elections prepares for a proper subject matter hearing scheduled for July 2, 2025.

The Board has received advisory opinions from both the <u>Office of the General Counsel of the D.C. Council</u> and the <u>Office of the Attorney General of the District of Columbia</u> suggesting that the current version of the Homes Not Stadiums ballot initiative may not qualify as "proper subject matter" under District law. Based on those advisory opinions, the campaign has decided to resubmit ballot language that we believe will achieve the same goals.

"We are exploring all legal options to see a new neighborhood for families rise from the rubble of RFK Stadium. The ballot measure we want is alive and well as we are pivoting by resubmitting new language that should pass muster," says ballot initiative proposer Kris Furnish. "The residents of D.C. do not want to see the budgets of essential government programs get slashed, while at the same time see billions in corporate handouts. D.C. residents want to see the RFK site used for affordable housing, public parks, recreational centers, grocery stores, and a monument to D.C. statehood— not another billionaire-backed stadium."

The Homes Not Stadiums campaign is currently drafting revised legislative text that complies with D.C. ballot initiative law for resubmission. Once resubmitted, the subject matter hearing will be rescheduled and two new advisory opinions will be issued. The campaign is also exploring legal action to prevent the use of taxpayer dollars to support stadium construction. To grow awareness and mobilize support citywide, Homes Not Stadiums will soon be putting up campaign posters in all 8 wards of the District.

Should a satisfactory ballot initiative ultimately be prevented from going forward, the campaign is calling upon the DC Council to pass legislation that would let voters decide through a referendum. Ballot initiatives cannot directly influence government spending, but DC Council sponsored referendums can.

"The RFK site belongs to the people — and across all 8 wards people are saying clearly: we need affordable homes, not stadiums, so why not let voters decide?," concluded Furnish.

For more information or to join the campaign, please visit <a href="https://example.com/HomesNotStadiums.org">HomesNotStadiums.org</a> or follow <a href="https://example.com/HomesNotStadiums.org">MotStadiums.org</a> or follow <a href="https://example.com/HomesNotS