

## ADVISORY BOARD ON VETERANS AFFAIRS



### Virtual Meeting Agenda for Wednesday, September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2020

[coronavirus.dc.gov](https://coronavirus.dc.gov)

[ova.dc.gov](https://ova.dc.gov)

#### I. Advisory Board Members Roll Call

#### II. Mayor's Office of Veterans Affairs (MOVA) COVID19 Pandemic Response

(Director Elliot Tommingo – [elliot.tommingo@dc.gov](mailto:elliot.tommingo@dc.gov) 202-724-3856)

##### **Since March 15, 2020, MOVA has been in a virtual operating status (Figure 1):**

- MOVA averages 45 phone calls a day to our three major lines (claims, programs, and general intake), these office lines have been routed to MOVA employee cell phones.
- 116 DC veterans or veteran family members assisted virtually with filing VA claims and appeals. \$235,943 filed in compensation benefits and \$26,645 in retroactive lump sum payments. Since MOVA began claims in Nov 2018, \$1,133,620 in compensation has been awarded and \$82,383 in retroactive payments have occurred.
- 661 DC veterans enrolled in the VetsRide Programs assisted by DOES cooperation for newly unemployed veterans. (Figure 2)
- 39 DC veterans enrolled into the Pathways to Work program, resolving their outstanding traffic tickets and allowing them access to a valid driver license. (attached flier in email)
- 210 DC veterans assisted with transitional housing enrollment, rent and utility emergencies, burial assistance, and legal referrals for DD-214 upgrade reviews.
- Dept of VA updates: C&P Exams have begun in June to allow VA claims decisions.  
<https://benefits.va.gov/compensation/claimexam.asp>
- Dept of VA debt collection has been halted for the remainder of 2020.
- DC Census 2020. Please encourage completion. Census Numbers = Federal Funding. DC is at a 86.5% response, DC is 38<sup>th</sup> out of 56 states and territories. <https://dccensus2020.dc.gov/>

### **III. DC Govt Updates.**

- DC is currently in Phase Two. Full Mayoral Order explaining Phase Two regulations can be found here:

<https://coronavirus.dc.gov/phasetwo>

- Find all veteran specific programs and assistance via MOVA's latest newsletter releases found here:

<https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/DCWASH/bulletins/2893cba>

### **IV: Future Board Meeting Plans:**

-Oct and Nov?

### **V: Board Member Updates / Ideas:**

-Committee Chairs Updates

### **VI: Adjournment**

**Figure 1: MOVA's current operating status**

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## MAYOR'S OFFICE OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

### **Due to COVID-19**

The DC Mayor's Office of Veterans Affairs will provide all services, program enrollment, and outreach through virtual methods.

### **MOVA intake available via Phone:**

General Questions: 202-724-5454

VetsRide Enrollment: 202-724-4010

Claims Assistance: 202-724-7116

**[ova.dc.gov](https://ova.dc.gov)**

**[@dc\\_ova](https://twitter.com/dc_ova)**

**[coronavirus.dc.gov](https://coronavirus.dc.gov)**

**Figure 2: Official VetsRide COVID 19 Expansion Graphic**

#VETSRIIDE

The DC Mayor's Office of Veterans Affairs, Department of For-Hire Vehicles, and Via are expanding the #VETSRIIDE program.

[ In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, eligible DC veterans will receive (10) private ride vouchers, per month, for transport to health and housing appointments, food distribution sites, grocery stores, pharmacies, education, and employment. ]

**Eligibility:** Served in the US Armed Forces, DC resident, and an annual income under \$30,000 or **ANY DC VETERAN RECENTLY UNEMPLOYED.**

**Enrollment:** Mon - Thurs from 10am - 4pm by calling: **202-724-4010**

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[CORONAVIRUS.DC.GOV](https://www.coronavirus.dc.gov)



MAYOR'S OFFICE OF  
VETERANS AFFAIRS



Government of the District of Columbia  
Department of For-Hire Vehicles



GOVERNMENT OF THE  
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
DC MURIEL BOWSER, MAYOR