

Prayer for DC
Rabbi Hannah L. Goldstein
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Mishebereich avoteinu vimoteinu...

May the God who blessed our ancestors bless our city...the District of Columbia.
Bless this Anacostan and Piscataway land, this Chocolate City, our nation's capital.
Our city of history and hope- a beacon of democracy, our home and haven, a pawn,
an experiment, a dream.

Bless our shutdown, worndown, tired city- bruised and battered but still strong.
Bless our city of abundance and also insecurity- bless the hungry, the unhoused, and
the undocumented, the vulnerable and the afraid.

Bless our busriders and busdrivers, bless the old guard and the security guards,
bless our artists and teachers, our civil servants, and restaurant servers, our first
responders and our legal scholars.

Bless our city of Go-Go and Punk Rock, of high heel races, and 4th of July parades.
Of playgrounds and splash pads and farmers markets. Of pupusas and injera and
mambo sauce.

Bless the Washington spirit and the Nationals, and all of our other teams too. Bless
the ticket takers, and concession makers, and bless the fans.

Bless our houses of prayer, our churches and our mosques- from the heights of the
Cathedral to the humble store fronts.

Bless our Jewish spaces from Alabama Ave SE, to 16th St NW. From Porter to
Macomb, to Military Rd. To that corner of 3rd and F st- the Capital Area Jewish
Museum- laden with memory. Bless us all that we may gather in safety and in peace.
Bless this city of strivers and dreamers, and all of the in-betweeners. Bless those
who were called here because we believe in something, and bless the native born.
Bless those who are struggling and searching, bless those who continue to dream.
Watch over us, God, and inspire us to be your partners...in building a city of justice,
of safety, and of love.