

## **Tommy Wells, Director – Office of Policy and Legislative Affairs (OPLA)**

Tommy Wells was appointed Director of the Office of Policy and Legislative Affairs (OPLA) for DC Government in January 2023. Director Wells' career in public service spans more than 30 years. In 1989, he led a successful class action lawsuit, *LaShawn v. Barry*, to address the city's failure to protect children in its care. In 1991, he took the helm of the DC Consortium for Child Welfare, where he helped create neighborhood-based family service collaboratives to coordinate the delivery of city and nonprofit resources to underserved District residents. From 2006 to 2015, Director Wells served as the Ward 6 councilmember on the Council of the District of Columbia, where he garnered broad support for his efforts to make the District more livable and walkable. In 2015, he was appointed DOEE Director where he was responsible for protecting the environment and conserving the natural resources of the District.