



WARD 4
MURIEL
BOWSER COUNCILMEMBER

FOCUS ON



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Summary of meeting with MPD Chief Cathy Lanier

Due to the recent spike in crime in Ward 4, Councilmember Muriel Bowser sat down with MPD Chief Cathy Lanier this week to review the crime statistics, look for trends and discuss initiatives to reduce crime in Ward 4 neighborhoods. Councilmember Bowser and the police Chief reviewed the robbery tactical units and their redeployment throughout the Ward. A number of "Hot Spots" were discussed as well as tactical efforts to eliminate them. Hot Spots are defined as high crime areas including open air drug markets.

A number of the additional resources Mayor Adrian Fenty announced today, aimed at reducing criminal activity, will be deployed in the MPD Fourth District. Specifically, community policing efforts will be enhanced through expanded shotspotter technology - \$1.8 million will be dedicated to expand shotspotter gunshot location technology to various locations around the city rolling out in 3rd and 4th Districts. Shotspotter detects gunfire across large urban areas using a small number of inexpensive and easy-to-deploy sensors.

Councilmember Bowser will continue to stay in close contact with the police and the community to monitor the activity and the results of these initiatives. Please continue to be vigilant especially during the holiday season when crime tends to increase.

Upcoming Events

Ward 4 Education Compact Meeting – New School Initiatives –December 4

Upon hearing about Mayor Fenty and Chancellor Rhee's new education initiatives on Wednesday, Councilmember Muriel Bowser had an emergency conference call with our Ward 4 Education Compact members and ANC Commissioners to review the plan and begin to gather feedback.

As a follow up, Councilmember Muriel Bowser is hosting a Ward 4 Education Compact meeting for Ward 4 on Tuesday, December 4, from 6 - 8 pm at Clark Elementary School, 4501 Kansas Avenue, NW. The purpose of this meeting is to review the education initiatives presented by Chancellor Michelle Rhee and Mayor Adrian Fenty and gather community input on their plans to Renew, Revitalize, and Reorganize DC Public Schools.

The Mayor and the Chancellor's plan includes renewing academic programs such as early childhood education (increasing the quantity and quality of programs for children three to four years old), inclusive and integrated special education, adding additional gifted and talented

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programming at the middle school level, increasing the number of early fine arts programs as well as creating high-tech campuses and increasing science, technology, engineering and math programs for the full Pre-K through 12 grade spectrum. Whittier Elementary and Coolidge High School would become high-tech campuses in this plan and the emphasis on Pre-K to 8th grade feeder patterns at most Ward 4 elementary schools with Shepherd and Lafayette proposed to become PreK to 5th grade and continuing to feed into Deal Middle School. Powell and MacFarland would become Pre-K to 8th grade cluster.

The plan also includes revitalizing the school staffing models to make sure every school has a comprehensive staffing plan. This will include adding academic supports such as media specialists and guidance counselors, wellness support such as social workers and psychologists, enrichment support such as visual arts and music, and administrative support such as business managers and IT staff.

The plan includes a reorganization of school resources. Because many of the District's schools are under-enrolled the plan includes a consolidation of school buildings to better equip the schools and provide rich, quality educational programs. There are two schools in Ward 4, Clark Elementary and Rudolph Elementary, that are proposed to close. The students at Clark would likely go to Barnard and Powell schools and the students at Rudolph would likely go to Barnard and Whittier. West Elementary School is being proposed as a differentiated learning lab school.

Mayor Fenty and Chancellor Rhee will be hosting future meetings about the proposed plan. Please stay tuned in this newsletter for those dates and times. For more information about the plan and the meetings, please call Dr. Gloria Dickerson, Constituent Services Coordinator at 202-724-8052 or email gdickerson@dccouncil.us.

Mayor Fenty's Annual Birthday and Holiday Party – December 6

Mayor Adrian Fenty's birthday party and celebration of the holiday season will be on Thursday, December 6, 2007 from 6:00 – 8:00pm at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center located at 801 Mount Vernon Place, NW in Hall E.

Please call 1-800-233-9331 for more information and to RSVP. Light refreshments will be served. Please bring an unused wrapped toy to be given to a needy child this holiday season.

Councilmember Muriel Bowser's Annual Ward 4 Holiday Party – December 15

Please plan to attend Councilmember Muriel Bowser's Annual Ward 4 Holiday Party on Saturday December 15th from 6 to 8 PM at the Kingsbury Day School, 5000 - 14th Street, NW. Please bring an unwrapped toy, book or game for children ages 2 to 18 years old. Donations of wrapping paper would also be appreciated. Please respond to Lisa Adams, Constituent Services Coordinator, 202-724-8052 or ladams@dccouncil.us.

Resources

DPW and DC Commission on the Arts seek spaces for murals

The Murals DC program will replace illegal graffiti with murals inspired, designed and painted by neighborhood young people. These young artists will develop murals in consultation with professional muralists and with the approval of the business / home owner. The Department of Public Works (DPW) and the DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities is seeking assistance to identify spaces that may be eligible for a mural. Criteria for the pilot year of the program include: Spaces that are privately owned, where the owner has expressed interest in program; Spaces that have chronic graffiti problems; Spaces that are highly visible from street. Please contact Hallie Clemm at DPW at Hallie.Clemm@dc.gov or by fax 202-671-0642 to request a form to submit your recommended sites. Thank you very much for your assistance in making Murals DC a success!