



WARD 4
MURIEL
 BOWSER COUNCILMEMBER

FOCUS ON



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Dear Neighbors:

There are a number of DC Council public oversight hearings and committee markups this week. The complete list of hearings can be found at: <http://dccouncil.us/calendar.html>. The next DC Council legislative session will be on Tuesday, May 6, 2008. I will include highlights of bills to be discussed in next Friday's newsletter.

Muriel

Councilmember Bowser and Mayor Fenty announce release of solicitation for development of 3800 block of Georgia Avenue, NW

This morning, Mayor Adrian M. Fenty and Councilmember Muriel Bowser announced the release of a solicitation for offers for three DC government owned properties to build restaurants and retail stores along the 3800 block of Georgia Avenue, NW. "This is another great step forward to bring much-needed revitalization to Georgia Avenue," said Councilmember Bowser. "Two things are needed to bring development to Georgia Avenue and other Ward 4 corridors—consistent leadership and resources. Today's announcement is evidence that we have both. We have an executive and a council member committed to making things happen on Ward 4's commercial corridors and the resources to make it happen," she added.

The District of Columbia currently owns three properties at 3813 and 3815 Georgia Avenue, NW as well as a vacant lot at 3825-29 Georgia Avenue, NW. Multiple development partners are requested who could turn these properties into retail and restaurants for the Petworth neighborhood. These sites could also include housing, with a requirement that 30% would be affordable. The 3813 and 3815 properties will be treated as a single development opportunity. Proposals will be due during the Summer of 2008 and developers will be chosen by October 2008. An advisory group provided input for the solicitation documents. All proposals will have to comply with the District's recently adopted green building standards.

These projects will join other new mixed-use developments nearing completion above the Petworth Metro Station at 3700 Georgia Avenue, known as Park Place, with 153 condos and 17,000 square feet of retail space with 20% of the units to be sold at less than 60% of the area median income. And also the Georgia Commons at 3910-3912 Georgia Avenue, NW with 19,500 square feet of retail and 130 rental apartments above. The Georgia Commons includes 57 affordable housing units. The Safeway Company previously announced plans to replace the 21,000 square foot store at Georgia Avenue and Randolph Street, NW with a state of the art 55,000 to 60,000 square foot lifestyle store. The store would occupy the ground floor with a multi-story residential building above it. Parking would be provided in an underground parking

garage. The new store will feature floral, service seafood, service meat, organic produce, prepared food and deli departments, a drycleaner, Starbucks, pharmacy and a wide variety of grocery products including organic grocery items.

The solicitation released today is available at: <http://dcbiz.dc.gov/dmped/cwp/view,A,1365,Q,608044.asp>. For more information on the solicitation released today, please contact Sean Madigan at 727-4707 or sean.madigan@dc.gov.

Councilmember Bowser meets with Ward 4 religious leaders

Last Friday, April 18, Councilmember Bowser hosted a brunch with religious leaders from throughout Ward 4 to discuss their priorities for the ward and how the government and the religious groups can work more closely together on a common agenda. The group assembled had a lively conversation about round-the-clock youth outreach, senior citizen housing and affordable housing, homelessness, counseling services, security and parking. The leaders told us about some of the collaborative projects they've completed with DC government such as the new senior citizen housing at North Capitol Street and Riggs Road. The Plymouth Congregational Church and Rev. Graylan Hagler were instrumental in the joint project with HUD and DC government funding. This building is 100% percent subsidized with some tenants paying as little as \$89/month. There was much consensus on the need for additional senior housing. Councilmember Bowser said there will soon be an announcement about the development of a property in Brightwood with a priority in the RFP for senior housing. The leaders gathered were supportive of the initiatives of the DCPS Chancellor to bring wrap-around services back into DCPS schools. Barnard and Truesdale Elementary School will be pilot schools for the human services network. Also a number of churches mentioned they have great relationships with local schools for use of their parking lots on Sunday mornings to alleviate congestion on neighborhood streets. Thank you to the host committee which included: Rev. Robert Childs, Rev. Frank Tucker, Ella C. Peete, Rev. Graylan Hagler and Estelle Lloyd. We look forward to more conversations with the Ward 4 religious leaders. Please stay tuned for announcements of other opportunities for dialogue.

Councilmember Bowser hosted an Age in Place symposium – April 24

More than 200 Ward 4 residents joined Councilmember Muriel Bowser for the Age in Place Symposium yesterday at the Hattie Holmes Senior Wellness Center at 324 Kennedy Street, NW. A big thank you to the sponsors: Barney Neighborhood House, Fannie Mae, the DC Office of Aging and Washington Gas, as well as the over 30 vendors who offered information on a range of services. We gathered leaders from across the aging in place field—home modification experts, geriatric care managers, financial planners, home health care workers, to name a few. Councilmember Bowser is committed to making aging in place a safe and comfortable experience for our Ward 4 seniors. Councilmember Bowser also delivered her State of Ward 4 Seniors address. The address is available on our website at: <http://www.dccouncil.us/Bowser/news.html>.

Also of interest is an upcoming workshop for local builders, contractors and remodelers to become Certified Aging in Place Specialists. A few years ago AARP and the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) created a professional designation called Certified Aging-in-Place Specialist (CAPS) for builders, contractors, and remodelers to assist them in understanding the needs of the 50+ community. The next workshop will be offered at AARP offices in downtown Washington, DC on June 10 and 11. The cost for both classes is at the special rate of \$300, including breakfast, lunch and all course materials. AARP Housing Options is providing scholarships to local builders, contractors, and remodelers especially minority's in the housing industry. Anyone interested in attending should contact Lamont Akins, Housing Options Coordinator at AARP at 202-434-3932 or by email at: LAkins@aarp.org.

The DC Department of Parks and Recreation and the DC Office on Aging are hosting the 25th Annual DC Golden Olympics from May 6 to 9, 2008. There are activities planned all over the city but for the specific schedule of events please visit: <http://newsroom.dc.gov/show.aspx/agency/dpr/section/2/release/6446/year/2006/month/4>.

The following Ward 4 recreation centers will be host to events:

Emery Recreation Center, 5701 Georgia Ave., NW, contact Nichole Williams at 576-7134.

Ft. Stevens Senior Recreation Center, 1327 Van Buren St., NW, contact Louis P. Jones at 541-3753

Lamond Recreation Center, 20 Tuckerman St., NE, contact Vanecia Davis at 576-9542

WalkingTown, DC - Two Ward 4 Tours – April 26-27

This weekend Cultural Tourism DC is sponsoring 80 free walking tours (and a few bike tours) in 18 neighborhoods across Washington, DC. There are 2 walking tours in Ward 4 (in addition to the bike tour which will travel through all 8 wards):

Tours of the “Victory at Fort Stevens” will begin at 10 AM on Saturday April 26 and again at 1:30 PM and should last about 1.5 hours. Meet at Fort Stevens Battleground at 13th and Peabody Streets, NW and end at Battleground National Cemetery at 6625 Georgia Avenue. This will be led and presented by members of the Brightwood Community Association.

A tour of Takoma, DC and Takoma Park, MD will be led by Historic Takoma, Inc and will begin on Sunday April 27 at 10 AM. Meet at the Takoma Metro Station and explore the residential and commercial areas of this community founded by B.F. Gilbert in 1884. The tour spans both sides of the DC and Maryland boundary stopping at one of the few remaining 1791 boundary stones marking the federal border.

For more information and a complete list of the walking tours, please visit the website www.walkingtowndc.org.

WASA hearing – May 1

The District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority (DC WASA) will host a formal public hearing on its review of the Lead Service Replacement (LSR) program on Thursday, May 1, 2008. The hearing will be held from 6:30 pm-8:30 pm at the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, 777 North Capitol St, NE (first floor training room).

The Board is reviewing options to continue its accelerated LSR program or to modify the program with an extended schedule. The goal of the current LSR program is to remove all 35,000 known public lead water service lines in the District by 2016 at a cost of more than \$400 million. The service line is the pipe that brings water from the main in the street to the home. To date, DC WASA has removed more than 14,600 lines in public space.

Additional information is available on DC WASA's website (www.dcwasa.com) and upon request by phone or email at the number and email address listed below. Each individual or representative of an organization who wishes to present testimony at the public hearing is requested to furnish his or

her name, address, telephone number and the name of organization (if any) by calling (202) 787-2330 or emailing the request to: Imanley@dcwasa.com no later than 5:00 pm, Tuesday, April 29, 2008. Oral presentations by individuals will be limited to five (5) minutes. Oral presentations made by representatives of an organization are limited to ten (10) minutes.

Save the Date – Ward 4 Family Fun Night at Carter Barron – May 31

Please save Saturday May 31 (June 1 rain date) for the 8th Annual Ward 4 Family Fun Night followed by a FREE performance of The Shakespeare Theatre's production of “Hamlet” at the 18th Annual Shakespeare Theatre Company Free For All. The family fun night will be from 4:30 p.m. - 6:45 p.m. at the Carter Barron Amphitheatre at 16th Street and Colorado Avenue NW, Washington, DC and “Hamlet” by William Shakespeare directed by Alexander Burns (original direction by Michael Kahn) will begin at 7:30 p.m. Stay tuned for more details in the coming weeks.