



WARD 4
MURIEL
BOWSER COUNCILMEMBER

FOCUS ON



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Dear Neighbors,

On January 2, I was sworn in for my first full four year term as your Councilmember for Ward 4. This was made even more special because Superior Court Chief Judge and Ward 4 resident Lee F. Satterfield presided; I was also joined by my family.

My remarks after taking the oath focused on how honored I was to have been re-elected to continue working for improvements in Ward 4. We have already begun to work on our commercial corridors, improving our schools, and neighborhoods. There is still much to be done and I intend to work with you every day to make sure Ward 4 is the best!

I was also honored to have the opportunity to swear in our Advisory Neighborhood Commissioners. I look forward to working with them on all issues affecting their single member districts as well as the entire ward.

After the ceremony, many of you joined me for an open house in my new office – Suite 110 – to celebrate my new term. We had the opportunity to have informal conversations, meet new friends and members of the Ward 4 family.

With my new term, I am now Chair of the Committee on Public Services and Consumer Affairs and sit on the following committees Public Safety and the Judiciary, Public Works and Transportation, Human Services and Economic Development.

Muriel

Visit Our New Office

Councilmember Muriel Bowser's office has moved from Suite 406 on the fourth floor, to Suite 110 on the first floor of the John A. Wilson Building, 1350 Pennsylvania Ave NW. Our telephone numbers and e-mail addresses have all remained the same. The office hours are from 8:30am-5:00pm. We look forward to serving you this year.

Trash collection update

Our office has received a number of complaints about missed trash pick ups this week. Please be advised that we are compiling a list in our office and we will discuss with the DPW Director about correcting any problems with the new routing. Please do the following if you have a missed pick-up: 1) Call 311 or go on-line through www.dc.gov (this helps us determine systemic problems) and 2) call or email my office. We will work with DPW to address this issue immediately. E-Mail missed collections to [Judi Gold at jgold@dccouncil.us](mailto:jgold@dccouncil.us).

Legislative corner

Here are some highlights from Tuesday's legislative session, which began Council period 18.

During the first legislative meeting of Council period 18 Councilmember Bowser along with Councilmember Cheh introduced legislation designed to establish new regulations for the city's vendors. This legislation is vital with the impending Inauguration of President Barack Obama and Vice-President Joe Biden. This legislation will ensure that vendors vend only from designated locations. Additionally, to authorize the Mayor to charge fees for licenses and other authorizations to vend from public space.

The Council also passed emergency legislation with a vote of 9-4 to take away the subpoena power of the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD). Mayor Adrian M. Fenty recently gave MPD this power as a crime fighting tool. Councilmember Bowser did not favor stripping the police of this power as the city faces upticks in violent crime. Councilmember Bowser preferred that the Council not move on an emergency basis, but hold a hearing then act. Councilmember Bowser opposed this measure along with Councilmembers Evans, Graham and Wells.

Upcoming Council Hearing:

Saturday, January 10: 10:30 am, Council Chamber, Room 500, Committee of the Whole, Vincent C. Gray, Chairman, Agenda item: "Youth Issues".

Council Administrative Meeting Tuesday, January 13, 10:00 am.

Next Legislative Meeting: February 3, 10:00 am, Room 500.

Please visit the new DC Council website for more details at: www.dccouncil.us.

DCPS community forum

The Chancellor of the District of Columbia Public Schools (DCPS) will host three community forums on the proposed revisions to Student Discipline, Chapter 25 of DCMR Title V. The forums will be held on Thursday, January 8th, 2009 at Hart Middle School, Tuesday, January 13th, 2009 at Columbia Heights Education Campus and on Wednesday, January 28th, 2009 at Sousa Middle School. All meetings will begin at 6:00 pm.

The purpose of the community forums is to solicit input from the public on the proposed revisions to Student Discipline, Chapter 25. If you can not attend the forums but wish to provide written comments regarding the proposed revisions may submit comments to: Mr. Chad Ferguson, Office of Youth Engagement, DCPS, 825 North Capitol Street, NE, 8th Floor, Washington, D.C. 20002, or by email to DCPSChapter25@dc.gov, no later than 5:00 p.m., February 17, 2009.

Copies of the proposed revisions are available at local DCPS schools or online http://www.k12.dc.us/chancellor/schedule_forums.htm. For more information contact Jennifer Nguyen at jennifer.nguyen@dc.gov or 202-442-5191.

Humanities Council Grants available

The Humanities Council announced a Request for Proposals for projects focused on D.C. culture, history, and civic engagement. The project may center on a wide range of ideas and issues, and can come from communities across the District. These topics may include a variety of humanities-based disciplines; from history and anthropology to literature and art history and criticisms; and can be presented in a range of formats from video documentaries, to oral history projects, to a resource manual for your community.

Major Grants range from \$1501 to \$5000. Letters of Intent for Major Grants are due February 2, 2009.

Small Grants for up to \$1500 are also available and do not require a Letter of Intent. Applications for Small Grants are due March 2, 2009. The Humanities Council is offering workshops at six locations across the District. It is recommended that all who are interesting in applying for a Humanities Council grant attend one of the workshops beginning, January 12-January 26. For additional information on Humanities Council Grants or workshops visit: <http://wdchumanities.org> or by sending an email to: grants@wdchumanities.org.

Register now for DC Youth Orchestra

The DC Youth Orchestra Program (www.dcyop.org) is now registering students for the spring session, which begins January 24. If you sign up by January 10, you'll get the early bird discount, which means 15 weeks of music instruction for \$225 (\$260 for non-DC residents) – that's \$15/week!

DCYOP offers beginning, intermediate, and advanced music instruction for ages 4½-19 for violin, viola, cello, string bass, flute, oboe, clarinet, saxophone, bassoon, trumpet, French horn, trombone, tuba, percussion, recorder, harp, and beginning guitar. All DC area students, all levels are welcome. For more information and/or to register online, go to www.dcyop.org, call 723-1612 or e-mail info@dcyop.org. DCYOP has been providing music education to our community since 1960.

DCYOP classes are held at Coolidge High School in NW DC, Sheridan & 5th Streets, NW. Enter from the parking lot at the rear of the building off Sheridan. Most classes are on Saturdays. Stop by Coolidge any Saturday morning/early afternoon to see the program in action.

Ft. Totten Moving Forward

Join Mayor Adrian M. Fenty and Councilmember Muriel Bowser to announce next steps in the Ft. Totten development at Riggs Road & South Dakota Avenue. Friday, January 9, 2008, 10:30 am, 300 Riggs Road NE (date & time subject to change).