



WARD 4
MURIEL
BOWSER COUNCILMEMBER

FOCUS ON



December 23, 2008

IN THIS ISSUE ...

Holiday Greetings

DSLBD Micro Loan Program funds available!

DPW holiday schedule

DPR holiday hours

Metro to discontinue paper transfers- January

Muriel Bowser

Councilmember, Ward 4

Council of the District of Columbia

1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, Suite 406

Washington DC 20004

202-724-8052-voice

202-741-0908

mbowser@dccouncil.us

Seasons Greetings!

Yesterday, I had the privilege of sharing the holiday spirit with Ward 4 students by giving them new winter coats and toys. I would like to thank the Ward 4 Cares committee as well as the Hattie Holmes Senior Wellness Center which is located at 324 Kennedy Street NW, for allowing us to host Ward 4 families as they picked up their new winter coats and toys.

To my neighbors, friends, and the entire Ward 4 family you have my warmest wishes for a happy holiday season and a prosperous New Year! In 2008 we had great momentum I know for sure that we will keep that momentum in the upcoming year. I look forward to a prosperous 2009 and continuing to "Move Ward 4 Forward" in the New Year. Again, I wish you and your families the happiest holiday season and New Year.

Muriel

DSLBD Micro Loan Program funds available!

The DC Department of Small and Local Business Development (DSLBD) introduced a pilot Micro Loan Program for the current fiscal year. Beginning Monday, December 22, applications and further guidelines will be available online at dslbd.dc.gov.

In order to apply for DSLBD's Micro Loan Program, businesses must be certified by the Department of Small and Local Business Development as Certified Business Enterprises (CBEs) that are designated as "small," "disadvantaged," or "resident-owned." Businesses must qualify in all three certification categories to apply.

Other requirements for Micro Loan Program include, but are not limited to, the following: Businesses are independently owned, operated, and controlled; businesses have been in existence for at least three years; businesses have a current Certificate of Good Standing from the Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs; and a Certificate of Clean Hands from the Office of Tax and Revenue.

You may find more information about DSLBD, including its certification program, online at www.dslbd.dc.gov. More information about the Microloan Fund Program will be posted online as soon as it becomes available. To contact the Department of Small and Local Business Development by phone, please call 202-727-3900.

DPW Holiday Schedule

On Christmas Day, Thursday, December 25 the Department of Public Works (DPW) will be closed. All services will resume Friday, December 26. Thursday's trash and recycling collections will be made on Friday, December 26 and Friday's collection will occur on Saturday, December 27. Trash and recycling containers should be put out for collection no earlier than 6:30 pm the night before collection and removed from public space by 8 pm on the day(s) of collection. On New Year's Day Thursday, January 1, 2009 DPW will be closed. All services will resume Friday, January 2, 2009.

Holiday tree collection begins January 2–11, 2009 residents who receive DC trash collection service are encouraged to place holiday trees and other greenery in curbside tree boxes—without ornaments or tinsel—by January 2, 2009. Trees not collected by January 17 should be placed with your regular trash. DPW will collect the trees, along with the regular trash, as truck space permits over the following weeks. Residents also can take trees to the Ft. Totten Transfer Station 4900 Bates Road, NE weekdays, 1 pm-5 pm, and Saturdays, 8 am-3 pm, for free tree chipping.

DPR Holiday Hours

Please note that all DC Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) centers will close at 6 pm on Christmas Eve, December 24 and will be closed Christmas Day, December 25. All DPR centers in observance of the New Year holiday will close at 6 pm New Year's Eve, December 31 and closed New Year's Day, January 1. All DPR centers will resume regular hours on January 2, 2009. For more information contact DPR customer service (202) 673-7647.

Metro to discontinue paper transfers- January 4

Beginning January 4, 2009, the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (Metro) will no longer issue or accept paper transfers for travel in the Metro system. As of that date, customers will need a SmarTrip card to make free bus-to-bus transfers or to transfer from Metrorail to Metrobus or Metrobus to Metrorail for a discounted fare. In addition, the time period during which transfers are valid will increase, from two to three hours. For more information, or to find out how to buy a SmarTrip card, please visit www.MetroOpensDoors.com or call 202-637-7000.

Dates to remember:

Council recess is December 23-31, 2008. Our offices will be closed December 24-26. We will reopen Monday, December 29, 2008.

Pleas join us at the Swearing-in Ceremony- Council of the District Columbia, State Board of Education, and Advisory Neighborhood Commissioners January 2, 2009, Walter Washington Convention Center.

The first Legislative Meeting for Council Period 18- January 6, 2009.