



WARD 4
MURIEL
BOWSER COUNCILMEMBER

FOCUS ON



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Dear Neighbors:

The last Committee of the Whole meeting for DC Council is Tuesday, July 15, 2008. This is the last session until September. Here are some highlights of issues to be considered:

★ Kennedy Street Revitalization Plan Approval Resolution of 2008, PR 17-0781, and the Upper Georgia Avenue Great Streets Redevelopment Plan PR17-0792 each plan will lay out a strategic land use plan that will help guide development and growth in these areas over the next 5-10 years. These plans suggest a vision for these commercial corridors that will make them destination places that are pedestrian friendly and provide for the density where businesses can thrive. Many residents and ANC Commissioners testified at the June 10th hearing for these plans.

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

Muriel

Congratulations teachers, parents and students on improved student test scores!

Councilmember Muriel Bowser congratulates teachers, parents and students for their hard work and commitment to improve students' test scores. Earlier this week, DCPS announced that the number of schools making adequate yearly progress (AYP) in reading and math under the federal No Child Left Behind law rose to 47 from 31 and that DCPS students made significant achievement gains during the past academic year.

Spring test results showed that the percentage of elementary school students proficient in reading is up eight points and eleven points in math and the percentage of secondary students scoring proficient was up nine points in both categories.

With significant changes made in school reform during the 2007-2008 school year, teachers, parents and students were confronted with a great deal of change. Despite these changes, they continued to work diligently to improve academic achievement. Congratulations again, enjoy the rest of the Summer and we look forward to even greater academic achievements this Fall!

Hospitality High School report card for June 2008

The Hotel Association of Washington, DC recently reported that the Hospitality Public Charter High School located at Roosevelt Senior High School had a 92% college acceptance rate, a 100% scholarship rate and a 95% graduation rate. Congratulations Hospitality High! Given our city's position as a host to visitors from all over the world, the hospitality industry is essential to the economy of our city. I'm pleased that Hospitality High School, a state of the art facility, is educating our young people and providing them with the knowledge and skills necessary to welcome the many visitors who come to see the history and the beauty of our city. More information about the Hospitality High School program can be found at www.hawdc.com or by calling 202-289-0584.

WMATA/DDOT meeting on 16th Street bus improvements – July 15

WMATA and DDOT are hosting a meeting on Tuesday, July 15, 2008 from 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm at the St Stephen and the Incarnation Episcopal Church at 16th and Newton Streets NW about improvements to the transit service on the S1, S2, and S4 routes between Silver Spring and downtown DC. Councilmember Muriel Bowser will host a separate meeting with DDOT officials for the Ward 4 community about transportation issues along the 16th Street corridor in the coming weeks. We will post the details in this newsletter and on the Ward 4 listservs.

A survey was taken with the bus ridership earlier this Spring and the public meeting will identify issues related to the 16th Street Line, listen to comments and suggestions about ways to make improvements, and discuss the preliminary results of the rider survey.

The meeting will begin with an open house from 6:30 to 7:00, during which participants can review project materials and speak individually with members of the study team. There will then be a brief presentation to inform participants about the study. Following the presentation there will be a breakout session where participants will split up into smaller groups at tables to discuss challenges facing the 16th Street bus lines and potential solutions. A member of the study team will be present at each table to facilitate the discussion. And finally, participants will report back to the larger group what was discussed at their table.

In the coming months, the study team will conduct a technical analysis of the 16th Street Line. The analysis, combined with what was learned at the public meeting, will form a set of recommendations to improve transit service along the line. The recommendations will be presented at the second public meeting, which will likely take place in September 2008. For more information about the study, please visit: www.metrobus-16th-dc.com.

Free vision and hearing clinic for children – July 15

The Prevention of Blindness Society of Metropolitan Washington® (POB) in partnership with the District of Columbia Public Schools (DCPS) will offer a free vision and hearing summer clinic to Metropolitan Washington school children on Tuesday, July 15 from 9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. at Shaw Junior High School, 925 Rhode Island Avenue, NW, Washington, DC. Walk-ins are welcome but appointments are preferred. For an appointment, please call (202) 234-1010.

DCPS will provide audiologists to conduct hearing screenings. POB will provide its Children's Vision Screening Team to conduct visual acuity and strabismus screenings. Volunteer ophthalmologists will examine the children who require glasses or other medical care, and POB's eyeglasses clinic will provide free eyeglasses to those children who need them.

Petworth Library to undergo renovations

The Petworth Neighborhood Library at 4200 Kansas Avenue, NW will undergo comprehensive renovations beginning in the late Fall 2008. The renovations are expected to be completed by Fall 2009 and will include window and exterior door restoration, selective masonry repointing and cleaning, roof repairs, new lighting, improved ADA access at the main entrance and extensive landscape enhancements. The project is fully funded and the library will remain open throughout. For more information, please contact Archie Williams at DCPL at 202-727-1101 or at archie.williams@dc.gov.

Important dates for the Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) elections

The Advisory Neighborhood Commissions (ANC) consider a wide range of policies and programs affecting their neighborhoods, including traffic, parking, recreation, street improvements, liquor licenses, zoning, economic development, police protection, sanitation and trash collection, and the District's annual budget.

In each of these areas, the intent of the ANC legislation was to ensure input from an advisory board that is made up of the residents of the neighborhoods that are directly affected by government action. The ANCs are the body of government with the closest official ties to the people in a neighborhood.

ANC commissioners are non-partisan, volunteer positions who serve for two-year terms. People interested in running for ANC commissioner positions can pick up petitions beginning Wednesday, August 6, 2008. Petitions are due September 5, 2008. Petitions must contain the signatures of not less than 25 duly registered voters who are residents of the Single Member District from which the candidate seeks election. The election of ANC commissioners will be on the general ballot in November. More information is available at: www.dcboee.org.