



WARD 4  
**MURIEL**  
BOWSER COUNCILMEMBER

**FOCUS ON**



*January 4, 2008*

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## **Dear Neighbors:**

I have heard from many people about DC Public School Chancellor Michelle Rhee's revitalization plans. In preparation for the DC Council hearing on January 14 about the Chancellor's plan, I am hosting another Ward 4 Education Compact meeting on Monday January 7th at 6 PM in the Coolidge High School Parent Resource Room #134. For more information, please contact Dr. Gloria Dickerson, Constituent Services Coordinator, on my staff at 202-724-8052.

The DC Council will have a legislative session on Tuesday January 8th. Here are a few of the proposed bills which will have a final reading and final vote:

- "Non-Resident Taxi Driver Registration Amendment Act of 2007", Bill 17-0113
- "Bicycle Registration Reform Act of 2007", Bill 17-0091
- "Small Business Commercial Property Tax Relief Act of 2007", Bill 17-0020
- "SafeRx Act of 2007", Bill 17-0364
- "Public Education Personnel Reform Amendment Act of 2007", Bill 17-0450.

Also there will be a ceremonial resolution presented to recognize posthumously the Honorable Hilda Howland Mason.

Reminder that the DC Council will hold a public oversight hearing on the closure of DC Public Schools on Monday January 14, 2008 at 10 AM in the Council Chambers on the 5th Floor in the John A. Wilson Building at 1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW.

I hope this is helpful information and please visit the DC Council website for more details at: [www.dccouncil.us](http://www.dccouncil.us).

*Muriel*

### **Metro fare increase beginning January 6, 2008**

As you may know, the Metro Board of Directors approved a fare increase to take effect on January 6th.

**Metrorail:** There will not be an increase in Metrorail fares during off-peak times. The increase will only affect peak period fares. Peak charges apply from 5 am to 9:30 am and from 3 pm to 7 pm Monday through Friday and from 2 am to 3 am on weekends. The increase to the boarding fare will be \$.30 or to go one stop the new fare will be \$1.65. If you travel between 3 and 6 additional miles the fare will increase by \$.04 and the fare for traveling more than 6 miles will increase by \$.035.

The senior/disabled fare is one-half the peak period regular fare at all times. For example, the peak period boarding fare will be \$.80 and the maximum fare will be \$2.25 for seniors and disabled customers.

The District of Columbia Public School student Metrorail pass will increase to \$8 for 10 trips. The SmartStudent pass, which allows DCPS students unlimited bus and rail transportation for one month, will increase to \$26.

**Metrobus:** On January 6, 2008, it will cost \$1.35 to board a Metrobus if you are paying cash. If you pay using a SmarTrip card, the fare will remain \$1.25.

**Transfers:** After January 6th, if you use a SmarTrip card it will cost \$.35 to transfer from Metrorail to Metrobus (no change) and you will not need a paper transfer. If you use a paper transfer and cash, the transfer will cost \$.45. Paper transfers will continue to be available for rail-to-bus and bus-to-bus transfers. After a one-year transition period, transfers will only be available using a SmarTrip card. Once the transition period has ended, the length of bus transfers will be extended from two to three hours.

**MetroAccess:** There will be no charge to fares charged for MetroAccess services.

**Parking:** The daily parking fees at Metrorail stations will increase by \$.75. Meter parking fees will increase from \$.25 for 45 minutes of parking to \$1.00 per hour. In February 2008, monthly reserved parking will increase by \$10 to \$55 per month.

The bicycle locker rental rate will stay at \$70/year.

### **Come volunteer with Councilmember Bowser and the Ward 4 Cares Committee on January 21!**

Councilmember Muriel Bowser and the Ward 4 Cares Committee would like residents to volunteer with us on Martin Luther King Day – Monday, January 21 – at the Roosevelt Senior High School at 4301 13th Street, NW from 8:30 am to 12 noon to help with painting inspirational quotes and murals throughout the school (including a mural dedicated to Washington Redskins player Sean Taylor), building benches and bookshelves, transforming multiple classrooms and lounges and other projects. Even if you aren't a carpenter or painter, please come join us for this celebration of Dr. King's legacy by turning community concerns into citizen action. Please let us know if we can count on you that day by calling Lisa Adams, Constituent Services Coordinator at 724-8052 or by email [ladams@dccouncil.us](mailto:ladams@dccouncil.us).

## **Resources**

### **Shepherd Park Library will be closed January 7th and 8th**

The Juanita E. Thornton / Shepherd Park Library at 7420 Georgia Avenue, NW will be closed on January 7th and 8th, 2008 for roof replacement. The Library will re-open on Wednesday, January 9, 2008.

For more information, please contact Archie D. Williams, Intergovernmental Affairs Specialist, DC Public Library, 901 G Street, NW, Room 405, Washington, DC 20001 Tel. (202) 727-1437 Fax (202) 727-1129 [archie.williams@dc.gov](mailto:archie.williams@dc.gov).

### **Brightwood Investment Strategy Workshop – January 10**

There will be a workshop on the Brightwood Investment Strategy for the Neighborhood Investment Fund (NIF) on Thursday, January 10, 2008 from 6:30pm-8:30pm at the Emory Beacon of Light, 6120 Georgia Avenue, NW (downstairs in the fellowship hall). The goal of this workshop is to discuss NIF programs, goals, the community planning process and to provide input on the community investment plan

The Neighborhood Investment Fund (NIF) is an annual non-lapsing, revolving fund to finance economic development and neighborhood revitalization efforts in 12 target neighborhoods. The fund is intended to support a diverse range of projects that will make investments in community facilities, affordable housing, job training, and education. NIF also facilitates creative partnerships among District agencies, the non-profit sector and private investment. For more information please contact: Malaika Abernathy,

Neighborhood Planning Coordinator, Ward 4, DC Office of Planning, 801 North Capitol Street, NE Suite 4000, Washington, DC 20002, Phone: 202-442-7600, Fax: 202-442-7638, E-mail: malaika.abernathy@dc.gov.

### **Save the date – Community preview of new Meridian Restaurant at the Lofts at Brightwood – January 14th**

Please save Monday January 14th at 7 PM for a community preview of the new Meridian Restaurant in the Lofts at Brightwood at the corner of Georgia and Missouri Avenues, NW. Stay tuned for more information in this newsletter.