



WARD 4
MURIEL
BOWSER COUNCILMEMBER

FOCUS ON



May 2, 2008

IN THIS ISSUE ...

DC Council legislative meeting agenda - May 6

DPW to conduct additional Hazardous Waste Collections – May 3

New Ward 4 Planner for DDOT

Takoma House and Garden Tour – May 4

Shepherd Park Garden Tour – May 18

Small Business Award Program – nominations accepted until May 30

Ward 4 Family Fun Night at Carter Barron – May 31

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

Dear Neighbors:

The next DC Council legislative session will be on Tuesday, May 6, 2008. Here are some highlights of the legislative issues to be considered:

There will be a final reading and final vote on:

- ★ Nuisance Properties Abatement Reform and Real Property Classification Amendment Act of 2008, Bill 17-0086, will eliminate the duplicate roles of DCRA and the Office of Tax and Revenue when determining whether a property is vacant and speed up the process by which a property can be declared vacant. It also doubles the vacant property tax rate from \$5 per \$100 of assessed value to \$10 per \$100 of assessed value.
- ★ Motor Vehicle Theft Protection Act of 2007, Bill 17-0138 w/amendments, which will establish the District of Columbia Motor Vehicle Theft Prevention Commission and a Motor Vehicle Theft Prevention Fund to reduce motor vehicle theft in the District of Columbia.
- ★ Street Sweeping Improvement Enforcement Amendment Act of 2007, Bill 17-0396, which will authorize use of an automated parking enforcement system and allow recorded images of parking violations to be submitted, and allow notices of infractions generated by an automated parking enforcement system to be served by mail.
- ★ Omnibus Domestic Partnership Equality Amendment Act of 2008, Bill 17-0135, w/amendments which will grant domestic partners standing as god parents and kinship caregivers in order to aid the prevention of child abuse and neglect.
- ★ Pre-K for All DC Amendment Act of 2008, Bill 17-0537, which will establish a voluntary high quality pre-k program to provide 2,000 new Pre-Kindergarten classroom slots within 6 years and will ensure that all 3 and 4-year olds who reside in the District have an opportunity to participate in high quality Pre-Kindergarten settings.
- ★ Omnibus Alcoholic Beverage Amendment Act of 2007, Bill 17-0528, which will strengthen the ABC Board's enforcement authority to fine for ABC violations and take enforcement action for not cooperating with MPD officers and ABRA investigators; to clarify the quantity of alcohol that may be shipped into the District of Columbia; to require nightclubs to submit security plans with their license applications.

There will be a first reading on proposed legislation:

- ★ Wards 4, 7, and 8 Anti-Sale of Single Containers of Alcoholic Beverages Amendment Act of 2008, Bill 17-0532, which combines Councilmember Bowser's legislation to eliminate the sunset date (September 30, 2008) on the moratorium of the sale of individual

containers of beer, malt liquor or ale, with the Ward 7 and Ward 8 Single Sales legislation to effectively create a moratorium in each of those wards.

“I have heard from residents, ANC Commissioners and members of the Metropolitan Police Department all over Ward 4 about how effective the Ward 4 Single Sales Moratorium has been to eliminate litter, public drunkenness and other quality of life issues,” said Councilmember Bowser. “I look forward to its continuation.”

- ★ Noise Control Protection Amendment Act of 2008, Bill 17-0177, which will permit noise made during noncommercial public speaking during the daytime to be considered a noise disturbance if it otherwise satisfies the definition of a noise disturbance and exceeds 70 decibels when measured at a distance of 50 feet from the source of the noise and also to specify that the measurement of the decibel level of a noise can be found to be a noise disturbance if the noise is made at night or does not involve noncommercial public speaking.

I hope this is helpful information and please visit the DC Council website for more details at: www.dccouncil.us.

Muriel

DPW to conduct additional Hazardous Waste Collections – May 3

The DC Department of Public Works announced that it will conduct an additional Household Hazardous Waste/E-cycling collection event TOMORROW Saturday May 3 from 9 AM to 3 PM at RFK Stadium, Lot 7, to accommodate District residents who did not get a chance to participate in last Saturday’s semi-annual event at Carter Barron.

RFK Stadium, Lot 7 is located at 2400 East Capitol St., SE. If driving west on East Capitol St., stay in the right lane to reach the Lot 7 entrance gate. If driving east on East Capitol St., make a left on 19th St. then a right on C St. and use the C Street Entrance.

Also beginning Saturday, May 17, DPW will provide weekly HHW/e-cycling collections for District residents on Saturdays at the Benning Road Trash Transfer Station, 3200 Benning Road, NE, 8 am to 3 pm. Later this summer, Saturday HHW/e-cycling drop-offs will begin at the Ft. Totten Trash Transfer Station.

Councilmember Muriel Bowser has asked DPW to look into additional days of the week (other than Saturdays) which conflicts with some residents’ religious observations. We will post that information as soon as it is available. For more information about DPW’s collection programs please call 311 or visit www.dc.gov.

New Ward 4 Planner for DDOT

DDOT Director Emeka Moneme has notified us that he has appointed an Acting Transportation Planner for Ward 4. As you may already now, many exciting transportation related developments are occurring in Ward 4. We are pleased to welcome Anna Chamberlin to this very important role. She has told us that she has spent some time familiarizing herself with recent projects completed, current projects and the schedule for upcoming projects. We look forward to working together to better accommodate the needs of Ward 4 residents. You can reach Ms. Chamberlin at: Anna Chamberlin, Acting Transportation Planner, Ward 4, Transportation Policy and Planning Administration, District Department of Transportation, desk: (202) 671-2218, fax: (202) 671-0617I, anna.chamberlin@dc.gov.

Takoma House and Garden Tour – May 4

The 35th Annual Takoma House and Garden Tour will be held this Sunday, May 4 from 1-5 pm. Thirteen properties including houses, gardens and two public buildings, all of them in the Takoma DC neighborhood, are included on the Tour. The Tour theme this year is "First Stop Takoma! and is easily walkable and begins near the Takoma Metro stop.

Tickets purchased in advance are \$15 and are available at Now and Then, American Craft, Mark's Kitchen, SSTP Coop and the Culture Shop.

On the day of the Tour tickets are \$20 and can only be purchased at the Tour booth on the lawn of the DC Public Library at 5th and Cedar Streets NW (located two blocks west of the Takoma Metro station). The Tour is sponsored by Historic Takoma, Inc. For more information contact www.historictakoma.org or 301 270 283.

Shepherd Park Garden Tour – May 18

The 4th Annual Shepherd Park Garden Tour will be held on Sunday May 18, 2008 from 1-4pm and will feature five to seven new gardens in Shepherd Park, Colonial Village and North Portal Estates. This is a self guided tour and tickets are available for purchase (\$15 or \$7 for Shepherd Park Citizens Association members) on line or on the day of the tour at Shepherd Elementary School at the corner of 14th and Kalmia Streets, NW. For more information and advanced ticket purchase please visit <http://shepherdpark.org/Garden2008/index.html>. Also please see the April 26th Washington Post article about the upcoming tour: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2008/04/25/AR2008042501629.html>.

Small Business Award Program – nominations accepted until May 30

Continuing Councilmember Muriel Bowser's support for small businesses, she encourages all Ward 4 businesses in the three categories below to apply for the Washington, DC Economic Partnership's 2008 Small Business Awards Program. If you feel like your small business is "The Best Kept Secret in DC", then nominate your business, or another deserving business, today. Nominations are being accepted in three categories: Small Business of the Year, 100 Year-Old Business of the Year and Business Initiative of the Year (for government agency or nonprofit organization).

Winners will be announced at the 2008 Business Premier Small Business Awards breakfast on Wednesday, July 30, 2008 at the Willard Intercontinental. The deadline for submitting nominations is Friday, May 30th, 2008. Nominations will only be accepted via email to businesspremier@wdcep.com and can be downloaded at www.wdcep.com/pdf/pres/bpawardapp.doc. For more information on the event, please contact Natalie Cofield at 202/661-8679 or ncofield@wdcep.com.

Ward 4 Family Fun Night at Carter Barron – May 31

Councilmember Muriel Bowser invites you to join her on 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.

The Shakespeare Theatre Company is happy to reserve up to eight general admission tickets per household to the play. Your tickets will be held at the Carter Barron Box Office. Ward 4 Family Fun Night will be at a large tent in the grassy area to the north of Stage Road that will be easily seen from the Carter Barron parking lot. The barbeque begins at 4:30 p.m., general admission seating in the Amphitheatre begins at approximately 7:00 p.m. Please note that audience members line up early to get the best general admission seats. To reserve your free tickets please go to: http://www.shakespearetheatre.org/about/ffa/ward_four.aspx.

Food and drink will be provided. In the event of rain on May 31, please call Kristen Barden at 202-841-2813 after 1:30 PM to find out the status of the picnic.

For more information about Hamlet please visit: www.ShakespeareTheatre.org. Please join us as we kick off another great Summer in Ward 4!