

Legislative Corner

I am honored to serve as Chair of the Committee on Public Services and Consumer Affairs for Council Period 18. The Committee is responsible for matters related to consumer and regulatory affairs, public utility regulation, tenant advocacy and protection and the regulation of banking securities and the insurance industry. The Committee has oversight of the following agencies and commissions:

- ★ Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs
- ★ Department of Insurance, Securities, and Banking
- ★ Office of the People's Counsel
- ★ Public Service Commission
- ★ Office of the Tenant Advocate
- ★ Board of Consumer Claims Arbitration for the District of Columbia
- ★ Professional Licensing Boards

Additionally, I sit on the following committees:

- ★ Economic Development
- ★ Public Safety and the Judiciary
- ★ Public Works and Transportation
- ★ Human Services

Last year, I supported dozens of measures that affect our day to day quality of life in the District of Columbia. Here are a few highlights:

- ★ I joined with Chairman Vincent C. Gray along with all the members of the Council in introducing the **Sense of the Council in Opposition to Acts of Hate Resolution of 2008** to reaffirm the Council's position on all acts of hate. This legislation makes certain that all individuals within the community are treated with dignity.
- ★ Introduced the **Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Detector Program Amendment Act of 2008** to require the Mayor to develop an annual program to test and install smoke and carbon monoxide detectors and batteries in the homes of District residents and educate residents about the use of smoke detectors.
- ★ Introduced the **Senior Housing Modernization Grant Fund Act of 2008** that requires the Mayor to make grants from the Fund to qualified senior citizens who live in an area affected by a planned unit development for repairs and improvements to their single family dwellings.
- ★ Introduced the **Targeted Ward 4 Moratorium Extension Act of 2008** to eliminate the sale of



Councilmember Bowser in Denver CO. at a voting rights rally with Chairman Vincent Gray, Councilmember Jack Evans and the DC Delegation.

- individual containers of beer, malt liquor or ale in certain areas throughout Ward 4. This legislation is in step with keeping our streets safer and litter free and improving our neighborhoods.
- ★ Introduced the **Ward 4 Neighborhood Investment Fund Boundary Expansion Amendment Act of 2008** to expand the boundaries of the Neighborhood Investment Fund to make sure revitalization is being brought to every corner of Ward 4. This extension will make non-profits in areas of Takoma, South Manor Park and 16th Street Heights eligible for important funding.
- ★ Introduced the **Demolition or Raze Permit Community Notification Amendment Act of 2008** to require the applicant for a demolition or raze permit to post a notice, sign or placard on the



Councilmember Bowser, Mayor Fenty and Commissioner Shanel Anthony at the ribbon-cutting ceremony of the new SED Center—a new child development center in Petworth.

- premises 30 days before any agency action to approve the demolition or raze permit is issued.
- ★ Introduced as the **Fort Totten Supermarket Tax Exemption Amendment Act of 2008** to expand the definition of priority development area to include the Fort Totten neighborhood commercial center. We are looking for every way to bring quality grocers to the Ward.
- ★ Introduced the **Ward 4 ANC 4C07 Class B Full Service Grocery Store Exemption Act of 2008** to allow a full service grocery store in ANC 4C07 and markets in ANC 3G to apply for a beer and wine license. Currently, Yes Organic Market and Broad Branch Market are not exempt from applying for a beer and wine license. We expect both grocers to apply for an ABC license.
- ★ Co-introduced with Councilmember Kwame Brown and Councilmember Mary Cheh the **Green Business Recognition Act of 2008** that requires the Mayor to design and implement a program that recognizes agencies in the District that have taken aggressive steps to implement sustainable practices, such as reduced energy use or reduced water use in their operations. This is just the first step in improving our environment and making the District of Columbia a "greener" place.
- ★ Co-introduced with Councilmember Thomas as the **AED Installation For Safe Recreation and Exercise Emergency Act of 2008** to require the Mayor to install and maintain automated external defibrillators in Department of Parks

- and Recreation facilities and mandate training for personnel in operating the defibrillators. Thanks to this new law our Parks and Recreation staff will be able to assist in medical distress until Fire and EMS arrives on the scene.
- ★ Co-introduced with Councilmember Mary Cheh introduced the **Public Participation in Historic Designation Amendment Act of 2008**, which would if passed, allow District residents the opportunity to express their opinions by way of a vote, about the nomination of a district for historic designation.
- ★ Co-introduced the **Burned Fire Fighter Relief Emergency Amendment Act of 2008** to extend the period of time that a severely

- burned Firefighter can recover from injuries before the Department moves to retire him from duty.
- ★ Supported the **Inclusionary Zoning Implementation Amendment Act of 2008** which creates deadlines for regulations in setting aside a share of new construction for affordable housing and to require that these regulations come to the Council for review.
- ★ Supported the **Fairness in Foreclosure Act of 2008** which creates a foreclosure process that is clear, concise, and fair for D.C. residents. I believe that in these harsh economic times, it is important to make sure D.C. residents know the law ans their rights. ★

Budget Actions

Last year, the District's Chief Financial Officer predicted a \$131 million shortfall in revenue. Given the enormous progress the District has achieved in recent years, it was a devastating. Mayor Adrian Fenty presented proposed budget cuts for city agencies and no increase in others. The Council of the District of Columbia encouraged additional cost cutting measures in October 2008. During these tough economic times it is important that we safeguard monies for public safety, affordable housing, jobs, economic development, healthcare, human services, govern-

ment operations and financing from not being compromised. We will continue to advocate for assistance for low-income residents, small businesses and owners of commercial real estate in Ward 4 and the District of Columbia. We will remain prudent, while ensuring that Ward 4 gets its fair share. The Council of the District of Columbia has announced the upcoming public hearings schedule of performance, oversight and the Fiscal year 2010 Budget Request Act. Please visit the DC Council website for a complete listing of both sets of hearings at www.dccouncil.us. ★

Serving as an Elector



On Monday, December 15, Councilmember Bowser voted in the United States Electoral College for President and Vice President of the United States of America. She was joined by Council Chairman Vincent C. Gray and Mr. Jerry S. Cooper who also served as electors for the District of Columbia. Mayor Adrian M. Fenty presided over the meeting of the District's electors at the John A. Wilson Building.

REPORT FROM WARD 4 CARES COMMITTEE

Dear Neighbor,
Last year you were so kind and gave so generously to our Ward 4 Cares Constituent Fund. As you know Councilmember Bowser remains committed to helping those who need services in an emergency such as one time payments of electric bills. Last year we were able to provide Safeway gift cards to 100 families to help them celebrate Thanksgiving and we bought new winter coats for over 40 Ward 4 students as part of our holiday season presents. We made a special effort to reach out to our elementary schools and senior citizens in Ward 4 to make sure our efforts reached the diverse communities within our Ward. Our Constituent Services Fund is just one way we show our generosity and prove that we in Ward 4 are a family. You have given of your time and from your heart and I know we will all continue our work to support Ward 4 cares and all of the people in our great Ward!

Sincerely,
Eleanor Anderson,
Chair, Ward 4 Cares Committee

- The Ward 4 cares committee hosted a number of events last year:
 - ★ The 8th Annual Ward 4 Family Fun Night
 - ★ 100th Anniversary Open House, in celebration of the John A. Wilson Building.
 - ★ At Thanksgiving time, the committee helped Councilmember Bowser distribute Safeway gifts cards to 100 deserving Ward 4 families.
 - ★ The Annual Ward 4 holiday party at the Kingsbury Day School, where we raised funds to purchase over 40 NEW winter coats for Ward 4 students in need.
 - ★ We distributed the Annual Dance Scholarship for Ward 4 students to attend the Davis Center.
- I would like to thank the Ward 4 Cares Committee members, a group of dedicated residents of Ward 4 for their diligence and hard work throughout the year.

Dates to Remember

- March: Women's History Celebration
- April: All ANC & Civic Association Presidents meeting
- May: Annual Senior Symposium
- June: 9th Annual Ward 4 Family Fun Night
- October: All ANC & Civic Association Presidents meeting
- November: Thanksgiving Activity
- December: Annual Holiday Party

Stay tuned to www.murielbowser.com for details.



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Paid for by Muriel Bowser's Ward 4 Cares Constituent Fund

Frequently Called Numbers

Call 911:
For all police related matters emergency and non emergency, need of ambulance, fire department.

Call 311:
For all other governmental agency requests/city services — cars towed, street lights replaced, streets repaired, animal issues, abandoned vehicles, trees trimmed, and trash pick ups. You may also visit www.dc.gov.

PEPCO
In the event of a power outage, here are some handy reference numbers:
To report an outage (24 hours):
call 1-877-PEPCO-62 (1-877-737-2662)

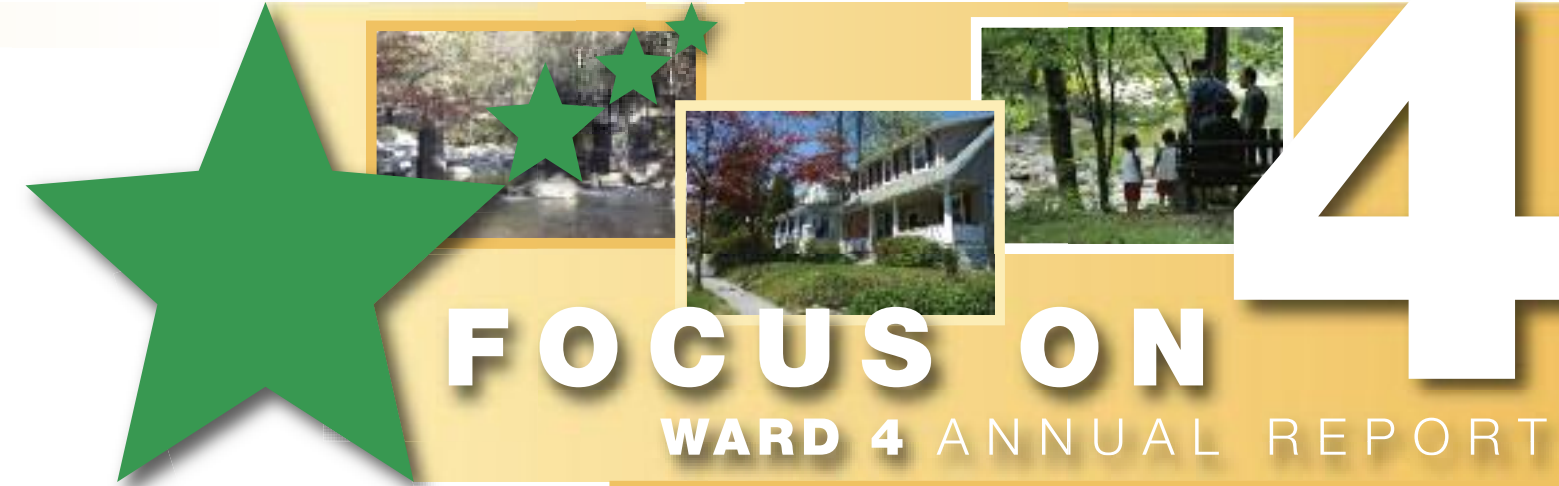
Washington Gas Emergency Hotline
703-750-1400

WASA Emergency Hotline
202-612-3400

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President Barack Obama and Michelle Obama visited Calvin Coolidge Senior High School, where they hosted an event for the National Day of Service.



Dear Friends and Neighbors

What a year 2008 was! I am so humbled by the trust you continue to place in me and I am so grateful to have the opportunity to represent you for a full four-year term. Thank you!
As we begin 2009, I am optimistic about the progress we are making as a Ward and as a City. We're proud that 2008 brought us opportunities to progress on the agenda we built together—focused on our neighborhoods, schools and corridors.

Last year we welcomed:

- ★ The Hattie Holmes Senior Wellness Center
- ★ The new Riggs LaSalle Premier Ball Field
- ★ The Kennedy Street Green Team
- ★ The new Vinegar Hill South Main Street
- ★ More senior and affordable housing
- ★ Additional police and human resources
- ★ Approved Georgia Avenue and Kennedy Street Revitalization Plans

Like many cities around the nation, we expect tougher times ahead. We know that gov-



Councilmember Bowser at Quesada Street Fall Block Party with neighborhood kids.

ernments will have to do more with less, work more efficiently and effectively, set programmatic priorities, even as we continue to invest in jobs and people. We must continue to improve corridors, improve neighborhoods, and change lives by ensuring that educational, housing, recreational and employment opportunities are available to all.

I look forward to new leadership responsibilities on the Council as the new Chairwoman of the Committee on Public Services and Consumer Affairs. We will take the lead in improving our government in the areas of consumer and regulatory affairs, insurance and banking, tenant protection, and public utility regulation.
★ Preserve the quality of our neighborhoods
★ Protect infrastructure dollars—streets, alleys, sidewalks, trees, lights and much-needed investments in electricity and water and sewer infrastructure

Demand public school options for all families with a focus on specialized programs including languages, the arts, and gifted and talented programs
★ Ensure public dollars are invested in major economic development projects that create affordable housing, jobs for DC residents, and business opportunities for DC companies.

Together, we will ensure the progress of our Ward and our City through creativity, community-private-government partnerships, and with the tenacity for which Ward 4 is known. ★

All the best,

Ward 4 Councilmember



Invest, Innovate & Revitalize

Ward 4 has a great mix of stable and diverse neighborhoods that are supported by our own businesses and vibrant commercial corridors with unique retail including restaurants, boutiques and specialty shops.

Over the last 18 months we've seen significant revitalization and investment throughout Ward 4 with the opening of the Hattie Holmes Senior Center on Kennedy Street, affordable housing projects with mixed-use retail, a full-service grocer on Georgia Avenue in Petworth and a blighted building being converted into affordable senior housing in Brightwood.

Our office, with the firm commitment of Mayor Adrian M. Fenty, continues to push to ensure that investments are made and development projects continue to move forward even in the face of tough economic times. In 2008, we sponsored a Developers Roundtable and produced a Ward 4 guide and website for potential developers and investors. Now more than ever it is important to acknowledge the government's role in moving projects forward in Ward 4.

Here is an update:
Councilmember Bowser takes blighted building & brings affordable senior housing to Brightwood

6425 14th Street, NW, better known as The Tewkesbury, will be transformed into 26 mixed-income condominiums. A second development will have 54 single-room-occupancy units for senior housing at 1330 Missouri Avenue. Both projects will have at least 51% of the units dedicated to affordable housing. These projects are being maintained for affordable housing through a joint effort with the Department of Housing and Community Development.

Curtis Chevrolet site

A major in-town residential community will be developed at the 3.5 acre site at the northeast corner of Georgia and Missouri Avenues, which was the home of Curtis Chevrolet for over 50 years. Plans for this site include approximately 400 multi-family units and 20,000 square feet of neighborhood- serving retail. This development will serve as a centerpiece of the revitalization of Georgia Avenue. Construction could commence in 2010 and be completed by 2012.

3800 Georgia Avenue

Councilmember Bowser and Mayor Fenty announced development partners, August 2008. This much-needed housing and retail project at 3825-3829 Georgia Avenue will consist of 12 condos with 4 units set aside for affordable housing with approximately 3,200 square feet of ground floor retail. Additionally, 3813-3815 Georgia Avenue will have about 5,000 Square feet of retail space. Councilmember Bowser supported the Historic Designation of the former Billy Simpson's Grill and the developer looks forward to incorporating this into the design.

Park Place at Petworth

This major development is coming out of the ground beautifully right above the Petworth Metro station. It will include 161 residential units, of which 20% will be affordable. There will also be 17,000 square feet of retail. This development will change the landscape of the Petworth community bringing street-level shops and services, and new stores and restaurants nearby. Leasing of the units will begin May of 2009.

Residences at 4100 Georgia Avenue

This wonderful new 72-unit residential community will open on Georgia Avenue this March 2009. In addition to being affordable to households at 60% of the median income, a new Yes! Organic Market will open on the ground floor this summer.

Rendering of 6415 14th Street



Riggs Road & South Dakota Avenue

Councilmember Bowser and Mayor Fenty announced the District's participation in a major project at Riggs Road and South Dakota Avenue NE. The development will include a million square feet of housing and retail on nine acres near the Fort Totten Metro. The District's Department of Transportation will also transform the current configuration of the Riggs Road and South Dakota Avenue intersection into a safer, more pedestrian friendly urban square.

Kennedy Street

Kennedy Street is now a Main Street and is now referred to as the Vinegar Hill South Main Street – a historical name associated with part of the Brightwood community. The new Main Street is a neighborhood resource to help existing businesses through the following services: interior retail space improvements, commercial building improvements, increased business marketing and technical assistance. These services provide small businesses and their owners with the tools needed to create and maintain a strong and vibrant business and community. You can contact the Vinegar Hill South Main Street at 202-870-8675 or www.vinegarhillsouth.org.



Councilmember Bowser brings Clean and Safe Team to Kennedy Street

The Kennedy Street Clean and Safe Team began providing services in August 2008. They provide litter and graffiti removal from the curbs and sidewalks, tree box maintenance, debris transfer, and other public space maintenance services, Monday - Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. and on weekends 8:30 am to 12:30 pm on the Kennedy Street corridor from Georgia Avenue, NW to North Capitol Street, NW. This project is funded by the DC Department of Public Works and managed by the Columbia Heights/Shaw Family Support Collaborative, which has been awarded a grant through the DC Department of Small and Local Business Development. Because of their success, we've recently extended the team to Georgia Avenue. This project continues Councilmember Bowser's commitment to focus on key Ward 4 commercial corridors.

Public Safety Update

Keeping our neighborhoods and commercial corridors safe are of great importance and we promised to work with you to improve and maintain the safety of our neighborhoods. In many categories there have been decreases in crime, but we can not be satisfied with some of the problems that persist, including increases in car break-ins. The Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) has responded to these crimes with more foot beat patrols and increased visibility in our neighborhoods. Overall throughout 2008, crime has fallen, with violent crime down 10% and property crime down 4%. We have hosted several community meetings with Police Chief Cathy Lanier to ensure that we are staying on top of issues in our Ward. The Chief and Commander want to ensure that specific issues of crime in our neighborhoods are being addressed.

We enjoy a great working relationship with the leadership and officers of MPD's Second and Fourth Districts serving Ward 4. We thank them for their hard work throughout the year.



Ward 4 welcomed Linda Brown as the Commander for the Fourth District in January 2008 and Matthew Kliken as the Acting Commander for the Second District in October 2008.

Small Business Roundtable

Ward 4 is home to many small businesses ranging from restaurants, specialty shops, and dancing schools. Our small business roundtable

held twice a year brings together small businesses throughout the Ward along with various District government agencies that provide services and assistance to small businesses. In June 2008, we held our second Small Business Roundtable with over forty Ward 4 business owners in attendance to receive information varying from business tax issues, to DCRA regulations and procedures. Information was also available on how to take advantage of existing public programs and services, as well as how the revitalization of our corridors will be good for business. ★

Additionally, for your convenience we've compiled a list of the monthly Patrol Service Area (PSA) meeting dates, times, and locations. The PSA officer's name and contact information is also here for your review.

Meeting with Chief Judge

December 1, 2008 Councilmember Bowser met with Chief Judge and Ward 4 resident Lee F. Satterfield, Superior Court of the District of Columbia, Ward 4 Advisory Neighborhood Commission Chairs and community members. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the impact of crime in the community and how the community can be involved in making judges aware of neighborhood concerns. Also discussed at this meeting was what seems to be a revolving door of individuals committing crimes.

Public Safety Meetings with Police Chief

Last November in response to a spike in crime in Petworth, Councilmember Bowser convened several meetings with Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4C and MPD officials to brief residents on MPD's plan of action to combat crime in Petworth and other Ward 4 neighborhoods. In response, the Police Chief and Fourth District Commander redirected a number of citywide resources. Additionally, they committed citywide vice units, warrant squads, intelligence units, and more officers to address the spike in crime. ★

Monthly PSA Meeting Dates and Times



PSA 201
 Lt Michael Lockerman, 202-715-7325, every fourth Tuesday, 7:30pm, Second District, 3320 Idaho Avenue NW

PSA 401
 Lt Ronald Thomas (202) 730-0603, every second Thursday, 7pm, Fourth District Community Room, 6001 Georgia Ave NW

PSA 402
 Lt Juan Espinal, (202) 730-0608 and Lt Keith DeVille, (202) 730-0608, every third Wednesday, 7 pm, Fourth District Community Room, 6001 Georgia Ave NW

PSA 403
 Lt Kervin Johnson (202) 730-0609 and Lt James Cullen, (202) 730-0606, every third Wednesday, 7 pm, Hattie Holmes Senior Wellness Center, 324 Kennedy Street NW

PSA 404
 Lt Jeffrey Parker, (202) 730-0601 and Lt Jeannie Sullivan (202) 730-0610, every fourth Thursday, 7:00 pm, Patrol Services Bureau, 801 Shepherd Street NW

Schools, Parks, Recreation and Libraries

Great schools, parks, recreation centers, and safe neighborhoods are reasons why people choose to live in Ward 4. I promised to make these priorities and I am working with you to keep these promises! We have seen great improvements but we know there is still much work to do.



Muriel attends Arbor Day at Takoma Education Center.

Ward 4 Education Compact

My commitment to education remains a top priority. One of my first actions after taking office was to form the Ward 4 Education Compact to gather ideas from the community on our educational needs in Ward 4. We continue to hear from Ward 4 families that they want to try to use the District of Columbia Public Schools (DCPS) but they want more options. While getting better at the basics, DCPS must also focus on specialized programs in the arts, languages and gifted and talented. The Compact was actively involved in the school closure and reuse discussion. We are working with city officials to ensure that Clark and Rudolph Elementary School reuses accommodate what we need in our communities. We hosted a meeting to hear from residents first hand. We heard that you want reuses such as: senior housing and programs, educational uses, recreation centers, affordable healthcare facilities, child care facilities, job training programs, and affordable housing. Please stay tuned for announcements about Compact meetings and activities. We look forward to getting back in gear to ensure that no child is left behind.

Friends of 16th Street Height Parks and Shepherd Park

The Friends of 16th Street Heights Parks is assisting the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) in the maintenance and improvement of Hamilton and Upshur Parks in 16th Street Heights. The group is currently working with our office and DPR to plan for major upgrades at these parks. Councilmember Bowser was able to secure more than \$2 million in the FY 09 budget for capital improvements to Ward 4 Parks.

Councilmember Bowser along with the members of the Shepherd Park Citizens Association realize the shortage of park and recreational space in Shepherd Park, and have convened several meetings with DPR to discuss plans to make major improvements to the field and playground at Shepherd Elementary School and landscaping improvements to Marvin Caplan

Emery Field

The long awaited Emery Athletic Field improvements are underway. This project

involves improvements to the athletic field and outdoor courts at Emery Recreation Center. Work includes: complete renovation of the softball and football practice field, with a premier turf surface, installation of backstop fencing for the softball field, conversion of the exterior basketball court to a full-size competition level court, including installation of new play surface. The project is scheduled to be completed by Memorial Day 2009.

Park. We look forward to discussing these options with the Shepherd Park community.

Lafayette Park

Lafayette Park will receive improvements scheduled to be completed by February 2009, an improved water daisy drain, repaired erosion control, repaired playground equipment, and new wood chips and wood borders. Additionally, Lafayette Park will receive a green gray water recapture element with the help of the District Department of the Environment (DDOE) and the Friends of Lafayette Park, which will be the first green water recapture solution in the entire city park system! We also look forward to celebrating the 10th anniversary of the Friends of Lafayette Park this spring.

Takoma and Petworth Libraries get makeover

Our two historic neighborhood libraries are receiving makeovers. The type of investments that will go into these great facilities is certainly the investment that we in Ward 4 want to continue throughout our public facilities. The libraries will receive improvements such as:
 ★ Preservation and restoration of original interior finishes
 ★ Electrical and fire alarm upgrades
 ★ Restoration of doors, windows and trim
 ★ Extensive landscape improvements. ★

City Services at Work for You

Visitor Parking Pilot Program A Huge Success

The District Department of Transportation (DDOT) is continuing the Ward 4 Visitor Parking Program. This pilot process began in Ward 4 over a year ago and other wards have since followed suit. The Visitors Parking Pass (VPP) responds to parking on Residential Parking Program (RPP) streets. A recently completed random sample survey of Ward 4 residents indicated that the majority of residents consider the program a success and support its continuation in Ward 4. One neighbor provided a helpful hint; she purchased an inexpensive picture frame for her VPP which is less likely to be forgotten by visitors.

Residents should remember that the visitor parking pass does not provide an exemption to the Registration of Out-of-State Automobiles (ROSA) requirement that vehicles must be registered in the District within 30 days of residency. For more information regarding ROSA, visit the Department of Motor Vehicles website at dmv.dc.gov or call 311.

FIOS comes to Ward 4

Councilmember Bowser hears from residents all the time that you want choice in your cable and satellite television options. In December 2008, the Council of the District of Columbia approved an agreement to bring FIOS TV to all residents of the District of Columbia. The law grants a 15-year, non-exclusive cable television franchise to Verizon to provide cable television service to all areas of in the District within nine years. Most importantly, Ward 4 will be covered in the first three-year phase of the FIOS build out, beginning this year.

Councilmember Bowser at alley clean-up with neighbors on Oglethorpe Street.



Mayor Fenty at press conference at Engine 24 to release the Fire Emergency and Medical Services (FEMS) 2008 Annual Report.

Removing Blight

Beginning in February 2009, The District will increase the vacant property tax. The Nuisance Properties Abatement Reform and Real Property Classification Amendment Act of 2008 increased the vacant property tax rate to \$10.00 per \$100 of assessed property value. This legislation is helpful because vacant properties attract criminal activities, contribute to blight, and in some instances pose serious threats to the public's health, safety and welfare. The purpose of this legislation is to serve as an incentive for vacant property owners to return properties to productive use.

A vacant property is defined as one that has not been occupied continuously and therefore must be registered within 30 days after it becomes vacant. To report vacant properties call DCRA directly at (202) 442-4332 or e-mail dca@dc.gov.

Ward 4 gets New Bus Shelters Installed

We are very pleased that during summer 2008 there were over 25 brand new bus shelters installed throughout Ward 4. New shelters were installed from Georgia Avenue to Military Road, and Alaska Avenue. Councilmember Bowser ensured that well-used shelters were replaced as soon as possible. Please report any damage to our new shelters by calling 311.

Switch to HDTV

If you own a television and still use an antenna you will be required to use a digital converter by June 12, 2009. You may purchase these from retail stores such as Best Buy and Radio Shack.

DCRA Virtual Permit Center and Hazardous Waste Collection

The Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs (DCRA) recently opened a Virtual Permit Center at the Home Depot store at 901 Rhode Island Ave, NE. This permit center offers a popular online service, DCRA's "Postcard Permit" for home improvements. The permit center is located at a site that is popular for home improvement professionals and do-it-yourselfers. Hours of operation are 6:00 am-10:00 pm Monday-Saturday and 8:00 am-7:00 pm Sunday. Visit www.dca.dc.gov for more information about the virtual permit center.

The Department of Public Works (DPW) makes it easy for residents to dispose properly of household hazardous waste (HHW) and unwanted electronic equipment (e-waste). DPW operates two weekly household hazardous waste (HHW) /e-cycling drop-off and free personal document shredding sites at the Benning Road Trash Transfer Station (3200 Benning Road, NE) and the Fort Totten Trash Transfer Station (4900 Bates Road, NE). Both are open on Saturdays, except holidays, 8 am to 3 pm. These weekly drop-off sites replace the semi-annual HHW/e-cycling collection events. ★

Councilmember Bowser — Transportation Planning Board Vice-Chairman

On December 16th, Councilmember Bowser was elected as 2nd Vice Chair of the Transportation Planning Board (TPB) for 2009. As a member of the TPB the Councilmember will have the ability to oversee transportation plans for the entire metro area and focus on the needs of the District of Columbia. Since most of the traffic from Montgomery County comes through Ward 4 this is an excellent opportunity to make sure our community is protected as new traffic patterns are considered. The TPB was created in 1965 by the region's local and state governments to respond to Federal legislation that required coordinated transportation planning process in every urbanized area in the United States.