

Muriel Bowser's FOCUS ON 4 WARD 4 ANNUAL REPORT

March 2008

Keeping My Promises

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

Last May you conferred a special trust in me by electing me as your Ward 4 Councilmember. I am so thankful to have this opportunity to serve our great neighborhoods and look forward to working each day to implement our vision for Ward 4 — focusing on our neighborhoods, fixing our schools, and fighting for economic development that will enhance our great corridors.

This report is my way of bringing you up to speed on all we've accomplished these first months and the planning we are doing for even more in the coming months.

I've outlined an aggressive agenda, which was created through my discussions with neighbors on their

front door steps and around the Ward in community meetings every night of the week.

I am keeping my promise TO FOCUS on our NEIGHBORHOODS and transform the commercial corridors into avenues that support the neighborhoods surrounding them. This includes making sure these avenues have the infrastructure necessary to support them; that they are safe and walkable; that there is appropriate public transportation; that there is retail, dining, and affordable housing; that there are jobs created for all DC residents; and that there are recreation and wellness facilities for residents of all ages.

I am keeping my promise TO FOCUS on fixing our SCHOOLS and



provide our children with the best educational opportunities. I voted to confirm an unconventional leader who has brought a new approach to managing urban schools. I visited every school in Ward 4 this Summer to make sure they had the promised

repairs and were ready for students. I started the Ward 4 Education Compact of resident education experts to advise me on what needs to happen in our schools.

I am keeping my promise TO FOCUS on bringing ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT to Georgia Avenue and all of our commercial corridors. In this report you'll read a lot about what we have been doing on Georgia Avenue, Kennedy Street, 14th Street, Upshur Street, Riggs Road, and many more.

We've done a lot, but none of it would have been possible without your advocacy and activism. Your impatience with the status quo has empowered me to take on these tough issues and fight for Ward 4. I truly appreciate hearing from each

and every one of you and trust that you will continue to share your vision for how our government should work for all DC residents.

In exchange for the trust you placed in me, I will continue to work hard and think differently so that together we can make our neighborhoods safe, protect our children and provide them with limitless opportunities, assist our most vulnerable residents including our seniors and disabled neighbors, provide working families with the access to affordable housing and quality healthcare.

My warmest wishes,

Muriel Bowser
Ward 4 Councilmember

Get on the Bus! Revitalizing Our Corridors

We have great, stable neighborhoods in Ward 4 with residents eager to live, work and do business in the Ward. The commercial corridors need to support the neighborhoods surrounding them. I am working hard to make sure our Ward 4 commercial corridors are thriving with businesses and residents using those services.



Mayor Adrian Fenty, Mayor Sharon Pratt and Jason Saunders join Councilmember Bowser for the Jefferson Condo's ribbon cutting.

On Friday November 30th, I hosted a business showcase and bus tour to review the revitalization that is happening on Georgia Avenue and other opportunities in many of the Ward 4 commercial corridors. We began the tour at Curtis Chevrolet dealership at 5929 Georgia Avenue, NW. The owners of Curtis Chevrolet announced that they have partnered with Foulger-Pratt Development Inc. to turn the former car dealership into new residences and retail shops. Curtis Chevrolet had been operating on Georgia Avenue for 41 years since Curtis Dworken purchased the property in 1966.

The morning continued with a bus tour of the commercial corridors including Georgia Avenue, 14th Street and Kennedy Street. We highlighted 31 points of interest along the way.

Some of these included:

★ **Brightwood Lofts** at the corner of Missouri and Georgia Avenues, NW and the Meridian Restaurant which opened in January 2008. A grant

continued on page 2



Park Place coming soon to the 3700 block of Georgia Avenue in Petworth

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Revitalizing Corridors continued ...



Coming Soon: Fort Totten Square (South Dakota Avenue and Riggs Road, NE)

from the Great Streets Program in the DC Office of Planning helped make this restaurant possible.

★ **Park East** at 6428 Georgia Avenue is a mixed-income project that will bring 30 units of affordable housing to Georgia Avenue.

★ **Georgia Commons** at 3910-3912 Georgia Avenue is a new project that will break ground in 2008 with 19,500 square feet of ground-floor retail and 130 rental apartments above. This includes a set-aside of affordable housing with 57 of the units at less than 60% of the area median income.

★ **Park Place** project growing rapidly above the Petworth Metro Station in the 3700 block of Georgia Avenue will contain 153 condos and 17,000 square feet of retail space with 20% of the units to be sold at less than 60% of the area median income. This is a transit oriented project and will enable more people to live close to work, transit and retail shopping.

★ **Residences at 4100 Georgia Avenue** broke ground in the Summer of 2007 and will house 72 affordable rental apartments with 100% of the apartments going to

households at 60% of the area median income. This project also has 10,000 square feet of retail space. The Yes! Organic Grocery Store will occupy the retail space.

Here are more new initiatives coming SOON to Ward 4!

★ **The Upper Georgia Avenue Land Development Plan** was initiated in July 2006 and the draft plan was submitted to the public for comment in June 2007. Stay tuned for an announcement with the hearings schedule this Spring!

★ **“Significant public and private investment has been missing from Georgia Avenue,” Bowser said. “While there have been many studies — such as the Upper Georgia Avenue Land Development Plan — Bowser stressed a need for more action.”**

Northwest Current, July 4, 2007.



Hattie Holmes Senior Wellness Center located at 324 Kennedy Street, NW is open Monday through Friday from 8:00am – 4:30pm.

★ **“We have to make it happen,” said Ward 4 Council member Muriel Bowser. She said relocation of the aging fire station is a high priority. “We understand it’s the ideal site, and that this is an urgent public safety need.”**

Northwest Current, January 9, 2008.

★ The District Department of Transportation (DDOT) will be spending about \$20 million to enhance the curb appeal of our Georgia Avenue commercial corridors through the **Great Streets** program. Design and construction for the Petworth corridor are already underway. I look forward to participating in the design work to begin in Brightwood soon.

★ **Riggs Road** — We are working with the DC Office of Planning to conduct major planning activities for Riggs Road/South Dakota Avenue intersection. This is a joint Ward 4/Ward 5 initiative which promises to transform the landscape and bring a more pedestrian-friendly area, along with neighborhood serving retail and amenities.

★ **Kennedy Street** — We are working with the DC Office of Planning to revitalize the Kennedy Street corridor, from Georgia to North Capitol Street. A nine-month comprehensive planning effort began in early 2007 to attract a variety of new investment and amenities and strengthen the existing small businesses.



Lamar and Sandra Cox of American Security & Communications and Kelly Shuy of Ledo's Pizza are Shepherd Park residents and business owners who enjoyed the tree lighting ceremony sponsored by Gateway Georgia Avenue.

Why Councilmember Bowser Shops Locally

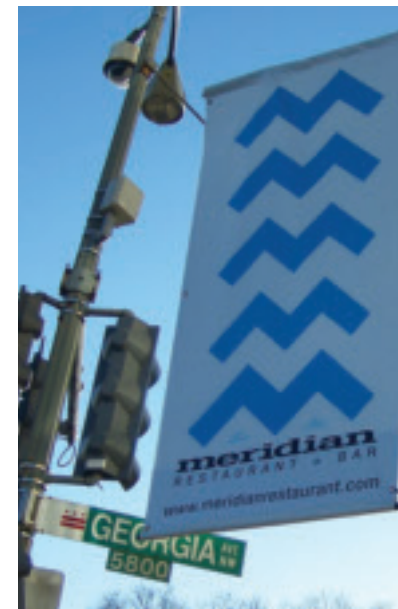
There are lots of reasons to shop in Ward 4....

Here are a few of mine:

When I am on the run, there are a number of places to buy gasoline in Ward 4. I usually go near my home at the Exxon on the Run. I get my hair done at Shaper's, the Studio at 4415 14th Street, NW. On the way, I just drop off my dry cleaning at Lapels Dry cleaning also on 14th Street. I love to stop at Sweet Mango's on New Hampshire and Georgia Avenue for a quick bite to eat or Ledo's Pizza on Georgia Avenue a bit further north at 7435 Georgia Avenue. When I want to sit down and relax there is Domku Café in the 800 block of Upshur Street, or to share a cup of coffee, Savory Café right across from the Takoma Metro Station is another favorite. The Cork and Bottle has a great selection of beers, wines and spirits to take to your next social gathering. I was never more relaxed than after a morning filled with a Swedish massage and facial at Pure Bliss Day Spa on Georgia Avenue. Postal Connections has assisted us with mailings and Kennedy Street's own Mary Wood's Florist makes the beautiful arrangements for us to share with Ward 4 residents. Over the years, I have found some mar-

velous gifts at The Culture Shop 341 Cedar Street, Annie Collections at 7608/1710A Georgia Avenue and Esther's Treasures on 14th Street across from the Bus Barn. The American Security and Communications Company (ASC) has great alarm systems to provide you and your family with added peace of mind.

These are just a few of the Ward 4 establishments I've visited over the last couple of months. I hope you'll join me and visit these and other Ward 4 businesses. Please let me know what your favorite Ward 4 businesses are! I'd love to hear about them!



Councilmember Bowser visits with business owners during the Business Development Roundtable.

Renewing Our Schools

Our single greatest asset in our Ward 4 neighborhoods is our schools! Without quality schools, we can not keep and attract residents who want to live, work and raise families here. I am committed to ensuring that the transformation occurring in all of DC public schools leads to measurable improvements in student outcomes.

There are terrific public schools in Ward 4 with hard working teachers, staff and principals. Shirley Hopkinson, the Barnard Elementary School Principal for example, was profiled in December 2007 in *The Examiner*, "Shirley Hopkinson, though a D.C. public school principal, can't be called anything but a teacher. To try to catch her in her office at Barnard Elementary School would be pointless, as the longtime educator spends her hours instructing her staff in an unusual, hands-on style."

Ward 4 Education Compact

One of my first efforts upon taking office was to form the Ward 4 Education Compact. The mission of the Compact is to gather valuable community input on issues affecting public education in Ward 4. The Compact's work will help keep me informed of the critical oversight and legislative actions needed for public education in Ward 4 and the District of Columbia.

Members of the Ward 4 Education Compact include: Angela Christophe & Michael Ivey, from Petworth, Charon Hines and Terry Goings from Lamond Riggs, Dr. Darren Woodruff, from Shepherd Park, Janet Meyers, from Brightwood, Sekou Biddle, State Board member from Shepherd Park, Dr. Regina Rodriguez-Mitchell, from Crestwood, Cathy Reilly from Takoma, Michael Beeler and Eric Is-

★ After a visit to Coolidge High School, Muriel said, "The improvements show students that the city believes they are worth the investment. They are worth state-of-the-art facilities."

Washington Post, August 23, 2007.

selhardt from Kingsbury Day School, and Jan Collins from the National Education Association, as well as the Ward 4 school principals.

The education compact has held five meetings since its inception. We identified the three most critical educational issues around which the work of the Compact will be focused:

- ★ Facilities Modernization
- ★ Master Academic Improvement Plan
- ★ Charter school oversight/monitoring/accountability

Please stay tuned for announcements about more Ward 4 Education Compact meetings.

Ward 4 Education Town Hall Meeting

On August 9th, I hosted a Ward 4 Education Town Hall meeting at Sharpe Health School. Chancellor Rhee outlined her vision to improve DC Schools, which included student achievement, securing a safe, secure learning environment for our students and encouraging community and parental involvement. Breakout sessions concluded with an opportunity for Ms. Rhee to hear back from each table with their summary of concerns. The community returned with a renewed vision for their Ward 4 schools.



Councilmember Bowser is joined by Mayor Adrian Fenty, Councilmember David Catania and Chancellor Michelle Rhee for the ribbon cutting at the new health suites at Coolidge High School.

Preparing school facilities for the start of school

Before school started on August 27, I wanted to check on the status of school improvements in each of the Ward 4 schools. I toured all 17 schools in the immediate weeks prior to the beginning of school to assess the progress made to the facilities and review areas that need additional attention.

On August 22, 2007, I was joined by Mayor Adrian Fenty, Chancellor Michelle Rhee, and Deputy Mayor for Education Victor Reinoso to announce that all DC public schools were ready to receive students for the start of the school year. We made this announcement at Coolidge Senior High School where the athletic field underwent a major transformation including a new turf field, 8-lane track, baseball and softball inserts, a new scoreboard, press box, lighting system and steeplechase. Roosevelt Senior High School athletic fields also received a major overhaul. "These improvements show students that the city believes they are worth this investment. They are worth state-of-the-art facilities...this is only the beginning. We will continue to closely monitor the progress to the facilities and classroom instruction throughout the year," Bowser said (*Washington Post*, August 23, 2007).

Mayor's and Chancellor's Plan to Revitalize Schools

I have worked hard with the Ward 4 Education Compact and many community activists through two months of meetings to review the Mayor's and the Chancellor's plan to redirect school resources to supporting academic programs and consolidate school buildings. We understand that the path to improving our schools will mean that difficult decisions have to be made, and at every turn we are ensuring the best programs and services for our children.

We insisted that:

- 1) Academic performance matters in evaluating the closing and receiving schools;
- 2) Safety is key when determining the ability of students to walk to school and the overall school environment;
- 3) Timelines for staffing and physical infrastructure improvements be strictly adhered to for opening day 2008.

"Additionally, we will insist that the Mayor and the Chancellor implement the promised enhancements to the receiving schools," said Councilmember Bowser. "I will carefully monitor this progress and insist on the best outcomes for our students. Their safety and ability to perform academically are my biggest priorities."



Councilmember Bowser reviews the needed repairs at MacFarland Middle School with Principal Antonia Peters and Council Chairman Vincent Gray.



Councilmember Bowser visits with Powell and Truesdell Elementary School students

Ombudsman for Public Education

The Office of the Ombudsman for Public Education provides district residents with professional assistance in problem resolution and accurate, timely communication regarding public education issues – services that have proven in other jurisdictions to increase the public's access to and satisfaction with their public education institutions.

Tonya Kinlow

Ombudsman for Public Education
825 North Capitol Street, NE
Suite 5002
Washington, DC 20002
Phone: (202) 741-8777
tonya.kinlow@dc.gov

DC Public Schools

The administrative headquarters for DC Public Schools is at:
825 North Capitol Street, NE,
Washington, DC 20002

DCPS Chancellor Michelle Rhee's Office:

Phone: 202-442-5885
www.k12.dc.us

The DC Public Charter School Board

The D.C. Public Charter School Board (PCSB) was created in 1996 by an amendment to the D.C. School Reform Act of 1995 to provide additional public education opportunities for District of Columbia residents. Public charter schools authorized by the PCSB are independently operated by a non-profit board of trustees, and are monitored regularly by the PCSB.

Josephine Baker, Exec. Director

DC Public Charter School Board
3333 14th Street, NW, Suite 210
Washington, DC 20010
Phone: (202) 328-2660
dcpbpublic@dcpbpubliccharter.com
www.dcpbpubliccharter.com



F o c u s i n g o n O u r

People choose to live in Ward 4 because of our great, stable neighborhoods. I am working hard to ensure that we continue to get the services we need to maintain, improve and make our neighborhoods even better. I am comprehensively addressing aging infrastructure issues facing the ward; demanding a clean and safe Ward 4 through comprehensive public works and public safety funding, education, and enforcement. I am also ensuring that all our public facilities are maintained at the highest levels, including parks and recreation centers, libraries, and of course our schools.

Keeping our Neighborhoods Clean and Safe

On July 3rd, DC Fire and EMS Chief Dennis Rubin and I announced the apprehension of at least 10 individuals who were engaged in the sale and distribution of illegal fireworks worth tens of thousands of dollars. This was the result of the task force established to investigate and crack down on the illegal use of fireworks. Drugs and illegal handguns were also collected.

I also held a graffiti blitz, along with the Mayor's Clean City Coordinator and the Department of Public Works to combat graffiti along the Georgia Avenue corridor. We also conducted alley clean ups throughout the ward.

We will continue to organize more clean ups and graffiti blitzes throughout the year.

Hearing Your Concerns Ward 4 Townhall Meeting on Crime

In response to a growing trend of street crime in Petworth this Fall, I held a town hall meeting on crime at

Sharpe Health School. I was joined by approximately one hundred Ward 4 neighbors to address recent crime trends, the police response, the juvenile justice system and rehabilitation programs, and resources available for families with young people. We heard from residents about a number of streets, alleys and intersections that need increased police presence. As a result of the meeting, the juvenile justice system has begun a closer collaboration with DC government services to provide a coordinated delivery of services to young people and their families. More in-school employment and apprenticeship opportunities have been established for young people, along with constructive after-school activities.

Community Walk and Crime Meeting in Takoma

More than 50 residents joined me for a walk around the streets in the Takoma neighborhood to identify problem areas. The walk through was immediately followed by a community meeting to address ways to increase safety along the well-used

routes in and around Takoma. I was joined by MPD Chief Cathy Lanier and other personnel, the City of Takoma Park Police and Metro Transit Police.

Meeting with MPD Chief Cathy Lanier

To address concerns about crime, I sat down with MPD Chief Cathy Lanier and the entire Fourth District Command Staff at Police Headquarters to review the crime statistics, look for trends and discuss initiatives to reduce crime in Ward 4 neighborhoods. We reviewed the robbery tactical units and their redeployment throughout the Ward. A number of high crime areas were discussed as well as tactical efforts to eliminate them.

I requested and got additional funding aimed at reducing criminal activity. These resources include shot-spotter technology to detect gunfire and additional crime cameras in the Petworth and Brightwood communities.

I am always in close contact with the police and the community to monitor the activity and the results of these initiatives. Please continue to be vigilant and help us combat crime.

Recent Drop in Crime

I am pleased to report that serious crime has fallen in the Fourth District during the months of December and January after climbing in October and November. The Fourth District had 87 robberies in October. In December the number fell to 42. Stolen autos fell from 79 in October to 42 in December. Burglaries fell from 81 in October to 37 in December. During the month of January there was an overall reduction in crime by 3% over the previous period.

I want to thank all the members of the Fourth District and the Fourth District Detective Unit for their hard work and the Special Operations Division for their assistance to bring these numbers down. Again, thanks to all for a job well done!

The Fourth District currently has 16 footbeats spread out within each PSA. Beginning on March 1, each PSA



Councilmember Bowser joins Fire and EMS Chief Dennis Rubin for a press conference on the confiscation of illegal fireworks

will receive an additional footbeat of ficer with a specific area of responsibility. By the end of April, there will be another roll-out of new footbeats across the Fourth District.

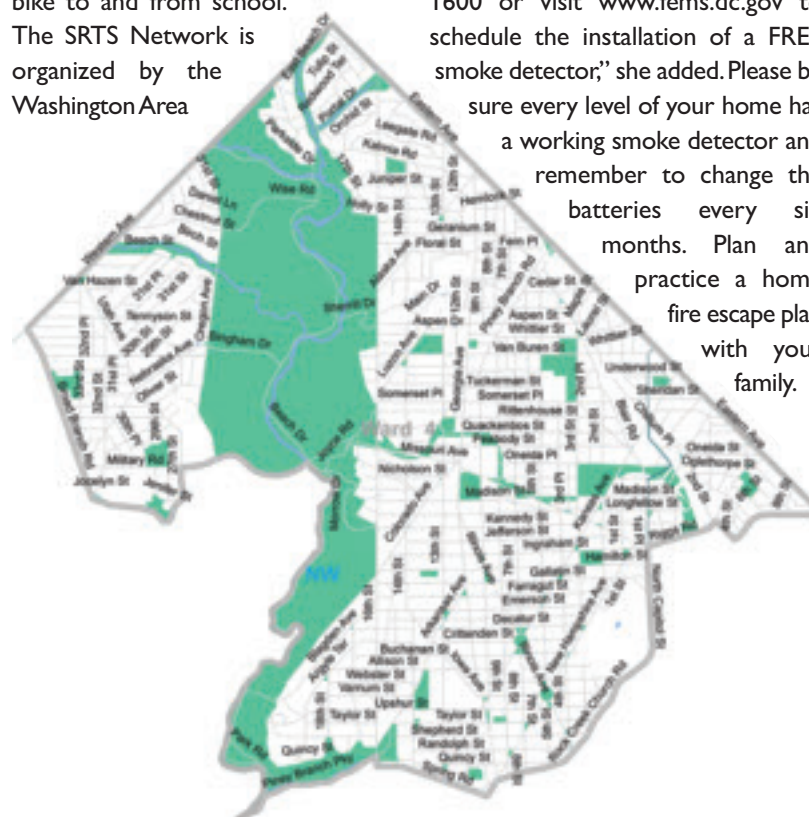
Safe Routes to School

Councilmember Tommy Wells (Ward 6) and I co-chair the Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Network, to help improve pedestrian safety for kids. Parents, schools, local governments and advocacy groups are encouraged to develop more programs to enable kids to walk and bike to and from school. The SRTS Network is organized by the Washington Area

Bicyclist Association. Their website is: www.saferoutespartnership.org

Smoke Detectors Save Lives

"In my tenure on the DC Council, I've been called to the scene of three fires, where we've suffered double fatalities. Seven people in eight months have perished in house fires in our Ward. It is so very important that all residents have working smoke detectors," said Councilmember Bowser. "Smoke detectors are the single most important appliance in your home. I encourage all residents to call 727-1600 or visit www.fems.dc.gov to schedule the installation of a FREE smoke detector," she added. Please be sure every level of your home has a working smoke detector and remember to change the batteries every six months. Plan and practice a home fire escape plan with your family.



Councilmember Bowser is joined by Councilmember Kwame Brown for the "Take Back the Corner" walk at Georgia and Missouri Avenues.





Neighborhoods

Brand New Recreation Center to Open

In the Spring of 2008, residents of Ward 4 will have a brand new, \$9.8 million, state-of-the-art recreation center at the Riggs LaSalle Recreation Center. This new recreation center will be the cornerstone of the community and will be one of the most environmentally sound DC government buildings. It will have a LEED (Leadership Energy Environmental Design) certification of Silver and may possibly reach Gold certification with construction points awarded at the conclusion.

Some of the environmentally friendly aspects of the building include:

- ★ Recycling stations throughout the building,
- ★ Green roof with planted trees and shrubs,
- ★ Landscaping is all low-maintenance with no water needed,
- ★ Outdoor surfaces are white to reflect light
- ★ Rooms are designed to bring light in and reduce the amount of electricity needed for lighting
- ★ Sinks and toilets are low-flow to save water,



The new Riggs LaSalle Recreation Center will be open in Spring 2008.

★ “I fully understand the concerns of neighbors

in and around this incident.

The first plan of action is to increase officers and patrols on the midnight tour, with specific attention to areas like this bus stop,” said Bowser. “We have to do a better job at keeping our young people safe...including in safe environments in the early morning hours.”

Northwest Current, October 3, 2007.

- ★ Gym floor is made of recycled wood and gym lights will auto-shut off when the ‘candle power’ from the sun is sufficient to light the room
- ★ HVAC system is a heat exchange system
- ★ All construction materials have been recycled — including the concrete.



Betty Florence enjoys the National Night Out.

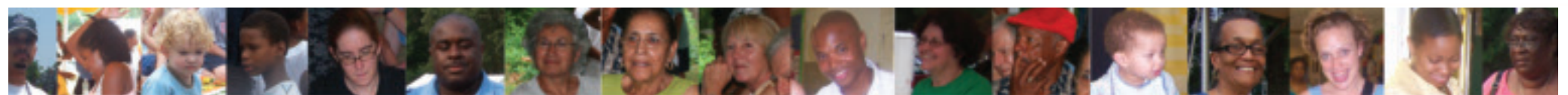
The new recreation center will include the following amenities:

- ★ Gymnasium
- ★ Weight/Fitness Room
- ★ Computer lab
- ★ Multi-purpose room
- ★ Spray park
- ★ Exterior Patio seating
- ★ Staff office
- ★ Kitchen
- ★ Arts and Craft Room
- ★ Refurbished outside basketball court

★ Councilmember Muriel Bowser joined the

opposition, requesting that the school seek another site for its first high school. “I am pleased that [the school] listened to the community and decided not to pursue the Shoemaker Home.”

Northwest Current, December 5, 2007.



Providing Oversight to Improve Our City

I am very pleased to serve on four committees of the DC Council. Those committees are:

- ★ Committee on Public Safety and the Judiciary
- ★ Committee on Public Works and the Environment
- ★ Committee on Housing and Urban Affairs
- ★ Committee on Human Services

I am proud to have supported dozens of measures that affect our quality of life in the District of Columbia, I've highlighted a few:

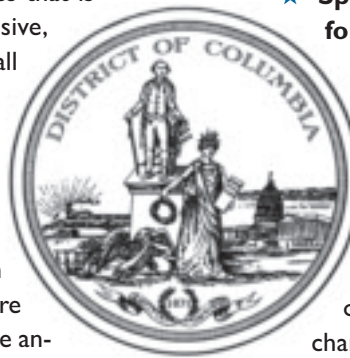
- ★ The Pesticide Consumer Notification Amendment Act of 2007 to protect residents from the harmful effects of pesticides.
- ★ The Senior Citizens Housing Modernization Grant Fund Act of 2008 will authorize the Mayor to make grants available for home

repairs to qualified senior citizens who live in an area affected by a new planned unit development.

- ★ The Rebuttable Presumption to Detain Juvenile Repeat Offenders Act of 2008 will allow the immediate detainment of repeat juvenile offenders who have previously been adjudicated for certain violent crimes.
- ★ The Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Detector Program Amendment Act of 2008 to require the Mayor to develop an annual program to educate, test and install smoke and carbon monoxide detectors and batteries in the homes of District residents without working detectors.
- ★ The Fairness in Foreclosure Act of 2008 to enact a new mortgage law for the District of Columbia which will create a

foreclosure process that is definite, fair, inclusive, and improved for all affected persons.

- ★ Payday Loan Consumer Protection Act of 2007 will require payday loan companies to adhere to a 24% cap on the annual percentage rate charged on a loan. This is a victory for Ward 4 residents and I hope will prevent them from being taken advantage of by unregulated loaning practices.
- ★ Taxi Cab Hybrid Technology Vehicle Expansion Act of 2007 will provide for a \$2,000 one-time tax credit for the purchase of a hybrid or alternative fuel vehicle to be used as a licensed taxicab in the District of Columbia.



★ Special Education Reform Amendment

Act of 2007 will require a detailed plan for the re-evaluation of all individualized education plans for the students in the District of Columbia public and charter schools classified as being in need of special education services.

- ★ Section 8 Preservation Act of 2007 will protect the availability of publicly-assisted affordable rental housing, including Section 8 housing, for low-income, very low-income, and extremely low-income households.

★ Fire Hydrant Inspection, Repair, Maintenance and Fire Preparedness Emergency

★ “We’ve had three double fatalities since I’ve been in office. And in each case, they don’t believe there was a working smoke detector,” Bowser said. “It’s just very tragic. I want to be sure there are always funds available.”

Northwest Current, January 23, 2008.

Declaration Resolution of 2007 will require the DC Fire and Emergency Medical Services (FEMS) and DC Water and Sewer Authority (WASA) to work together to remedy the problems with hydrants and water pressure.

Oversight continued ...

★ **Bicycle Commuter and Parking Expansion Act of 2007** will provide for the accommodation of additional bicycle racks in public space including in new condo and apartment buildings.

★ **Compliance and Enforcement Agency Establishment Act of 2007** will establish a Compliance and Enforcement Agency within the Office of the Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development related to real estate development transactions.

★ **Georgia Commons Real Property Tax Exemption and Abatement Act of 2007** will support a mixed-income residential and retail project with approximately 130 affordable multi-family rental apartments on Georgia Avenue.

★ **Mandatory Pre-Kindergarten for All DC Amendment Act of 2007** will establish a voluntary, high quality pre-K program to ensure that all 3 and 4-year olds have an opportunity to participate in high quality pre-kindergarten programs.

★ **Pedestrian Safety Reinforcement Amendment Act of 2007** will increase the fine to \$500 for motorists who do not yield the right of way to pedestrians.

★ **Juvenile Speedy Trial Equity Emergency Declaration Resolution of 2007** will improve public safety by requiring fact finding hearings to be conducted not less than 30 days after a juvenile is ordered into secure detention or ordered into shelter care.

★ **Public Education Personnel Reform Amendment Act of 2007** will allow the Chancellor to reform the central administration to better serve our children.

★ I introduced legislation to name the new **Kennedy Senior Wellness Center**, located in the old Kennedy Theater at 324 Kennedy Street, NW, the Hattie G. Holmes Senior Wellness Center.

Upcoming legislative initiatives:

Renew Ward 4 moratorium on single sales of alcohol

After surviving a legal challenge, on August 1, 2007 the Ward 4 Moratorium on Single Sales of alcohol went into effect. This meant that all holders of off-premises retailer liquor licenses, Class A and B licensees, located within Ward 4, were prohibited from dividing a manufacturer's package of more than one container of

★ **Ward 4 Councilmember Muriel Bowser said she expects to call for renewal... of the ban as "singles" have long been blamed for contributing to loitering, litter and public drunkenness. "I think the ban is exactly what our residents want," she said.**

Northwest Current, August 15, 2007.

beer, malt liquor, or ale, or to sell an individual container of the package if the container is less than 70 ounces. This law enacting the Ward 4 moratorium zone will expire on September 30, 2008 (four years after the enactment).

I will soon be introducing legislation to extend this moratorium in Ward 4. The Council members from Wards 7 and 8 are following our lead and have introduced legislation to ban single sales in their wards modeled after the Ward 4 moratorium.

Omnibus Graffiti Reduction Act of 2007

I will support of the Omnibus Graffiti Reduction Act of 2007, Bill 17-0270, when it comes up for a vote because it will improve our ability to keep our neighborhoods clean. This bill will establish a new process for graffiti abatement by property owners and will simplify the process to clean up graffiti.

DC Voting Rights

We came up short on September 18 in the U.S. Senate on the votes needed to get DC a vote in the House of Representatives. While that is extremely disappointing, we have to remember that we actually passed legislation in the House and through a key Senate committee — and were only 3 votes away on the Senate floor. It's the closest we've come in 30 years, and even though the outcome wasn't what we wanted, it must be seen as a high-water mark for the struggle.

I traveled to New Hampshire with Mayor Fenty and my DC Council colleagues in early January to pressure the New Hampshire legislature to support DC voting rights. I will continue to keep fighting for DC voting rights and appreciate all the hard work everyone has contributed to this. We're not done fighting!

Working with Our Partners

Mayor's Office of Community Relations and Services

A key component to the success of our Ward 4 constituent service delivery is our close working relationship with many DC Government agencies. The Mayor's Office of Community Relations and Services (MOCRS) helps us coordinate multi-agency service delivery, resolve chronic problems, and organize activities requiring multiple agency involvement.

Ward 4 has been equipped with Outreach and Service Specialists from the MOCRS. With their assistance we are able to maintain healthy and vibrant neighborhoods throughout Ward 4.

Operation Fix-It

In order to make a problem-area clean, safe and sustainable for our

Ward 4 residents, it is important that the community be involved in improving the area. "Operation Fix It" is a Ward 4 Core Team initiative aimed at abating areas where crime, blight and compliance issues require participation from more



than one DC Government agency. "Fix Its" usually cover a 2-3 block radius and are aimed to improve the quality of life for residents, businesses and patrons.

There are "Fix-Its" in Ward 4 every week on either Wednesday or Friday. Call us to schedule a fix-it in your neighborhood.



Councilmember Bowser, residents and DPW clean up an alley.

DPW's Helping Hand Program

DPW's Solid Waste Education and Enforcement Program (SWEEP) can help organize a neighborhood cleanup. They have a Helping Hand Program that will provide tools and trash bags to community groups organizing neighborhood cleanup projects. DPW will even send trucks to pick up the bagged trash collected by tired volunteers! For more information about the Helping Hand Program and to get an application form, please call the Solid Waste Education and Enforcement Program (SWEEP) office at (202) 645-7190.

Graffiti Removal Kits are FREE

Department of Public Works has FREE Graffiti Removal Kits for residents and business owners whose property has been defaced by graffiti. Residents may call the City-wide Call Center at 311 to obtain a voucher to be redeemed at McCormick Paints located at 15th and P Streets, NW and Duron Paints located at 14th and Clifton Streets, NW. Property owners should expect to receive the voucher within five days of making the request, and you will need to sign the voucher when you redeem it at the paint store.

The voucher program is part of an aggressive graffiti abatement plan, announced in June 2007.

Get Involved!

There are lots of ways to get involved in your neighborhood. Our website has a complete list of community associations and their meeting days and times on the "About Ward 4" page. Please visit www.murielbowser.com for more information.

Advisory Neighborhood Commissions 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.

Here is a list of the Ward 4 ANC Commissions and contact information for each commission:

★ ANC4A meets the 1st Tuesday of every month at 7:15 PM at the Fort Stevens Recreation Center,



Councilmember Muriel Bowser is joined by Jeff Stoiber of the Friends of Lafayette Park for their clean up day along with other Chevy Chase neighbors.

13th & Van Buren Streets NW. Phone: (202) 291-9341.

★ ANC 4B meets the 4th Thursday of every month at 7:00 PM at Emery Recreation Center, 5701 Georgia Avenue, NW.

★ ANC 4C meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 6:30 pm at MPD's Northern Regional Operation Command Center (ROC), 801 Shepherd Street, NW. Phone: (202) 723-6670.

★ ANC 4D meets on the 3rd Tuesday

of each month at 7:00 pm at the 4th District Police Station, 6001 Georgia Avenue, NW. Phone: (202) 722-6830.

★ ANC3/4G serves two wards, Ward 3 and Ward 4, and they meet at 7:30 PM on the 2nd and the 4th Monday of every month at the Chevy Chase Community Center, 5601 Connecticut Avenue, NW. Phone (202) 363-5803.

Ward 4 is Open for Business

I am working hard with my DC Council colleagues to pass legislative initiatives that help small business. I'm also in the community with hands-on events to bring resources closer to small businesses to make doing business in Ward 4 beneficial for all. Here are a few of the many small business partners we have in Ward 4:

The DC Chamber of Commerce Business Resource Center (BRC) serves entrepreneurs and small business owners with relevant educational resources, one on one counseling, and access to capital programs, and a secure, high-speed wireless internet connection. They also



have an Asian business program which assists Asian-American businesses obtain sustainability and growth.

The BRC Director is Arthur Slade and he can be reached at (202) 545-0220 and at www.dccchamber.org/brc.

Gateway-Georgia Avenue Revitalization Corporation is a community development corporation chartered in 1997 to spearhead revitalization along Georgia Avenue from Walter Reed Army Medical Center to the Discovery Communications facility in Silver Spring, MD. Gateway Georgia Avenue specializes in forging public-private partnerships with a menu of services including: real estate marketing, facade improvement, business assistance and recruitment programs, capacity building, community relations and planning.

The Gateway Georgia Avenue Executive Director is Marc D. Loud and he can be reached at (202) 291-2400 or at www.gatewaycdc.com.

The Emory Beacon of Light, Inc. (EBOL) is a faith based, not for



profit, community development corporation. Their support for local businesses includes: storefront improvement, the Beacon Clean, Green, Safe Initiative and the Beacon Brightwood Business Alliance (BBBA). Over 60 local businesses have joined the BBBA that meets on the second Thursday of every month at 8 AM at the Emory United Methodist Church at 6100 Georgia Avenue, NW.

The President of EBOL is Hazel Broadnax and she can be reached at (202) 829-5732 or at www.emorybol.org.

Old Takoma Business Association

The Old Takoma Business Association (OTBA) is a membership organization of over 70 local businesses in the Old Takoma area. Their mission is to bring together businesses, residents and community organizations dedicated to developing a vibrant market center, from Takoma Junction, Maryland to the Takoma Theatre, DC.

The Executive Director of OTBA is Rosaline Grigsby and can be reached at (240) 253-4229 or at www.takomaonline.com.

DC Department of Small and Local Business Development

The Department of Small and Local Business Development (DSLBD) is the citywide resource for assistance to start, operate and expand a business in the District, through training, certification, business opportunities, and neighborhood commercial revitalization services.

★ **"We need substantial political pressure here,"** Bowser said. **"The time to move is now. We're tired of seeing all of our dollars going to Silver Spring or Bethesda,"**

Northwest Current, August 1, 2007.

Funding has been allocated in this year's budget for additional Ward 4 business retention and revitalization services in a commercial corridor, as established by the Neighborhood Investment Fund (NIF) target areas. These additional services will be delivered through a grant to existing non-profits with the capacity to implement commercial corridor revitalization services — using the Main Streets approach — in the Summer of 2008.

Businesses interested in: DSLBD's workshops and training available at the eBIC (located at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Library) should contact Samira Cook at (202) 727-2241 or samira.cook@dc.gov; information on business opportunities contact Kimberly R. Smith at (202) 727-3900 or kimberlyr.smith@dc.gov; information regarding services available through the Office of Commercial Revitalization contact Phyllis R. Love at (202) 727-3900 or phyllis.love@dc.gov.

★ **"If we are going to revitalize Georgia Avenue, we have to make it cleaner and safer. We have to do a lot of things all at once. There's not one approach that is going to fix this problem."**

Northwest Current, October 10, 2007.

Muriel Bowser's Ward 4 Cares Constituent Fund

Dear Neighbor:

Many residents occasionally find themselves in an emergency situation and unable to pay their utility bills or rent. That's why Councilmember Muriel Bowser's Ward 4 Cares Constituent Fund is so important. The Fund narrows the gap between need and ability to pay and covers the shortfall in the budgets of many Ward 4 residents. What makes Muriel's Ward 4 Cares Fund so unique is that not one penny comes from the District Government. Councilmember Bowser depends on the generosity of caring individuals and businesses for the financial support of this fund. Ward 4 residents have a great legacy of giving their gifts of money and also the great gift of their time to help organize and sponsor Ward 4 Cares Constituent Services Fund projects. Let's continue doing all we can to support Ward 4 Cares.

Sincerely,
Ellie Anderson
Chair, Ward 4 Cares Committee

WARD 4 Cares
MURIEL
BOWSER COUNCILMEMBER

A Big Thanks to the Ward 4 Cares Committee for All their Hard Work!

Councilmember Bowser would like to thank the members of the Ward 4 Cares Committee who have worked diligently throughout the year on a number of projects.

Members of the committee include: Eleanor Anderson, Joan Thomas, D. Kamili Anderson, Audrey Hendricks, Donna Ellis, Jourdinia Brown, Lisa Bass, Helen Thompson, Betty Gough, Annette Jones, Kevin Blackwell, Louis Wessel, Joe Bishop, Bill Husan, Luke Turner, J.R. Clark, Randy Speck, Presley Reed and Calvin Hamilton.

The Ward 4 Cares Committee has hosted a number of events this year: ★ They hosted a lovely birthday party for Muriel on August 2 at the home of Daniel Smith and Loretta Neumann. A few hundred people came to wish Muriel a happy birthday and help support the Ward 4 Cares Constituent Fund.

★ The Ward 4 Cares Committee helped Councilmember Muriel Bowser to distribute more than

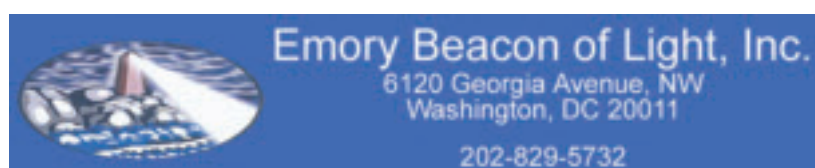
100 Thanksgiving baskets filled to the brim with food items for needy Ward 4 residents with minor children, senior citizens, and disabled persons.

★ The Annual Ward 4 Holiday Party at the Kingsbury Day School collected hundreds of donated toys, books, and games for children ages 2 to 18 years old. The Ward 4 Cares Committee distributed these to needy families throughout the Ward as identified by the school principals.

★ The Ward 4 Cares Committee helped organized the Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service at Roosevelt Senior High School to paint inspirational quotes and murals throughout the school, as well as build benches and bookshelves, and transform multiple classrooms and lounges. The Ward 4 Cares Committee was joined by LaSalle Elementary students and 500 City Year volunteers for the day of service.



Davis Center dancers charmed the audience at the Ward 4 Holiday party



Delivering on My Promises to Secure More Funding for Ward 4 Initiatives

I listened to the Ward 4 community and demanded additional resources from the supplemental appropriation passed at the end of December 2007:

Here are the items that I specifically requested for Ward 4 :

★\$300,000 for the Riggs Park Air and Soil Quality Study: This appropriation will include funds to complete two air and soil quality studies independent of the studies ordered by the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

★\$800,000 to the DC Children and Youth Investment Trust Fund: Peaceholics and the Rebuilding the Village/Petworth will receive a grant of \$200,000 from this allocation.

★\$1.8 million for Community Policing/Crime Fighting Tools: This allotment will fund expanded shot-spotter technology in MPD's Third and Fourth Districts, and includes \$150,000 for additional crime cameras in the Petworth and Brightwood communities.

★\$300,000 for a Business Improvement District (BID) Demonstration Project.

★\$75,000 for Upshur Park Recreation Center renovations: Funds were designated to the Department of Parks and Recreation to develop a comprehensive plan for the Upshur Recreation Center and Upshur Park.

★\$50,000 for the Neighborhood Development Marketing tools to support long-awaited neighborhood development opportunities in Ward 4. The Office of Planning will develop easy-to-use marketing and outreach materials.



Councilmember Bowser visits with the kids enjoying the new playground and spray park at the Petworth Recreation Center at 801 Taylor Street, NW.

Frequently Called Numbers

Call 911:

For all police related matters emergency and non emergency, need of ambulance, fire department, etc...

To report downed wires and life-threatening emergencies: 202-872-3432

Please DO NOT dial 911 for outage information or to report power outages. Also Pepco cannot respond to outages reported by e-mail.

Call 311:

For all other governmental agency requests/city services — cars towed, street lights replaced, streets repaired, animal issues, abandoned vehicles, trees trimmed, trash pick ups, etc...

**Washington Gas
Emergency Hotline**
703-750-1400

**WASA Emergency
Hotline**

202-612-3400

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)

**Answers Please! Social
Service Hotline**

211 or 202-463-6211



Councilmember Bowser is joined by Mayor Adrian Fenty and Councilmember Carol Schwartz to open the Hattie Holmes Senior Wellness Center.

WARD 4 Cares ★
MURIEL
BOWSER COUNCILMEMBER

P.O. Box 60371
Washington, DC 20039
202 724-8052
www.murielbowser.com



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

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