



Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6A
PO Box 75115
Washington, DC 20013



October 20, 2006

Marcus Ellis
Department of Parks and Recreation
Government of the District of Columbia
3149 16th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20010

Mr. Ellis,

At our regularly scheduled public meeting on Wednesday, September 20, 2006, our Commission voted unanimously to request the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) install new fences at Sherwood and Rosedale Recreation Centers.

These fences should address specific concerns for the public safety of the residents as well as the visitors who use the facility for recreational purposes. At Sherwood Recreation Center, neighbors report that the existing fence is flimsy and falls down in some places. Neighborhood residents also noted that children are entering the facility to ride mopeds around the walking/riding track. It was also noted that there is a large tree that stands in the city's public space on the edge of the existing fence. The tree and the area around the tree provide a certain area of "protection" to people hanging out there. There is concern from the community that the fence installed should be durable, strong, and attractive.

Regarding Rosedale Recreation Center, the present fence is chain link and has been cut multiple times and the repairs do not stop people from entering the grounds without supervision. Regularly, people note broken windows at the facility as well as graffiti. The violent crimes, such as the shootings this year on the basketball courts, make it critical to improve the fence.

In order to continue improving the safety at the Sherwood and Rosedale Recreation Centers, we request the fences to be installed with the following characteristics:

1. Constructed of wrought iron.
2. Height shall be the maximum 7 feet allowed by zoning code.
3. Decorative caps shall be placed on the tops of the fence posts to help appearance.
4. Regarding Sherwood Recreation Center - apply for a public space permit to allow the large "hideout" tree to be fenced in.

In close, we look forward your response by November 8, 2006, so we can continue to work together to make our recreation centers safe for our community. If you have any questions, please contact Dr. Stephanie Nixon, chair of our public safety committee, at (202) 396-7234.

On behalf of the Commission,

Joseph Fengler
Chair, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6A