

## INCREASED ANTI-NUISANCE SCRUTINY FOR WYLIE-LINDEN

*Multiple Agency Plan Proposed*

by GABRIEL PACYNIAK

Responding to continuing complaints of criminal activity, illegal dumping, and illegal auto repair, Ward 6 neighborhood coordinator Peter Jones has put together a "multiple agency work plan" (MAP) for the area loosely bounded by G, 12th, I, and 14th Sts. NE. The plan would coordinate the efforts of Metropolitan Police Department (MPD), Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs (DCRA), the Department of Public Works (DPW), and other District agencies in fighting some of the longstanding problems reported by neighbors in the area.

The MAP proposal began as a request from ANC 6A Chair Joseph Fengler to get the alley bounded by Linden Pl. and H, 12th, and 13th Sts. NE declared a Persistent Problem Area (PPA). Neighbors charge that the alley, which abuts an AutoZone auto-parts store, is frequently used by unlicensed street mechanics for auto-repairs and dumping of auto-related fluids and junk. Other problems reported by neighbors include prostitution and drug-dealing. Designation of an area as a PPA brings additional police officers to an area, but can be difficult to attain because of limit-

ed MPD man-power. The area surrounding Wylie St. NE, two streets north of the alley, had already been designated a PPA; Jones, who was unable to secure an extension of the PPA for the alley, arranged for a MAP covering an even larger area instead.

While the MAP does not bring additional MPD officers to the area, it will provide additional resources from other agencies as well as a regular meeting between agency representatives to work on different ways to address problem issues in the community. The draft MAP plan suggests weekly inspections for illegal dumping, working with dumpster owners to enclose dumpsters and prevent dumping, increased enforcement of illegal auto-repair on and near the AutoZone site, and increased enforcement of abandoned and nuisance properties. One other suggestion, which Jones admitted has proven nearly impossible to implement in the past, was the installation of closed-circuit cameras in the alley.

According to Jones the tentative launch date for the MAP will be March 1st.

"In my mind Peter has been very responsive at helping us get the ball rolling," said Fengler. "Now it's time for [those of us in the community] to make sure we come out to meetings and give these agencies feedback."

For more information, please contact Ward 6 Neighborhood Services Coordinator Peter Jones at 202.698.5622 or by email at [Peter.Jones@dc.gov](mailto:Peter.Jones@dc.gov).

