



District of Columbia Government
Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6A-02
815 F Street, NE
Washington, DC 20002



July 3, 2007

To: Pickford Place, 8th and 9th Street residents between F and G Streets

The unusual configuration of our square - with walkways where others have alleys - makes it important to keep the common space we share clean and safe. These walkways offer access to the backs of our houses for firefighters, police, cable and utility workers. Recently, trash and construction debris have accumulated in the walkways, which encourages more dumping, impedes access and invites rats. A "dirty" walkway also encourages more serious criminal activity - burglaries, public urination, prostitution and drug-dealing.

To combat the recent criminal activity in our square, the police presence has been increased, especially police on bicycles. More noticeable, the Department of Public Works employees have recently cleaned, trimmed tree overhangs and swept the walkways. This took considerable urging and we should not expect a repeat performance anytime soon. To maintain these walkways, you can do the following:

1. **Add Light.** If you have lights on the back of your house, focus them on the walkways, keep them on at night; also consider installing motion detectors. If you don't have lights, consider installing them. The police tell us light is a major crime deterrent.
2. **Trash Rules.** Please visit dpw.dc.gov or call (202) 727-1000. Some basics:
 - Trash pickup days are Monday and Thursday. Place trash bins out the night before. Recycling bins and yard waste are picked up on the second collection day. Visit the DPW web site for instructions on disposing construction materials.
 - Bulk Trash Collection is by appointment only. Call 727-1000 for a pickup date (limit of 7 items) and set the items out the night before. Check DPW website for what is and is not allowed.
 - Hazardous Waste Disposal is available twice a year (spring and fall). This includes electronics, household and gardening chemicals. Check the DPW website for fall collection date and location.
3. **Police Engagement.**
 - Report Dumping. If you see dumping in progress, call 311. If you witness it after the fact call the mayor's command center at 727-1000. Dumping fines can run as high as \$5,000. Information leading to the apprehension of a dumper can generate a \$500 reward.
 - Report Crime. If you see a criminal activity, please call 911. Even if the police do not catch someone, the service call is logged. One of the factors used for police deployment is service calls.
 - Attend Police Service Area (PSA) 102 meetings. PSA work directly with citizens on crime challenges and issues in their neighborhoods. PSA 102 meets monthly at Sherwood Recreation Center on the second Tuesday between 7-8:30 p.m. For more information, please visit <http://psa102.blogspot.com>.
 - Join MPD 1st District (1D) Listserve. For those with computer access, please join 1D's listserv. Commander Groomes uses the list serve to directly respond to citizen's e-mail. I have never seen a question go unanswered within 24 hours. You can join at: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/MPD-1D>.

Keeping our unique square clean and safe will require help from everyone. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Regards,

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For more information regarding our Commission, please visit our website at www.anc6a.org