

Commissioner Contact:

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Say Hi if you see me on the street walking my dog!



SPRING 2007

April ANC Meetings/Events

- 10** Dog Park Informational Meeting, 6 pm
Finn MacCools,
713 8th St. SE
- 10** PSA 103 Meeting, 7 pm
Miner Elementary
601 15th St. NE
- 11** **ANC 6A06 SMD, 7-9 pm**
Purity Baptist Church
1325 Maryland Ave. NE
- 12** ANC 6A Meeting, 7 pm
Miner Elementary
601 15th St. NE
- 16** Community Outreach, 7:30
Church Lord Jesus Christ
1235 C St. NE
- 17** Alcohol Licensing (ABL), 7
Sherwood Rec Center
640 10th Street, NE
- 18** Public Safety, 7 pm
Sherwood Rec Center
640 10th Street, NE
- 23** Transportation/Parks, 7 pm
Capitol Hill Towers
900 G St. NE
- 24** Economic Development, 7
Capitol Hill Towers
900 G St. NE

ANC 6A06 SMD REPORT

Thank you for electing me to be your representative on the ANC. It is an honor to serve you and I am excited about working with you, my fellow ANC commissioners, and Council Member Wells over the next two years on initiatives to improve our neighborhood and the delivery of city services.

This Newsletter

I will be distributing a quarterly newsletter throughout ANC Single Member District (SMD) 6A06 to provide residents information on the following topics:

- summary of my activities as your commissioner
- summary of major ANC initiatives
- calendar of upcoming ANC related meetings
- references for how to obtain more timely and detailed information of ANC activities

The purpose of this newsletter is to connect to new neighbors, reach out to neighbors without internet access, and to encourage participation in the ANC process.

I will not be able to discuss in great detail all the issues of concern in our neighborhood, so I encourage everyone to review the information sources listed in the ANC Guide and in the Hill Rag and Voice of the Hill newspapers to learn more about what is happening in our neighborhood. I also encourage you to skip one night of bad TV a month to attend a PSA, ANC, or an ANC subcommittee meeting.

The subcommittee meetings provide citizens the best opportunity to engage in discussion about an issue of concern. The subcommittees develop recommendations which are forwarded to the ANC for vote and action.



SMD Meeting

You are invited to attend my spring Single Member District open house meeting: Please come by and stay for as little or as much time as you like.

Date: Wednesday, April 11th

Time: 7 p.m. until 9 p.m.

Location: Purity Baptist Church
1325 Maryland Avenue, NE

Signs will be posted to the meeting room location the night of the event.

MPD Commander Diane Groomes will be stopping by around 8 p.m. to meet neighbors and to encourage attendance at the monthly PSA meetings.

I will give a 15 minute presentation at 7:15 and 8:15 p.m. Afterwards I will be available to answer questions and to discuss issues with you.

Anticipated topics of discussion:

- Historic District Expansion
- H Street Development and Construction
- Parking (residential and visitor)
- Traffic Calming
- Vacant Housing
- Crime Concerns
- H Street Single Sales Moratorium
- Park and Recreation Center Needs
- Dog Park Establishment
- Sidewalk and Lighting Conditions
- ANC Actions and Initiatives



My Actions on Behalf of our SMD

- Reported improper sidewalk repair on 600 block of 15th St– to DDOT Result: Damaged Sidewalk Replaced
- Wrote letter in support of H Street singles moratorium to ABRA
- Developed inventory of vacant houses and properties in our SMD and delivered to ED&Z Committee
- Participated in Citizens MPD 1D Crime Summit
- Submitted traffic calming petition for 13th St between E and Florida
- Obtained DDOT promise to install Permit Parking on 1200 block of F Street by April of this year
- Worked with ABL committee to draft voluntary agreement to control rooftop noise for Twelve Restaurant and Lounge proposed for corner of 12th and H
- Proposed trash can modification pilot project for Maryland Ave
- Working to modify dog park siting rules to enable construction of at least one dog park in our ANC
- Helped citizens start traffic calming application process for 1300 G and 1300 E streets
- Worked with ANC6C to improve intersection at 7th and Maryland
- Testified at Council Hearing on Department of Parks and Recreation to improve quality of our parks and recreation centers
- Held discussion with DDOT officials to improve parking policies and practices for residents and business owners
- Reported illegal dumping at 1362 H Street multiple times
- Reported contractor damaged sidewalk at 1409 G Street

Major ANC Joint Initiatives with Council Member Wells for 2006

Our ANC is working in partnership with Council Member Tommy Wells on the following items for this term:

1. Improve Sherwood and Rosedale recreation centers and grounds
2. Fund and construct light rail for H Street
3. Expand alcohol single sales moratorium
4. Improve nuisance property policies
5. Eliminate DC owned vacant property
6. Traffic calming of our streets
7. Improve public space and parks
8. Improve DCRA accountability, function, and transparency
9. Improve illegal construction enforcement
10. Capitol Hill Historic District expansion
11. Improve transportation demand management strategies for new development – see discussion below
12. Improve social services

Transportation Demand Management

This is probably a new topic for many of you. Transportation Demand Management (TDM) is a general term for strategies that result in more efficient use of transportation resources.

Simply put, TDM strategies encourage and promote the spreading of travel trips across multiple modes of travel – driving, transit, walking, and bicycling. As our city and the region continues to grow, it is essential that we plan and encourage alternative travel polices to avoid complete gridlock which will ruin our economy and quality of life. We can not expand the existing roadway system in DC without eliminating parking or bulldozing our buildings.

To illustrate I will give a few examples.

Car Sharing

Flexcar and Zipcar are companies that allow its members (\$25 annual fee) to rent a car on an hourly basis (\$8 per hour, gas and insurance included). Each individual car is shared between 10-15 individuals. The benefit to members is it reduces the need to own a car, or more typically a second car which saves up \$2,000 per year on payments, fuel, and insurance. Non members benefit from the presence of fewer cars in the neighborhood as it studies show 25% of shared car members sell a personal vehicle once they join.

To learn more see:

www.zipcar.com

www.flexcar.com

The new condo/commercial development proposed for the 600 block of H Street will provide shared cars for its residents.

Transit

Our ANC has led the way to encourage DDOT to construct a streetcar on H Street to connect Minnesota Avenue metro station to Union Station. Streetcars can carry more people than the buses and it has been shown that more people are willing to ride a streetcar or metro line than a bus.

Bus service can be encouraged by ensuring cleaner buses, running on time, running convenient schedules, and providing nicer bus stops and access to schedules with easy to read maps.

Shared Parking

Parking is often the most stressful element for a neighborhood as development occurs. Some portions of our neighborhood are already feeling pressure from visitors to the new bars and theatres on H Street.

The concept of Shared Parking is simple – it is maximizing existing parking by encouraging the shared use of existing parking resources. This occurs all the

time on our residential streets but it rarely occurs at the church, school, condo, and business parking lots. These spaces are reserved for the users of the site which are often only needed for specific times of day or periods of the week.

For example, the parking lot at Miner Elementary is available only for the teachers and guests and it is closed at night and weekends. It would be better for the neighborhood if this lot was available for night time visitor parking, resident parking, and business parking. One possible use would be to allow business owners along H to valet customer cars to this site on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday evenings so that our street parking can be reserved for the residents. The money generated could be utilized to fix the school,

provide traffic calming around the school, or to fund an after school program.

Walking

We are blessed to live in a neighborhood with beautiful homes, sidewalks, and tree lined streets. Walking is an enjoyable way to get around but the experience is affected by poor sidewalks, blocked sidewalks (vehicles parking across sidewalk), driveway frequency, and motorist disrespect for pedestrians at crosswalks.

We also have many angled intersections which can be a hazard to cross and we experience daily frustrations with motorist running or rolling through stop signs, speeding through the neighborhood, or failing to let pedestrians cross the road.

Our ANC is addressing these issues by supporting and encouraging the traffic calming program which will redesign the angled intersections, provide curb extension of sidewalk into the street, and install speed humps or raised crosswalks to slow speeds. We are also working with MPD to enforce ticketing of vehicles parked on sidewalks, speeding motorists, and motorists failing to stop for pedestrians.

To learn more, see my presentation on the ANC website:

<http://www.anc6a.org/TrafficCalmingBS.pdf>

To learn more about TDM see the following website:

<http://www.vtpi.org/tdm/>

Trash, Recycling, and Litter Campaign

I often receive complaints about the presence of rats and litter in our streets and alleys. I want to start a partnership with the neighborhood and lead an ANC initiative to improve the quality of our streets and reduce the trash on our streets. The constant presence of litter and graffiti leaves an impression that we don't care about our neighborhood. To reduce littering it is going to take a combined effort between the city government and the residents.

What DPW can do: I am going to work with DPW, the ANC, and Council Member Wells to improve the trash collection process. DPW needs to do a better job of picking up all of the trash when advertised, they can't let it fall out of the truck, they need to drive responsibly, and they need to provide cans to residents when asked for and not run them over in the alleys and leave them scattered in the road after collection. Long term, I would like to see more public trash cans placed on our streets and in our parks. DPW will not place additional trash cans on our streets as long as they are used by area residents who place their household trash in the public cans.

What we can do: Trash is picked up on Monday and Thursday. Trash needs to be placed in a can if left out over night. If bags are placed, they should be put out the morning of pickup. Bags left over night are a **primary source of food** for rats, mice and other vermin as they can smell the food inside and easily rip open the bags. Opened bags spread litter on our streets and DPW staff will not pick up the debris.

Do not place household trash in public cans. Public trash cans are placed on our streets to reduce litter. When these cans are filled with household trash, there is no room for the candy wrappers, bottles, doggie "poop bags", and fast food items to be disposed of. You can receive a \$75 fine for placing household trash in public cans. If you need a can or if your trash is not picked up, report it at 727-1000 or contact me. If you see illegal dumping, call 911 immediately.

The ANC sent a letter to DPW in March asking them to consider modifying the public trash cans on Maryland Avenue with small tops to prevent the placement of household trash bags. I will keep you posted on the developments of this request.



Public can filled with household trash
12th and Maryland Avenue



1362 H Street Illegal Dumping – Owner has been fined for not fencing this vacant building



**ANC 6A AND ANC 6C WILL BE
HOLDING 3 JOINT PUBLIC MEETINGS
CONCERNING THE EXTENSION OF THE CAPITOL HILL
HISTORIC DISTRICT OR CREATING A NEW HISTORIC
DISTRICT TO THE NORTH AND/OR EAST OF
THE EXISTING HISTORIC DISTRICT.**

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 4 - 7:00 PM.

**NPR at 635 Massachusetts Ave NW,
second floor, 7 pm**

The first joint public meeting between ANC 6A's Economic Development and Zoning Committee and ANC 6C's Planning, Zoning and the Environment Committee will be on April 4. This will be an information gathering meeting to inform ANCs and their residents about the process of creating or expanding a historic district. Topics will include the pros and cons of living in a historic district, what types of building alterations are subject to Historic Preservation review, the requirements for surveying properties and the requirements that must be satisfied in order to become part of a historic district.

TUESDAY, APRIL 24 – 7:00 PM

**Community Room at the Capitol Hill
Towers located at 900 G Street, NE.**

The second joint public meeting between ANC 6A's Economic Development and Zoning Committee and ANC 6C's Planning, Zoning and the Environment Committee will be held on April 24. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the respective ANC support of the creation of a new historic district, expansion of the existing Capitol Hill historic district or not becoming part of a historic district. In addition, the potential boundaries of a new or expanded historic district will be discussed.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 23 – 7:00 PM

**Sherwood Recreation Center located at
the corner of 10th and G Streets, NE.**

The third joint public meeting between the ANC 6A's Economic Development and Zoning Committee and ANC 6C's Planning, Zoning and the Environment Committee will be held on May 23. This purpose of this meeting is to make joint committee recommendations that will be forwarded for review and approval at the June 13th ANC 6C Commission and the June 14th ANC 6A Commission meetings.

**SUMMARY OF DATES,
TIMES AND LOCATIONS:**

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 4,
2007, 7:00PM,** at the regularly scheduled ANC 6C Planning, Zoning and the Environment Committee meeting at NPR at 635 Massachusetts Ave NW, second floor, 7 pm (near Gallery Pl on the red line, Mt Vernon Sq on the yellow line).

**TUESDAY, APRIL 24, 2007,
7:00PM,** at the regularly scheduled ANC 6A Economic Development and Zoning Committee meeting in the community room at the Capitol Hill Towers located at 900 G Street, NE.

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 23,
2007, 7:00PM,** a joint meeting between ANC 6C Planning, Zoning and the Environment Committee and ANC 6A Economic Development and Zoning Committee at Sherwood Recreation Center located at the corner of 10th and G Streets, NE.

All Residents are Invited and Encouraged to Attend!