

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
EXECUTIVE OFFICE



OFFICE OF THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR

April 26, 2004

Joseph Fengler, Chair  
Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6A  
P.O. Box 75115  
Washington, D.C. 20013

RE: 1125 G Street, NE

Dear Commissioner Fengler:

Below please find this office's response to your letter dated April 19, 2004, entitled "Concerns about 1125 G Street, NE":

Whether required construction inspections have occurred or have been inadequate. There were particular concerns about inspections for the foundation, firewall, framing, and overall structural integrity.

DCRA has informed this office that construction inspections have occurred. DCRA also informed this office that they do not have structural engineers who analyze a contractor's work, but instead DCRA reviews/approves engineering and/or construction plans forwarded by the owner/general contractor. We have been informed that the owner was asked to replace cinder block with a larger size, to increase structural integrity.

Whether a licensed general contractor is supervising the work.

Owner Ms. Tanya Harris is licensed as a general contractor and will be supervising the work from this period on. Ms. Harris was instructed by this office that she is to be on the premise at all times unless she hires another general contractor (who must remain on-site) or she would be cited by DCRA.

Status of property registration in the Real Property Assessment Database and tax treatment by the Office of Tax and Revenue. (There is no property with the address 1125 G St, NE in the database, although a property at lot 0983 and square 0056 is shown as owned by Lisa M. Godette. This property is classified as use code 91: "True-Vacant.")

1125 G Street, NE, is being taxed at the vacant property rate, per Ms. Lisa Newman with the Office of Tax & Revenue (442-6449). With the information given to Ms. Newman

last Tuesday, she has advised this office that she will update the record. Ms. Newman needs to determine when the change can occur, since the house is not completely finished.

Vehicles working on the site (large trucks and bulldozers) access the site from the new brick sidewalk causing damage to the sidewalk.

Ms. Harris has been instructed that no trucks or bulldozers are to access the site from the sidewalk. Ms. Harris has made the necessary repairs to the damaged sidewalk.

Fences around the property are often not properly secured, allowing unauthorized access and theft from the site.

Ms. Harris has secured the rear gate of the property and was instructed to widen the front fence by COB Friday April 23, 2004, to prohibit anyone from entering the open area (in the front) and getting hurt. This request has been met. Ms. Harris is aware that if her property is not secure, she will be cited by DCRA.

The alley between 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> and F & G Streets is sometimes blocked by work vehicles and materials.

Ms. Harris was instructed she has to apply for a permit for a temporary alley closure before she can allow construction trucks to block the alley.

Work vehicles damaged the fence at 636 12<sup>th</sup> Street, NE.

Unfortunately, this office cannot substantiate this claim.

The alley and street have been damaged by construction activities. The temporary patches are not adequate.

DDOT explained the alley repair will be implemented by the District government, due to trash trucks and other vehicles entering this alley.

The residents expressed concern about whether the plans conform to zoning regulations for lot coverage and height, and whether the plans had been followed.

Building plans have been reviewed and approved by DCRA.

Vermin such as rats, as well as mold and mildew from water damage that should be addressed before additional construction.

No evidence was noticed of the above statement. Rodent control (VECTOR) has been asked to inspect the property, and this office is awaiting their inspection and report.

Phone and cable lines have been knocked down, and repairs have left some lines with excess slack.

Per Ms. Harris, the phone lines were knocked down when the tree from 1129 fell across the neighbor's yard. Residents should contact Verizon and/or their cable company to tighten the excess slack.

Whether proper public space approvals have been obtained, and whether fees have been improperly waived.

Public space approval has been properly obtained, and all permits are valid as of this date (some of the permits have been renewed).

Destruction of a street tree by construction activities.

The Tree Division will be making the determination of the species and the size of the tree. Ms. Harris will be asked to replace the tree box.

Possible illegal activities (drug drop-off in bamboo?) in the alley behind the property.

This office will bring this information to the attention of MPD.

Commissioner, it is my understanding that at least some of the concerns noted in your letter is being addressed by residents or their lawyer(s). Our office is also aware that some residents are working with Ms. Harris in seeing that certain repairs are being made to their property.

Please be advised that this office, along with DDOT, has requested the DCRA inspector, Harry Meyers, submit his findings regarding this property in writing to this office, but we are awaiting his response. Once we are updated this office will forward either his findings or a summary of the same to ANC 6A.

With Kind Regards,



Peter Jones  
Ward 6 Neighborhood Services Coordinator

PJ/FE  
file