



District of Columbia Government
Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6A
Box 75115
Washington, DC 20013



June 15, 2005

Ms. Carol J. Mitten, Director
Office of Property Management
441 4th Street, Suite 1100
Washington, DC 20001

Re: Disposition of properties at 525 Ninth Street, NE and 1341 Maryland Avenue, NE

Dear Ms. Mitten:

The Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) on June 6, 2005, informed our Commission that the former Police Station and Fire House located at 525 Ninth Street, NE and 1341 Maryland Avenue, NE, respectively, are not physically in their inventory for proper disposal. Prior to this discovery, DHCD was poised to issue a request for proposal (RFP) to seek bids to develop these properties. As a result, DHCD has forwarded all the documents to the Office of Property (OPM) to obtain a decision on whether DHCD can proceed with the issuance of the RFPs. The DHCD letter is provided at enclosure one.

The Commission has learned that as both of these properties are now under the management jurisdiction of OPM, they are available for acquisition by the National Capital Revitalization Corporation (NCRC) as a result of the land transfer arrangement for Southwest Waterfront properties made with the Anacostia Waterfront Corporation. The NCRC press release that outlines this arrangement is provided at enclosure two. It is our understanding that NCRC has tentatively identified the former Police Station at 525 Ninth Street, NE as one of several properties to satisfy the terms of the memorandum of agreement for the Southwest Waterfront land transfer.

On June 9, 2005, at the regularly scheduled ANC 6A meeting, and with a quorum present, the Commission voted to request that the OPM immediately initiate the surplus and disposition process for these two properties. The Commission recognizes that the surplus and disposition of these properties requires District of Columbia Council approval. We also understand there is a 90 day notification period for the Council. Accordingly, we further request an expedited submission of the required documents to the Council before schedule the July 15 recess.

Enclosure three is our Commission's input regarding the RFP for 525 Ninth Street, NE sent to DHCD on December 10, 2004. Enclosure four is our Commission's input regarding the RFP for 1341 Maryland Avenue, NE sent to DHCD on February 14, 2005. In addition, the Commission discourages the transfer of the 525 Ninth Street, NE from OPM to NCRC as it would further delay the RFP process and ignore the hard work the community has undertaken to restore this blighted property.

The efforts of the Commission and the community to redevelop these two vacant and abandoned properties are documented in the following enclosures:

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



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- Enclosure five is a copy of the letter we sent to then DHCD Director, Mr. Stanley Jackson, on February 24, 2004, expressing our concern of the deteriorating condition of 525 Ninth Street, NE as well as an invitation to attend our March 11, 2004, Commission meeting.
- Enclosure six provides a copy of the minutes from the March 11, 2004, Commission meeting where then DHCD Director, Mr. Stanley Jackson, promised that the disposition of these two properties would be resolved before the end of the year (2004).
- Enclosure seven is a copy of the letter our Commission sent to the DHCD Director, Mr. Stanley Jackson, on May 24, 2004, requesting an update on the public meeting DHCD was to hold within 60 days of the March 11, 2004, Commission meeting.
- Enclosure eight is a copy of the letter our Commission sent to Office of Planning Director, Mr. Andrew Altman, on June 17, 2004, seeking assistance in the redevelopment of these two properties in accordance with Mayor's commitments to expand opportunities for residential development in the District.
- Enclosure nine is a copy of the letter from DHCD on December 27, 2004, recognizing the input our community provided at two public meetings conducted by DHCD and ANC 6A on October 21, 2004 and December 13, 2004.
- Enclosure ten is a copy of the letter from our Commission to DHCD Director, Mr. Jalal Greene, on April 22, 2005, requesting an update on the RFP process for both of these properties.

We also request a contact person in OPM in order to continue to work maintenance issues regarding these properties as DHCD is no longer responsible for maintenance of these properties.

In close, it is our fervid hope the documentation attached to this letter will provide the context and urgency of our request. We thank you in advance for your time and consideration of this matter.

Respectfully,

Joseph Fengler
Chair, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6A

cc: Councilmember Sharon Ambrose
Mr. Jalal Greene, Director, Department of Housing and Community Development
Mr. Anthony Freeman, President, National Capital Revitalization Corporation
Gottlieb Simon, Office of Advisory Neighborhood Commissions

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

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT



Office of the Director

June 6, 2005

Mr. Joseph Fengler
Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6A02
815 F Street, N.E.
Washington, DC 20002

Dear Mr. Fengler:

This letter is in response to your correspondence forwarded to the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) regarding the disposition of properties located at 525 9th Street, NE and 1341 Maryland Avenue, NE.

The Department had initially proposed to issue a Request for Proposal in early spring 2005. However, during this time period, DHCD learned through further research that the properties in question, were not physically in the agency inventory for proper disposal, but were in fact properties controlled by the Office of Property Management (OPM). At the request of OPM, all files and briefing materials were forwarded to that office.

As instructed, we forwarded the documents to Carol Mitten in late February and are awaiting a decision from her on whether DHCD can proceed with the work that was in progress. DHCD shares the same goals of the Advisory Neighborhood Commission to remove blighted conditions/structures from the community and turn them into useful assets. The Department is working in good faith toward that reality. We understand your frustration and have been working diligently to obtain a favorable decision on these properties.

If you have further inquiries as to the status of these properties, please contact Ms. Carol Mitten at the Office of Property Management on (202) 724-4400.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jalal Greene".

Jalal Greene
Director

Cc: Carol Mitten, OPM
Stanley Jackson, DMPED
Councilmember Sharon Ambrose
Councilmember Vincent Orange
Councilmember David Catania
Gottlieb Simon, Office of Advisory Neighborhood Commission



Contact:
Peggy Armstrong
202.530.5750

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Wednesday, May 19, 2004

News Release

NCRC and RLARC Boards Agree to Terms for the Transfer of the Southwest Waterfront

Washington, DC...The Boards of Directors of the National Capital Revitalization Corporation and the RLA Revitalization Corporation approved an agreement in principle and authorized the negotiation of a Memorandum of Understanding that will simultaneously transfer each company's respective interests in the Southwest Waterfront to the Government of the District of Columbia in exchange for cash, land, and other resources at a date to be mutually agreed upon.

"We reached an agreement in principle with the City that we hope will allow the revitalization of the Southwest Waterfront to move forward expeditiously and take advantage of the current market conditions," said Board Chair Karen M. Hardwick. "Working cooperatively with Williams Administration, we've taken the first step in a complex real estate transaction that, once successfully implemented, will provide tremendous benefits to the residents and neighborhoods of the District of Columbia."

The terms of the agreement include:

- Cash consideration of \$25 million (taken from the City's portion of the proceeds of land disposition made through the RLA Revitalization Corporation);
- Land consideration consisting of small parcels with an assessed value of \$24.5 million and selection of one large parcel (McMillan Reservoir, DC Village, or St. Elizabeth's), or in the alternative, the selection of other properties from the City's portfolio;

National Capital Revitalization Corporation

1801 K Street, N.W. ♦ Suite 1210 ♦ Washington, DC 20006 ♦ Telephone (202) 530-5750 ♦ Fax (202) 530-5790 ♦ www.ncrcdc.com

- Revenue from water-based operations at the Southwest Waterfront with NCRC retaining lease income for two years and other disposition proceeds as agreed-upon;
- One seat on the Board of Directors of the Anacostia Waterfront Corporation;
- Commitment to strengthen partnership between NCRC and the City.

“The execution of the terms of the agreement reached between NCRC and the City will make NCRC significantly stronger and allows the Corporation to move aggressively to revitalize neighborhoods,” said Theodore N. Carter, NCRC President and CEO.

NCRC is committed to working expeditiously to execute the Memorandum of Understanding with the City.

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Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6A
Box 75115
Washington, DC 20013



February 14, 2005

Jalal Greene
Director, Department of Housing and Community Development
801 North Capitol Street NE, Suite 8000
Washington, DC 20002

Re: Request for Proposals for 1341 Maryland Avenue, NE (the former Fire House)

Mr. Greene:

On February 10, 2005, at our regularly scheduled and noticed public meeting, with a quorum of 7 of 8 commissioners present, we voted to request that you incorporate the following recommendations into the selection criteria of the Request for Proposals (RFP) that we understand your agency is currently preparing for 1341 Maryland Ave. NE (the former firehouse). Accordingly, we expect that as a result of the "great weight" afforded to an ANC, these will be included in the final RFP criteria.

1. The ANC opposes any quasi-residential use such as a Community-Based Residential Facility.
2. Give strong preference to bidders who are able to show significant support from within the immediate neighborhood.
3. Give strong preference to bidders with a proven record of successful management of renovations involving asbestos, lead and other environmental hazards, unless such hazards are shown not to be present at the site, in which case such a preference is unnecessary.
4. Give strong preference to bidders with a proven record of successful residential redevelopment of properties in a historic district.

Finally, this property is located in the area represented by Commissioner Marc Borbely, whom we requested in November that you invite to participate in the interagency RFP process. We would appreciate the courtesy of a written response in writing by February 24, 2005.

On behalf of the Commission,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Joseph Fengler'.

Joseph Fengler
Chair, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6A

cc: Councilmember Sharon Ambrose
Councilmember Vincent Orange
Councilmember David Catania
Gottlieb Simon, Office of Advisory Neighborhood Commissions



District of Columbia Government
 Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6A
 Box 75115
 Washington, DC 20013



December 10, 2004

Stanley Jackson, Director
 Department of Housing & Community Development
 801 North Capitol Street, NE, Suite 8000
 Washington, DC 20002

Re: Request for Proposals for 525 9th Street, NE (Old Police Station)

Dear Mr. Jackson,

On December 9, 2004, the Commission voted unanimously to request that the following recommendations be incorporated into the selection criteria for the Request for Proposals (RFP) that is currently being prepared for 525 9th Street, NE (Old Police Station):

1. Give preference to bids for a multi-family residential use such as apartments, flats, or condominiums. This use is supported by the Comprehensive Plan, the Strategic Neighborhood Action Plan, and residents who live near the property. Given the number of other social service providers in the immediate area, the ANC opposes any quasi-residential use such as a Community-Based Residential Facilities;
2. Give preference to bidders with a proven record of successful management of renovations involving asbestos, lead and other environmental hazards; and
3. Give preference to bidders with a proven record of successful redevelopment of properties in historic districts.

The Commission also seeks clarification of the stated requirement for the property to be developed as low- or mixed-income housing rather than entirely as a market rate project. We are unclear whether this is a legal requirement, or simply a policy preference of DHCD.

The Commission looks forward to an RFP for this property being issued by the end of the year. We remind you that you made a commitment on March 11, 2004 that the disposition of this property would be resolved by the end of this year. This schedule has been greatly delayed by DHCD not holding an initial public meeting until October 26, 2004 rather than within 30 to 40 days as initially promised.

Finally, this property is located in the area represented by Commissioner Joseph Fengler, whom we have requested that you invite to participate in the interagency RFP process. We would appreciate the courtesy of a written response in the next week.

Respectfully yours,

Joseph Fengler
 Chair, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6A

cc: Councilmember Sharon Ambrose
 Councilmember David Catania
 Councilmember Jim Graham
 Gottlieb Simon, Office of Advisory Neighborhood Commissions



District of Columbia Government
Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6A
Box 75115
Washington, DC 20013



February 24, 2004

Mr. Stanley Jackson
Director, Department of Housing and Community Development
District of Columbia Public Schools
801 North Capitol Street, NE, 8th Floor
Washington, DC 20002

Re: Community Update on 525 Ninth Street, NE

Mr. Jackson:

Our Commission is writing to add our voice to the growing concerns regarding the deteriorating condition of the building and grounds at 525 Ninth Street, NE. Over the last six months, your office has received several letters from residents that this property needs immediate maintenance ranging from trimming or removing overgrown trees, cleaning the grounds and painting the front elevation and window grates. Most recently, your office has been notified that the perimeter fence has been pulled back and the side door was open. We have had a challenge with loitering and drug dealing at the Prospect/Goding Learning Center and we are deeply concerned that this criminal element has simply shifted its illegal activities to this abandoned property.

The long-term plans for this building have also been a point of contention in our community. Many in our neighborhood have asked what the plans are for this vacant property. To that question, we have been told that a complete appraisal and checklist of environmental concerns needs to be performed before any other plans are considered for this property. In addition, the strategic and five-year plans for the city needs to be completed to determine if this property has any potential by the city or if this property will be deemed surplus.

To that end, we are inviting you to attend our Advisory Neighborhood Commission's Economic Development and Zoning Committee meeting on February 24, 2004 at 7:00pm at the Community Room of the Capitol Hill Towers located at 900 G St. NE. At this meeting, we would appreciate an update on the status of the environmental study as well as the timeline for regarding the completion of both the strategic and five year plans. In addition, we would welcome an update on the abandoned fire station located on Maryland Ave.

Please accept my sincere apologies for not sending this sooner. It would be unreasonable for me to assume that you would be available to attend our meeting this evening. Perhaps, Ms. Law would be available to attend to answer our concerns. If neither of you are available this evening, please accept an invitation to attend our regularly scheduled monthly Commission meeting on March 11, 2004 at the Miner Elementary School. The meeting starts at 7:00pm and this topic will be placed on the top of the agenda.

Respectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Joseph Fengler'.

Joseph Fengler, Chair
fengler6a02@yahoo.com
202-423-8868

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6A

PO Box 75115
Washington, DC 20015

Minutes

March 11, 2004

The meeting was convened at 7:00 p.m. at Miner Elementary School.

Present: Commissioners A;berti, Fengler, Mack, Musasnte, Rice, Ward

1. Agenda

Six items were added to new business: traffic light at 10th and Constitution; approval of allocation for transcription services for remainder of year; PO Box renewal; letter of support for Capitol Hill Classic street closings; letter of support for stop sign at 11th and I; Class A and Class B extended hours. The agenda was adopted without objection.

2. Minutes

Mr. Alberti noted that on page 5 of the minutes, \$600 was approved for copying for meeting, but \$50 for committee meetings should have been added. Ms. Ward, on page 3, Linden Place should be Linden Court. Minutes were amended and approved without objection.

3. Community Comments

Deborah Gist announced that the Citizens.Corps is training voluntaeer \s for its programs.

Bryan Lynch announced that in PSA 512 Sonya Bowen had announced that Rosedale, from 15th to 18th Streets, from Benning Road to Kaeramer Street was being named a "hot spot," where combined city resources—Department of Housing,m DHS, Youth Services, etc. would be coordinated as an anti-crime initiative. MPD, which has oversight, is reporting directly to Robert Bobb. Ms Artis requested that the ANC be included as a coordinating body.

Richard Layman reported he had left flyers on the H Street Main Street monthly clean-up. He also reported on the Small Business initiative to encourage development and growth of small business on H Street. He also reported that the H Street transportation plan would be discussed at a meeting on March 31 at the Children's Museum

4. Discussion: Stanley Jackson, Director, Dept. of Housing and Community Development**a. 525 9th Street NE and MaryLAND Avenue Fire Station**

Mr. Jackson stated that his goal is to work with the Office of Planning to put out an RFP for the development of both sites this year. In response to a question from Commissioner Fengler, Mr. Jackson said that it would be put out for private development, to add the properties to the city's tax base, and could specify what the project could be used for, with senior housing being a priority. There will opportunity for the ANC and the community to have input into the plan.

Scott Whipple asked about the timetable for the plan—whether ity would be the RFP or the transfer that would be done by the end of the year? Mr. Jackson responded that he is hopeful of transferring the property by the end of the year. Mark Berman asked whether there were plans for a community meeting, and was told that one would take place this Spring. Richard Layman suggested that the ANC pass a resolution urging community partiipatio in the process because of the disparate agencies involved. Mr. Jackson assured him that there would be a community meeting.

Commissioner Ward inquired about the fire house which is in her SMD, and said she would organize a community meeting if she is contacted. Commissioner Fengler said that the Economic

Development Committee should be involved in these buildings, as well as 525 9th Street, and he received a commitment from Mr. Jackson that here will be something done within the next 30-40 days, and that the disposition of the two properties would be resolved before the end of the calendar year.

b. Five Year Plan

Mr. Jackson reported that this is the fourth year of the five-year plan, and they are in the process of developing a new plan 2006. It supports the preservation of affordable housing; has a goal of spending \$18 million for the expansion of special needs and senior housing; the expansion of home ownership opportunities. It also provides for 53 new homeowners in Ward 6; and includes technical assistance for small business. It calls for close to \$10 million has been invested in Ward 6, providing a tremendous opportunity for growth..

There is not yet new five year plan, but they will look at the changes that have occurred, e.g. the median income has risen \$18,000 in the last 10 years; the population is aging; participation in the new hot spot program; changes in lead pipes—all have to be taken into consideration. They will be working on it during the next months, to be ready for the next fiscal year so that it can be submitted to HUD. They are working with core teams to finalize it.

Richard Layman asked about Section 108 loans, and suggested that a broad Section 108 strategy had to be developed. Mr. Jackson said the challenge is to develop broad plan citywide for Section 108, but they don't know how it will be funded because it's dependent on income, and he has lost grant money every year. He said that while he likes the concept, there is no known funding stream for it.

c. 1125 G Street NE

Mr. Jackson stated that the property is privately owned, and his office can't influence the situation beyond urging that the property be kept up. He said it was up to the community to pressure the owners to do something. Commissioner Fengler asked about leaking gas and was told it was a problem for DCRA and PEPCO's Ward 6 contact person, as well as the Mayor's Ward 6 Neighborhood Services representative.

Sharon Cochran asked Mr. Jackson about a homestead program house on Emerald Street NE that was sold for \$250, and is still boarded up and filled with trash. Mr. Jackson stated that his department is looking at all the buildings, and a number of people were having trouble with finances to improve the property, and he has "recaptured" about six properties, and is pursuing more. He recommended working with Carlin Fuller in his office to check on the status of the house.

5. Single Member District Reports

Commissioner Ward reported that Fish Tea Restaurant, a new sit-down restaurant was opening on March 12. She also reported that the developers of the Atlas Theatre are finishing their permit process, and will have some activity in the theatre by November.

Commissioner Musante attended a hearing on the renewal of the Excello liquor license, and described it as an "Alice in Wonderland" hearing because of the confusion. ABRA has requested copies of the all the paper that has gone back and forth. The next hearing is March 24 at 9:30 am on the renewal of Excello's license, and will probably also deal with the transfer of the license. He also reported that he had a meeting at the PEPCO substation at 13th and D Streets, to address the issues of the graffiti and painting the fence to match that at Kingman Park. It should be done within 10 days. The third item is the status of Lovejoy Park, which should be completed by 2005. In the interim there are actions to be taken by the Friends of Lovejoy Park to prepare the site for the removal of asphalt.

Commissioner Fengler reported some success on the situation at Prospect-Goding, citing an article in the Washington Post. He also mentioned that he is working with the US Attorney's Office and the MPD on a house on 10th Street. He is also working on the situation at the House of Ruth. The neighbors are livid because they can't get their houses appraised because of the trash. He reported that the Mayor was in the



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Washington, DC 20013



May 20, 2004

Stanley Jackson, Director
Department of Housing & Community Development
Suite 8000
801 North Capitol Street, NE
Washington, DC 20002

Re: Public Meetings for Two DHCD Properties in ANC 6A

Dear Mr. Jackson,

Our Commission is writing to remind you of your commitment at our March 11, 2004 meeting to hold public meetings in the next 60 days for input from community residents on the future of DHCD-controlled properties at 525 Ninth Street, NE and 1341 Maryland Avenue, NE.

As of today, it has been 70 days and DHCD has yet to contact me or Commissioner Ward regarding public meetings to discuss appropriate uses for these properties in our Single Member Districts. It is imperative that there are opportunities for public input early in the decision-making process.

It would be a shame to squander the opportunity that the current real estate market provides to renovate and restore these buildings that have sat vacant for so many years. Every day of delay in scheduling public meetings further jeopardizes the chances for adaptive reuse that would strengthen the surrounding community. At this rate, we begin to question whether there is a systematic process with milestones to measure progress toward your goal of putting these properties into productive use by the end of the year.

Before our next Commission meeting on June 10, 2004, please inform us when and where DCHD plans to hold public meetings and please identify members of your department who are accountable for progress on these properties.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joseph Fengler".

Joseph Fengler
Chair, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6A

cc: Councilmember Sharon Ambrose



District of Columbia Government
Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6A
Box 75115
Washington, DC 20013



June 17, 2004

Mr. Andrew Altman
Director, Office of Planning
801 North Capitol Street, NE, Suite 4000
Washington, DC 20002

Re: Redevelopment of 2 Vacant DHCD Properties in ANC 6A

Dear Mr. Altman,

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6A is writing to request the assistance of the Office of Planning in the redevelopment of two properties controlled by the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) at 525 9th Street, NE and 1341 Maryland Avenue, NE.

Our ANC heard a presentation by Stanley Jackson of DHCD on the future of these properties at our March 11, 2004 meeting. At this meeting, Mr. Jackson made a commitment that DHCD would hold public meetings in the next 60 days to discuss the future of these properties with affected residents. Despite the imperative for public input early in the decision-making process and subsequent action on this input, we have noticed a striking lack of measurable progress by DHCD.

Our request is that OP assist DHCD in holding public meetings to discuss the anticipated redevelopment uses of these buildings with the residents of the surrounding neighborhood. At our March meeting, Mr. Jackson mentioned that he would be discussing the redevelopment of these buildings with you in light of the Mayor's commitments to expand opportunities for residential development in the District. We note that the "Housing" Priority in OP's Strategic Neighborhood Action Plan for Cluster 25 has an action item (#2624) to "Provide incentives for developers and individuals for renovation of existing structures."

Certainly, it would be a shame to squander the opportunity that the current real estate market provides to renovate and restore these buildings that have sat vacant for so many years. Every day of delay in scheduling public meetings further jeopardizes the chances for adaptive reuse that would strengthen the surrounding community.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Respectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joseph Fengler".

Joseph Fengler
Chair, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6A

cc: Councilmember Sharon Ambrose
Stanley Jackson, Director DHCD

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT



Office of the Director

December 27, 2004

Joseph Fengler
Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6A02
Washington, DC 20032

Dear Commissioner Fengler:

This letter is in response to your letter and correspondence forwarded to the Department of Housing and Community Development electronically regarding the disposition of properties located at 525 9th Street, NE and 1341 Maryland Avenue, NE.

I want to thank you and the residents of Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) 6A02 for participating in the October 21, 2004 and December 13, 2004, community meetings. Having a process that increases dialogue and shares information with all segments of the community is vital to the mission of this Department.

In your letter you requested that the representatives of both ANC 6A02 and ANC 6A06 be afforded the opportunity to participate in the separate interagency process to draft, publish, review and select Request for Proposals for the disposition of these properties.

DHCD is aware of the role of the Advisory Neighborhood Commission and welcomes your participation in planning and providing input into the development of the Request for Proposals (RFP) for these properties. The Department provides each ANC an opportunity to comment on funding of any development projects in the affected neighborhood by providing direct notice to the affected ANC pursuant to the ANC Act, DC Law 1-58, and DC Official Code 1-309.10. While the ANC should certainly be involved in any planning for development of those properties to assure that neighborhood needs are addressed, the competitive process is not the proper venue for any affected ANC body to have a vote for or against a project. The Department will keep the community abreast of all opportunities to provide continued input into the planning process.

DHCD looks forward to the ANC's continued participation in the open community process being conducted.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stanley Jackson".

Stanley Jackson
Director



District of Columbia Government
Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6A
Box 75115
Washington, DC 20013



April 22, 2005

Jalal Greene
Director, Department of Housing and Community Development
801 North Capitol Street NE, Suite 8000
Washington, DC 20002

Re: Request for Proposals for 1341 Maryland Avenue, NE (the former Fire House)
Request for Proposals for 525 Ninth Street, NE (the former Police Station)

Mr. Greene:

On April 14, 2005, at our regularly scheduled and properly noticed public Commission meeting, and with a quorum of commissioners present, we voted to formally request an update on Request for Proposals (RFP) for 1341 Maryland Avenue and 525 Ninth Street, NE by May 4, 2005. Ms. Vanessa Akins helped organize and plan the two community meetings this past winter that provided general information to the community on RFP process. As a result of these meetings, we were led to understand that the RFPs for these properties would be issued by March 31, 2005. Our Commission has formally transmitted recommendations for both RFPs on December 10, 2004 (525 Ninth Street) and February 14, 2005 (1341 Maryland Avenue).

The attached documents provide the history of our Commission's efforts over the last *15 months* to turn these abandoned and neglected buildings into something more useful and meaningful for our community. It is our hope that our community will not have to suffer through another summer of wasted opportunity ending in a winter of discontent. As elected officials, we have done everything requested by DHCD to facilitate an expedited development for both of these RFPs. Based on our well attended community meetings with the DHCD staff, the expectations of finally achieving resolution to these long standing hazards in our community have been justifiably raised.

The lack of any noticeable action will soon expose the truly thin veneer of our ANC's "great weight" to reveal that all the promises made by DHCD were based on sawdust and glue. The real victims in the process are the residents that actually believed that if they participated with DHCD there would be some long-overdue progress. On behalf of our community, please provide the requested update to avoid shattering what remains of our community's patience and good will.

On behalf of the Commission,

Joseph Fengler
Chair, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6A

cc: Councilmember Sharon Ambrose
Councilmember Vincent Orange
Councilmember David Catania
Gottlieb Simon, Office of Advisory Neighborhood Commissions