



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



February 28, 2008

Ms. Linda Argo
Director
Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs
941 North Capitol Street NE, Room 9500
Washington, DC 20002

Re: Pilgrim Baptist/Adult Rehabilitation Home at 820 8th Street NE

Dear Ms. Argo,

At our regularly scheduled and properly noticed meeting on February 14, 2008, our Commission voted unanimously to request that DCRA investigate whether the proposed use at 820 8th St. NE meets the definition of an Adult Rehabilitation Home. Title 11, Section 199 of District of Columbia Municipal Regulations defines an adult rehabilitation home as:

a facility providing residential care for one (1) or more individuals sixteen (16) years of age or older who are charged by the United States Attorney with a felony offense, or any individual twenty-one (21) years of age or older, under pre-trial detention or sentenced court orders.

This facility will be run by Pilgrim Baptist Church, through its A.S.P.I.R.E. (Active Solutions Propelling Individuals to Reach Excellence) program. Reverend Louis P. Jones II of Pilgrim Baptist Church discussed the facility at the ANC's December 13, 2008 meeting and confirmed that it will house residents who have previously been incarcerated. He also stated that the residents may be felons.

In addition, the announcement from the Government of the District of Columbia, "District Announces Affordable Housing and Community Development Projects for Underwriting," describes the A.S.P.I.R.E project at 820 8th Street NE as working to "reacclimatize persons previously incarcerated as they return to the city and their families."

Section 335.1 of the Zoning code permits an Adult Rehabilitation Home in a R-4 zone only by special exception.

If the facility meets the definition, the ANC requests that a C of O not be granted until zoning relief is obtain. If the facility does not meet the definition, the ANC asks DCRA to write a letter to the ANC explaining the reasoning for not classifying the facility as an Adult Rehabilitation Home.

If you have any questions, please contact Dr. Drew Ronneberg at ronneberg6a02@gmail.com or (202) 431-4305.

On behalf of the Commission,

Joseph Fengler
Chair, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6A