



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



March 13, 2007

Councilmember Tommy Wells
Suite 408
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20004

Dear Councilmember Wells:

Tommy

At our regularly scheduled meeting on March 8, 2007, with a quorum present, we voted unanimously to request the District of Columbia City Council ensure inspections positions at the Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs (DCRA) are fully funded and rapidly filled with qualified individuals. Our community has noted, albeit painfully at times, the numbers of unfilled positions in the Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs offices that inspect construction, investigate permit violations, and pursue fraud.

This Commission has had extensive difficulty obtaining timely, comprehensive, and accurate action from DCRA inspectors. DCRA inspectors are a core element of the quality of life concerns raised at the recent Ward Six Crime Summit. Illegal construction and a failure by DCRA to investigate, pursue, and require alteration or demolition of illegally permitted or unpermitted modifications, houses and other structures is a constant, serious problem in community. We have become aware by reliable report that DCRA has inadequate numbers of inspectors and investigators.

To protect our community, we ask that the Council take immediate action to ensure all vacant positions be filled with qualified inspectors within the next 120 days. To that end, we request your office provide a list of all unfilled DCRA inspectors positions by July 20, 2007. It is our hope that your report will have one sentence – “All inspector vacancies at DCRA have been filled by qualified personnel.”

Submitted on behalf of the Commission,

Joseph Fengler
Joseph Fengler

cc: Councilmembers
Bill Crews, DCRA Zoning Administrator