



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



June 8, 2009

Dr. Ximena Hartsock  
Acting Director  
DC Department of Recreation  
3149 16th Street NW  
Washington DC 20010

Dear Dr. Hartsock:

Congratulations on your recent appointment as Acting Director for the DC Department of Recreation (DPR). The Advisory Neighborhood Commission looks forward to working closely with you as DPR continues to provide services for residents of all ages within our community.

We recognize that, as part of your new leadership, you will begin to examine programs within the Department of Parks and Recreation to determine internal resource reallocation, program expansions, and the like. We hope that as part of your examination, you consider with great weight expanding the Roving Leaders program.

The ANC recently spoke with program leadership about the opportunities associated with this program, particularly within our ANC. At the current time, we have two Roving Leaders who are providing juvenile outreach and crime prevention activities aimed at the most "at-risk" children and young adults in our neighborhood. The ANC would like to commend these individuals for the work that they are doing with our youth, but feel as if additional resources would assist in the overall reach of the program.

As you may be aware, our ANC, like other neighborhoods in Ward 6, is still plagued by juvenile crime, and has a high rate of gang activity. There are at least two active gangs in our ANC, and the neighborhood, despite vigilant policing strategy, still feels the effect of youth violence. We strongly believe that programs like the Roving Leaders can assist our community in turning the tide of juvenile crime by providing alternative and productive activities for our youth and identifying and working with young adults at risk and exposed to criminal activity. We hope that, in considering reallocation of resources, the agency consider doubling the number of Roving Leaders working in our ANC.

Please let me know if there is any information or action by the ANC that may assist your agency in fulfilling this promise.

On behalf of the Commission,

Joseph Fengler  
Chair, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6A

cc: Mayor Adrian Fenty  
Councilmember Tommy Wells