



## East of Sousa Bridge Pennsylvania Avenue Revitalization Task Force

Donald Murray  
Task Force  
Chairperson

March 4, 2002

Honorable Anthony A. Williams  
Mayor

Paul Savage  
Vice  
Chairperson

District of Columbia  
John A. Wilson Building  
1350 Pennsylvania Ave., NW  
Washington, DC 20004

Howard Ways  
Ward 7 Planner

SUBJECT: Streetscape and Infrastructure Improvements to  
Pennsylvania Avenue, SE

Fairlawn Civic  
Association

Dear Mayor Williams:

Randle  
Highlands Civic  
Association

We are writing this letter to express our full and continued support for the request for capital improvements to the streetscape and infrastructure of Pennsylvania Avenue, Southeast, East of the Sousa Bridge. As you know, Pennsylvania Avenue, known as America's Main Street, is an important and essential gateway into the city, Capitol Hill, and downtown Washington DC. Improvement of the visible appearance, the quality of goods and services offered, and traffic congestion are some of the major keys to changing the negative perceptions of East of the Anacostia River.

Hillcrest  
Community  
Civic  
Association

Fairfax Village  
Condominium  
Associations

The request for the streetscape and infrastructure improvements will focus initially

Fort Davis  
Civic  
Association

- New street paving, curbs and gutters,
- New landscaping,
- New ornamental pedestrian lighting,
- New street furniture, banners and signage, and
- New decorative sidewalks and crosswalks.

Penn Branch  
Citizens/ Civic  
Association

Dupont Park

Additionally, a comprehensive traffic study is requested to develop strategies to mitigate the traffic congestion that has

Civic  
Association

continued since the cancellation of the Barney Circle connector project.

Twining  
Neighborhood

This project has the full support of the eight neighborhoods that border the avenue - Fairlawn, Twining, Randle Highlands, Hillcrest, Fairfax Village, Fort Davis, Penn Branch and Dupont Park - and many motivated and committed citizens, businesses and property owners.

It is imperative that this project be included and fully funded in the upcoming District budget to help validate one of your commitments to the Ward 7 community.

Mayor Williams, we are also requesting that you identify sources of funding for acquisition, rehabilitation, and demolition of various unsightly and blighted commercial and residential structures within those areas already defined by task force members. Funds also need to be identified immediately to abate those community eyesores caused by the unsightly appearance of the structures on Pennsylvania Avenue starting at the foot of the Sousa Bridge. This short-term improvement may include painting, power washing sidewalks, an aggressive and unrelenting public safety, building, and health code enforcement, along with other short-term actions deemed appropriate until a more permanent plan action can be developed and implemented for the area.

In closing, we take this opportunity to thank you again, for your commitment to the work of the task force, and your continued commitment to the residents East of the Anacostia River in Wards 7 and 8, indeed the entire city of Washington DC.

Finally, this task force membership would be remiss, if we did not convey to you directly, the outstanding leadership, and resources provided to the task force by Mr. Paul Savage, Deputy Director, Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) and Mr. Howard Ways, Ward 7 Neighborhood Planner, Office of Planning (OP). Without the work of Messrs. Savage and Ways, the work performed to date by this task force would simply not have been possible.

Feel free to contact me at (202) 583-0738, if you have any questions, or need additional information.

Again, we thank you in advance for your immediate attention to this very important and exciting community driven project.

Sincerely,

(signed)

Donald Murray, Chairman,  
East of the River Pennsylvania Avenue Revitalization Task  
Force

Signed by:

President, Randle Highlands Civic Association  
President, Fort Davis Civic Association  
President, Fairlawn Citizens Association  
President, Penn Branch Citizens/Civic Association  
President, Hillcrest Community Civic Association  
President, Dupont Park Civic Association  
President, Fairfax Village Condominium Associations

cc:

John Koskinen, City Administrator  
Eric Price, Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic  
Development  
Andrew Altman, Director, Office of Planning (OP)  
Stanley Jackson, Director, Department of Housing and  
Community Development (DHCD)  
David Clark, Director, Director of Consumer and Regulatory  
Affairs (DCRA)  
Charles Ramsey, Chief, Metropolitan Police Department  
(MPD)  
Ronnie Few, Chief, D.C. Fire Department and Emergency  
Medical Services  
Linda Cropp, Chairperson, D.C. City Council  
Kevin Chavous, Councilmember, Ward 7  
Sandra Allen, Councilmember, Ward 8  
Sharon Ambrose, Councilmember, Ward 6  
Harold Brazil, At-Large Councilmember  
Carol Schwartz, At-Large Councilmember  
David Catania, At-Large Councilmember  
Phil Mendelson, At-Large Councilmember  
Howard Ways, Ward 7 Planner (OP)  
Paul Savage, Deputy Director, Department of Housing and  
Community Development (DHCD)

ANC7B Commissioners

Civic Association Presidents (Task Force members)

Willie Dandridge, Commander, 6th District, Metropolitan  
Police Department

Loretta Tate, Executive Director, Marshall Heights Community  
Development Organization (MHCDO)

Evelyn Frazier, Business Development Manager, Marshall  
Heights Development Organization (MHCDO)