



**ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 2F**  
Government of the District of Columbia  
5 Thomas Circle, NW, Washington, D.C. 20005  
Telephone: (202) 667-0052 Fax: (202) 667-0053 www.anc2f.org

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February 1, 2006

*(via First Class Mail)*

District of Columbia Housing Authority  
Attn: Mr. Michael Kelly, Executive Director  
1133 N. Capital Street NW  
Washington, DC 20002

re: Wooden Sidewalk Covering at the Corner of 12<sup>th</sup> and M. Street's, NW

Dear Mr. Kelly:

We are pleased to see that work is continuing on the exterior renovation of your facility at 1221 M. Street NW, The Claridge Towers. Given the activity, we are requesting that your office provide an update on the status of the renovation, an expected completion date of the removal of the wooden sidewalk structure that is supporting the renovation and also provide a point of contact for future updates. As outlined below, this structure continues to raise community concerns.

This covering has been in place for approximately 6-7 years. The first permit that we could find for this structure was issued on December 3, 1999. In the timeframe the covering has been in place, rundown buildings in the community have been demolished, rebuilt and occupied, but this protective covering remains while the Housing Authority completes an exterior renovation.

While we appreciate issues surrounding contractor performance, this eyesore, and the activities around it speaks poorly for our city. Attached you will find a site sketch and pictures of the structure that I hope will tell the story of this eyesore. All these pictures were taken within the last 12 months. As a way to encourage revitalization, the City's Strategic Plan calls for the development of sustainable neighborhoods. Unfortunately, the continued presence of the wooden structure does not meet this goal and serves to do just the opposite.

Community concerns with the structure include the following:

- The wooden structure continues to serve as a gathering spot for local vagrants and drunks.

- The structure provides a convenient location for drug activity, especially with its ease of access due to its proximity to 12<sup>th</sup> and M streets.

- M Street from 12<sup>th</sup> St. NW to Thomas Circle continues to be frequented by those involved in prostitute activity. The wooden structure provides a convenient location for pimps, hookers and johns to conduct business. You might remember our letter to you dated December 7, 2005 regarding this subject.

- The structure is located between the Convention Center and the hotels that ring Thomas Circle, thus conventioners and visitors to the city have to walk past the structure routinely.

As mentioned above, we wrote to you on December 7, 2005 concerning prostitution activity at the corner of 12<sup>th</sup> and M St's and in that letter we asked that you repair the exterior lighting at your building at 1170 12<sup>th</sup>. St. We have been told by your staff that the parts are on order for the repair and the work should be complete by the end of February. We appreciate your response and will be sure to follow-up on this at the end of the month.

If you require assistance or need further information, you may contact me directly at 202-518-5956 or via e-mail at robertanthonyellison@msn.com. We will follow-up on this request, but it would be greatly appreciated if you would reply within 15 business days from the date of this letter.

Sincerely yours,



Robert Ellison  
Commissioner, ANC2F04

cc (via e-mail)

Ms. Jennifer Trock, President, The Logan Circle Community Association  
CCPS06-02