



# The Thomas Connection

August 2011

Building Bridges, Finding Solutions

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*The Newsletter of Ward 5 Councilmember Harry "Tommy" Thomas, Jr.*

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## WARD 5 ANC REDISTRICTING TASK FORCE FORMED

Now that the Council has voted on updated ward boundaries to reflect population changes from the 2010 Census, the next step in the process is to realign ANC boundaries where needed. The ANC redistricting procedures established by the Council's Subcommittee on Redistricting call for each ward councilmember to appoint a broadly-based task force that incorporates fair representation of all genders, racial and ethnic minorities, and geographical areas within the ward. Task force members must be registered voters and ward residents.

The ANC redistricting procedures call for progress reports to be submitted to the Subcommittee on Redistricting on August 1 and September 1, 2011. A final report containing boundary recommendations for ANCs and Single Member Districts (SMDs) must be submitted by October 11, 2011.

The procedures also stipulate that each SMD should have a population of approximately 2,000 people, and be nearly equal in size as possible. SMD boundaries should conform to the greatest extent possible with the 2010 Census block boundaries established by the US Bureau of the Census.

In keeping with the ANC redistricting procedures, Councilmember Thomas is establishing a Ward 5 ANC Redistricting Task Force. He held informational sessions on June 23 and June 30, 2011 to review the process with interested residents and civic leaders. Of the ward residents who have requested to participate, Councilmember Thomas will make assignments to the task force by Census tract. Councilmember Thomas' staff designee for redistricting matters is Chief of Staff Ayawna C. Webster.

### Timetable for ANC Redistricting

**By July 1, 2011** — Ward councilmembers appoint task force members

**August 1, 2011** — Progress report to Subcommittee due

**September 1, 2011** — Progress report to Subcommittee due

**October 11, 2011** — Final task force report due to Council

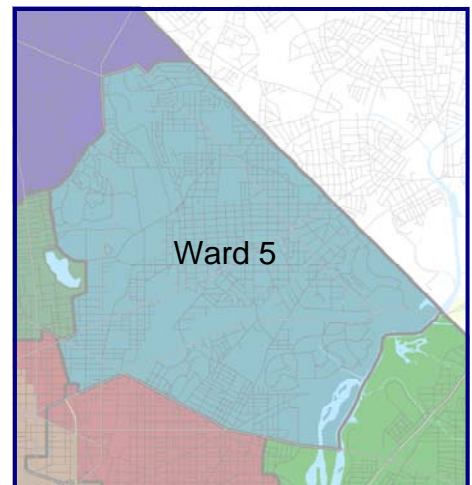
### SMD Size Guidelines

**Average SMD size:** 2000

**Allowable 5% deviation:** ±100

**Maximum SMD size:** 2,100

**Minimum SMD size:** 1,900



*The boundaries of Ward 5 remain unchanged under the redistricting required by the 2010 Census. Councilmember Thomas is working with a task force of Ward 5 residents to determine whether ANC and SMD boundaries need revision.*



**COUNCILMEMBER'S UPCOMING  
AUGUST EVENTS**

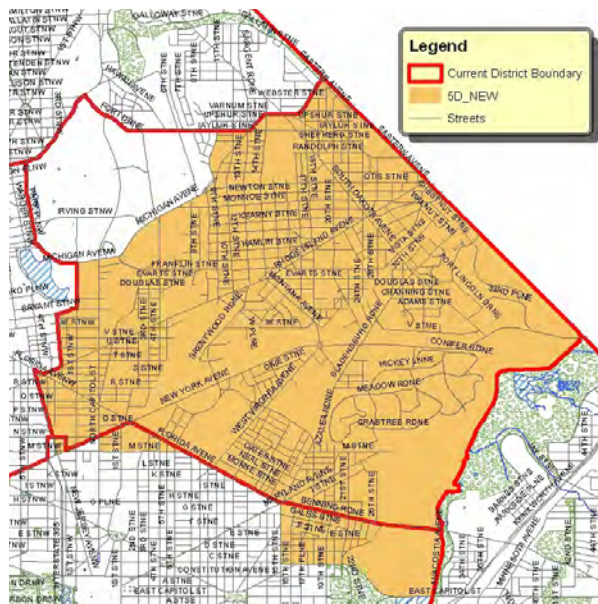
**Wednesday, August 17** Ward 5 at Nationals Park  
**Monday, August 22** Back-to-School Day

**POLICE DISTRICTS AND PSAs SERVING  
WARD 5 TO BE REALIGNED**

To more equitably distribute calls for service and to free up officers for pro-active policing, MPD Chief Cathy Lanier is planning to realign police district boundaries across the city, and to increase the number of Police Service Areas (PSAs). Ward 5 currently encompasses parts of the 4th and 5th Police Districts, both of which will have their boundaries modified.

The proposed boundary changes for the 5th Police District are as follows:

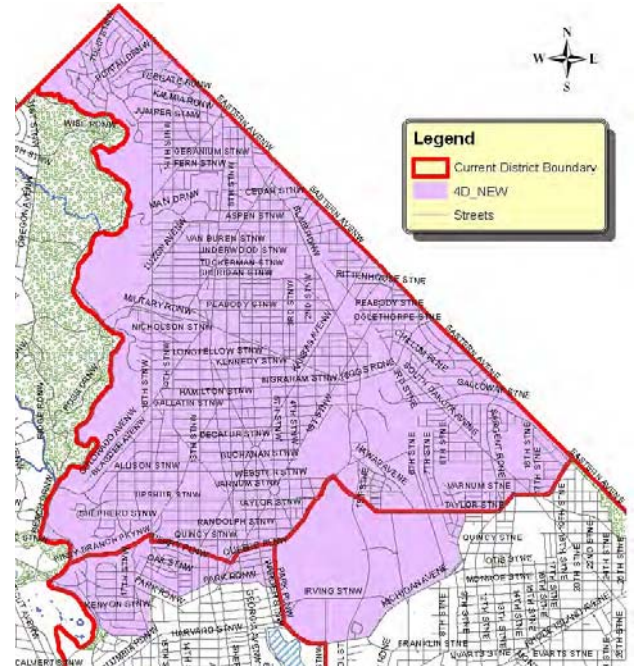
- **North Western Reduction**—Border moving from Taylor Street and Fort Drive and Rock Creek Church Road and Park Place to Michigan Avenue and Taylor Street and 10th Street and Michigan Avenue and 1st Street.
- **South Western Reduction**—Small horn on PSA 501 where Florida Avenue meets New Jersey Avenue changed to Rhode Island Avenue to New Jersey Avenue.
- **South Western Change**—“Chimney” of N Street and Kirby Street changed to straight down New Jersey Avenue to New York Avenue.
- **Southern Border Addition**—Border moving from Florida Avenue and New York Avenue to M Street to North Capitol Street.
- **South Eastern Addition**—Border moving from Benning Road to East Capitol and C Streets and 15th Street.



5D will also be divided into seven PSAs, up from the current number of four.

The proposed boundary changes for the 4th Police District are as follows:

- **Addition of substation.**
- **South Eastern Additions**—Changes from Fort Drive and Rock Creek Church Road to Michigan Avenue and Taylor Street and 10th Street and back to Michigan Avenue.
- **South Western Additions**—Changes from Rock Creek Church Road, Spring Road and Piney Branch Parkway to Park Road and Monroe Street, south down 16th Street, across at Harvard Street, and back up north following the river west of Beach Drive.



The number of PSAs in 4D will increase from five to seven.

“Chief Lanier has been very methodical in determining how best to realign MPD resources,” said Councilmember Thomas. “I fully support her efforts.”

**WARD 5 COUNCIL OFFICE HOSTS SUMMER  
YOUTH EMPLOYMENT INTERNS**

Councilmember Thomas and the Ward 5 Office have a long history of providing learning experiences for young people. This year, as part of the Summer Youth Employment Program, the Ward 5 Council Office is hosting 11 interns. The interns, ranging from age 15 to 18, are learning about the District’s legislative process, including how a bill becomes law. The interns have also been actively engaged in providing community outreach, such as ice cream socials with Ward 5 seniors and food distribution to needy residents.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:**

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