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**Thomas Announces Opening of New Joseph Cole Community Center
in Ward 5's Trinidad Neighborhood**

Washington, DC—Ward 5 Councilmember Harry “Tommy” Thomas, Jr., Chair of the Council’s Committee on Libraries, Parks and Recreation, today announced the completion of renovations at the Joseph Cole Community Center and groundbreaking for the installation of a new community park and turf field at the site. The Joseph Cole Community Center is located at 1200 Morse Street, NE in the heart of Ward 5’s Trinidad community.

The new 7,600 square foot facility is co-located with the neighboring Wheatley Education Campus and includes expandable multi-purpose spaces, classroom and office space, locker rooms with ADA-compliant restrooms, a regulation-size outdoor basketball court, and an indoor basketball court with a new high-performance floor for safety. The community park and turf field are slated for completion this fall.

Councilmember Thomas has worked closely with Trinidad civic leaders and residents to ensure that the Joseph Cole Recreation Center remains a community asset. In his capacity as Chair of the Council’s Committee on Libraries, Parks and Recreation, Thomas allocated funding for the revitalization of Joe Cole when the administration had proposed the center for demolition and closure.

“The co-location of the Joseph Cole Recreation Center with the Wheatley Education Campus is part of my vision for the future,” said Thomas. “Integration of our schools, libraries, and recreation centers into a seamless campus is not only efficient but creates a tremendous community resource.”

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