



**COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
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**Thomas Reaffirms Commitment to Create Jobs, Increase Tax Revenue,
and Stimulate Investment in the District**
Entry of Walmart Will Help Achieve These Goals

Washington, DC—Ward 5 Councilmember Harry "Tommy" Thomas, Jr., Chair of the Council's Committee on Economic Development, today reaffirmed his long-standing commitment to create jobs, increase tax revenue, and stimulate investment in the District of Columbia. Councilmember Thomas views the entry of Walmart into the DC marketplace as helping achieve these goals.

Walmart plans to open four stores in the city, creating 1,200 permanent positions and 1,000 construction jobs while generating \$10 million annually in tax revenue for city coffers. Walmart's DC project also requires no District government funding or taxpayer dollars. It will be financed completely by Walmart. "Very few projects that come to DC meet this threshold," noted Thomas.

Walmart's first DC store will be located in Ward 5 at New York Avenue and Bladensburg Road, NE. Councilmember Thomas has been working closely with Walmart and area residents on creating a partnership that Walmart can support to bring job readiness programs and other community benefits to Ward 5. "I enthusiastically welcome opportunities for Ward 5 residents to have access to jobs, affordable healthy foods, and reasonably priced merchandise," said Thomas.

Walmart's entry into the District may be the green light that other businesses considering a presence in the Nation's Capital have been waiting for. "The ripple effect could be enormous," commented Thomas.

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