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**Thomas Introduces Bill to Establish Ward 5  
Residential Parking Protection Pilot Program**

**Washington, DC**—At the Council’s June 2, 2009 legislative session, Ward 5 Councilmember Harry “Tommy” Thomas, Jr. introduced a bill to establish a pilot program for Ward 5 Residential Parking Zones.

The bill requires that: 1) households located within Residential Parking Zones receive visitor parking placards; 2) one side of residential streets within these zones be reserved for Zone 5 parking permit holders; and 3) parking fees for Residential Parking Zone permits be modified as follows: \$10 per year for the first permit per household, \$20 per year for the second permit per household; and \$50 per year for each additional permit. The Thomas bill is modeled after legislation introduced by Ward 1 Councilmember Jim Graham and Ward 6 Councilmember Tommy Wells to address similar concerns.

“I have received numerous complaints from Ward 5 residents who live in Residential Parking Zones about the difficulties they have encountered. These range from visitors staying more than 2 hours getting ticketed to a taxi cab company parking its fleet on the street in front of residents’ homes after 6:30 pm,” said Thomas. “While the Residential Parking Zone program has played an important role in preserving residential parking in our urban neighborhoods, these revisions will fine-tune the program to better serve the needs of Ward 5 residents.”

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