

**OVERSEEING THE DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION AND LIBRARY SYSTEM**

- Oversight of Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) and Library System, which have combined budgets of nearly one-half billion dollars.
- Fully funded new libraries for Woodridge and Lamond Riggs and capital improvements for Ward 5 recreation and community centers.
- Conducted 36 oversight hearings and roundtables since January 2007.
- Limited DPR executive, excepted, and MSS to no more than 10% of the FY2010 agency budget to restore 26 frontline employee positions.
- Expanded DPR Roving Leaders program that focuses on helping at risk youth.
- Investigated DPR personnel practices.

**OUR ROADMAP FOR THE FUTURE**

- Ensure legislative priorities meet the needs of Ward 5 and District residents.
- Connect Ward 5 residents to jobs and assist them in becoming job-ready.
- Continue rigorous oversight of Ward 5 economic development projects.
- Keep Ward 5 green through initiation of a Green Space Master Plan for the city.
- Ensure Ward 5 gets its appropriate share of city services and city dollars.
- Address issues and concerns of Ward 5 residents, no matter how large or small.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:**

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**WARD 5 COUNCILMEMBER  
HARRY "TOMMY" THOMAS, JR.**

**BUILDING BRIDGES  
FINDING SOLUTIONS**



**STATE OF THE WARD ADDRESS  
JUNE 15, 2009**



**INITIATIVES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF  
WARD 5 COUNCILMEMBER  
HARRY “TOMMY” THOMAS, JR.**

**IMPROVING THE WARD 5 EXPERIENCE**

- Sponsored or co-sponsored 178 bills and 103 resolutions since January 2007.
- Assisted more than 12,500 Ward 5 residents with their issues and concerns since January 2007.
- Attended more than 2,200 community meetings and other events—including numerous block parties, wedding anniversaries, birthday parties, and funerals—since January 2007.
- Sponsored or co-sponsored more than 50 special events for Ward 5 residents since January 2007.
- Recognized 103 outstanding individuals/organizations with ceremonial resolutions since January 2007.
- Attended more than 35 public, charter, and other educational institution graduations since January 2007.
- Issued 25 monthly newsletters since January 2007.
- Developed a senior program that includes: transportation to attend Ward 5 events, holiday meals, restoration of funding for Office of Aging in FY2010 budget, and legislation to increase the income tax exemption for pension or annuity income.
- Established the Ward 5 Business Council and the Ward 5 Ministers’ Council.

**ADDRESSING PUBLIC SAFETY IN WARD 5**

- Allocated \$1.7 million in the FY2010 budget for Ward 5 gang prevention programs.
- Authored the 10 point action plan to bring social and other services to underserved Ward 5 communities.

- Advocated for anti-crime initiatives for Ward 5 neighborhoods.
- Introduced legislation to improve traffic safety around schools and libraries, and create infractions for failure to heed to pedestrians.
- Distributed free gunlocks.
- Supported Trinidad as first neighborhood for MPD’s Safe City initiative.
- Backed installation of crime cameras at North Capitol Street and Seaton Place.
- Championed installation of speed humps in Brookland, Bloomingdale, and other neighborhoods.

**BRINGING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TO WARD 5**

- Introduced legislation to add Rhode Island Avenue and North Capitol Street to Great Streets and Main Streets initiatives and supported establishment of Green Teams for each corridor.
- Authored legislation to permit small businesses in active streetscape construction corridors to defer first-half 2009 property taxes until September 1, 2009.

**CREATING OPPORTUNITIES TO WARD 5 RESIDENTS**

- Secured Bertie Backus as the location for the UDC community college.
- Introduced legislation to require the Mayor to study establishing a facility for adult vocational education.
- Maintained One-Stop Employment Center in Ward 5 and encouraged businesses to hire Ward 5 residents.
- Introduced legislation giving a 5-point preference to all qualified District resident applicants for any DC Government position.
- Introduced bill to create and fund universal Pre-K.