



## COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

THE JOHN A. WILSON BUILDING  
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**ZACHARY PARKER**  
COUNCILMEMBER, WARD 5

**COMMITTEE MEMBER**

Facilities and Family Services  
Health  
Hospital and Health Equity  
Housing  
Transportation and the Environment

July 19, 2023

Dear Brookland neighbors,

I want to share with you about several troubling public safety incidents that occurred near your home in recent weeks. There was a tragic homicide on the campus of Catholic University on the morning of Wednesday, July 5. The suspect is now in custody. Another homicide in the area occurred just a few days ago on the evening of Monday, July 17 in the 600 block of Monroe St NE. MPD believes this homicide was a targeted attack. This past weekend, there was an attempted robbery at 13<sup>th</sup> St and Girard St NE, along with a string of other robberies and thefts in the Brookland area as reported by the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD).

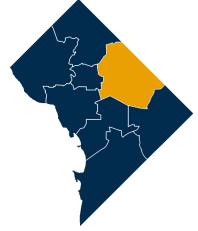
My office is working with MPD to gather more details on these cases. I've requested increased presence in this area from police and the violence interruption teams we work with, who wear blue and grey vests. If you have any more information or camera footage, MPD is asking neighbors to share that with them to assist in their investigation. You can call MPD's Fifth District at 202-698-0150, or text anonymous tips to 50411. We know these acts of violence are unnerving and traumatic for our community. I take this seriously, which is why I will be convening a meeting in early August with neighbors, MPD, violence interrupters, and Catholic University. We will share more details soon. I invite you to subscribe to my weekly newsletter so that you receive the information as soon as it is available: [ward5.us/newsletter](https://ward5.us/newsletter).

I am enclosing a copy of some of my public safety strategies in the Ward 5 Public Safety Plan, as well as contact information for my office and available resources. My team and I are here for you. Please reach out with any questions or concerns, and know we are working hard to ensure these acts of violence don't continue.

In service and community,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Zachary Parker".

Zachary Parker, Ward 5 Councilmember



# WARD 5 COUNCIL OFFICE

## *Important Information*

### OFFICE CONTACT

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### OFFICE RESOURCES

#### *Newsletter*

[ward5.us/news](http://ward5.us/news)  
*Subscribe to Newsletter*  
[ward5.us/newsletter](http://ward5.us/newsletter)

### SOCIAL MEDIA

#### *Twitter*

[@cmzparker5](https://twitter.com/cmzparker5)

#### *Instagram*

[@cmzparker5](https://www.instagram.com/cmzparker5)

#### *Facebook*

Councilmember Zachary Parker

#### *Website*

[zacharyparkerward5.com](http://zacharyparkerward5.com)

### STAFF CONTACT

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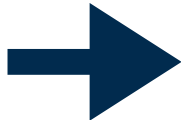
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Through the strategies of streamlined communication and coordination, targeting hot spots, expanding safety tools, connecting our communities, and improving the District's public safety apparatus through policy and advocacy, this plan provides both short-term and long-term approaches to our city's pressing public safety needs.

**STRATEGY**

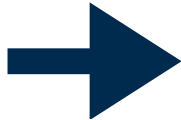
**ACTION**

• Streamlined Communication and Coordination



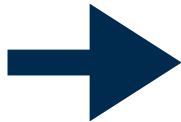
- Launch the **Ward 5 Crime Prevention Task Force**
- Request regular **coordination meetings** with our office, ANCs, and the District's public safety apparatus (i.e., MPD, Fire/EMS, ONSE, DYRS, Attorney General's Office)
- Conduct **targeted neighborhood outreach** to inform neighbors of recent crime patterns, city resources, and create community safety hubs
- Create a **digital logistics hub** on the Ward 5 Council website to share information with neighbors

• Targeting Hot Spots



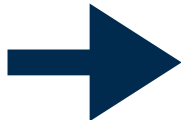
- Work with the Office of Neighborhood Safety and Engagement (ONSE) to **implement rolling safe passage monitoring** to support children traveling to and from school
- Direct the Department of Behavioral Health (DBH) and Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) to **neighborhood hot spots based on community input**

• Expand Safety Tools



- Advocate for **improved camera quality and include motion light detector** in MPD rebate program<sup>2</sup>

• Connect our Communities



- **Identify neighborhood and block captains** to help disseminate information, distribute resources, and coordinate safety responses in response to crime
- Pass and fund the **School Safety Enhancement Act** to expand school capacity to address violent incidents

• Improving the District's Public Safety Apparatus Through Policy and Advocacy



- Pass and fund the **Establishment of Reasonable Controls for the Firearm Industry Amendment Act** creating a private right of action to sue gun manufacturers for the harm guns inflicts on our communities
- Improve the efficacy of the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD), the Office of Unified Communications (the District's 911 office), and the Department of Forensic Sciences through **strong oversight and policy** (i.e. **Office of Unified Communications Transparency and Accuracy Amendment Act**, co-introduced with CMs Pinto and Henderson)
- Work with the Attorney General's office to **enforce effective consequences for District juveniles**
- Advocate for local authority over the US Attorney's Office

1. Hotspots: Areas with high rates of violent crime as reported by MPD.

2. Learn more about the rebate program here. Neighbors have complained that the camera the program provides rebates for is low-quality. We are advocating for higher quality cameras and the inclusion of motion detector lights as well, since these have proven effectiveness in deterring theft and burglary.

# RESOURCES

D.C. Govt. Behavioral Health and Violence Prevention Resources	Notes
Emergency Shelter (202) 399-7093 or dial 311 <a href="https://community-partnership.org/">https://community-partnership.org/</a>	Contact to request emergency shelter. The shelter hotline is open every day from 8 AM - 12 AM and 24/7 during hypothermia season (Nov. 1 - April 15)
Department of Behavioral Health (DBH) HelpLine 1(888)7WE-HELP or 1-888-793-4357	Contact 24/7 to refer a caller to immediate help or ongoing care and can activate mobile crisis teams.
DBH Community Response Team 202-673-6495	Contact to request including homeless outreach, mobile crisis, and pre-arrest diversion
DBH Assessment and Referral Center (ARC) 75 P Street NE Washington, DC 20002 Hours of Operation: Mon-Fri 7:00am – 6:00pm For same day service, please arrive before 3:30pm	Services include detoxification, treatment including medication assisted treatment, individual and group counseling, self-help and recovery activities, and, in some cases, residential treatment.
MPD Online Reporting Tool <a href="https://secure.coplogic.com/dors/en/filing/submitreport?dynparam=1674835022458">https://secure.coplogic.com/dors/en/filing/submitreport?dynparam=1674835022458</a>	Use to report certain property crimes, including damage to or destruction of property, theft, theft from auto, etc.
MPD Fifth District Station 1805 Bladensburg Road, NE Washington, DC 20002 Phone: (202) 698-0150 Watch Command: (202) 327-4392 <a href="https://mpdc.dc.gov/page/welcome-fifth-district">https://mpdc.dc.gov/page/welcome-fifth-district</a>	Contact for non-urgent police requests, including information about recent incidents in MPD's 5th District (most of Ward 5, except for north of Michigan Avenue and west of North Capitol Street).
MPD Fourth District Station 6001 Georgia Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20011 Phone: (202) 715-7400 Watch Command: (202) 391-7177 <a href="https://mpdc.dc.gov/page/welcome-fourth-district">https://mpdc.dc.gov/page/welcome-fourth-district</a>	Contact for non-urgent police requests, including information about recent incidents in MPD's 4th District (north of Michigan Avenue).
MPD Third District Station 1620 V Street, NW Washington, DC 20009 Phone: (202) 673-6815 Watch Command: (202) 276-7462 <a href="https://mpdc.dc.gov/page/welcome-third-district">https://mpdc.dc.gov/page/welcome-third-district</a>	Contact for non-urgent police requests, including information about recent incidents in MPD's 3rd District (west of North Capitol Street).
Office of Human Rights (OHR) 441 4th Street, NW, Suite 570-N Washington, DC 20001 Phone: (202) 727-4559 <a href="http://ohr.dc.gov">ohr.dc.gov</a>	Contact regarding complaints of unlawful discrimination in employment (private companies and government), housing, public accommodations (restaurants, for-hire-vehicles), and educational institutions.