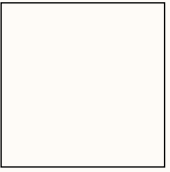
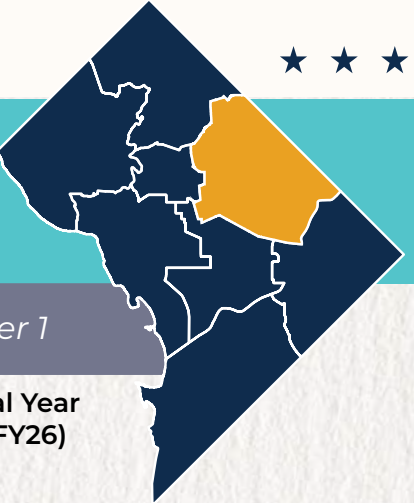


COUNCILMEMBER ZACHARY PARKER
 1350 Pennsylvania Ave NW, Suite 102
 Washington, DC 20004
 Official Business



2025 UPCOMING EVENTS



IMPORTANT COUNCIL DATES



★ UPCOMING EVENTS WITH COUNCILMEMBER PARKER'S OFFICE

FEB 11 **WARD 5 AWARDS CEREMONY**
 February 11, 2025 | 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.
 Ivy City Smokehouse (1356 Okie St NE)
 Come celebrate the winners of the Ward 5 Awards, honoring remarkable neighbors who make Ward 5 a better place.
ward5.us/awards2025

FEB 25 **WARD 5 BUDGET FORUM**
 February 25, 2025 | 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.
 Friendship Public Charter School – Armstrong Campus (111 O St NW)
 All neighbors are invited to attend to share their budget priorities for Ward 5 and learn more about the District's budget process.
ward5.us/budgetforum

★ STAY CONNECTED



NEWSLETTER
 Sign up to receive weekly Ward 5 email updates at ward5.us/newsletter



PODCAST
 Tune in to the Ward 5 Wave Podcast at ward5.us/podcast



EVENTS
 Check zacharyparkerward5.com/upcoming-events regularly to stay up-to-date!

STAY IN TOUCH WITH COUNCILMEMBER PARKER

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 📧 ward5contact@dccouncil.gov



ZACHARY PARKER

DC COUNCIL | WARD 5



Dear Ward 5 neighbors,

It is the honor of a lifetime to represent you on the Council of the District of Columbia. Since taking office in January 2023, my team and I have been hard at work building healthy communities by **enacting transformative policy, fighting for Ward 5, and making government accessible and transparent.**

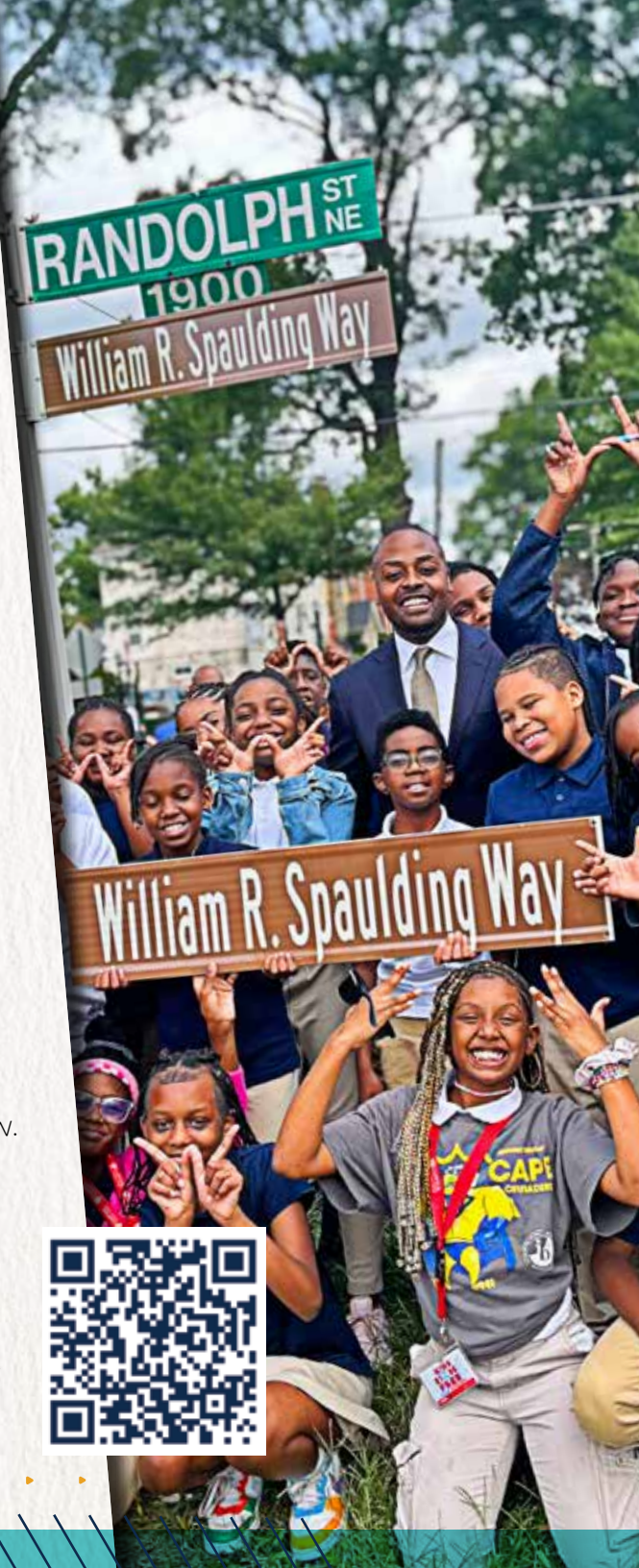
In this Progress Report, I'm sharing some of the highlights of our work. From securing the District Child Tax Credit for working families, to making new park projects in Ward 5 a reality, to **reaching historic declines in crime** – we have a lot to be proud of, and so much more to do. I want to be clear that the progress we've seen has only been possible through collaboration with neighbors. These are our wins, together.

I'm excited to roll up my sleeves and continue working alongside our community. Together, we can make historic investments in long-overlooked neighborhoods of Ward 5; introduce and champion bold legislation to end cycles of violence, poverty, and displacement; and, above all, take care of one another. As I always say, I know none better than Ward 5.

I invite you to take an even deeper look at our work over the past two years by visiting zacharyparkerward5.com/2025progress or scanning the QR code below.

Yours in service and community,

Scan here or visit ward5.us/2025progress to see more of our work over the past two years



BUILDING HEALTHY

COMMUNITIES



★ TRANSFORMATIVE POLICY

District Child Tax Credit – Introduced and championed the first-ever District Child Tax Credit for DC families, providing a fully refundable tax credit of up to **\$420 for each child under the age of 6** beginning in the 2025 tax year.

Capping Rent Increases – Led the fight against rent increases at rent-controlled properties, resulting in legislation capping rent increases at 6%.

School Improvement and School Safety – Introduced and passed legislation mandating the Office of the Superintendent to enhance supports and investments in the District's lowest performing schools, and introduced and passed legislation to close critical gaps in school safety supports and coordination.

Black LGBTQ+ History Commission – Introduced and passed legislation establishing the first-of-its-kind commission to chronicle and preserve DC's Black LGBTQ+ history.

Grandparent and Caregiver Subsidy Eligibility – Introduced and passed legislation that increases the annual stipend provided to grandparents and close relatives of children in the care of the Child and Family Services Agency.

Ward 5 Small Business Development Center – Introduced legislation to establish a small business development center and secured funding for a study (currently underway) of existing needs and gaps that this center would address.

Supporting Ward 5 and District Businesses – Passed legislation lowering permitting fees on breweries (Ward 5 has the most in the city) and streamlining regulations impacting District restaurants and nightlife venues.

Looking Ahead I'm excited for my bill, the OWNERS Act, to get a vote this year, as we seek to expand cooperative economics in the District, a key feature of Mayor Marion Barry's economic strategy. This bill will help businesses convert to worker-ownership models. I'll also continue championing my legislation, the Environmental Justice Act, as we seek to address decades of environmental injustice in DC that disproportionately impacts Ward 5 neighbors.



★ ACCESSIBLE AND TRANSPARENT GOVERNMENT

Making Council Accessible – Introduced an amendment to change Council rules and systems, creating a centralized way for neighbors to submit testimony and sign up to testify at hearings, significantly improving government accessibility.

Communicating Regularly – Sent more than **100 weekly newsletters** (ward5.us/newsletter) to neighbors including updates on my weekly activities, public safety, legislative updates, community events, and more.

Leading on Public Safety – Voted for critical public safety legislation and hosted dozens of community safety meetings and walks, as well as the Ward 5 Monthly Public Safety Call to coordinate across public safety agencies and community leaders. DC saw a 35% decline in violent crime from 2023 to 2024, and **Ward 5 had the steepest decline in the city at 39%**.

Responsive Services – Fielded more than **3,000 constituent services requests** to make sure city services are working for

neighbors. Our most frequently addressed requests are missed trash/recycling pick-up, traffic safety concerns, and housing/ utilities assistance.

Looking Ahead As the new Chair of the Committee on Youth Affairs, I'll fight for educational and mental health services for young people in the care of the Department of Youth Rehabilitation Services and the Child and Family Services Agency, with a focus on reducing juvenile crime through a continuum of care.

★ FIGHTING FOR WARD 5

Expanding Affordable Housing in Ward 5 – Fighting to keep Ward 5 affordable – from the 139 new deeply affordable units on North Capitol St at S.O.M.E.'s Roberts Residences, to the 100 affordable units coming to 2911 Rhode Island Ave NE, to the new 70-unit affordable multifamily development at One Hawaii in Fort Totten, to maximizing affordability requirements at forthcoming developments in Brookland, Fort Totten, and Bloomingdale.

Reimagining Rhode Island Ave – Secured funding for the Office of Planning to conduct the Rhode Island Ave Planning Study to make way for transformative investments along the corridor from 13th St to Eastern Ave NE.

New and Improved Parks – Secured funding for a new park at South Dakota Ave and Riggs Rd NE. Also secured funding for a new park in Carver Langston at 19th and L St NE. In 2024, we opened the new Reservoir Park and Recreation Center in Stronghold/Bloomingdale. Finally, we secured additional funding for Fort Lincoln Campus Improvement Project, and improvements are underway at Crummell in Ivy City, Turkey Thicket Rec, Harry Thomas Rec, Brentwood Rec, Langdon Rec, and Taft Field.

Traffic Safety Improvements – Closed the Metropolitan Branch Trail gap on 8th St NE, secured funding for safety studies across Ward 5, convened the Ward 5 Bus Network task force to review and develop feedback on WMATA's Better Bus Network Redesign, improved traffic flow on Florida Ave NW, and currently overseeing needed changes and redevelopment at "Dave Thomas Circle."

Ward 5 Senior Advisory Committee – Established the Ward 5 Senior Advisory Committee to advise my office on a range of issues impacting senior communities.

Expanding Food Access – Cut the ribbon on Aldi in Fort Totten, supporting the weekly free veggie giveaway in Edgewood, overseeing the planning for Trader Joe's in Brookland, a new grocer in Bloomingdale, and promoting the addition of farmers markets in Union Market and Trinidad. Serving as Vice Chair of the Council of Government's FARM Policy Committee, providing vision for the region's food and agricultural ecosystem.

Black History Street Designations – Introduced and enacted 10 bills to designate streets in Ward 5 in honor of prominent Black figures with ties to our communities.

Annual Holiday Turkey Giveaway, North Capitol Trust Builders, Community Clean-ups, and More – Worked to get resources directly to neighbors through our annual Holiday Turkey Giveaway, North Capitol Trust Builders pilot program to engage neighbors in need on North Capitol Street, community clean-ups across Ward 5, and several health and wellness resource fairs.

Ward 5 Day and Ward 5 Awards – Revived the annual Ward 5 Day celebration – which dates back to Councilmember Harry Thomas, Sr. – and hosted the inaugural Ward 5 Awards to honor remarkable neighbors who help our communities thrive.

Looking Ahead Following the conclusion of the Office of Planning's Rhode Island Ave Planning Study, they will present their findings in Spring 2025. I will fight to secure funding to revitalize the Rhode Island Ave corridor in this year's budget process. Additionally, DC Public Library is concluding their work to select the site of a new library coming to the Edgewood neighborhood.

