



Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6A
Single Member District 6A-02
646 11th St NE
Washington, DC 20002



March 31, 2010

Jesús Aguirre
Interim Director
Department of Parks and Recreation
Government of the District of Columbia
3149 16th Street NW
Washington, DC 20010

RE: Replacement of Light Bulbs in Parking Lot of Sherwood Recreation Center

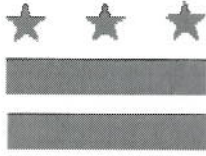
Dear Director Aguirre:

Residents of the 600 blocks of 9th and 10th Streets NE have contacted me regarding the outdoor lighting situation at the Sherwood Recreation Center, located at 640 10th Street NE. As of today, more than 50 percent of the outdoor lights surrounding the parking lot and walking track are burned out. Many of these lights have been out for months and, despite repeated requests to the Center's staff, this important public safety situation has not been corrected.

As the spring continues to come into full bloom, the illegal activity in the poorly lit Sherwood Recreation Center's parking lot continues to grow and broad public enjoyment of this facility's outdoor amenities, such as the walking track, in the evening dwindles. This is an unfortunate reality that can easily be rectified by replacing the burned-out light bulbs.

To highlight the public safety realities of this poorly lit facility, last night the police responded to the center's parking lot and arrested an individual selling illegal narcotics. While this arrest puts a paper trail to the problem, it is just one example of how the poor lighting situation at Sherwood can negatively affect residents. Virtually every night, residents are forced to listen and watch the illegal activities of a growing group of young, irresponsible individuals seeking to do nothing more than drink alcohol and consume and distribute illegal narcotics on the property of one of your Department's newest centers. This is truly a shame. If the lights are not repaired promptly, I am confident that as the weather continues to improve the situation in the parking lot and around the walking track will only get worse.

I hope you will act quickly in dispatching your maintenance crew to the Sherwood Recreation Center. Also, following the repair of the lights, I would like to begin a conversation about finding a more durable lighting situation. Residents tell me these lights burn out in months (instead of years) and this seems like an unsustainable solution moving forward.



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Thank you for your assistance in addressing this matter. I will follow-up with you via telephone in the coming days.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Drew Ronneberg', written over a faint, larger version of the same signature.

Drew Ronneberg, ANC 6A-02 Commissioner
ronneberg6a02@gmail.com
(202) 431-4305

cc: Tommy Wells, Ward 6 Councilmember