



Ward 5
Councilmember

**KENYAN
MCDUFFIE**

**5-YEAR REPORT
2012-2017**

**IMPROVING
YOUR QUALITY OF
LIFE**

Neighbors,

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your Councilmember for Ward 5 for the past five years.

Since taking office in 2012, I have approached my role as Councilmember with three principles in mind: (1) lead with **integrity**; (2) ensure that the District's policies are **inclusive**; and (3) **deliver results** to the residents of Ward 5.

With those principles in mind, and together with your help, we have worked tirelessly to champion policies that have positively impacted the quality of life for residents in Ward 5. We came together and created a bold new vision for Ward 5's unique industrial land with the Ward 5 Works report. We solved a 100-year-old problem with new water infrastructure to prevent flooding in the Ward. We supported seniors with more transportation and responsive constituent service. All of this was possible because we built coalitions, listened to constituents and focused on what is important.

We implemented sweeping updates to the District's criminal justice laws. We shepherded comprehensive juvenile justice reform. We created a national model for transparency in the implementation of body worn

camera programs. We unanimously passed the innovative Neighborhood Engagement Achieves Results Act (NEAR Act), which reforms the District's criminal justice system.

Though we have accomplished much, I believe there is still more to do. As the current chairperson of the Committee on Business and Economic Development, I am working to ensure that the District's economy continues to thrive and that small and local businesses can participate in the District's growth. I also believe that we can tackle the challenges we face in our public school system, and ensure that the District remains affordable for families who have lived here for generations while also welcoming those who wish to make the District their home.

Together let us work to make sure Ward 5 remains the best, most prosperous, diverse and inclusive Ward in the District, with opportunities for all of its residents to live, learn, work, and play.

In service,

Kenyan



Economic Transformation

CELEBRATING OUR SENIORS



“Ward 5 is a special place with a lot of vocal community members. Councilmember McDuffie knows he can’t please everyone, but he takes the time to listen and make a thoughtful decision.”

Earline Frazier, President, Brentwood Civic Association

Ward 5 is home to nearly 15,000 seniors and Councilmember McDuffie has fought for those seniors to maintain their independence and safety. Through the Senior Advisory Council, Councilmember McDuffie maintains direct contact with our seasoned citizens and is able to prioritize their concerns. He has



worked to improve transportation options through Seabury Resources for Aging and passed legislation to reduce seniors’ taxes and protect seniors from fraud and abuse.

Kenyan McDuffie
Integrity, Service, Progress



INDUSTRIAL LAND TO PRODUCTIVE USE

Ward 5 is home to most of the city’s industrial land, which presents both opportunities and challenges. Residents who live near industrial land have for decades borne the difficulties arising from industrial activity.

Shortly after entering office, Councilmember McDuffie introduced the Ward 5 Industrial Land Transformation Task Force Act. Easing the friction between seemingly incompatible land uses—residential and industrial—was the Councilmember’s top priority.

In 2014, the task force produced its final report, Ward 5 Works, a strategy to transform 1,000 acres of industrial land into a hub of green, food, tech and creative businesses that create jobs, community amenities and better environmental performance. That strategy is paying off with new economic development, reduced impact from industrial uses and amenities for neighbors. You can see it in places like Ivy City, Fort Totten, Union Market and the upcoming NewCity DC development at New York Avenue and Bladensburg Road.

The Crummell School was built in 1911 and educated black students until 1972. It has been vacant for the past 30 years and there were plans to convert the property to a bus storage lot. In 2012, the DC Preservation League added it to its list of the city’s most endangered places. It is now slated for mixed-use redevelopment which will provide amenities and activate the site for use by Ivy City residents.

Rebirth of Retail Corridors and Maintaining Great Neighborhoods

- **CHAMPIONED ALL THREE WARD 5 MAIN STREET ORGANIZATIONS** by funding Rhode Island Avenue Main Street, revitalizing North Capital Main Street, and expanding the boundaries of H Street Main Street to extend up Bladensburg Road NE.
- **CONNECTED RESIDENTS TO DOWNTOWN** via a direct bus route, the G9, which will run the entire east-west length of Ward 5 along Rhode Island Avenue.
- **PRESERVED THE BROOKLAND GREEN** by initiating a deal between WMATA and DC that preserves mature trees and open space.
- **FUNDED THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE RHODE ISLAND AVENUE METRO PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE**, an essential connection to the Rhode Island Avenue Metro Station, the Metropolitan Branch Trail and the Edgewood Neighborhood.
- **SUPPORTED THE ADAPTIVE REUSE OF INDUSTRIAL SPACE FOR CRAFT DISTILLERIES** in the District by allowing distillers to provide on-site sales and sidewalk cafés.
- **FOUGHT SUCCESSFULLY TO KEEP THE HISTORIC CRUMMELL SCHOOL** from being turned into a bus storage lot.

WARD 5
MAIN
STREETS

\$271,347

23 WARD 5 PROJECTS FUNDED:
2014–2016



CONSTITUENT SERVICES



Constituent Services by the Numbers

From May 2012, when Councilmember McDuffie was sworn into office, to May 1, 2017, the office has received 6,624 requests for assistance from his constituents. Over 6,161 requests have been closed or completed.

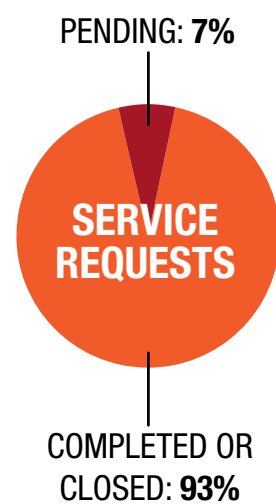
THE TOP ISSUE AREAS REQUESTED FOR HELP BY WARD 5 CONSTITUENTS ARE:

D.C. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

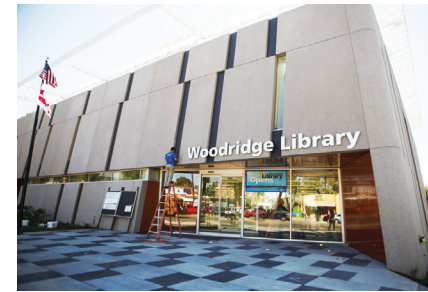
D.C. DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

D.C. OFFICE ON AGING

D.C. HOUSING AUTHORITY



COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENTS



- **BROOKLAND MIDDLE SCHOOL:** Councilmember McDuffie provided leadership to build a new facility, and worked with the community to avoid co-locating the middle school with Turkey Thicket Recreation Center.
- **WOODRIDGE LIBRARY:** Located at 1801 Hamlin Street NE, the new Woodridge Library spans 20,000 square feet with 40 computers, two conference rooms for up to 14 people, and a total of 40,000 books, CDs, DVDs and other library materials.
- **CHUCK BROWN PARK:** After some initial controversy about design, Councilmember McDuffie worked with the community to facilitate a redesigned and appropriate memorial to the Godfather of Go-Go. Each August since its opening the District has hosted a successful (and fun!) Chuck Brown Day concert.
- **W STREET TRANSFER STATION:** This has been an ongoing environmental justice issue in the Brentwood community. The trash transfer station's close proximity to Brentwood neighbors causes rodents, odors and other quality-of-life issues. The Councilmember passed legislation authorizing the Mayor to use eminent domain to take the W Street Transfer Station and repurpose it for a more community-friendly government use.
- **SOLID WASTE FACILITIES:** Passed a law mandating that solid waste facilities close at 7 p.m. instead of 10 p.m. and requiring quarterly inspections.
- **AIR QUALITY:** Passed a law increasing the fines for air quality violations at paint spray booths. And, increased the number of air quality inspectors at the District Department of Environment and Energy to respond to constituent complaints.

CLEAN TEAMS work in retail corridors to keep sidewalks clear of litter, and storefronts clean. Ward 5 is home to five clean teams, three of which Councilmember McDuffie created. Clean teams not only help maintain retail corridors, but also frequently employ returning citizens. Ward 5 clean team corridors include:

- 12th Street NE
- Bladensburg Road NE
- New York Avenue NE / Ivy City
- North Capitol Street
- Rhode Island Avenue NE



LEGISLATION

ACTS THAT IMPACT WARD 5

Advancing causes in public health, safety, education, housing, employment, and campaign finance.

For more information on these and other legislative acts, please visit Councilmember McDuffie's website at www.kenyanmcduffie.com.

Councilmember McDuffie has had the privilege of Chairing the Committee on Jobs and Workforce Development (2012), Government Operations (2013-2014), Judiciary (2015-2016), and Business and Economic Development (2017-present).

- **PUBLIC SAFETY:** Passed the "Neighborhood Engagement Achieves Results (NEAR) Act" which incorporated a community-based, public-health approach to crime prevention, and passed the Comprehensive Juvenile Justice Reform which bans solitary confinement for juveniles.
- **CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM:** Passed the District's most comprehensive campaign finance reform legislation, including closing the 'LLC Loophole,' which had allowed deep-pocketed donors to skirt campaign contribution limits.
- **"BAN THE BOX":** Passed bills that address discrimination that many returning citizens and people with low credit scores face. The District's "ban the box" laws prohibit employers from requiring a criminal background or credit check before a conditional offer is made. Similarly, led the fight to ban the use of upfront criminal background checks for people seeking housing.
- **PROTECTING SENIORS:** Passed the "Financial Exploitation of Vulnerable Adults and the Elderly Act," affectionately known as the "Hilda Mason Act." This

bill aims to protect senior citizens in the District from financial exploitation, and holds accountable those who take advantage of them.

- **PROMOTING GENDER EQUITY:** Passed the "Title IX Athletic Equity Act" requiring District schools to report on Title IX compliance and the Mayor to develop a plan to promote gender equity in athletics. He also passed the "Access to Contraceptives Act" requiring health insurers to cover contraception, and the "Japarker Deoni Jones Birth Certificate Equality Act," allowing residents to obtain vital records that align with their gender identity.
- **EDUCATION:** Passed the "Career and Technical Education Plan Establishment Act" which led to the creation of the Career and Technical Education program & Career Academies in District Public Schools. Also supported the "Pre-K Student Discipline Act," prohibiting the suspension and expulsion of Pre-K children.
- **PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT:** Received the D.C. Environmental Network's Environmental Advocacy Award for his work on the "Community Renewables Energy Act" and the "Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard Act." These measures greatly benefit the District's environment by increasing opportunities for solar energy and requiring the District to emphasize the use of truly renewable energy.

Affordable Housing:

Councilmember McDuffie has a strong legislative record supporting affordable housing policies.



- Passed legislation that **increases the amount of affordable housing units required** on District land slated for development.
- Introduced the "**Civil Gideon**" bill which aims to **level the playing field for low-income tenants in Landlord and Tenant Court** by providing them with legal representation.
- Passed legislation which ensures that when the District of Columbia has unreserved surplus funds, **50% of those funds are dedicated to the Housing Production Trust Fund.**
- Required the District to study the current inventory of, and **need for, large family-size affordable dwelling units** in the District.

SINCE 2012 IN WARD 5:

559
AFFORDABLE HOUSING
UNITS CREATED

1,032
AFFORDABLE HOUSING
UNITS IN THE PIPELINE

McDuffie in Action

Fort Totten Metro Trail Lights



Shortly after coming into office, the North Michigan Park community raised concerns about the unlit trail leading to Fort Totten Metro Station. Since the trail was on federal park land, Councilmember McDuffie invited Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton to walk the area and partnered with her to get new lighting installed. When the National Park Service recently tried to remove the lights, Councilmember McDuffie again stepped in and kept the trail lighted.

Flooding Homes



For over 100 years, the Bloomingdale and Eckington communities have endured rampant flooding. Residents needed a long-term answer instead of the stopgap measures that had long been offered. The Councilmember worked with the community and stakeholders to develop an innovative solution using a combination of low impact development and new stormwater storage tanks to address the flooding that had dogged the area for over a century.

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