July 31, 2008

Vincent C. Gray, Chairman
Council of the District of Columbia
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC  20004

Dear Chairman Gray,

Attached please find my report on expenses for the District's celebrations of DC Emancipation Day, 2008. This report is required by D.C. Official Code Title 1, Chapter 1, Subchapter VI, § 1-183(c).

The report is a summary explanation of all activities and expenditures ($1,900) for the week's worth of activities, so far this fiscal year.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you,

Stephanie D. Scott

cc:  Mayor Adrian M. Fenty
     All Councilmembers
     Office of Financial Resource Management
District of Columbia Emancipation Day - April 16, 2008
Report of the Secretary of the District of Columbia

D.C. Official Code Title 1, Chapter 1, Subchapter VI, § 1-183(c) states:

By August 1st of each year, the Secretary of the District of Columbia shall submit a report to the Council that shall include a specific accounting of the expenditure of money in the Fund and any remaining balance. The report shall include:

(1) The name of any donors or list of anonymous contributions;
(2) The amount of each contribution;
(3) A description of any donated property;
(4) A description of the use of monies for presenting the Emancipation Day Parade; and
(5) Costs of parade-related programs, activities, and functions for which the money have been expended.

Further, D.C. Official Code Title 1, Chapter 1, Subchapter VI, § 1-183(a) states:

For the purposes of this subchapter, the term:

(1) “Emancipation Day Parade” means the parade, and associated activities, held to celebrate and commemorate District of Columbia Emancipation Day.

During the first quarter of FY 2008, the Office of the Secretary began planning for DC Emancipation Day 2008. Our two main focuses were to be educating DC residents of all ages about our unique history, and mounting a second annual Voting Rights March to Capitol Hill.

My three-fold strategy for the educational component of DC Emancipation Day is:

• to create lasting materials that will be useful to a range of users, such as schools, community centers, churches, senior centers, libraries, and other groups and individuals;
• to develop partnerships with public and private agencies to encourage DC Emancipation Day celebrations that are developed, organized, and presented by community-based organizations across the District, so each year increasing numbers of residents feel ownership of the celebrations; and
• to become an information clearinghouse for community-based events taking place throughout the District during the week leading up to DC Emancipation Day.

In 2008, educational activities included the week-long lecture series, with several events organized by the Office of the Secretary, and several events organized by partners and members of the DC Emancipation Day Commission, such as the Historical Society of
Washington; significant “behind-the-scenes” work on a documentary, *Enslavement to Emancipation*, that we are making in partnership with the Office of Cable Television; and preliminary plans to create a brochure for public distribution.

The 2008 Voting Rights March had been in the planning stages for several months before it was cancelled. I recommended cancellation of the Voting Rights March due to concerns about the availability of District resources, public interest, and public safety, which arose once we learned that Pope Benedict XVI’s first visit to the United States was to include a visit to the White House and a public parade on April 16 – DC Emancipation Day. Although the Metropolitan Police Department indicated that they were able to manage two simultaneous public “parades,” I recommended canceling the Voting Rights March because police resources were not the only area of concern.

- As a participant in the planning meetings for the Pope’s visit, I was well aware of the concerns relating to large numbers of buses bringing tourists to see the Pope, gridlock, and the need to plan for medical emergencies should some catastrophe occur.
- I also was concerned that many of those who might be interested in joining the DC Emancipation Day Voting Rights March would be drawn to the papal parade, and choose to attend that parade instead of ours.
- Last, international protocol, for which my office is also responsible on behalf of the District, holds that it would be inappropriate for the host government of a visiting head of state to sponsor a protest march at the same time as a parade is being held for the visiting head of state.

Because the cancellation was decided at such a late date, we did have expenditures in advance, which are detailed below.

**DONATIONS**

We received no donations for celebrations of Emancipation Day 2008, nor were any solicited.

**EXPENSES**

*Emancipation Week Lecture Series:*

Twelve events were held on six of the eight days leading up to DC Emancipation Day. There were no expenses for the lecture series in 2008. In prior years, we gave honoraria to speakers, poets and musicians, and venues for the use of their space. In 2008, to encourage community ownership of Emancipation Day, honoraria were not paid. The events were:
- Ecumenical Forum: Emancipation and Civil Rights: A Movement for Freedom at the Fifteenth Street Presbyterian Church, 1701 15th Street, NW on April 8.
- “Slavery and the District of Columbia Compensated Emancipation Act” at the University of the District of Columbia, 4200 Connecticut Ave., NW on April 9.
- Tribute to A. Philip Randolph and Congressman John Lewis hosted by the Phi Beta Sigma fraternity at the Rayburn House Office Building on April 10.
- Friends of DC Emancipation Day’s Wreath Laying Ceremony at Lincoln Park, East Capitol Street NE on April 12.
- Film: Congressman Robert Smalls: A Patriot’s Journey from Slavery to Capitol Hill at the Historical Society of Washington, 801 K Street NW on April 14.
- Brentwood Community Emancipation Day Celebration hosted by Giant Food at Brentwood Shopping Center on April 12.
- “Celebrating the Struggle for Emancipation and Civil Rights through Poetry & Prose” at Busboys and Poets, 1390 V Street NW on April 12.
- “Washingtonians and the Riot of 1968” hosted by the Humanities Council of Washington, DC at Martin Luther King, Jr. Library, 901 G Street NW on April 14.
- “Conversation on Great Streets with Bomani Armah, Professor Griff, and Anthony ‘A-tone’ Muhammad” at Martin Luther King, Jr. Library, 901 G Street NW on April 14.
- DC Emancipation Day Parade/March” hosted by the African American Holiday Association, The American Friends Service Committee, DC Black History Celebration Committee, Friends of DC Emancipation Day, and Stand Up! for Democracy in DC Coalition (Free DC) at Historic Franklin Square, between 13th and 14th and I Streets, NW on April 16.
- Re-enactment of Frederick Douglass’ 1883 DC Emancipation Speech at the Historical Society of Washington, 801 K Street NW on April 16.

**Emancipation Day Parade / Voting Rights March:**
In 2008 we have spent $1,900 to advertise the anticipated Voting Rights March in the Washington Informer’s Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday special edition. The advertisement is appended to this report. We also applied for and received a permit from the U.S. Commission on Fine Arts to hang the banner advertising the Voting Rights March, which we had made in 2007, but there was no cost for the permit.

**Enslavement to Emancipation Documentary:**
Before the close of fiscal year 2008, we expect to sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to transfer funds from the Emancipation Day Fund to the Office of Cable Television to cover the costs of completing the production of the documentary. If the MOU is signed this fiscal year, I will send an addendum to this report.
SUMMARY

The total spent for the week of DC Emancipation Day was $1,900. This leaves a remainder of $98,100 that was budgeted for 2008 but not spent.

Because the legislation that established DC Emancipation Day specifically forbids any remaining funds from returning to the General Fund, and permits the funds to be spent only for DC Emancipation Day activities, I anticipate that this total will be moved to the Emancipation Day Activities program of the Office of the Secretary budget and be available for use going forward.
Mayor's Proclamation

THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
ADRIAN M. FENTY, MAYOR

Proclamation

DC EMANCIPATION DAY

April 16, 2008

WHEREAS, April 16 is an official holiday in the District of Columbia, commemorating the day in 1862 on which President Abraham Lincoln signed the District of Columbia Compensated Emancipation Act, to free the 3,150 enslaved people in Washington, D.C.; and

WHEREAS, the observation of DC Emancipation Day was revived by DC Reading Is Fundamental in 1991; and

WHEREAS, this year marks the 146th anniversary of DC Emancipation Day, and the 17th anniversary of the revival of the commemoration ceremonies; and

WHEREAS, despite having been the "first breed" by the District of Columbia Compensated Emancipation Act, their descendents and all residents of Washington, D.C. remain the only George Washingtons of the United States who are denied full representation in the U.S. Congress; and

WHEREAS, the Government of the District of Columbia is committed to educating all DC residents about our unique history, and continuing to fight for full emancipation in the House and Senate.

NOW, THEREFORE, I THE MAYOR OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, do hereby call upon all the residents of this great city to participate in the many events marking DC EMANCIPATION DAY.
Advertisement in Washington Informer

“The Emancipation Proclamation was the offspring of the Declaration of Independence. It was a constructive use of the force of law to uproot a social order which sought to separate liberty from a segment of humanity.”

Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
Emancipation Proclamation Centennial Address
New York City, September 12, 1962

Honor Dr. King’s Legacy.
Demand the Vote.

March for Full Congressional Voting Rights on DC Emancipation Day.

Wednesday, April 16, 2008
Freedom Plaza. 2:30 p.m.
www.dc.gov/emancipationday 202-727-6306
Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs
Permit Center
941 North Capitol St. NE Room 2100
Washington DC 20002
Tel: (202) 442-4589

Building Permit

PERMIT NO. 115400
DATE: 2/5/2008

ADDRESS OF PROJECT:
100K Pennsylvania Ave NW

DESCRIPTION OF WORK:
TO INSTALL (F) X (F) BANNER ABOVE THE FRONT DOOR FROM 3/15/2008 TO 4/17/2008. BANNER MESSAGES A VOTING RIGHTS MARCH ON EMANCIPATION DAY ON APRIL 16TH.

PERMIT TYPE: Sign
PLANS (Y/N): Y
EXISTING USE: Office
PHOTOID USE: Office

PERMIT FEE: $0.00

OWNER: DC GOVERNMENT

PERMIT CLERK:

CONDITIONS & RESTRICTIONS:
TEMPORARY SIGN BANNER - REMOVE BY 4/17/08

TO REPORT WASTE, FRAUD OR ABUSE BY ANY DC GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL, CALL THE DC INSPECTOR GENERAL AT 1-800-421-1993

CONDITIONS: As a condition precedent to the issuance of this permit, the owner agrees to contract with all conditions of this permit, with the exception of the permit fee, to be paid in accordance with the terms of the work. The owner agrees to have an appropriate permit and to obtain all necessary permits from the District of Columbia. The District of Columbia has the right to inspect the work and require any changes in the plans which may be necessary to maintain compliance with the permit and with all of the applicable regulations of the District of Columbia. If the work is not completed, any application for said permit used to issue work within six months of the date appearing on this permit is automatically void. If work is not completed, any application for said permit used to issue work within six months of the date appearing on this permit is automatically void. If work is not completed, any application for said permit used to issue work within six months of the date appearing on this permit is automatically void.