

STATEMENT OF THE
FRIENDSHIP NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION
REGARDING ODMPED'S PROPOSAL
FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE
TENLEY-FRIENDSHIP NEIGHBORHOOD LIBRARY/JANNEY SCHOOL SITE

June 3, 2008

The board of directors of the Friendship Neighborhood Association categorically opposes the public-private partnership being pursued by the Office of the Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development for the Tenley-Friendship Neighborhood Library/Janney Elementary School site.

This position reflects the majority opinion of upper Northwest residents. Notably, more than 75 percent of the individuals who submitted public comments on the proposals proffered by the three developers interested in the PPP rejected a mixed-use project on the library/school land.

FNA's board of directors is particularly troubled that ODMPED again has made the library rebuild part of the proposed PPP, citing community sentiment as the justification. This claim flagrantly misrepresents the neighborhood consensus. Just 18 percent of the people providing comments said that a new branch library should be included in any PPP.

We strongly support the D.C. Public Library's goal of rebuilding the Tenley-Friendship Library as a freestanding facility by early 2010. In our view, the building DCPL currently envisions will be able to deliver the multiple services residents expect from a neighborhood library while also making an architecturally significant statement on this part of upper Wisconsin Avenue.

At the same time, the board declares that the library rebuild should not be part of any possible PPP. Including it inevitably will lead to a delayed completion and a compromised design.

Friendship Neighborhood Association Board of Directors

David P. Frankel
Gina Mirigliano
Marilyn Simon

June 3, 2008

Susan MacKnight, FNA Secretary/Treasurer