



Capitol Riverfront Community Meeting

Update on Van Ness Feasibility Study

December 8, 2010

In late July, DCPS agreed to conduct a feasibility study to determine whether we would have sufficient enrollment to reopen and sustain Van Ness as an elementary school, and the capital and operational budget required to reestablish the school. DCPS has committed to making a decision in January 2011.

The feasibility study will consider the following data/information:

- Population estimates (including school age children), birth rates, housing information
- Enrollment trends and building capacity at area schools
- Capital expenditure required to retrofit the building for a school program

In an effort to provide a brief update on what data has been collected so far, we have organized it by the key questions we are trying to answer.

Is there sufficient school-age population to sustain an elementary school in the Capitol Riverfront community?

- There are approximately 480 elementary age students living within a half mile of the Van Ness building.
- Approximately 2,427 new residential units are complete with 170 additional units under construction.
- An additional 5,696 residential units are planned over the next 5-7 years, totaling almost 8,300 units. It is too early in the planning process to know exactly how many of these units will be family size housing.
- Without final housing specifications, we will use a range of potential family housing units to predict school-age population
- Based on the school-age population projections, we will apply capture rates and out-of-boundary trends to estimate enrollment

What is the demand for and capacity at the nearby DCPS schools?

- There are three DCPS schools close in proximity to the Capitol Riverfront community – Amidon-Bowen (1.6 miles), Brent (0.7 miles) and Tyler (0.7 miles) elementary schools.

School	Building Capacity	SY10-11 Enrollment	Waitlist at time of lottery
Amidon-Bowen	438	272 (62% of capacity)	10
Brent	325	327 (100% of capacity)	355
Tyler	452	348 (77% of capacity)	269

- Brent and Tyler have both received Phase 1 modernizations to their buildings and Amidon-Bowen is slated for renovation in summer 2012.

Snapshot of Parent Survey Responses

- ❖ 85 surveys were submitted
- ❖ The majority (68%) of respondents have lived in Capitol Riverfront for less than two years
- ❖ There were a total of 69 children reported living in the CR area, with the majority under 3 years old
- ❖ Overwhelming majority of respondents are in favor of opening Van Ness ES

Our data sources include:

- DC Office of Planning
- Capitol Riverfront BID
- Local Developers
- DC Housing Authority
- Neighborhood Info DC (Urban Institute)
- Parent Survey

If you have questions regarding the feasibility study please contact Claudia Luján at claudia.lujan@dc.gov

