



# FOGGY BOTTOM NEWS

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www.savefoggybottom.com

January 14, 2009

## INAUGURAL ALERTS

**Metrorail Service – January 18-21:** Metrorail operations and service on the Red Line, Orange and Blue Lines will be affected during the Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Weekend (January 18-21). Rail service on all three lines will be slower and single tracking will be required over portions of the lines.

**Metrorail Service – January 20:** The Archives-Navy Memorial/Penn Quarter Metrorail station and one of two entrances to the Smithsonian Metrorail stations will be closed on Inauguration Day. The Smithsonian station entrance on the National Mall will be closed. The Independence Ave SW entrance will remain open.

**Metrobus Service – January 20-21:** Metrobus will operate on a normal Saturday schedule. Street closures around the

National Mall and Pennsylvania Avenue for the parade, all Metrobuses will be prepared for detours and schedule yourself significant extra time to travel through these areas.

No vehicular traffic, including buses, is expected to be able to pass close to the U.S. Capitol, nor will vehicles be able to cross Pennsylvania Avenue.

**Bicycling to the Inauguration:** The Washington Area Bicyclist Association (WABA) is working on a plan with city officials to have bike valet stations available near the swearing-in ceremonies and parade route. Visit [www.waba.org](http://www.waba.org) for details. **Bicycles will be prohibited within the security perimeter.**

**Tickets:** Each person must have a ticket, including



personal assistants. **Inauguration Security:** Officials strongly recommend that everyone travels lightly and expect additional time to get through security.

**Security checkpoints will open for the Inaugural Swearing-in Ceremony at 8 a.m. Ticketed guests are advised to arrive by 9 a.m.**

In preparation, a list of prohibited items is below. To start, **cell phones and cameras will be allowed, however tripods and camera bags will be prohibited.**

**Handicapped or Disabled Visitors –** The designated drop-off points for visitors with disabilities outside of the security perimeters are 2 drop-off points for people with disabilities are:

– at South Capitol and E Street and  
– North Capitol and E Street.

Traffic conditions may make it difficult to reach these points. Each ticketed area for the swearing-in ceremony will offer some seating, available on a first-come, first-served basis. Visitors using walkers or wheelchairs should be aware that they may need

*(Continued on next page)*

### PROHIBITED ITEMS:

- Alcoholic beverages
- Animals (other than service animals)
- Backpacks
- Coolers
- Duffel bags
- Explosives of any kind (including fireworks)
- Firearms and ammunition (either real or simulated)
- Knives, blades, or sharp objects (of any length)
- Large bags
- Laser pointers
- Mace and/or pepper spray
- Packages
- Pockets or hand tools, such as “Leatherman”
- Posters
- Signs
- Sticks or poles
- Strollers
- Suitcases
- Thermoses
- Tripods and camera bags
- Umbrellas
- Other items as determined by and at the discretion of the security screen

## JANUARY CALENDAR:

### MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY PROJECT: CREATE A ONE+ DISASTER KIT

MONDAY, JANUARY 19th, 10am – 1pm  
N Street Village Meeting Room  
1333 N St NW  
**PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED**  
Email:  
[development@LutheranVolunteerCorps.org](mailto:development@LutheranVolunteerCorps.org)  
or call 202-387-3222

### FBA MONTHLY MEETING

TUESDAY, JANUARY 27th –  
7pm social, 7:30pm speaker.  
*Speaker: Representative Eleanor Holmes Norton*  
At: St. Stephen Martyr Church, Parrish Hall  
Pennsylvania Ave NW at 25th St NW  
(25th St NW entrance)

### WEST END LIBRARY FRIENDS and THE FOGGY BOTTOM ASSOCIATION PRESENT: GET THE LOW DOWN ON DOWNLOADING\*

SUNDAY, JANUARY 25th  
3:00pm – 5:00pm  
At: West End Library, 24th and L Streets

\*The District of Columbia Public Library now offers downloadable versions of books, audio books, video and music from several sources as long as you have a valid library card. Bring your computer and card to the library and learn how to:  
—Download & install free software to use media material on your computer  
—Register free software  
—Check out, download, and enjoy what the library has to offer

*Refreshments will be served.*

## THE FOGGY BOTTOM NEWS

Foggy Bottom Association  
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The *Foggy Bottom News* is published by the Foggy Bottom Association as a service to its members and provides information on FBA and neighborhood news, programs, activities and other events of interest to FBA members. Contributions and story ideas are welcome, but the *FBN* reserves the right to edit or hold pieces as space requires.

The Foggy Bottom Association was formed by a group of citizens in 1955 and was formally incorporated in 1959. Attendance at FBA meetings is open to all residents of Foggy Bottom and the West End.

### FBA Officers:

PRESIDENT – Joy Howell  
VICE PRESIDENT – Jacqueline G. Lemire  
SECRETARY – Jill Nevius  
TREASURER – Bille Hougart  
MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR – Marilyn Rubin

### FBA Board of Directors:

Rita Aid, David Hertzfeldt, Dusty Horwitt,  
Donald W. Kreuzer, Lawrence G. Mrozinski, Greg Snyder  
*Ex-Officio:* Ron Cocome (Immediate Past President);  
Susan Trinter (*FBN* Editor)

# The Tale Of The Not-So-Little DC Engine Company That Could

BY DAVID MALLOF

Reprinted from FEDERATION NEWS, Vol 14 Issue 8 Nov. 2008, Page 5.

*David Mallof's last visit to Engine Company #1 was to drop off homemade cookies, apple butter from the Dupont Circle Farmer's Market, and 4 Christmas Tree ornaments to the firehouse on Christmas Eve (total cost \$12) as a holiday thought from the neighbors. As of that date, the crew had heard nothing new on their long awaited upgrade fate. (See FBN article, "What is Best for Engine Company 1?", dated 3-19-08 on [www.SaveFoggyBottom.com](http://www.SaveFoggyBottom.com)) Plus Assistant Chief Joseph Deaton attended the Fed holiday luncheon on December 9th and said nothing.*

Once upon a time, DC's mission-critical public safety fire station Engine Company 1, located at 2225 M Street NW in Ward 2, was finally at the top of the Fire & Emergency Medical Services' (FEMS) schedule for a modest—about \$2.5 million—and long-overdue refurbishment. Like many firehouses in the city, E1 has languished for nearly two decades with only minimal maintenance. This straightforward refurbishment, scheduled for 2008, would have brought E1 up to par with the recently refurbished Engine Company 9 (1617 U Street, NW, Ward 1) of similar age and design.

Sadly, our story veered wildly off-track with the introduction of a no-bid proposal made by a developer friend of Ward 2 Councilmember, Jack Evans in a July 3, 2007 short-notice, non-videotaped "roundtable" (not a public hearing) held by two DC Council committee chairs. Thereafter, the Council placed the name of the favored developer on emergency legislation, as requested by Neil Albert, Deputy Mayor for Economic Development, thus agreeing to give away the valuable public parcel that included the fire station, nearby West End

Library and the Metropolitan Police Department's Special Operations Division. Supposedly, DC would receive a new library and fire station via a package deal not to exceed \$20 million in costs to the developer.

Even Councilmember and former Mayor Marion Barry opined—on the record—that the average cost of just a new library would be in the \$15 million range. Moreover, FEMS officials later confirmed that no plans or cost analysis covering the unique needs of this working firehouse had ever been done. Unbelievably, no plans were reviewed by the Council before it voted to spend the public's money.

After a sustained public uproar, the DC Council unwound the legislation two months later in October 2007. A year later, E1 remains an eyesore, an embarrassment and a potential health and public safety trainwreck, as the community sits on a side track with the following circumstances:

- A badly deteriorating, but critically important, firehouse that protects residential dwellings, commercial buildings, The White House, Marine One Presidential Helicopter operations, numerous federal departments, local schools, major medical centers and Metro stations;
- The home to FEMS' heroic firefighters and medics who endure sleeping, eating, and living in a sub-par public safety facility;
- A Ward 2 Councilmember who remains silent on why E1's refurbishment should not proceed post haste; and

- A Deputy Mayor who, having chosen to play fast and loose with the public's safety, never constructed a thoughtful cost analysis—pulling out of thin air

the \$20 million estimate for both the land value and new firehouse and library construction.

In an effort to get our E1 facility back on the renovation track, local neighborhood leaders from Foggy Bottom and Dupont Circle met in late October with FEMS Chief Dennis Rubin. In a written memo sent to the group the day of the meeting, FEMS verified that refurbishment would be its preference for E1. However, Chief Rubin also sheepishly admitted during the meeting that E1 has been bumped into a public safety upgrade netherworld.

What will become of E1? Never fear. The community will keep chugging away as it continues to press for E1's needed renovations. We must protect and upgrade our lifeblood public safety facilities regardless of today's budget pressures. And no-bid proposals from developers seeking public land and public subsidy—and special access—for (intentionally?) poorly-scoped public projects at taxpayers' expense, should be rejected at all costs. That much we've learned. Are the Deputy Mayor and the Council on the same track?

*E-mail David Mallof at [mallof@verizon.net](mailto:mallof@verizon.net) with any questions.*

## INAUGURAL ALERTS (cont'd)

to move across bumpy surfaces, grassy areas and possibly icy areas.

One of best sources for Inaugural information is Rachel Cooper's DC About.com Guide to Washington, DC at: <http://dc.about.com/od/specialevents/a/Inauguration.htm>