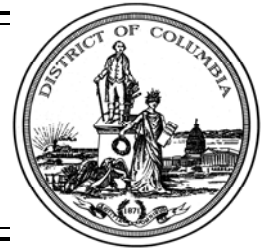

OFFICE OF MARY M. CHEH

COUNCILMEMBER, WARD 3
CHAIR, COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS
AND THE ENVIRONMENT



February 2010

TO: Ward 3 business community

FROM: Judy Hubbard, Assistant Director of Constituent Services
jhubbard@dccouncil.us or direct line (202) 741-2113
Fax: (202) 724-8118

RE: Start-up funds available to establish business associations

Councilmember Mary Cheh secured \$50,000 in the District FY 10 budget to establish one or more neighborhood business associations in Ward 3. A business association can provide a unified voice before the DC government on issues such as taxes, business licenses, security, traffic, graffiti, rodent control, etc. A business association also can provide business opportunities with joint promotional brochures, light pole banners and streets fairs.

The funds must be given to a nonprofit organization. The organization may be an existing neighborhood nonprofit or the DC Department of Small and Local Business Development (DSLBD), the funding source, will help the businesses establish a nonprofit organization. The funds will be distributed on a competitive basis.

The first step is for a business to complete the attached Ward 3 Business Needs Assessment to determine if there is a need for a business association. If there is interest, a representative from DSLBD will meet with the business group. This form is also available on www.marycheh.com.

If you have general questions about this opportunity please contact me at (202) 741-2113 or jhubbard@dccouncil.us. If you have specific questions about completing the Ward 3 Business Needs Assessment, please contact Phyllis Love of the DSLBD (202) 741-0837 or phyllis.love@dc.gov. The due date is Monday, March 1.