



In January 2, 2007, the District of Columbia municipal baton will be passed to the Fenty Administration. It will be a day of great consequence for the District.

Much progress has been made to ensure that the District is a city we can all be proud of—but much more work needs to be done. I want District residents to play a major role in that work.

Over the past eight years, the Executive Office of the Mayor has found new and innovative ways to engage residents in the task of governing. I intend to take civic engagement to even higher levels during my time in office.

But engagement is a two-way street. The District government cannot run this city alone. All of us—government officials and District residents—must take responsibility for the welfare of our community. Solving problems in that community is a shared burden. So if you have ideas on how to solve a problem, please let me know.

I thank DC Appleseed for creating a unique way for residents to share their ideas for making the District a better place. And I

FOREWORD

Mayor-Elect Adrian Fenty

sincerely appreciate the time and care the participants of *Solving DC Problems Campaign 2006* took in sharing their views.

The book's concept resembles my own approach to learning about the challenges we face as a community. Through various events around the city, my team has gathered information from those who know best: the residents of the District of Columbia. I am excited to read the ideas compiled in this book, which address all of the most critical issues facing the city, including education, public safety, transportation, and economic development. I intend to take the ideas very seriously.

Finally, I hope residents will continue to submit creative, constructive ideas for solving problems in the District at www.solving-DCproblems.com. The website includes instructions for sharing your ideas directly with government officials. So if you've ever had an idea that will make our city a better place to live and work, now is the time to share it. If you promise to speak up, I promise to listen.

Adrian Fenty
Mayor-Elect