

**Has Councilwoman Blackwell told you about this?**  
**Has Councilwoman Blackwell asked for your opinion about this?**

On 2 June 2005, Councilwoman Blackwell introduced an Ordinance at City Council to lease the former Mercy Douglas Nursing Home at **4508 Chestnut** for a period of **10 years** for the purpose of a Homeless Shelter with a minimum of **340 beds**.



This ordinance had its "First Reading" and approval by City Council on 16 June 2005. It will come before City Council for its "Second Reading" and Final approval on 15 September 2005.

"4508 Chestnut Street Association," 1601 S. Chris Columbus Boulevard, Philadelphia 19148, purchased the property at Sheriff's Sale in May of 2003 for \$488,300. The Ordinance provides that the City will Lease the property for **10 years** for an amount beginning at \$860,293 plus utilities per year, and increasing every year of the lease by 2.6%.

The Occupancy of the property, and term of the lease begin on 15 September -- the date the Ordinance is scheduled for its Second Reading at City Council.

The Ordinance makes no provision for a "Provider" to operate the facility.

The Ordinance makes no provision for operating costs associated with the facility other than the rent payment to "4508 Associates."

**What do you think about this?**

In response to community opposition, Councilwoman Blackwell has scheduled a **Public Meeting** on her bill for **Thursday, 4 August at 6pm** in the auditorium of West Philadelphia High School; entrance on 47th St about midway between Walnut & Locust.

The **Zoning Hearing** is scheduled for **Wednesday, 10 August at 2pm**, 1515 Arch 18th Floor. The posted Zoning Notice reads as follows:

"Permit / Certificate is for a supervised Residential Care/Shelter for a maximum of 96 units occupied by 340 occupants to include a day care for a maximum of 220 children, 100 children under 2 1/2 years of age, (all capable of self-preservation and not under jurisdiction of city state or federal penal correctional including accessory offices, classrooms, meeting rooms, storage, lounges and laundries, all in an existing four (4) story detached building; for the reconfiguration of the parking lot to 17 spaces (10'x20') including 2 handicapped spaces."

Additional details can be found on the website: [www.mcjillsociety.org/4508](http://www.mcjillsociety.org/4508)

