

## Survey Results from November 5, 2015 BCA Historic Preservation Public Meeting

Once again, residents unanimously expressed a desire to keep the *beauty* of the row homes from the street scape view. In addition, residents wanted to retain the "charm" of the neighborhood, stop the pop-ups, super decks, and multi-plus apartment buildings.

The concerns remained consistent, even though the approximately more than 60 participants were not the same as the June 23rd participants: (1) displacing longtime residents (seniors and low income) and (2) the District government telling them what they could and could not do to their homes, and (3) having the historic designation result in raising costs for repairs and renovations (potentially drive out seniors and low income) were consistent concerns. In short, residents want an *all inclusive* solution.

While everyone believed this to be a productive and informative meeting, some respondents of the survey still want to know more, specifically, about the process and some are just uncertain. Since a lot of the participants were new, they did not get process presentation presented by the Office Planning at the June 23rd meeting.

The Office of Planning explained the monies that could be applied for to help defray the costs in a historic district area, and the permitting process and what type of work would have to go before the Historic Preservation Review Board (HPRB). The Office of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs explained the recent R-4 Zoning regulation and the impact to restrict pop-ups and pop-backs.

Even though the District Office's experts provided explanations for the latter, residents had the same concerns as residents that participated in the June 23rd meetings.

A resident from the LeDroit Park historic district provided a presentation on her experience with the permitting process in a historic district and going before the HPRB. She had challenges that she shared with all that attended.

The next public outreach meeting will address the concerns raised during this public meeting.