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## Fairmount Harford + Harford Heights INSPIRE Meeting Notes (May 21, 2018)

*In this meeting Department of Planning staff introduced INSPIRE (explaining how it relates to, but is separate from, the 21<sup>st</sup> Century program) and how area stakeholders can be involved.*

### Meeting Agenda

- Introductions
- INSPIRE presentation (what it is, how it works): Overview and Questions
- Context: Highlights of the Lake Clifton Vision plan

### Handouts

These documents were provided at the meeting, and can be found on the INSPIRE website.

- [INSPIRE Information Sheet](#)
- [Fairmount Harford + Harford Heights Buildings INSPIRE Presentation](#)
- [Fairmount Harford + Harford Heights Buildings INSPIRE Map](#)
- [Brief Survey](#) (this will be posted by 6/22)

During introductions, meeting participants shared what they **Appreciate** about their neighborhood:

- |   |                                   |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| • Togetherness                                      | • Living here                     |
| • Friendly/ nice neighbors                          | • Library                         |
| • Healthy Neighborhoods block                       | • Residential camaraderie         |
| • Resilience  | • Strong neighbors                |
| • Great park with potential                         | • Transition of REACH Partnership |
| • Long-time residents                               | • Feels like home                 |
| • Develop relationships between community and parks | • Community familiarity           |

During the presentation, participants brought up the following issues:

- St. Lo Drive flooding, in front of Rita Church.
- Connectivity: between Harford Heights, Fairmount Harford, Rita Church, and Lake Clifton.

- Concern about enough population to support both Lake Clifton and Fairmount Harford (explained that the REACH! Partnership program currently in Lake Clifton will be moved to Fairmount Harford).
- Need blight elimination – approximately 50 homes requested Housing and Community Development (HCD) fast-track acquisition of. Located on streets bordering Clifton Park and across from the high school.
- Code enforcement needs to be increased.
- Suggested a dedicated attorney for clearing title to the 50 properties surrounding Fairmount Harford.
- Rehabbed properties should be for homeownership vs. rental.
- Sanitation.
- Takes forever to get some things done.
- CHM has a comprehensive plan for CHM, Darley Park, South Clifton Park, Mayfield. Want City to work together in the area, instead of in geographic silos. Marshella Wallace (Eastern District planner) committed to working with Carmen Morosan (Northeastern District planner).
- Look at old drawing for walking routes for all schools – connecting Lake Clifton, Montebello, Fairmount Harford, and Lillie Mae Carroll Jackson.
- East North Avenue needs a lot of attention and planning. The impact of vacancies negatively and severely impacts the corridor. Noted that two planning initiatives are underway for the corridor: North Avenue Rising and East North Avenue LINC.
- Important to have great directional signage – wayfinding and highlighting what’s happening in the community.

### **Next Steps**

- Dept. of Planning (DOP) will post handouts and notes online.
- DOP will seek people interested in participating in the Steering Committee (a smaller group of individuals who want to be more regularly involved in the planning process), and conduct first meeting over the summer; Outreach (community, schools).