

## **Comprehensive Plan Community Engagement** Ward 8 Meeting Summary

### Overview

On Saturday, November 2, the Office of Planning (OP) hosted its first of eight community meetings planned for the fall of 2019, coordinated in partnership with LINK Strategic Partners (LINK). The purpose of this series of meetings is to present an update on the Draft Comprehensive Plan Update, including the major themes and any area elements specific to the meeting location. The meetings also intend to share an overview of the community engagement process to date and close the loop on feedback collected from District stakeholders thus far. The central question posed to attendees during the discussion period following an overview presentation is, “What would you like OP to share with your ANC?”

### Location and Attendance

The meeting took place at Thurgood Marshall Academy, a public charter high school located in the Anacostia neighborhood within Ward 8. The event was held in a basement level common area, and the space provided for theater-style seating and each of the five Gallery Walk stations. Representatives from the DC Census, Department of Parks and Recreation, and the Department of Housing and Community Development were also tabling on site. Our sign-in sheet registered 16 attendees. Of those 16, three identified as residents of ANC 8A, two identified as residents of Ward 3, one identified as a resident of Ward 4, one identified as a resident of Ward 6, and one identified as a resident of Ward 7. Other attendees did not identify their ANC or Ward of residence.

### Run of Show

Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) 8A Chairperson Troy Prestwood provided greetings to attendees and demonstrated a depth of understanding of the Comprehensive Plan and commitment to facilitate feedback from constituents. OP Director Andrew Trueblood provided welcome remarks and introduced OP Deputy Director Anita Cozart, who presented a thorough update on the Comprehensive Plan. LINK Managing Director Josh Lasky facilitated a 15-minute question and answer (Q&A) session and directed attendees to join OP and LINK staff for discussion at the Gallery Walk stations.

### Major Themes and Key Takeaways from Feedback

- Attendees raised a number of thoughtful questions during Q&A on equity issues broadly, including anti-displacement measures and specific definitions of affordable housing laid out in the Comprehensive Plan.



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- There were questions and feedback related to implementation and accountability mechanisms in the Comprehensive Plan, underlining the importance not just of the “what,” but also of the “how” within the Plan.
- Conversations with attendees focused largely on the concept of equitable development, ensuring that public resources and services like mobility options and grocery stores reached the residents of Ward 8.
- The overview, area elements, and maps (Generalized Policy Map and Future Land Use Map) seemed to attract the most attendees. A number were directed to the technical assistance station for more detailed and policy-specific discussions with OP’s subject-matter experts.

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