

## **Comments/Questions at May 22 Meeting to Discuss Affordable Housing Ideas**

*(The meeting included Andrea Davis, Executive Director of Homeward, a leading affordable housing organization in Missoula, as a resource on low-income housing developments.)*

-Judy Anderson asked how Homeward is funded.

-Chuck Teague asked about ownership of the parking lot/parcel if Holy Spirit were to pursue a project like this.

-Gary Swartz in very kindly fashion said he was not sure this was the right time or right place for this project.

-Bob Deaton asked Andrea what other churches do with extra space to help the housing issue.

-Ed Taylor discussed concerns about parking, traffic, neighbors, architectural fit within a historic neighborhood, etc. He is disappointed the city isn't pursuing housing at the fairgrounds or mall property.

-Jessie Jaeger spoke about the need for housing he saw from ordinary people during his time at the Povarello. He mentioned working with the school district to look at more parking/more housing between HSP and Hellgate HS. His view: This is a communitywide problem and all of us could get involved.

-Bruce Bowler suggested, instead of prioritizing the HSP parking lot, working with the Senior Center to explore a multi-church effort to replace their facility and add several levels of housing for seniors. He noted the size of the property and what seems to be room for parking, etc.

-A'Lisa Scott asked Andrea about the numbers of apartments in development across Missoula and whether the city is overbuilding or building housing for people who aren't here. Will there be a glut?

-Carla Mettling asked about the potential for rent control regulations/legislation.

-Diane Rasmusen discussed concerns about the amount of parking actually required for 20-24 apartments and visitors and how could this also accommodate HSP.

-Abigail Carey described the tension between thinking this is a good idea and providing parking for HSP. She also mentioned not wanting an ugly building and worrying about traffic. Although this location might be good for seniors because it's near a bus line. Abigail also talked about the needs of low-income families re: housing from her own experience and encouraged the church to explore ideas.