



## Public Comment Received for: General Public Comment

Name of Sender	Distributed prior to hearing	Distributed during the hearing	Distributed after the hearing
1. Rick Closson	x		

## Public Comment #1

**From:** [Richard Closson](#)  
**To:** [Community Development HLCsecretary](#)  
**Subject:** Historic Property Reviews in Another Historic City  
**Date:** Thursday, July 25, 2024 5:04:35 PM

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Dear Historic Landmarks Commissioners,

Your review responsibilities can be great and your decisions consequential, but I offer this free article in the *New York Times* for perspective. It is long, but you will recognize some of your issues faced also in Georgetown, DC. There is one pithy quote from the article that applies to Landmarks Commissions everywhere:

*“Historic properties are a nonrenewable resource,” said Tom Luebke, the secretary of the Commission of Fine Arts, which appoints the Old Georgetown Board. “Once you’ve lost the fabric itself, you’ve lost it forever. We try to say, ‘Well, what’s reasonable for the property? How much change can it take and still can you keep, understand, recognize and honor the architecture, the residents who have lived here, the history of the property?’ That’s the trick.”*

Here’s the link to the NYT article that will get you behind the paywall:

<https://nyti.ms/4flXXB4>

Regards,  
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