

Neighborhood Businesses Build New Façades on the 1400 block of Park Road

Community 2010-07-14 13:27:50

Washington, DC – On Wednesday, July 21st at 10:45 am, Mayor Adrian Fenty and Councilman Jim Graham will officially break ground on the long awaited construction of new façades along the 1400 block of Park Road.

In October of 2006 a group of 2 dozen business and property owners from 10 different countries banded together to protect their street from the ravages of drugs and crime and then, 4 years ago, competition from DC/USA, the commercial mall inaugurated on the corner of 14th & Park Road right at their doorstep. These small, community businesses have now completed the negotiation for a million dollar façade renovation project that promises to be the crown jewel of Columbia Heights development. Construction on the new facades begins this month.

“This has been almost four years in the making and will preserve the diversity and uniqueness of our neighborhood”, explains Ramon Compres, President of the Coalition of Park Road Businesses. “Holding together our Coalition, negotiating with D.C. government and securing financing for this project has taken a great deal of time and effort. We’re proud and excited that this little piece of Columbia Heights, the last remaining undeveloped strip in our neighborhood, is finally undergoing a massive face lift and that we’ve been able to negotiate and build it ourselves”.

“Without the support of Mayor Fenty and the determined, single minded pursuit of this goal by our Councilmember, Jim Graham, we would never have achieved this remarkable feat of neighborhood led development”, commented Jerome Bailey, property owner and business leader on the block.

Support for the façade improvement project comes from the Dept. of Housing and Community Development that has awarded a \$526 thousand grant to complete construction. At the groundbreaking ceremony the Park Road community will also recognize Leila Edmonds, Director of DHCD and Robert Moore CEO of the Development Corporation of Columbia Heights. This project would not have been possible without their support. Keystone Plus Construction, a D.C. based, Latino owned construction firm, competitively bid the project and is the general contractor.

WHAT : Neighborhood Businesses Build New Façades on the 1400 block of Park Road
WHEN : 2010-07-14 13:27:50
WHERE :

CONTACT:

Jose Sueiro
202-203-0120
josesueiro@yahoo.com