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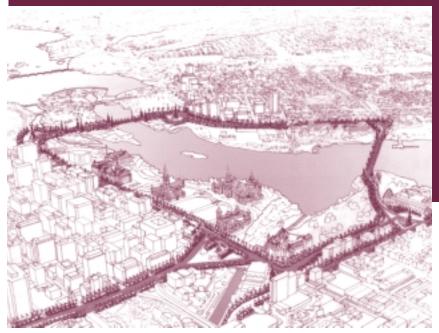
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CONCEPTUAL ILLUSTRATION HIGHLIGHTING CONFEDERATION BOULEVARD, A CEREMONIAL CORRIDOR THAT ENCIRCLES THE HEART OF CANADA'S CAPITAL REGION. Courtesy of the National Capital Commission of Canada



Capital City Planners Compare Notes

PLANNERS FOR CAPITAL CITIES FACE A TWIN CHALLENGE:

they must meet the needs of a competitive, modern urban center and at the same time plan for a symbolic city that is a worthy seat of national government. Capital planners have to look beyond their own borders to find their professional colleagues who are grappling with similar issues: national commemoration, monumental art and architecture, ceremonial open space, and security. This past July a small delegation of NCPC members and staff traveled north to Ottawa for the annual Canadian Institute of Planners conference to meet with their international counterparts.

The conference featured a series of sessions on capital city planning with representatives from Brasilia, Canberra, Berlin, Brussels, Ottawa, as well as Washington. NCPC Executive Director Patricia Gallagher spoke on past and present planning in Washington, highlighting a number of the Commission's current initiatives such as security design, memorial planning, and use of federally owned waterfronts. Ms. Gallagher's counterpart from Canberra reported on Australia's "bush capital" that is still too new, quiet, and under-populated to foster a strong sense of national identity and civic pride among Australians. To encourage that pride and identity Canberra planners have embarked on an aggressive program to build out Walter Burley Griffin's classic 1912 plan for the city. Griffin, an American landscape architect from Chicago and winner of an international competition to design Australia's new capital, envisioned a city perfectly integrated with its landscape of low hills and lakes. The plan features formal land and water axes and a ceremonial National Triangle. The city's major symbolic avenue, the ANZAC Parade, links the Parliament House with the Australian War Memorial. As part of their effort to develop new commemorative works and other improvements in this ceremonial core area, Canberra planners have been consulting with NCPC staff on the Commission's new master plan for memorials and museums in Washington.

IN HIS 1912 PLAN FOR CANBERRA, WALTER BURLEY GRIFFIN ENVISIONED A CITY INTEGRATED WITH ITS LANDSCAPE OF LOW HILLS AND LAKES. Courtesy of the Australian National Capital Planning Authority

THE CONFERENCE FEATURED A SERIES OF SESSIONS ON CAPITAL CITY PLANNING WITH REPRESENTATIVES FROM BRASILIA, CANBERRA, BERLIN, BRUSSELS, OTTAWA, AS WELL AS WASHINGTON

BRASILIA IS STRUCTURED AROUND TWO INTERSECTING AXES, ONE FOR FEDERAL AND LOCAL ADMINISTRATION BUILDINGS, AND THE OTHER FOR HOUSING, SHOPS, CHURCHES, AND SCHOOLS. *Courtesy of the Federal District of Brasilia*

Capital City Planners Compare Notes

The head of Brasilia's urban development and housing reported on the dramatic 1960 relocation of Brazil's capital from coastal Rio de Janeiro to a new city 600 miles inland. The move was intended to build population and stimulate economic development in the country's vast and untapped interior. The Brazilian architect Lucio Costa structured the new city around two intersecting axes: a straight monumental one running east to west, for federal and local administration buildings, and a curved, residential one running north to south, for super blocks of apartments, shops, churches and schools. With an artificial lake, gardens of indigenous plantings, and daring new architecture by Oscar Niemeyer, Brasilia captured the imagination of mid-century moderns. Originally intended for about half a million inhabitants, the city today has a population of more than 2 million. Unforeseen were the tens-of-thousands of construction workers who chose to stay once the city was completed. The "temporary" unplanned shantytowns erected 10 to 20 miles outside the capital have become permanent satellite cities and are generating all the challenges inherent in rapid urban expansion.

Conference participants heard about Berlin's search for a new architectural vocabulary that projects its position as the capital of a powerful democratic nation without evoking memories of its Third Reich past. In a thoughtful presentation, American writer Michael Wise described Germany's spirited debate on the connections between politics, public space, and national memory. Mr. Wise recounted the German government's abandonment of Bonn, its sleepy, self-effacing post-war capital, and its effort to forge in Berlin an architectural style that balances resurgent national pride with a consciousness of a totalitarian past.

Canberra planners have been consulting with NCPC staff on the Commission's new master plan for memorials and museums in Washington.

Staff of Ottawa's capital planning agency, known as the National Capital Commission, led their international visitors on bus and boat tours of the city explaining the complex interjurisdictional relationships in Canada. They pointed out the results of some of the most successful planning in Canada's Capital Region—the landmark Gatineau Park, the city's impressive Greenbelt, the Parkway and Recreational Pathway, and more recently Confederation Boulevard, Ottawa's ceremonial corridor. On the other hand, they noted that long-stymied regional transportation planning is demonstrated by the simmering disputes between Ontario and Quebec over cross-river bridges. Political jurisdictions in Canada are currently undergoing "amalgamation" to improve and streamline the delivery of public services. The Canadian Capital Region is currently facing such an amalgamation and federal, regional, and city planners are bracing for a dramatic reconfiguration of their relationships.

Capital city planners agreed that the conference demonstrated the value of regular professional exchanges and are now exploring a possible future gathering.

Memorials and Museums Master Plan Adopted

In a unanimous vote at its September 6, 2001 meeting the Commission adopted the new plan that establishes a Reserve in the central cross-axis of the National Mall that will be off-limits to new memorials and museums. The Memorials and Museums Master Plan identifies 100 sites away from the Mall in all quadrants of the city for commemorative and cultural attractions and sets out policies that will guide federal agencies in their review of proposed projects. By directing development away from the Mall, the master plan seeks to preserve the open space of Washington's Monumental Core, ensures that future generations will have an abundant supply of sites for their own needs, and reflects public consensus on where those sites should be.

An extensive public outreach program accompanied the plan's development and its release in draft form in December 2000. The Architecture Critic of *The Washington Post* has termed the master plan "a brilliant piece of work"; the Virginia Chapter of the American Planning Association has recognized it with its Professional Planning Project Distinguished Award for 2001; and the DC Heritage Tourism Coalition has commended the plan that "is respectful of the past and bold in its consideration of the future."

The master plan is the result of a collaborative effort of the Joint Task Force on Memorials, led by NCPC in cooperation with the Commission of Fine Arts and the National Capital Memorial Commission, both of whom have also adopted the final plan.

Effective immediately, the commissions will begin applying the provisions of the master plan in their review of proposals for new memorials and museums. The master plan can be viewed electronically on NCPC's web site (www.ncpc.gov) or a hard copy can be obtained by contacting NCPC.

> THE 100 MEMORIAL AND MUSEUM SITES ARE LISTED IN THE MASTER PLAN DOCUMENT, POSTED ON NCPC'S WEBSITE AT WWW.NCPC.GOV/PLANNING_INIT/2M_PLAN.HTML

Candidate Site
Prime Candidate Site
Source (NLPC, June 200)

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This issue of the Quarterly summarizes actions taken at the Commission meetings on July 3, August 2, and September 6, 2001. Additional information on individual projects may be obtained by contacting the National Capital Planning Commission, 401 9th Street, NW, North Lobby, Suite 500, Washington, D.C. 20576 or by calling 202-482-7200. Visit www.ncpc.gov for more news about Commission activities.

The Washington Monument Grounds *Washington, D.C. July 3, 2001*

In search of a security solution that would help to protect the Washington Monument, the National Park Service submitted a proposal to ring the monument with 370 bollards. The proposal called for the bollards to be placed approximately four feet apart and 185 feet from the base of the monument, and to follow the gently rolling topography of the surrounding greensward.

Noting that bollards, normally associated with city streets and sidewalks, are inappropriate to the natural, undulating landscape of the Washington Monument grounds, the Commission disapproved the proposal. Commissioners recognized, however, the need for long-term security design solutions for the National Mall and urged the Park Service to consult further with NCPC, the Commission of Fine Arts,

the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation and others in developing those solutions. They

suggested that one solution might incorporate security installations within the design of both streetscape and landscape elements at the perimeter of the monument grounds. Plinths, terraces, graded earthworks, and seating walls creatively integrated into the Mall's natural setting were some of the other possible security elements suggested by the Commission. It also noted that the Park Service is participating in the

Interagency Task Force, which is expected to soon make recommendations concerning integrated security design measures throughout the Monumental Core. COMPUTER-RENDERED VIEW OF PROPOSAL TO ENCIRCLE THE WASHINGTON MONUMENT WITH BOLLARDS.

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RENDERING OF A NEIGHBORHOOD THAT IS PLANNED FOR THE NEW HENSON RIDGE DEVELOPMENT IN WASHINGTON'S CONGRESS HEIGHTS. *Courtesy of Torti Gallas and Partners*

Henson Ridge Planned Unit Development *Washington, D.C. July 3, 2001*

The Commission approved final site and building plans for a consolidated Planned Unit Development that consists of 600 housing units, a leasing center, and a business development center. The new Henson Ridge community in the District's Congress Heights neighborhood will replace the former public housing communities of Frederick Douglass Dwellings and Stanton Dwellings dating from the 1940s and 1950s. An elementary school and day care facility are adjacent to the planned community and the new Congress Heights metro station is only two blocks from the site.

Based on the "new urbanism" design philosophy, the development encourages low scale residential development with a mix of housing types and narrow, pedestrian-oriented streets. Henson Ridge will contain different neighborhoods with distinct characteristics. Architectural styles will be reminiscent of styles found throughout Anacostia, but the use of mixed unit types and façade and material variations will provide architectural diversity within the development. Unlike the existing public housing community, the project will supply private open space on each lot, as well as larger shared open spaces throughout the development. The central portion of the site, adjacent to the elementary school and the day care center, is envisioned to be the development's Village Green where a community center will be constructed in the future.

More than half of the proposed units will be sold at, and below, market-rate, while the remaining units will be subsidized rental units. Some of the individuals who resided at the site's two public housing communities will also live in the new community.

Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center *Washington, D.C. August 2, 2001*

Daniel Patrick Moynihan, who served four successive U.S. Presidents and four terms as U.S. Senator from New York, is being honored with a namesake in a plaza at the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center: *Daniel Patrick Moynihan Place*.

The Commission approved preliminary and final site development plans for a temporary sign—for a period of two years—to mark Daniel Patrick Moynihan Place at the northern end of Woodrow Wilson Plaza. In advance of a permanent marker, this 13-foot 6-inch sign will designate Daniel Patrick Moynihan Place in recognition of Moynihan's professional accomplishments, as well as his dedication to the architectural integrity of the National Capital and to the redevelopment of Pennsylvania Avenue. In addition to stating the Place name, the temporary marker will contain text about the Senator, architectural quality, and Pennsylvania Avenue. The sign's design, material, and color will be compatible with its surroundings.

In his "Guiding Principles for Federal Architecture," Moynihan wrote that federal buildings should " provide visual testimony to the dignity, enterprise, vigor, and stability of the American Government." At the same time, he expressed the importance of allowing architects to bring their expertise to the government and refraining from dictating an official style. As the sponsor of legislation that created the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center, Moynihan described his vision for Pennsylvania Avenue as "lively, friendly, and inviting, as well as dignified and impressive." In a location that lies as testimony to his urban design contributions in the Capital, the designation of Daniel Patrick Moynihan Place seems an appropriate tribute to the man.

Mount Vernon Square and City Museum *Washington, D.C. August 2 and September 6, 2001*

As Washington's new Convention Center rises out of a massive crater in downtown D.C., the Historical Society of Washington, D.C. and the National Park Service are making plans next door. The Commission approved concept plans at its August 2 meeting, and preliminary and final site and building plans at its September 6 meeting for both landscape improvements to Mount Vernon Square and alterations to the exterior of the historic Central Library, the future site of the City Museum.

The historic Central Library, built primarily with funds provided by Andrew Carnegie, has frequently been referred to as the Carnegie Library. Henceforth, it will be known as the City Museum. Designed by the architectural firm of Ackerman and Ross and built between 1899 and 1902, the Beaux Arts-style library occupies an important square of the L'Enfant Plan on the 8th Street axis at the crossing of Massachusetts and New York Avenues. Proposed improvements and alterations will be sensitive to the historic character of the park and the future City Museum. Landscape improvements to Mount Vernon Square include the repair of the pavement, the planting of new trees, and measures for improving pedestrian safety and accessibility within the square. Alterations to the historic building include repairs and cleaning of the building's exterior, and alterations that will allow full public accessibility and museum operations.

Funding for these improvements comes from various sources. In 1999, when the Historical Society of Washington, D.C. undertook a 99-year lease of the library from the District of Columbia for use as the City Museum, it received funds from the Washington Convention Center Authority (pursuant to the Memorandum of Agreement negotiated under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act) and an equal amount from Congress. The Historical Society's own fundraising will cover construction expenses that exceed those provisions, as well as the establishment of the Museum itself.

THE HISTORIC CENTRAL LIBRARY, AS SEEN FROM THE SOUTH SIDE, IS THE FUTURE SITE OF THE CITY MUSEUM. *Photo by Nancy Witherell*



BUREAU OF ALCOHOL, TOBACCO, AND FIREARMS HEADQUARTERS, NEW YORK AND FLORIDA AVENUES, NE, WASHINGTON, D.C.

The Commission approved the location and program for a new ATF National Headquarters building in Square 710 in Northeast D.C. The proposed facility, which would be developed on a 6.14-acre site at Washington's New York Avenue gateway, would house approximately 1,100 employees. (9/6/01)

CLOSING OF A PORTION OF F STREET, NW, BETWEEN 1ST AND 2ND STREETS, WASHINGTON, D.C.

Noting that the proposed closing of a L'Enfant Street would result in an adverse effect on the L'Enfant Plan and, thereby, on federal interests, the Commission reported unfavorably on the proposal to close F Street, between 1st and 2nd Street. The Commission urged the Georgetown University Law Center, in cooperation with the relevant District of Columbia agencies, to proceed with an alternative measure that would improve pedestrian safety. (9/6/01)

NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH, BETHESDA, MD

The Commission approved preliminary site and building plans and final excavation and foundation plans for the John Edward Porter Neuroscience Research Center at NIH's Bethesda campus. The 550,000-gross-square-foot facility will consolidate neuroscience research—now conducted at several locations on the Bethesda campus—into a single institute. (9/6/01)

LEASE OF PUBLIC AIRSPACE OVER EXISTING ALLEYS IN SQUARE 126, WASHINGTON, D.C.

The Commission found that the proposed lease of public airspace for a new commercial building at 1700 and 1730 K Street, NW would not affect the identified federal interests nor be inconsistent with the Federal Elements of the Comprehensive Plan for the National Capital. (8/2/01)

U.S. MARINE BARRACKS, 8TH AND I STREETS, SE, WASHINGTON, D.C.

Except for the siting and massing of a proposed parking facility in the new annex site, the Commission approved the master plan for the U.S. Marine Barracks on 8th and I Streets, SE. The Commission asked that the Department of the Navy consult with relevant parties on parking alternatives, design solutions for the Bachelors Enlisted Quarters, design elements for the site's perimeter (integrating security with pedestrian and community needs), and additional access to the main ballfield area. (7/3/01)

WOODROW WILSON BRIDGE REPLACEMENT, ALEXANDRIA, VA, PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY , MD, AND D.C.

The Commission approved final building plans for the Woodrow Wilson Bridge Replacement. Construction on the outer loop of the new bridge is scheduled to begin in the fall of 2001 with anticipated completion in 2005 for that portion of the bridge. The Commission commended the Federal Highway Administration for a bridge design that befits this important river crossing. (8/2/01)

WORLD WAR II MEMORIAL, RAINBOW POOL, WEST POTOMAC PARK, 17TH STREET, NW, WASHINGTON, D.C.

The Commission approved final granite selections for the World War II Memorial. In hues of mostly beige, green, and grey, the granite stone—known for its strength—will contribute to the beauty and longevity of the memorial. (7/3/01)

SOUTH ELEVATION OF NIH'S PROPOSED NEUROSCIENCE RESEARCH CENTER. *Courtesy of Rafael Vinoly Architects, PC*



THE COMMISSION COMMENTED ON THE FOLLOWING PROJECTS:

DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT, SUITLAND FEDERAL CENTER PROGRAMMATIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN & PHASE I IMPLEMENTATION

This Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) addresses the environmental impacts associated with three alternatives for the future development of the Suitland Federal Center. The document outlines the programmatic development plan priorities, but falls short in examining the long-term and cumulative impacts from the programmatic development plan. The Commission asked that three issues, in particular, would need to be further addressed in the EIS: traffic impacts and parking; metrorail proximity and its relationship to the programmatic plan; and the development's relationship to the Suitland community. (9/6/01)

TEXT AMENDMENTS TO ZONING REGULATIONS

The Zoning Commission proposed to amend various chapters of the Zoning Regulations to regulate the placement of Electronic Equipment Facilities. Finding that the amended regulations would not sufficiently address federal interests, the Commission recommended additional language that would ensure the Commission's opportunity to comment on federal interests. (9/6/01)

1616 RHODE ISLAND AVENUE, NW, WASHINGTON, D.C.

The Commission found that a modification to a Planned Unit Development that would permit a headquarters office building instead of an extended-stay inn in Square 182, Lot 82, would not adversely affect the federal establishment, nor be inconsistent with the Federal Elements of the Comprehensive Plan. (9/6/01)

FEDERAL CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAM FOR THE NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION, FY2002-2007

The Commission adopted the Federal Capital Improvements Program for Fiscal Years 2002-2007. This latest program contains 187 projects from 13 departments and agencies in the region, for a total of \$8.5 billion. An additional 34 projects, at an estimated cost of \$142 million, are privately funded and are listed for informational and coordination purposes. Recommendations in the FCIP are based on a review of each project's conformance with the Comprehensive Plan for the National Capital; Commission-approved long-range systems plans and programs; master plans and strategic plans; and the Legacy Plan. Projects in the District of Columbia and Maryland each account for about 34 percent of program costs while projects in Virginia account for about 11 percent of the total cost. Projects located in multiple jurisdictions account for the remaining 21 percent of the program. (7/3/01)



DELEGATED ACTIONS

ON BEHALF OF THE COMMISSION, THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR APPROVED:

Preliminary and final site and building plans for a pedestrian draw bridge at the Admiral's barge boat slip, Washington Navy Yard, Washington, D.C. (8/2/01)

Preliminary and final site and building plans for six canopies in the Child Development Center exterior play area at the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center, 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. (8/2/01)

Preliminary and final site and building plans for the installation of standby electrical power generators for the Eccles and Martin complex for the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System at 20th Street and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. (8/2/01)

Preliminary and final site and building plans for the construction of an Administration Building and the rehabilitation of the entrance canopy at Glen Echo Park, Montgomery County, Maryland. (8/2/01)

Preliminary and final site and building plans for the renovation and addition to Building 83 at the Walter Reed Army Medical Center, Main Campus in Northwest Washington, D.C. (8/2/01)

Preliminary and final site and building plans for Anacostia Senior High School stadium improvements at 16th and R Streets, SE, Washington, D.C. (8/2/01)

Preliminary and final site and building plans for landscape improvements to Mount Vernon Square and for building alterations to the former Carnegie Library building for use as the new City Museum, Washington, D.C. (8/31/01)

THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CONCLUDED THAT:

A map amendment to change the zoning on the east side of Connecticut Avenue, NW, between Nebraska Avenue and Jocelyn Street, from a high-density residential zone to a moderate-density residential zone would not adversely affect the federal interest, nor be inconsistent with the Federal Elements of the Comprehensive Plan. (6/28/01)

The closing of a drainage alley and various streets in Squares 5401 and 5402, bounded by Burns Street and Ridge Road, SE, Washington, D.C., would not be inconsistent with the Comprehensive Plan and would not have a negative impact on the federal establishment or other federal interests in the National Capital. (8/31/01)

The closing of a portion of South Avenue, NE, adjacent to Square 3848, south of Rhode Island Avenue, NE, Washington, D.C., would not have a negative impact on the federal establishment or other federal interests in the National Capital. (8/31/01)

The closing of a portion of an alley system in Square 2674, bounded by Park Road, 14th and Irving Streets, and Hiatt Place, NW, Washington, D.C., would not have a negative impact on the federal establishment or other federal interests in the National Capital. (8/31/01)

The Consolidated Planned Unit Development for Square 1772, Lots 1, 2, and 803, located at 3901 Albemarle Street, NW, Washington, D.C., would not adversely affect the federal establishment or other federal interests, nor be inconsistent with the Comprehensive Plan. (8/31/01)

The Consolidated Planned Unit Development for Square 1038, Lot 803, located at 1325 Independence Avenue, SE, Washington, D.C., would not adversely affect the federal establishment or other federal interests, nor be inconsistent with the Comprehensive Plan. (8/31/01)

The text amendments to the Downtown Development District Zoning Regulations would not adversely affect federal interests, nor be inconsistent with the Comprehensive Plan. (8/31/01)

The text amendments to the R-1 Residence District Use Regulations would not adversely affect federal interests, nor be inconsistent with the Comprehensive Plan. (8/31/01)

COMMISSION NOTES

On August 1, the Commission hosted a Hail and Farewell reception on its rooftop terrace to welcome the Commission's new Chairman, John V. Cogbill III, and to extend its appreciation and best wishes to outgoing Commission



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Members and staff: Margaret Vanderhye, who served as a Presidential appointee since 1995 and chaired the Joint Memorials Task Force; Johanna Hardy, alternate member to Senator Fred Thompson; Jack Finberg, who served as an alternate member for the Administrator of General Services; and Bill Lawson, who served as the Assistant Executive Director for Programs and retired with more than 30 years of federal service.



In July, NCPC and the Washington Geographic Information System Consortium hosted the Historically Black College and University (HBCU) workshop, "GIS for a Changing World." The Howard University Urban Environment Institute in Continuing Education coordinated this assembly of GIS research faculty from almost 20 HBCUs. The workshop promoted GIS technology through training sessions for introductory users and advanced presentations by research faculty and federal representatives.

NCPC DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, MARCEL ACOSTA



The Commission and staff welcome Marcel Acosta, NCPC's Deputy Executive Director. Mr. Acosta comes to NCPC from the Chicago Transit Authority—the nation's second largest transportation system—where he served as Senior Vice President of Planning and Development. Previously, Mr. Acosta served as Deputy Commissioner for the Chicago Department of Planning and Development.

The Virginia Chapter of the American Institute of Architects (AIA) selected the Memorials and Museums Master Plan for its 2001 AIA Award. The Master Plan seeks to protect the historic Mall and to guide the location and development of future commemorative and cultural facilities in the Nation's Capital. The Washington Chapter of the AIA will feature the Master Plan at an exhibit hosted by the National Building Museum: "Monuments and Memory." Opening on September 29 and running through January 13, 2002, the exhibit examines the future of commemoration in Washington, D.C. On July 30 at the National Building Museum, Executive Director Patricia Gallagher participated in a program focusing on the future of the Washington tourism industry. Ms. Gallagher discussed implementation plans for the Circulator, a supplemental transit system called for in NCPC's Legacy Plan that would provide convenient service to under-served and future growth areas.

In September Michael Sherman, Director of NCPC's Office of Technology Development and Applications, participated in a panel discussion at the National Urban Forest Conference in Washington, D.C. Mr. Sherman and his colleagues discussed how computer technology – Geographic Information Systems (GIS) in particular – can contribute to a "greener" environment in the Nation's Capital. NCPC Quarterly Summer 2001 July August September

The National Capital Planning Commission is the federal government's planning agency in the District of Columbia and surrounding counties in Maryland and Virginia. The Commission provides overall planning guidance for federal land and buildings in the region. It also reviews the design of federal construction projects, oversees long-range planning for future development, and monitors capital investment by federal agencies.

National Capital Planning Commission 401 9th Street, NW North Lobby, Suite 500 Washington, DC 20576 Telephone | 202 482-7200 FAX | 202 482-7272 Web Site | www.ncpc.gov

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Arrington L. Dixon

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The Honorable Anthony A. Williams Mayor of the District of Columbia

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Executive Director Patricia E. Gallagher, AICP

NATIONAL CAPITAL PLANNING COMMISSION 401 9TH STREET, NW, NORTH LOBBY, SUITE 500 WASHINGTON, DC 20576

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