

QUARTERLY

OCTOBER ▸ NOVEMBER ▸ DECEMBER 2007

NATIONAL CAPITAL PLANNING COMMISSION

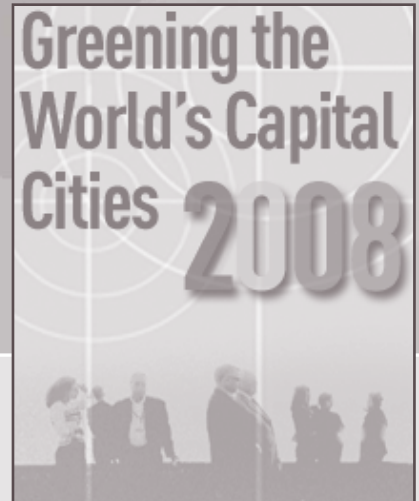
Capitals Alliance 2008 Explores Role of Capitals in Greening the World

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Capitals Alliance 2008 Attracts Leaders in the Field of Sustainability



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Renowned author and documentary filmmaker Herbert Girardet is confirmed to deliver the opening keynote address for NCPC's 2008 Capitals Alliance conference, *Greening the World's Capital Cities*. Delegates from more than 50 capital cities are invited to participate in the five-day conference, which will take place in Washington, DC, September 14 to 18. The event will be the sixth gathering of the Capitals Alliance, an international organization for capital city planners launched in 2001 by NCPC and its counterparts in Brasilia, Canberra, and Ottawa.

"This will be a great opportunity to find out how other places are tackling the challenges of environmental sustainability," said Marcel Acosta, acting executive director of NCPC. "We also will explore how capital cities can play a leading role in the push to create a greener world."

Girardet, who is the recipient of a United Nations Global 500 Award for Outstanding Environmental Achievements, will open the conference with a keynote address on Monday, September 15. His books include the recently released, *Surviving the Century—Facing Climate Chaos and Other Global Challenges*; *Creating Sustainable Cities*; and *Cities People Planet: Liveable Cities for a Sustainable World*. Girardet is currently director of programmes at the World Future Council in London.

Renowned author and documentary filmmaker Herbert Girardet will deliver the opening keynote address for Capitals Alliance 2008.

Other notable confirmed speakers include Larry Beasley, Peter Droege, Dan Slone, and Robert Stacey. Beasley, a professor of planning at the University of British Columbia and a former planning director for Vancouver, will share his thoughts on how capital cities can promote ethical, sustainable tourism.

Droege, chair of the World Council for Renewable Energy (Asia Pacific Region) and author of *Renewable City*, will discuss how cities can be entirely powered by emissions-free sources by 2050. Droege is the recent recipient of the 2007 European Solar Prize.

Stacey is the executive director of 1,000 Friends of Oregon, a public interest group that has become a model for citizen involvement in land-use planning. Stacey will discuss how to create public support for sustainability initiatives and create links among governments, citizens, and the business community.



In the United States alone, buildings account for:

- 65% of electricity consumption
- 36% of energy use
- 30% of greenhouse gas emissions
- 30% of raw materials use
- 30% of waste output (136 million tons annually)
- 12% of potable water consumption

Source: US Green Building Council

Slone, legal counsel for many prominent green organizations including the US Green Building Council, the Congress for the New Urbanism, and Greening America, will talk about facilitating green development in the private sector.

The conference's signature event, World Mayors on Sustainability, will be held in the spectacular Great Hall of the National Building Museum, an institution long known for its commitment to environmentally sustainable building practices. The event—a collaboration with the Museum—will feature current and former mayors of cities known for innovative initiatives in urban environmental planning. Confirmed participants include Kristina Axen-Olin, Mayor of Stockholm, and Cassio Taniguchi, former Mayor of Curitiba, Brazil. Both cities are respected around the world for progressive transportation, energy conservation, waste management, and green space programs.

Additional conference sessions are scheduled on a variety of topics such as “What does it Really Mean to be Green?” “Building Public Support for Change,” and “The Greatest Challenges Facing Capital Cities.”

Many of the conference's events are open to the public. Please visit www.capitalsalliance.org for the most up-to-date information on the program, and send an email to capitalsalliance@ncpc.gov if you would like to join the conference mailing list. We look forward to seeing you next September!

Extending the Legacy Reaches Milestone

NCPC marked the 10th anniversary of its signature plan for Washington, *Extending the Legacy: Planning America's Capital City for the 21st Century* during its December Commission meeting. NCPC Chairman John Cogbill noted that the 1997 plan offers an ambitious vision of the capital of the future, addressing some of the most challenging issues faced at the end of the 20th century.

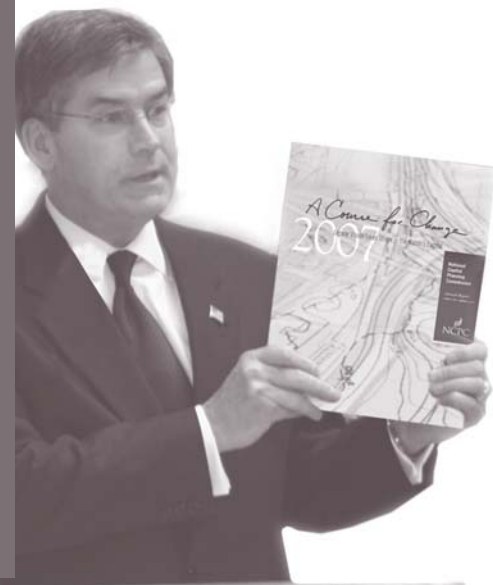
“*Extending the Legacy* has emerged as an important blueprint for the nation's capital,” said Chairman Cogbill. “All around us, we see *Legacy's* influence.”

NCPC's *Legacy*-inspired initiatives on South Capitol Street helped spark the corridor's transformation, and the Circulator buses that now transport Washington workers and visitors throughout the monumental core were first proposed in the 1997 plan. In addition, the *Memorials and Museums Master Plan*, a follow-up to *Legacy*, has helped place nearly half a dozen memorials off the National Mall since its 2001 release. NCPC's 2006 study on future uses for the RFK stadium site and the agency's 2007 Rail Realignment Feasibility Study both grew out of *Legacy*.

Next year, NCPC and the U.S. Commission of Fine Arts will release the National Capital Framework Plan, which takes the next major step toward implementing the *Legacy* vision. The Framework Plan is the most comprehensive federal planning document in more than a decade. It is a revitalization plan for the areas around the Mall that will provide a roadmap for reconnecting downtown to the waterfront. It also will create lively new destinations in areas such as the Southwest Waterfront, Kennedy Center, the Federal Triangle, and East Potomac Park.

NCPC is proud to report that in just 10 years many of *Legacy's* major ideas are taking shape. “This is a testament...to the partnerships that have been forged among all of those who have a stake in planning the nation's capital,” said Chairman Cogbill.

In December, NCPC released its 2007 annual report entitled *A Course for Change: Legacy Vision Takes Shape in the Nation's Capital*. A special section commemorates the 10th anniversary of *Extending the Legacy* by providing an overview of the many *Legacy*-inspired projects that are underway in the nation's capital, just 10 years after its publication. Copies of the report are available upon request from NCPC and on the web at www.ncpc.gov.



Framework Plan Nearing Completion: Spring Release Targeted

Nearly 40 people gathered at the National Capital Planning Commission on December 11, 2007, for a preview of the draft National Capital Framework Plan. The Framework Plan, a joint effort of NCPC and the U.S. Commission of Fine Arts (CFA), is an ambitious revitalization plan for the areas surrounding the National Mall. Building on NCPC's 1997 *Legacy* plan, the framework plan seeks to alleviate demand for the National Mall by enlivening adjacent neighborhoods with attractive new sites for cultural attractions, commemorative works, and public events.

Attendees learned that the plan focuses on four precincts: Northwest Rectangle, Federal Triangle, Southwest Federal Center, and East Potomac Park. Proposals to remove physical and psychological barriers that divide the monumental core from the southern portion of the city and restrict access to the waterfront received enthusiastic support. Ideas for reinvigorating East Potomac Park and improving accessibility to it, also generated excitement among members of the public.

"The Mall is a great space. It's appropriate to better its connectivity to the areas around it and update them with current uses and exciting new possibilities," said Arlington, Virginia resident Andrew Eshleman.

The plan also addresses pedestrian circulation, explores opportunities for infill, reuse, and development in the monumental core, and offers bold proposals for improving transit.

After the briefing, attendees engaged in a lively question-and-answer period. An informal session followed in which participants could meet with the staff to inquire about, or offer comments on, specific elements of the plan.

"I was really pleased with the response," said Elizabeth Miller, senior urban planner and NCPC's program officer for the project. "At every step of the way, people have made insightful contributions that have had a significant impact on the development of this plan."

CFA and NCPC continue to seek public input through briefings and working sessions with stakeholders, civic groups, and interested parties. "This is still very much a work in progress," said Miller. "We're looking forward to continuing input from the public."

The National Capital Framework Plan is slated for release in spring 2008 and will be open for public comment at that time.

"At every step of the way, people have made insightful contributions that have had a significant impact on the development of this plan."

Elizabeth Miller, Senior Urban Planner



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Office of Public Affairs Leads Worthy Tours at Smithsonian

In late November and early December, the Office of Public Affairs (OPA) led several tours of NCPC's *Worthy of the Nation* exhibit for Smithsonian Institution volunteers. The guided overviews highlighted several key themes in the exhibit and provided perspective on NCPC's current activities in light of Washington's planning history.

"These volunteers are often the first point of contact for visitors to the capital, so they receive a lot of questions about the Mall and DC history," said Denise Powers, the OPA staff member who led the tours.

The Smithsonian's Visitor Information and Associates' Reception Center (VIARC) invited NCPC to lead the tours. The center coordinates the approximately 550 volunteers who staff the public inquiry telephone lines and the information desks of the Smithsonian's 15 museums.

"The Smithsonian's mission is to increase and diffuse knowledge, and we expect the volunteers to

know something beyond the particular museum where they work," explained Katherine Neill Ridgley, Director of VIARC. "Any extra training we can provide is good for the volunteers and good for the visitors."

The exhibit, which opened on October 11, 2007, will remain on display at the Smithsonian's S. Dillon Ripley Center until February 14, 2008. Since the exhibit opened, more than 92,000 visitors have passed through the Ripley Center. If you would like a guided introduction to the exhibit, please contact Denise Powers at denise@ncpc.gov.





NCPC to Release Final Flooding Report

After record rainfall in summer 2006 flooded the monumental core and shut down several federal agencies, the Commission directed staff in September 2006 to study the risks of flooding in downtown Washington, DC.

The release of NCPC's final flooding report in January 2008 will mark the latest chapter in this long-term effort.

The final flooding report expands upon the draft report, released in February 2007, which outlined the flood risks to Washington, DC's monumental core, identified the regulations and authorities responsible for flood control and stormwater management in the District, and recommended ways in which NCPC could coordinate policymaking efforts to reduce the long-term risk of flooding in the nation's capital.

"The final report also will examine flooding and stormwater risks east of the Anacostia River," explained Michelle Desiderio, the NCPC senior community planner who has spearheaded the project since its inception. "Because of its low-lying topography and the increasing likelihood of development along the Anacostia River, the Commissioners wanted to have a better understanding of the susceptibility to flooding in this area."

The discussion that ensued after the release of the draft report also led the Commission to convene a meeting of federal and District agencies involved in flood control and stormwater management. NCPC facilitated a two-day Floodwater Forum in June 2007, which brought together representatives from the General Services Administration, the Department of Homeland Security, and several District of Columbia agencies. More than 100 participants discussed stormwater management policy, the coordination of emergency responses, and the need for infrastructure improvements.

The forum led to the creation of a steering committee and several interagency working groups that will develop more specific recommendations regarding emergency preparedness policy, governance, infrastructure improvements, and best management practices for flood-proofing buildings and promoting low-impact development. It is expected that the interagency groups will complete their work and formulate recommendations over the next year.

To view the flooding report and the Flood Forum proceedings, please visit our website at www.ncpc.gov.

Preserving Historic Views While Improving Modern Transportation

After a nearly 50-year hiatus, streetcars may once again traverse the streets of Washington, DC. The District Department of Transportation (DDOT) is planning a demonstration streetcar line in Anacostia, which the Commission approved in February 2007. The initial line would run for just over a mile from the Anacostia Metro Station to South Capitol Street near Bolling Air Force Base, making four stops along the way. This line is the first step in plans to bring a system of premium transit services to areas in the District "between" MetroRail stations.

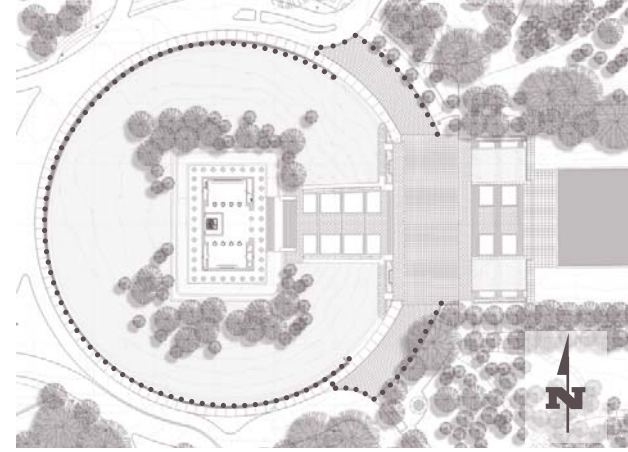
When the Commission approved the Anacostia project, it recommended that DDOT investigate alternative streetcar technologies that do not require overhead wires. In the 1880s, Congress began passing laws prohibiting overhead utility and streetcar wires in the L'Enfant City and Georgetown. At that time, Washington's streetcar system was one of two in the country that ran without overhead wires. These laws continue to protect Washington's historic streets, open space, and view sheds from unattractive wires and supporting infrastructure, and has resulted in unique, wire-free streetscapes.

This summer, NCPC, the District Office of Planning, DDOT, and the U.S. Commission of Fine Arts formed a working group to investigate wire-free streetcar technologies and design strategies that can preserve the historic vistas and streetscapes in Georgetown and the historic L'Enfant city, while still addressing mobility needs within the city.

NCPC staff expects to brief the Commission on the findings of the working group in early 2008.



Image courtesy National Capital Trolley Museum



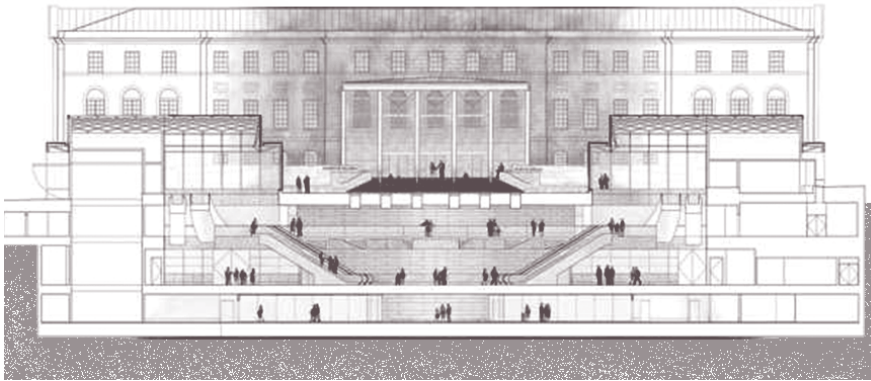
Lincoln Memorial Circle Improvements, East Side

In December, the Commission approved final site development plans for two lines of bollards crossing Lincoln Circle at Bacon and French Drives and continuing along the outer curb on the northeast and southeast portions of the circle. The plans also include repaving and associated improvements to the circle.

This National Park Service (NPS) project is part of a larger project at the Lincoln Memorial that includes roadway and sidewalk reconstruction, vehicle barriers, a retaining wall, and the construction of two concession buildings to improve visitor services. Additional related projects, including temporary measures to close the barrier line along the east side of the Memorial and a comprehensive design initiative for the National Mall side of the Memorial, will come before the Commission in the future.

The Commission welcomed and supported the NPS goal of a comprehensive design initiative for the east front of the Lincoln Memorial. The project will consider maintenance, accessibility, and security needs in West Potomac Park as well as design, especially in the area of the Reflecting Pool and the stairs leading to the memorial.

In its approval of the plans, the Commission rescinded a previous Commission action approving bollards down either side of the lower stairs of the Lincoln Memorial and across the edge of the reflecting pool. The Park Service hopes to complete the proposed improvements to Lincoln Circle before the bicentennial of President Lincoln's birth in February 2009.



National Law Enforcement Museum, Judiciary Square

The Commission approved the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund's preliminary site and building plans for the National Law Enforcement Museum at Judiciary Square, conditioned upon mitigation actions in the Executive Director's Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI), dated November 29, 2007.

The plans involve the construction of an underground museum with two entrance pavilions located on the south side of the 400 block of E Street, NW, and a plaza shared by the museum and the District of Columbia Courts.

The museum's pavilions stand 25 feet high, covered by transparent low iron glass that complements the opaque glazing on the interior museum walls. The design of the plaza incorporates flush translucent pavers to provide daylight to the primarily underground facility. The project also includes landscaping and retaining walls and bollards on the plaza's north side to provide security for the Courts complex and accommodate a change in natural grade at the front of the site.

In its review, the Commission noted that the applicant's Environmental Assessment (EA) of the preliminary site and building plans, and the public comments on the EA, helped guide the Commission. The mitigation actions contained in the FONSI include: consultation with the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority for final site and building plans; coordination with the District of Columbia and National Park Service concerning the location and design of PEPCO vaults; minimizing adverse traffic impacts; incorporating low-intensity-development in the final landscape; and minimizing adverse effects to the historic court buildings.



Vietnam Veterans Memorial Visitor Center

Vietnam Veterans Memorial Visitor Center

The Commission provided comments on the concept design for the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Visitor Center, submitted by the National Park Service (NPS) on behalf of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund. The Center is authorized by Public Law 108-126.

The 5.2 acre site is on the grounds of the Lincoln Memorial at the west end of the National Mall. It is situated north of the Lincoln Memorial and west of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. The site is an open grass panel surrounded by mature elm trees. Currently the site contains two softball fields and a National Park Service concession facility. The central portion of the site will be used to construct the Center, which according to the National Park Service, will be 34,100 gross square feet with a footprint of 26,642 square feet.

The Commission commented on the various design elements of the proposed Visitor Center, noting the following:

- The project design met six of the 15 mandatory design guidelines established by the Commission during site approval;
- The project design did not meet two of the 15 mandatory design guidelines, and the applicant must modify the project design to meet them;
- Insufficient information was provided on seven of the mandatory design guidelines; the applicant must provide more information and analysis before or during the preliminary design phase.

The Commission noted in its comments the importance of the Commission’s consultation process and recommended that the applicant continue to consult with staff during the development of preliminary and final design phases.

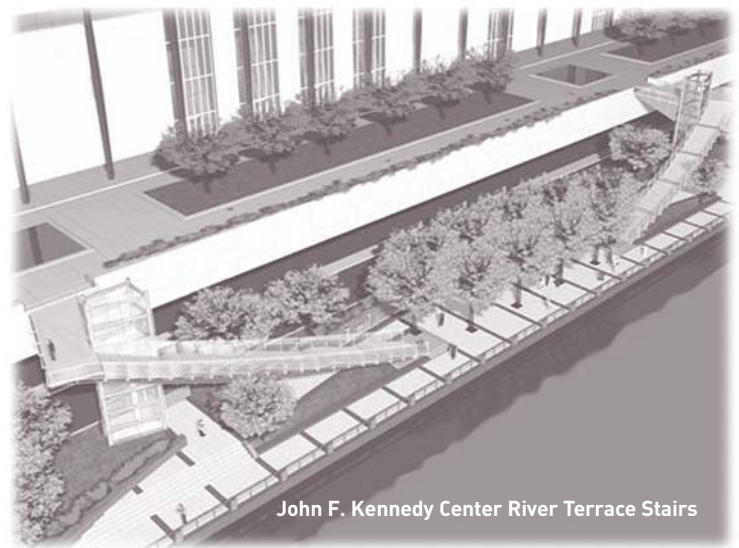
Visit NCPA’s website for the full staff report for each project and the final Commission action.

November

November 1, 2007

**John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts
River Terrace Stairs to the Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway Trail**

The Commission commented favorably on the concept design for a pair of glass and steel staircases and a pair of glass elevators connecting the Kennedy Center River Terrace and the Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway Trail. The applicant, the District Department of Transportation (DDOT), collaborated with the Kennedy Center and the National Park Service on the design. In addition to the staircases and elevators, which extend from the terrace to ground level, the concept design includes a retaining wall along the river side of the Parkway that forms the eastern edge of the plaza; a paved plaza with benches, grass, and cherry trees; and a railing at the river’s edge. The stairs, elevators, and plaza would be illuminated at night. The design does not preclude the establishment of a boat dock in the future, as envisioned in the Commission’s *Legacy* plan.



John F. Kennedy Center River Terrace Stairs

Draft Master Plan for Department of Homeland Security Consolidation at St. Elizabeths West Campus

The General Services Administration (GSA) submitted a draft Master Plan for converting the West Campus of St. Elizabeths Hospital into the headquarters for the Department of Homeland Security, including the U.S. Coast Guard. The St. Elizabeths West Campus, a National Historic Landmark, includes more than 70 historic buildings with 750,000 square feet of usable space. It is home to a collection of historic Collegiate Gothic, Italianate, and Renaissance Revival buildings.

GSA is examining two different development alternatives (Alternatives 3 and 4), both of which consist of 4.5 million gross square feet of development plus 1.8 million gross square feet of parking.

The Commission acknowledged that the draft Master Plan calls for the comprehensive modernization of the infrastructure on the campus. While many historic buildings would be rehabilitated and occupied, some would be demolished and much of the landscape character would be lost to new construction and an altered campus composition.

The Commission noted that GSA has determined in its Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS, September 28, 2007) that the proposed program would have "major, direct, long-term, adverse impacts" as well as "adverse effects" to the landmark campus due primarily to the size and type of construction. These include the loss of the historic buildings and landscape; altered or obstructed view sheds to, from, and within the campus; increased traffic in the neighborhood; and required modifications to the regional transportation and utility systems that would cause physical alterations to the campus and surrounding areas.

The Commission indicated a preference for several features of Alternative 4 because the overall scheme has a lesser impact on the historic landscape and the site's oldest structures. However, additional information is required to fully evaluate the merits and impacts of each alternative, and to state a final preference.

The Commission required GSA to include one or more alternatives in the Master Plan that have a maximum of 2.5 million gross square feet and to mitigate or minimize the major, long-term, adverse impacts of any alternative to the West Campus of St. Elizabeths. The Commission's requirements were organized according to five main themes: view sheds, transportation, community benefits, historic preservation, and environmental sustainability. These requirements are consistent with NCP's *Comprehensive Plan for the National Capital*, GSA's mission and goals for this project, as well as the purpose and needs identified in the DEIS.



Smithsonian Institution's Patent Office Building F Street Stair Reconstruction, Landscape Plan, Security, and Signs

The Commission reviewed final site and building plans for the Patent Office Building's reservation landscape, F Street stair reconstruction, security elements, and signs. The Patent Office Building, a National Historic Landmark, houses the Donald W. Reynolds Center for American Art and Portraiture. The building occupies Reservation 8 in the L'Enfant Plan and is bounded by 7th and 9th Streets, and by F and G Streets, NW.

The Commission commended the Smithsonian Institution for enhancing the Patent Office Building's façade and reservation, for reconsidering its security requirements in response to previous Commission comments, and for removing proposed barriers from public space.

The Commission approved the rehabilitation of the reservation landscape plan; reconstruction of the F Street Stair; and the security elements, which include a new granite wall supporting the historic cast iron fence, two guard booths, and six retractable bollards at the service entrances on the north side of the building.

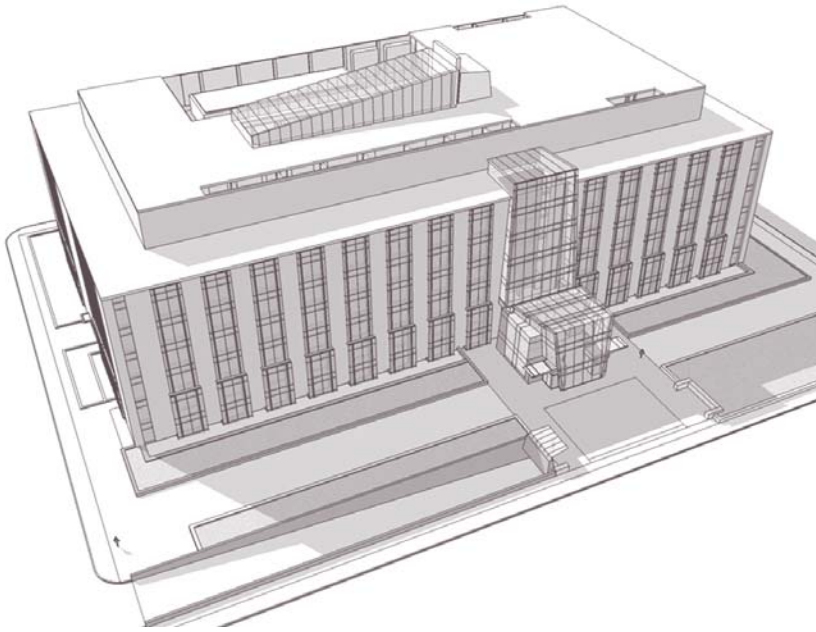
The Commission noted and approved the completion of a small, permanent exhibit on the history of the building's architecture and ornamentation, including the installation of a curved segment and urn from one of the historic courtyard's two original cast iron fountains.

The Commission disapproved 15 installed and proposed signs on the sidewalks and the cast iron fence. The Commission also disapproved the lettering on the building's exterior at the north and south entrances. Finally, the Commission required the Smithsonian, through Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, to consult with NCP staff and other review agencies on the installed and proposed signs and lettering and formally submit the proposal to the Commission, as requested at the April 2007 meeting.

Visit NCP's website for the full staff report for each project and the final Commission action.

October

October 4, 2007



Walter Reed National Military Medical Center

Under the Base Realignment and Closure Act of 2005, the Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, DC, will close. Military medical services for the National Capital Area will move to a new hospital at Fort Belvoir in Fairfax, Virginia, and to the National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda, which will be renamed Walter Reed National Military Medical Center.

In October the Commission reviewed the concept design for related changes to the Bethesda medical center, commenting favorably on the concept design with the exception of the fenestration (window) pattern on the new buildings. The project includes renovation of existing facilities and construction of two new buildings to house a new outpatient facility and expanded diagnostic and critical care functions.

At the next phase of submission, the preliminary design stage, the U.S. Department of the Navy must supply more information on lighting and the buildings' finish and develop a more compatible window pattern. A draft Environmental Impact Statement, Master Plan, and Transportation Management Plan for the Walter Reed National Military Medical Center also are required, and the National Trust for Historic Preservation Section 106 consultation must be completed.

The Commission noted that, as the project develops, the Navy should address comments by affected and overseeing entities such as the Montgomery County Planning Board and the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission. The Commission also noted that its final action will take into account the findings of the Environmental Impact Statement, the Master Plan, and the Transportation Management Plan, currently under development.

Concept design for the Walter Reed National Military Medical Center

Federal Office Building Number 8, 200 C Street, SW

The General Services Administration (GSA) plans to renovate Federal Office Building 8, located at 200 C Street, SW. The Commission reviewed revised concept designs for this project and commented favorably with the exception of a proposed security pavilion and perimeter security elements.

The Commission noted that the security features do not conform with NCPC's Urban Design and Security Objectives and Policies (Adopted May 5, 2005), which discourage perimeter security measures in public space. The Commission required GSA to submit an analysis of the security required for this facility. If the security pavilion remains a part of the project, the Commission requires the applicant to reduce its size and minimize its impact on the surrounding public plaza.

The Commission also required GSA to submit for review the Third and C Streets Southwest Master Plan for Urban Improvements before submitting preliminary plans for this project. The Commission reminded the applicant that the scope of the project does not fall within NCPC's criteria for categorical exclusion under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), and that, therefore, GSA must submit an environmental assessment before submitting the preliminary phase of this project.

Finally, the Commission reminded GSA that it must consult on the full effects of the project, including the perimeter security, under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

Visit NCPC's website for the full staff report for each project and the final Commission action.



Commission Notes

Commission Approves Federal Capital Improvements Program

At its September 2007 meeting the Commission adopted the *Federal Capital Improvements Program for the National Capital Region, Fiscal Years 2008-2013*. Through the FCIP, NCPC reviews all federal capital improvement plans in the region and evaluates how well they comply with the agency's plans and policies as well as those of regional planning agencies and local and state governments. This year's FCIP contains 224 projects worth \$11.6 billion. Of these, 190 projects were submitted by federal agencies and 34 projects were submitted by NCPC for future programming. The \$11.6 billion total is a significant increase from last year's \$7.7 billion total due to the inclusion of BRAC-related projects at Fort Belvoir, Virginia, and the proposed consolidation of the Department of Homeland Security at St. Elizabeths West Campus in southeast Washington, DC. For a copy of the FCIP, visit the publication section of our website at www.ncpc.gov or contact Stacy Wood at stacy.wood@ncpc.gov.

National Capital Authority Chairman Visits NCPC

On October 15, NCPC hosted Michael Ball, chairman of the National Capital Authority (NCA), NCPC's sister organization in Canberra, Australia. Chairman Ball updated NCPC staff on current projects at NCA, including the implementation of their Griffin Legacy Plan. The Griffin Legacy Plan, released in 2004, was influenced by NCPC's *Extending the Legacy* plan. NCPC staff discussed the benefits of holding open public meetings, a possibility the NCA is contemplating. Also discussed were plans for the 2008 Capitals Alliance conference *Greening the World's Capital Cities*, which NCPC will host in September 2008.



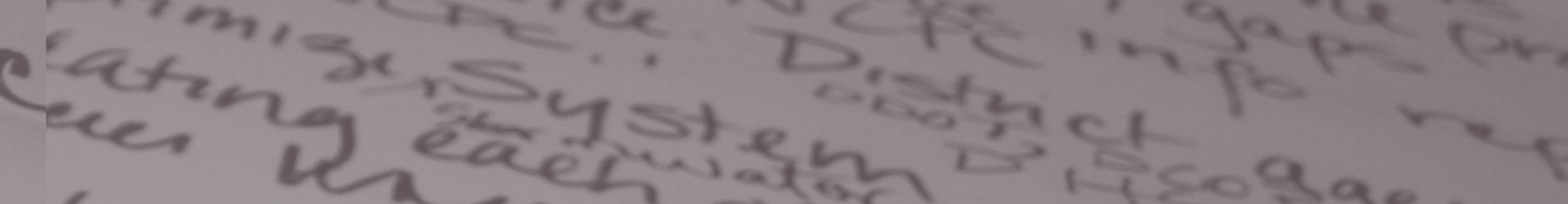
NCPC Participates in DC Economic Partnership Development Showcase

On November 16, NCPC staff participated in the annual Washington, DC Economic Partnership Development Showcase. The event, held at the Washington Convention Center, gave NCPC an opportunity to discuss important planning initiatives in the nation's capital and highlight four of its important projects: CapitalSpace, *Extending the Legacy*, the National Capital Framework Plan, and *Worthy of the Nation*. The more than 300 showcase attendees included architects, developers, government agencies, civic groups, and important regional stakeholders.

Oldest Inhabitants Updated on Commission Initiatives

Acting Executive Director Marcel Acosta spoke to members of the Association of the Oldest Inhabitants of the District of Columbia on October 9 at their monthly luncheon and business meeting. Established in 1865 to promote pride in the nation's capital, the group is the oldest civic organization in the District, with a strong interest in urban planning issues and the city's history.





International Eisenhower Fellows Stop By NCPC

On October 1, Acting Executive Director Marcel Acosta and Office of Public Affairs Director Lisa MacSpadden met with a delegation of Eisenhower Fellows from Mexico, Egypt, Indonesia, South Africa, and India. The Eisenhower Fellows program brings talented scholars and professionals to the United States each year. The group that visited NCPC toured several U.S. cities to learn about urban planning practices. The eight visiting fellows represent the planning, academic, architecture, development, and economic professions.

Federal Executive Institute Visits NCPC

On November 20, NCPC hosted more than two dozen members of the Army's Senior Leadership Program participating in the Federal Executive Institute (FEI). David Levy, acting director for the Urban Design and Plan Review division, provided an overview of the Commission and its mission. Community Planner Michelle Desiderio discussed the Commission's efforts regarding flooding in the monumental core, and Bill Dowd, Plan and Project Implementation Division Director, gave an overview of the National Capital Framework Plan. Chief Operating Officer Barry Socks and Special Assistant to the Executive Director Mike Sherman also participated in the discussions.

NCPC Surpasses CFC Goal

The National Capital Planning Commission raised \$17,740 for the 2007 Combined Federal Campaign (CFC), surpassing its fundraising goal, and achieved a 91 percent participation rate. NCPC has one of the highest participation rates of any federal agency in the National Capital Region. Campaign Chair Lucy Sherman, assisted by Michael Weil and Terrine Flythe, led NCPC's efforts. The CFC is the largest and most successful workplace charitable campaign in the world.

Staff Announcements

NCPC welcomes several new employees including **Diane Sullivan** who joined the agency's Urban Design and Plan Review Division in October as a Community Planner. In this role she will focus primarily on sustainability projects and security design issues, and she will devote some time to plan and project review. Ms. Sullivan previously worked with the Anacostia Waterfront Corporation in Washington DC, where she served as the project director for Poplar Point. Prior to that she spent six years working on waterfront redevelopment projects for the Portland, Oregon Office of Planning. Ms. Sullivan started her career at the San Francisco Planning Department. She has a Master's degree in Urban and Regional Planning from Portland State University and a Bachelor of Science in Sociology from UCLA.

Amy Tarce joined NCPC's Planning Research and Policy Division in November as a Community Planner. Her main responsibility is leading the CapitalSpace initiative's neighborhood parks component. Most recently Ms. Tarce worked for the city of Alexandria, Virginia as the principal planner in charge of the redevelopment of Potomac Yard. Previously she served as a senior planner for the Redmond, Washington Department of Planning and Community Development. Ms. Tarce has a Master's in Architecture and Urban Planning from the University of Illinois and a Bachelor of Science in Architecture from the University of the Philippines.

Cheryl Kelly joined NCPC in December as an intern with the Urban Design and Plan Review Division, where she will help with project review. Ms. Kelly is working on a Master's in Urban and Regional Planning at Virginia Tech University's Alexandria campus.

NCPC also recently welcomed a full-time contract employee, **Mecal France**, who joined the agency in September as the agency's receptionist.

NCPC Email List

To receive the Tentative Agenda for NCPC's monthly meetings and notice of upcoming events, send an email to info@ncpc.gov.



QUARTERLY

Coming Soon

February 7, 2008

NCPC's Monthly Commission Meeting, 12:30 p.m.

Spring 2008

**NCPC and U.S. Commission of Fine Arts to Release
the National Capital Framework Plan**

September 14-18 2008

Capitals Alliance Conference, Greening the World's Capital Cities



National Capital Planning Commission
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North Lobby, Suite 500
Washington, DC 20004
Telephone 202.482.7200
Fax 202.482.7272
www.ncpc.gov

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.

Commission Members

John V. Cogbill, III, Chairman, Presidential Appointee

Herbert F. Ames, Presidential Appointee

José L. Galvez, III, Presidential Appointee

Arrington Dixon, Mayoral Appointee

Stacie S. Turner, Mayoral Appointee

The Honorable Robert M. Gates
Secretary of Defense

The Honorable Dirk Kempthorne
Secretary of the Interior

The Honorable Lurita Alexis Doan
Administrator of General Services

The Honorable Joseph I. Lieberman
Chairman, Senate Committee on Homeland Security
and Governmental Affairs

The Honorable Henry A. Waxman
Chairman, House Committee on Oversight and
Government Reform

The Honorable Adrian M. Fenty
Mayor of the District of Columbia

The Honorable Vincent C. Gray
Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia

Acting Executive Director
Marcel C. Acosta

