Open Government Annual Status Report
March 2012

The National Capital Planning Commission is committed to transforming itself into an open, collaborative and transparent organization. In March 2011, we published our first Open Government Plan, which outlined a number of initiatives to help the agency increase participation and improve customer service. We want to share the progress we've made since then in meeting the goals in the plan.

In the past year, we have successfully launched a number of planned initiatives, and made important strides towards other goals – particularly in the area of public participation and engagement. Since we first published our Open Government Plan, NCPC has embraced Twitter, begun streaming Commission meetings and events over the Internet, engaged the public via various online commenting and crowdsourcing tools, and created an online map of memorials in Washington.

Work remains to be done however to provide the public with easier and greater access to the Commission's records and data. Promisingly, a number of critical IT systems – particularly NCPC's central projects database – are undergoing improvements and upgrades that will allow the agency to provide enhanced and up-to-date information about the projects the Commission reviews on its website. These upgrades are underway, with completion scheduled by the end of 2012.

Beyond the specific new initiatives in the open government plan, the agency has for the first time begun to collect and track data about the agency's interactions with the public – both on- and off-line. These metrics will help NCPC evaluate the success of its open government efforts, and allow the agency to focus on those with the most adoption by the public.

Going forward, we are excited to apply the lessons learned from both our successes and missteps as we continue to explore how the agency can further inform and empower citizens to help us enhance the cultural, historic and natural resources of the nation's capital.

Overview of Progress by Initiative

Transparency		
Records Management Workshops	*COMPLETED*	Conducted training for staff in March 2011.
Publish Responses to Local Plans	*IN PROGRESS*	Webpage created on NCPC website for responses to plans from local jurisdictions. Additional coordination needed to ensure timely posting of responses. *(Estimated completion Q3 2012)*

Transparency (cont.)		
Publish Records/Data Inventory	*COMPLETED*	Posted on the agency open government page in October 2011.
Publish Machine Readable Database of Projects Submitted for Review	*IN PROGRESS*	Upgrades to the agency's central projects database – which will facilitate integration with the website – are now in progress. *(Estimated completion Q4 2012)*
Develop Searchable Index of Commission Actions	*IN PROGRESS*	See above.
Publish Additional FCIP Data	*REQUIRES ADDITIONAL PLANNING*	Re-evaluation of the agency's FCIP reporting is ongoing. Plans for a FCIP data portal are on hold until the evaluation concludes.

Participation		
Expand Use of Social Media	*COMPLETED*	Agency has established presence on Facebook and Twitter, and continues to explore the use of other platforms.
Deploy Crowdsourcing Platform	*COMPLETED*	Crowdsourcing platforms were successfully deployed for the agency's Open Government and Southwest Ecodistrict Initiative. New platforms will continue to be deployed for future initiatives when appropriate.
Live Streaming of Meetings	*COMPLETED*	Agency began streaming Commission meetings and events in May 2011.
Develop Online Public Commenting System	*IN PROGRESS*	NCPC has provided for online commenting for several initiatives, including the Comprehensive Plan updates and the President's Park South Competition. Plans for a more robust online commenting system for initiatives and projects are in development. *(Estimated completion Q4 2012)*

Collaboration		
Enhanced Intranet	*IN PROGRESS*	Upgrades to the agency's local network infrastructure are underway, which will facilitate the development of enhanced intranet/extranet. *(Estimated completion Q3 2012)*
Online Submission of Project Materials	*REQUIRES ADDITIONAL PLANNING*	Additional coordination with external project applicants is required before proceeding with initiative.
Online Stakeholder Collaboration Platform	*REQUIRES ADDITIONAL PLANNING*	Additional coordination with stakeholders is required before proceeding with initiative.
Flagship Initiatives		
Commemorative Works Database	*IN PROGRESS*	Beta version of map launched in August 2011. Enhancements in progress. *(Estimated completion Q2 2012)*
Collaborative Planning Platform	*REQUIRES ADDITIONAL PLANNING*	Initial plans for platform still in development. Forthcoming Comprehensive Plan updates present ideal opportunity to deploy collaborative planning platform.

Tell Us What You Think

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