

Report of the Executive Director

Commission meetings begin at 1:00 PM



Intelligence Community Campus - Bethesda (1)



Eisenhower Executive Office Building (2)



Ballou Senior High School (3)



Square 901 (4)

DELEGATED ACTIONS

During the past month, the Executive Director approved four projects under the Commission's delegated authority:

1. Final site development plans for Phase 1 (North Campus) site improvements at the Intelligence Community Campus – Bethesda, Maryland. (7326)
2. Preliminary and final site and building plans for a temporary screening facility on the southwest lawn of the Eisenhower Executive Office Building, Northwest Washington, DC. (7412)
3. Comments favorably on the concept design for modernization of Ballou Senior High School, Southeast Washington, DC. (7417)
4. Finds that the proposed action for consolidated planned unit development at Square 901 at the former Hine Junior High School site is not inconsistent with the *Comprehensive Plan for the National Capital*. (ZC 11-24)

PLANNING UPDATES

Southwest Ecodistrict

The public comment period for the draft *SW Ecodistrict Plan* ended on September 10. Comments on the draft plan were received from 35 people or organizations, many of which were very supportive of the effort. The comments will be addressed in the final plan which will be presented to the SW Ecodistrict Task Force at a meeting tentatively scheduled for December 5. Meanwhile, staff presented the plan at a series of public outreach events and conferences over the past several months. Staff also held several meetings with the General Services Administration (GSA) and the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) regarding next steps and follow-up studies that will begin in fiscal year 2013.



Heritage Trails

NCPC kicked off cultural heritage trail assessment studies for two federal precincts: the Southwest Federal Center and the Northwest Rectangle/Foggy Bottom neighborhood. These cultural heritage trails will showcase federal agency contributions and the areas' histories. The trails will improve pedestrian connections between the National Mall and surrounding federal precincts and neighborhoods. These assessment studies will identify potential locations for interpretive markers, identify historic and cultural topics to showcase, and determine a cost estimate for implementation. Once the assessments are complete, NCPC will identify potential funding sources. Cultural Tourism DC is assisting NCPC in these endeavors. NCPC will consult with federal and local stakeholders through the duration of these studies.



The Federal Triangle Precinct Security Study

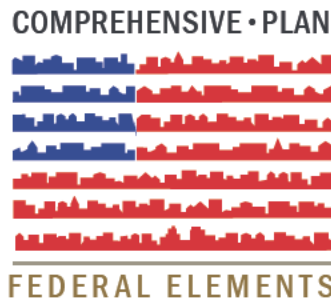
NCPC's Interagency Security Task Force (ISTF) is currently reviewing a draft report of the study, which recommends a collaborative solution to security design and operations within the Federal Triangle public realm. The ISTF will meet on Thursday, November 8 to discuss the draft study and discuss final recommendations for the document. GSA will also present preliminary work on a security and public realm conceptual design proposed for the Internal Revenue Service, Department of Justice, and Environmental Protection Agency facilities in the Federal Triangle.

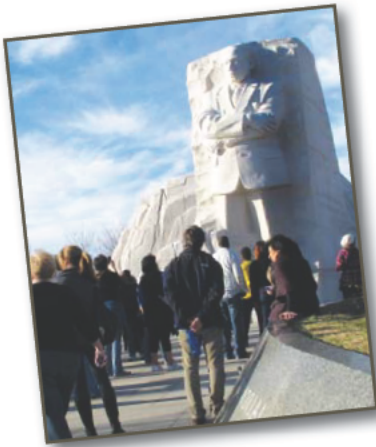
Comprehensive Plan

Staff incorporated public comments for the Environment Element and will present the final draft to the Commission for adoption in October. Staff plans to present the Workplace and Visitor Elements to the Commission in December. The full Comprehensive Plan update is planned for spring 2013.

Urban Design Element Task Force

The Urban Design Task Force completed its work on the draft element. Staff is drafting policies and will present the draft Urban Design Element to the Commission at its November meeting for public release. A public event is planned for November 14 to present the draft element and receive public comments.





State of Memorial Planning Report

Staff is finalizing NCPC's commemoration study *Memorial Trends and Practice in Washington, DC* and anticipates releasing the report to the public this fall following a presentation to the Commission.

Memorial Mapping

Staff is finalizing a new inventory of an additional 80 memorials and other public artworks on lands under jurisdiction of the District of Columbia, the Smithsonian, embassies, and the Department of Defense in the District of Columbia and the region. The updated inventory will be displayed as an online map on NCPC's web site this November. The new inventory adds to the existing online map of memorials on National Park Service lands in the District of Columbia.



DC Streetcar

The DC Department of Transportation (DDOT) held public meetings in September to explore whether the eastern end the H Street/Benning Road streetcar line should be at the Minnesota Avenue or Benning Road Metro stations. DDOT also discussed alternative alignments for the M Street SW/SE corridor. NCPC staff met with DDOT staff on September 25 to discuss comments from the public hearings on the H Street/Benning Road line. Staff also responded to a solicitation for comments on proposed mitigation measures to resolve effects on historic properties resulting from the H Street/Benning Road streetcar.



III. PUBLIC OUTREACH AND PLANNING ASSISTANCE

Staff presented the draft *SW Ecodistrict Plan* at a series of public outreach events and conferences over the last several months. These meetings include presentations to 200 people at a policy forum on the Hill sponsored by the Federal Facilities Council; to the GreenGov Conference sponsored by the Council on Environmental Quality; and to a group of private stakeholders interested in starting a business improvement district in Southwest Washington.

September saw a number of presentations to visiting groups. On September 19, Executive Director Acosta welcomed a 40-member delegation from Vietnam, including the Vietnamese Ambassador and the Minister of the Vietnamese Ministry of Construction. Sarah Moulton provided the group with a SW Ecodistrict overview. Delegations from China were given an agency overview by Christine Saum, Sarah Moulton, and Stephen Staudigl on September 7, 10, and 18 respectively. Diane Sullivan provided a September 18 group with a briefing on the SW Ecodistrict. Christian Madera briefed graduate students from the University of Pennsylvania on September 17. Mike Sherman presented to students from Ryerson University on October 1.





III. PUBLIC OUTREACH AND PLANNING ASSISTANCE *continued*

On September 17, Commissioner Tommy Wells sat down for a live video chat discussion with NCPCC's Julia Koster, covering topics including walkability, commemoration, greening the city, and balancing federal and local interests. This live chat can be viewed at www.ncpc.gov on the video page.

NCPCC staff also had the opportunity to learn more about the work of other agencies. Mary Gibert, Director of Portfolio Management for GSA/NCR, provided a briefing on their work developing local portfolio plans. Representatives from the District Office of Planning and the Deputy Mayor's Office met with staff to discuss their plans for the Walter Reed site along 16th Street, NW.

Julia Koster participated in a panel discussion at the kickoff event for ULI's Regional Land Use Leadership Institute. William Herbig from the Office of Public Engagement is a member of this year's class. The nine month program provides participants an in-depth exploration of the critical issues facing the national capital region.

IV. PERSONNEL



After 41 plus years of federal service, including more than eight years at NCPCC, Human Resources Officer Phyllis Vessels retired on October 3, 2012. Phyllis consistently provided the highest level of service to the staff in managing the agency's human resources function. Her positive attitude, good judgment, and professional skills created an environment of trust and respect in the Office of Administration. Additionally, Phyllis played an active role in the agency's financial management, budget, and contract services. She will truly be missed and everyone at the agency wishes her a very happy retirement.

On September 25, Dereth Bush joined the Urban Design and Plan Review Division as a community planner. Ms. Bush received dual masters in City and Regional Planning and Architecture from the Georgia Institute of Technology. Prior to joining NCPCC, Ms. Bush served as a principal planning technician at the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission.

On September 27, Maureen Tighe joined the Physical Planning Division as a community planner. Ms. Tighe received dual masters in City and Regional Planning and Architecture from the Georgia Institute of Technology. Ms. Tighe was a designer at Arch-Plan Inc. prior to joining NCPCC.