

MEDIA RELEASE



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Commission Names New Executive Director

Washington, DC – The National Capital Planning Commission has named Patricia E. Gallagher as its new Executive Director. Ms. Gallagher, a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners, comes to the Commission from the City of Chicago Department of Planning and Development where she most recently served as Deputy Commissioner of Strategic Planning, managing land-use policy and planning to guide development. As NCPC Executive Director Ms. Gallagher will direct the work of the professional planning staff and make policy recommendations to the Commission affecting the planning and development interests of the federal government in the National Capital Region. Ms. Gallagher was selected by the Commission following a national search conducted by an outside management consulting firm.

In welcoming Ms. Gallagher to the Commission staff, NCPC Chairman Richard L. Friedman said, “Patti has broad experience in big city planning and development, urban design, downtown and neighborhood revitalization, and project management. Her reputation in the professional planning and urban design community is unparalleled and we look forward to her bringing the same vision, passion, and energy to Washington that she has so clearly displayed in Chicago.”

At the Chicago Department of Planning, Ms. Gallagher also served as an Assistant Commissioner directing the city’s open space program. In that position she managed a \$50 million School Parks Initiative that developed 100 new parks surrounding Chicago public schools, as well as the Chicago River Development Plan that created new parks, trails, and boat access along Chicago’s inland waterways. “I’m tremendously excited by the work now underway to revitalize Washington’s riverfront. I have had a lot of experience in Chicago working on ways to enliven and improve access to the city’s waterfronts and being part of the effort here to help reconnect Washington to its rivers is a wonderful opportunity for me,” said Ms. Gallagher. “Coming to help plan the future of the Nation’s Capital is a dream career move.”

Ms. Gallagher has worked as a Principal with P. Gallagher & Associates in Chicago, providing consulting services in urban planning, development, and communications for public agencies, private business organizations, urban planning and architectural firms, civic organizations, and neighborhood groups.

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Ms. Gallagher earned her B.A. in Public Administration and Urban Studies from Elmhurst College and her M.A. in Public Policy Analysis from Northwestern University. A Harvard University Loeb Fellow in 1999-2000, Ms. Gallagher has published widely on professional planning topics.

The National Capital Planning Commission is the federal government's central 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 projects and memorials, oversees long-range planning for future development, and monitors capital investment by federal agencies.

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