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National Capital Framework Plan to Hold Public Meeting July 25

Washington, DC – To kick off its new initiative, The National Capital Planning Commission (NCPC) is holding a public discussion on its National Capital Framework Plan, Tuesday, July 25, 2006 from 5:15 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at NCPC offices, 401 9th Street, NW, 5th floor.

The Framework Plan, announced in May, is a joint initiative of NCPC and the U.S. Commission of Fine Arts. The two organizations are coordinating the efforts of stakeholder federal agencies to encourage the placement of future memorials and museums on federal lands in all four quadrants of the city.

“Washington is a vibrant city,” said NCPC chairman John V. Cogbill, III, “but there is more to Washington than the National Mall. We must preserve the Mall but we must also ensure that future generations have special places to commemorate significant historical figures and events.”

NCPC staff will provide an informational presentation at the public discussion after which participants will break into small groups to discuss issues and concerns related to nationally important places in the Framework study area. Public input will be welcome on all aspects of the study including type and placement of future memorials and museums, public event space, recreation and public amenities.

The study area focuses on Federal Triangle, Southwest Federal Center, Banneker Overlook, East Potomac Park, and the Northwest Rectangle Area.

“Many of the areas in the plan suffer from inadequate streetscapes, unsightly security barriers, and a lack of visitor and pedestrian amenities,” said Cogbill. “In the view of many museum and memorial sponsors, these areas appear isolated, inaccessible, and therefore, not worthy of serious consideration. We hope to improve conditions and change that view.”

In order to ensure that the meeting room can accommodate all participants please RSVP by July 18, 2006 to FrameworkPlan@ncpc.com or call 202-482-7301.

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.