



A Revitalized And Connected Community

INTRODUCTION

Washington embraces many roles as the nation's capital and a home town. Its strength lies with its cultural venues, architecture and open spaces, transit system, and diverse and unique neighborhoods. The capital city's precedent plans—NCPC's Legacy Plan and Monumental Core Framework Plan and the District of Columbia's Center City Action Agenda—envision a capital city and thriving downtown centered on the National Mall. These plans call for preserving the civic and ceremonial heart of the nation's capital while promoting diverse, walkable neighborhoods and work centers that blur the boundaries between the federal and local city and are well-connected to the region.

While the federal and local governments share mutual aspirations to advance a great capital city, each has distinct mandates and interests. The federal government is responsible for using federal lands, facilities, and resources efficiently; providing secure high-quality work places to recruit and retain a high quality workforce; and preserving and providing areas for national gatherings and expression, as well as places to honor our country's heritages and heroes. The District's interests lie in facilitating the development of economically sound, vibrant, and distinct business and neighborhood centers and reclaiming the waterfront for daily city life. In the center city, the District and private sector create walkable, engaging, and distinctive places to live, work, and shop. Important to all, mobility is the backbone of an efficient government and a livable and sustainable city. Varied and flexible modes of transport contribute to efficient operations, affordability, convenient living, as well as economic and social vitality.

This section of the SW Ecodistrict Plan establishes objectives and strategies in three areas to transform the Study Area into a revitalized and con-nected community.

- › **Civic Realm** strategies enhance and create a variety of public spaces, offering attractive settings for cultural destinations.
- › **Land Use Development** strategies accommodate existing federal office space and provide for new residential, retail, and cultural uses.
- › **Transportation** strategies build on the existing road, rail, and bus infrastructure to enhance transit capacity, improve bike and pedestrian systems, and better connect all modes of travel, as well as re-establish and improve rights of way to promote active, walkable streets and provide connections within the study area and between the National Mall and the Southwest Waterfront.

These strategies were crafted using the SW Ecodistrict goals, federal and District precedent plans, and the existing conditions and planned projects in and near the Study Area. Along with the environmental targets and strategies in Chapter 3, these objectives, strategies, and recommendations inform the revitalization scenario and work together to create a highly sustainable and well-connected livable neighborhood. These strategies should be used to guide future planning, design, and development decisions.