



DC Clean Rivers Project (2)



Kenilworth Revitalization (5)



1200 3rd Street, NW (6)

Report of the Executive Director

During the past month the Executive Director took the following actions under the Commission's delegation authority:

1. Approved preliminary and final site and building plans for the East Campus electrical substation at the U.S. Department of Agriculture Beltsville Agricultural Research Center, 10300 Baltimore Avenue, Beltsville, Maryland. (7834)
2. Approved final site and building plans for the DC Clean Rivers Project—Northeast Boundary Tunnel (Division J), various locations in Washington, DC. (7625)
3. Approved comments to the Council of the District of Columbia regarding the closing of a public alley in Square 748, 1109 Congress Street, NE. (7838)
4. Approved comments to the Zoning Commission of the District of Columbia regarding a Text Amendment to Subtitles A and X—DC Office of Zoning. (ZC 08-06F)
5. Approved comments to the Zoning Commission of the District of Columbia regarding a First Stage Planned Unit Development and Consolidated Planned Unit Development and Zoning Map Amendment at Kenilworth Courts—Squares 5113, Lots 5-9, Square 5114, Lot 10 and Square 5116, Lots 164, 165, 172, 890, and 186 (Kenilworth Revitalization I JV, LLC), generally bordered by Kenilworth Avenue, NE, south along Douglas Street, NE, and west to Anacostia Avenue, NE. (ZC 15-21)
6. Approved comments to the Zoning Commission of the District of Columbia regarding a Consolidated Planned Unit Development at Square 747, Lot 8 (1200 3rd Street, NW, LLC) 1200. (ZC 16-09)

PLANNING UPDATES

FBI Headquarters Site Consolidation and Exchange—Squares 378 and 379

The Commission approved the draft Square Guidelines at its October 6 meeting and directed staff to release the draft guidelines for a 30-day public comment period. NCPC accepted public comments on the draft Square Guidelines through November 10. On October 24, 2016 the General Services Administration announced that they are postponing their decision on the location and chosen exchange partner for the new FBI Headquarters to March 2017. So that GSA and NCPC can further coordinate work, and address public and stakeholder comments, NCPC is rescheduling the presentation and Commission action on the final Square Guidelines from December 1, 2016 to January 5, 2017. Current meeting materials and resources are available on NCPC's website at www.ncpc.gov/project/fbisq/. The final Executive Director's Recommendation will be posted on NCPC's website on or around December 30, 2016.





Testimony to the DC Council Regarding Nationals Park Signage

On November 14, 2016 Policy and Research Division Director **Michael Sherman** testified to the Council of the District Committee of the Whole, Subcommittee on Consumer Affairs concerning proposed Bill 21-919, the “Nationals Park Graphics and Entertainment Regulatory Amendment Act of 2016.” The bill would authorize and establish guidelines to add graphic displays and digital signs to the outside of Nationals Park, including allowable dimensions and locations. Testimony focused on the potential impacts of ten proposed full-motion video signs (averaging in size of 30 feet x 25 feet) on federal interests. These include potential impacts to the night-time lighting hierarchy of the U.S. Capitol, the vision to transform South Capitol Street into a prominent gateway into the city, and views to Anacostia Park. The Subcommittee did a mark-up of the bill on November 16 and sent it back to the Committee of the Whole, which is scheduled to meet on December 6. The first reading of the bill will take place in a legislative meeting along with the first vote on the same day. The final reading and vote will be on December 20.



Proposed Arlington National Cemetery Southern Expansion Project and Associated Roadway Realignment

On November 14, 2016 staff met with representatives from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and Arlington National Cemetery to discuss the status of the NEPA process concerning the roadway realignment. The Cemetery proposes to increase its contiguous acreage by utilizing the adjacent former Navy Annex site as the Southern Expansion site. To accomplish this, the Cemetery is working with the owners and operators of the adjacent road network, Arlington County, and VDOT to pursue a roadway realignment and land exchange agreement. The Cemetery plans on holding a design charrette on the road alignment in January, plans to release its final NEPA findings in March 2017, and anticipates conducting its initial submission to NCPC in May 2017.



Smart Cities PA2040 Project

Policy and Research Division Director **Michael Sherman** recently met with a delegation from China’s National Development and Reform Commission and representatives from the U.S. Commerce Department to discuss Smart City development in the United States. The discussion focused on the application of Smart City technologies to complex urban planning challenges in areas such as public private-partnerships projects, sustainability, transportation and city management operations. NCPC’s work on the SW Ecodistrict and Pennsylvania Avenue 2040 initiatives were highlighted as models for Smart City technology applications. They also discussed opportunities for future collaboration.

NCPC Parking Study

NCPC partnered with the U.S. Department of Transportation and the Volpe National Transportation Systems Center to conduct a parking ratio study. This eight-month long study will assess NCPC’s parking ratios in the context of industry best practices, parking requirements for private developments in jurisdictions, and other approaches for large employment centers and campuses. The study will also encompass analytical and policy approaches to determine changes in parking needs and trip generation. Volpe began the project in October with a literature review. They will baseline NCPC’s parking ratios against local zoning ordinances and parking regulations in the region’s jurisdictions, develop 10-15 case studies highlighting different parking-need scenarios, and provide recommendations to NCPC on potential updates to its parking policies and ratios. Working with NCPC and the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, Volpe will analyze the feasibility of modeling approaches to assess existing parking ratios in the context of current and projected (10-year) mode share.





District Elements

Staff continues to collaborate with the DC Office of Planning (DCOP) on the *Comprehensive Plan for the National Capital's* District Elements. To solicit public input on the amendment process, DCOP hosted seven community meetings in October-November. NCPC staff is also collaborating with DCOP on a proposed urban design workshop that will help identify issues to be addressed in the Comprehensive Plan's DC Urban Design Element.

PUBLIC OUTREACH AND PLANNING ASSISTANCE



APA Panel Examines Federal Headquarters Perimeter Security

On November 29, Commissioner **Mina Wright**, Senior Urban Planner **Sarah Ridgely**, and U.S. Department of State Project Manager **David Grossweiler** presented at the American Planning Association's Federal Planning Division Workshop held at the National Building Museum. Their session, "Integrating Perimeter Security with the Public Realm," provided a history of perimeter security policy in the region and used two case studies, the U.S. Department of Commerce's Herbert C. Hoover Building and the State Department's Harry S Truman Building, to explore how perimeter security solutions can be both effective and elegant additions to public space.

St. Elizabeths Brown Bag

On November 23 NCPC welcomed **Paul Kreisa**, Stantec senior archaeologist and GSA consultant, for a brown bag discussion on the St. Elizabeths campus. He discussed the results of the many archaeological projects undertaken on campus over the past ten years after providing an overview on the unique history of St. Elizabeths.



PERSONNEL

NCPC Welcomes New Staff

Karin Schierhold joined the Physical Planning Division as a community planner. Karin is an architect who most recently worked for Gronning Architects. She holds a Master in Architecture and Urban Design from the Harvard University Graduate School of Design and a Bachelor of Architecture from Pennsylvania State University.



Surina Singh joined the Policy and Research Division as a community planner. She most recently worked for Stantec Consulting Inc. A registered landscape architect, Surina holds a Master in Landscape Architecture and Urban Design from the Harvard University Graduate School of Design and a Bachelor of Architecture from the TVB School of Habitat Studies, New Delhi, India.