

Zoo Aviary Walkway (1.)



Zoo Elephant Yards (2.)

Report of the Executive Director

During the past month, the Executive Director took the following actions under the Commission's delegation authority. Unless otherwise noted, all projects are in Washington, DC.

1. Preliminary site development plans for the National Zoological Park Great Flight Aviary Accessible Walkway, 3001 Connecticut Avenue, NW. (8701)
2. Preliminary and final site development plans for the National Zoological Park Elephant Yards Stormwater Mitigation Repair, 3001 Connecticut Avenue, NW. (8702)
3. Preliminary and final building plans for the Veterans Affairs Headquarters Building T-Mobile Antenna Modifications, 810 Vermont Avenue NW. (8697)
4. Preliminary and final building plans for the Hubert H. Humphrey Federal Building T-Mobile Antenna Modifications, 200 Independence Avenue, SW. (8698)
5. Preliminary and final site and building plans for the James J. Rowley Training Center Tactical Village Improvements, 9200 Powder Mill Road, Laurel, Maryland. (8719)

During the past month, NCPC staff determined that the following projects are exempt from Commission review, based on certain criteria. Unless otherwise noted, all projects are in Washington, DC.

1. Comments to the Council of the District of Columbia for the Closing of a Public Alley in Square 1560 - S.O. 24-05577, 4105 46th Street, NW. (8717)
2. Highway Plan Amendment for the Proposed Elimination of a Building Restriction Line and Highway Plan Amendment in Square 5914 - S.O. 22-01642, 1351 Alabama Avenue, SE. (8354)

Planning Updates

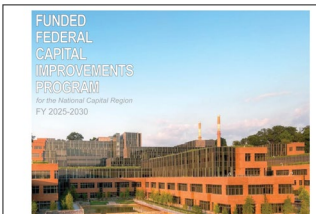
The Yards Lessons for Southwest Washington



NCPC, the General Services Administration, and the District of Columbia continue to coordinate on next steps for the redevelopment of the area south of the National Mall as the federal government looks to consolidate its footprint and dispose of underutilized property. On September 3, NCPC and the Capitol Riverfront Business Improvement District hosted an in-person tour of The Yards (the former Southeast Federal Center) for Chairman **William Scharf** and Vice-Chair **Stuart Levenbach**. The tour provided an overview of the Southeast Federal Center as a possible redevelopment model for Southwest Washington. Participants walked the waterfront district and learned about the public-private partnership that led to the area's successful redevelopment. Representatives from the U.S. Department of Transportation, Washington Nationals, DC United, and private developers participated in the tour.

Federal Capital Improvements Program Funded Report

NCPC staff publicly released the Federal Capital Improvements Program FY 2025-2030 (FCIP) funded report, which includes projects that received funding in FY 2025. In FY 2025 there were 28 projects that received a total of approximately \$490.4 million. The FCIP FY 2025-2030 Funded Report can be found on NCPC's website at <https://www.ncpc.gov/topics/cip/>





Making the District of Columbia Safe and Beautiful

NCPC staff is coordinating with the District of Columbia Government and the Business Improvement Districts (BIDs) to prepare a streetscape beautification plan along Washington's highly visible corridors and gateways. The goal is to implement the beautification projects in phases prior to July 4, 2026, America250, the celebration of the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence, and the 2027 NFL Draft.

Autumn on the Avenue



From hosting fantastic festivals to feeding furloughed feds, Pennsylvania Avenue's dynamic civic spaces adapt to support a variety of functions. The cooler autumn months mean the Avenue is booked nearly every weekend with cultural celebrations and road races, making it challenging to accommodate events with short notice. As design consultants develop ideas to improve the Avenue's public realm, they will consider how more flexibility can be integrated into design to support and respond to a range of use requests, both planned and impromptu.

Public Outreach

2025 Interschool Student Design Competition



In September, the National Building Museum hosted a unique design charrette focused on the theme of *Downtown Culture: Bridging the Gap Between National, Civic, and Local Community Activation of the Public Realm*. The 2025 Interschool Student Design Competition brought together teams of students from six local architecture schools to, in just eight hours and without any prior knowledge of the site, design challenges, or their teammates, develop and illustrate a design for Freedom Plaza that supports its dual role as a local venue and civic stage. Jury members included Urban Planner **Karin Schierhold**; **Gullivar Shepard**, Partner, Michael Van Valkenburgh Associates; and **Philip Kennicott**, Senior Art and Architecture Critic, The Washington Post. Congratulations to all teams. Learn more and view the submissions online: <https://aianova.org/2025-interschool-student-design-competition-results/>

NCPC Hosts South Korean Delegation



On September 9, NCPC hosted a 22-person delegation of local government officials from Gyeongsangbuk-do, the largest of South Korea's eight provinces. Urban Planner **Melissa Lindsjo** provided an overview of the agency's work and Historic Preservation Specialist **Lee Webb** discussed NCPC's plan review work and its National Historic Preservation Act responsibilities.

Personnel

Farewell to Chrishaun Smith



Chrishaun Smith

We extend our thanks to Urban Planner **Chrishaun Smith**, who joined NCPC in March 2020 and departed after five years of dedicated service. Chrishaun led development of the Federal Capital Improvements Program and served as NCPC's designee to the District of Columbia's Board of Zoning Adjustments. He also contributed the Comprehensive Plan update and the Changing Federal Footprint project. We appreciate Chrishaun's contributions and wish him the very best in his next chapter at Amazon.