

Report of the Executive Director



Fort Detrick's Forest Glen Annex

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

1. Approved preliminary and final site development plans for a land mobile radio antenna on Building 503 at Fort Detrick's Forest Glen Annex, 2460 Linden Lane, Silver Spring, Maryland. (7948)

During the past month, NCPC staff determined that the following projects are exempt from Commission review, based on certain criteria.

1. Preliminary and final site development plans for installation of a photovoltaic solar system at the Takoma Education Campus, 7010 Piney Branch Road, NW. (7942)
2. Preliminary and final site development plans for installation of a photovoltaic solar system at the Riggs LaSalle Recreation Center, 501 Riggs Road, NE. (7943)
3. Preliminary and final site development plans for installation of a photovoltaic solar system at Janney Elementary School, 4130 Albemarle Street, NW. (7944)
4. Preliminary and final site development plans for installation of a photovoltaic solar system at Plummer Elementary School, 4601 Texas Avenue, SE. (7945)
5. Preliminary and final site development plans for installation of a photovoltaic solar system at the Wheatley Education Campus, 1299 Neal Street, NE. (7946)



PLANNING UPDATES

Pennsylvania Avenue Initiative



The Pennsylvania Avenue Initiative Executive Committee is finalizing their action plan and starting work on short-term (2018-2020) programmatic improvements to strengthen the Avenue's identity and character. For example, in 2018 NCPC staff will conduct a public space event and activity analysis to identify issues and gaps to inform future programming and physical improvements. In the interim, the Committee will collaborate with local organizations to program temporary activities and events along the Avenue.

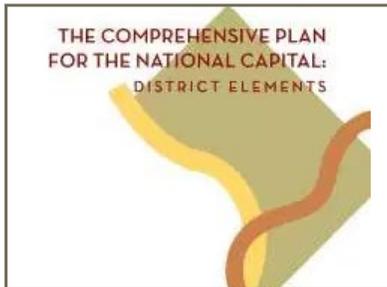
Mid-term (2018-2025) strategies, some of which will start in the short-term, include the planning work necessary to update the 1974 *Pennsylvania Avenue Plan*. Updates will reinforce the Avenue's civic significance, strengthen its daily use and experience, and streamline Avenue operations. Long-term (2025-beyond) strategies will focus on implementing the updated plan. Staff anticipates providing an update on the action plan development to the Commission this spring.

Golden Triangle BID



Comprehensive Plan for the National Capital: Federal Elements

Progress on the update to the Parks & Open Space Element continues. Staff anticipates submitting the draft to the Commission in March to request its release for public comment. Anticipated changes include reorganizing content and streamlining policies to address emerging issues; balancing multiple uses within parks; providing access to, and connections between, parks; balancing parks and open space with commemorative works; and building partnerships and coordination among multiple landowners and jurisdictions. The *Adapting Designed Landscapes* information presentation at the February 1 Commission meeting will provide context for one of the new guiding principles in the element. Staff also began the process of updating the Federal Workplace and Transportation Elements by developing work plans for both.



Comprehensive Plan for the National Capital: District Elements

The District of Columbia Office of Planning (DCOP) received more than 3,000 amendment proposals to the District Elements during the open call period. Due to the high volume of amendments, DCOP is amending the Comprehensive Plan in a two-phased approach. In January 2018, the Mayor and DCOP introduced legislation to the Council of the District of Columbia with amendments to the Comprehensive Plan's Framework Element. The Framework Element is an introductory chapter within the District Elements that identifies the forces driving change in the city, presents growth forecasts, indicates the core themes and guiding principles, and describes land-use designations. DCOP will continue to evaluate the proposed amendments for the remainder of the District Elements in 2018.

Tetra Tech



Flood Risk Management Planning Resources for Washington, DC

On January 26, NCPD and the DC Silver Jackets jointly released *Flood Risk Management Planning Resources for Washington, DC*. The document provides a short summary of key flood risks in the National Capital Region, an overview of 11 studies and tools that address regional current and future flood risks, and brief descriptions of how these studies can be used in flood risk management. NCPD staff will also provide an information presentation on the document at the February 1 Commission meeting.

The document is available online at www.ncpc.gov/docs/Flood_Risk_Management_Planning_Resources_January_2018.pdf.



PUBLIC OUTREACH AND PLANNING ASSISTANCE

Follow NCPD's Latest News with our Blogs

In January, NCPD published two new blog posts highlighting some of our recent work. Through an interview conducted with General Counsel **Anne Schuyler**, *NCPD Updates Regulations* shares recent changes to the agency's Freedom of Information Act, Privacy Act, and National Environmental Policy Act regulations. The second post describes how NCPD is working to make Washington, DC a "smart city" through the use of new forms of technology that help improve items such as air quality, traffic management, city services, and the visitor experience. All of the agency's blog posts may be found in the website's news section: <https://www.ncpc.gov/news/>.



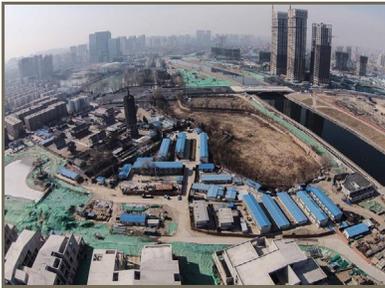
Quinn Evans

Celebrating Brutalism in Washington, DC

NCPC welcomed **Thomas Jester** of Quinn Evans Architects, and **Deane Madsen** of the architectural appreciation society Brutalist DC, on January 11 for a presentation on the Brutalist style of architecture. Mr. Madsen, a writer and architectural photographer, covered the history and development of this architecture style in Washington, DC. Mr. Jester, a national leader in efforts to preserve modern architecture, highlighted the planning and design challenges for Brutalist and modern architecture, including how to adapt and preserve them in a cultural context.

NCPC Hosts Beijing Planners

On January 11 NCPC hosted a delegation from the Beijing Municipal Commission of Urban Planning, a city government department responsible for urban and rural planning administration in China's capital city. The organization is designing Beijing's city subsidiary-center over the next few years. During the visit, sponsored by the American Planning Association, the group of engineers and planners met with NCPC Architect **Ken Walton** who spoke about the basic functions of the federal planning agency, the importance of the *Comprehensive Plan for the National Capital Region*, and smart city applications.



Xinhua

PERSONNEL



NCPC Contributes to Federal Campaign

NCPC staff generously pledged \$10,838 for the 2017 Combined Federal Campaign, for a per capital average of \$349.61 per employee and a 42% participation rate. Thanks to everyone for your contributions, and to Historic Preservation Specialist **Lee Webb** for leading NCPC's efforts.

NCPC Welcomes New Interns

Anna Love is a senior in her final semester at Lynn University in Boca Raton, Florida where she is a Political Science major interested in pursuing a Master in Urban Planning. Anna joined the Physical Planning Division on January 16, and will work with NCPC through the end of April. She will assist on several public space research and analysis projects, including the Pennsylvania Avenue Initiative.

Pete Winslow is a graduate student at Virginia Tech's Urban Affairs and Planning Program in Alexandria, Virginia. He joined the Office of Public Engagement on January 31 and will intern with NCPC through the spring. Projects Pete will work on include creating online resource maps, social media, videos, and public participation tools. Pete has a BFA in Communication Design from Carnegie Mellon University.

