

Report of the Executive Director



Oxon Run ground solar array facility (1)

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 and final site and building plans for a ground solar array facility at Oxon Run, 4669 South Capitol Street, SE. (8035)
2. Approval of a report to the Zoning Commission of the District of Columbia about a proposed zoning Text Amendment to St. Elizabeths Zones (Subtitle K). (ZC 12-08B)
3. Approval of a report to the Zoning Commission of the District of Columbia about a Southeast Federal Center (SEFC) Design Review for The Yards Parcel I and Square 744, Lot 807 - Forest City SEFC, LLC. (ZC 18-20).



The Yards Parcel I (3)

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. A Text Amendment regarding Inclusionary Zoning - Subtitles A-H and K. (ZC 04-331)
2. Stream restoration at the Northwest Branch Stream Valley Park Outfall 23, Hyattsville, MD. (8027)
3. Stream restoration at the Indian Creek Stream Valley Park Outfall 55, Berwin Heights, MD. (8028)
4. District Text and Map Amendments to change certain zone names - mapping phase. (ZC 18-16)

PLANNING UPDATES

Comprehensive Plan Federal Elements

The policies in the Parks & Open Space Element, adopted by the Commission at the December 6, 2018 meeting, will go into effect on February 15, 2019. NCPC staff continues developing new policies to update the Transportation and Workplace Elements, and is conducting analysis on existing policies, identifying new policy areas, and evaluating transportation and workplace trends.

Monumental Core Streetscape Framework and Lighting Framework

Staff continues to work with the Streetscape Interagency Working Group to prepare a conceptual lighting framework for areas of federal interest. The working group is collaborating with the District Department of Transportation to coordinate this lighting framework, which includes LED streetlight performance criteria, with the city's Smart Lighting program. Staff anticipates presenting the lighting framework to the Commission in mid 2019.

Interagency Security Committee

On Tuesday, December 11, 2018, Policy & Research Division Director **Michael Sherman** participated in the Interagency Security Committee (ISC)'s first Fiscal Year 2019 quarterly meeting. The discussion focused on emerging threats to cyber and physical security. In addition, ISC committee chairpersons presented updates on strategic goals and provided an update on the proposed ISC agency compliance system.





NCPC and Smithsonian Institution Sign Agreement Outlining NEPA Process

The Executive Director and Smithsonian Chief Operating Officer and Under Secretary for Finance and Administration **Albert Horvath** executed a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) effective on December 19, 2018. The MOA outlines the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process NCPC and the Smithsonian will follow when the Smithsonian, a non-federal agency not subject to NEPA, submits a project to NCPC that triggers NCPC's NEPA responsibilities.

The MOA outlines a procedure for the two agencies to follow that is similar to that in NCPC's NEPA regulations. It also provides a clear delineation of roles and responsibilities that makes NCPC the lead agency; requires early Smithsonian notification of a project submitted to NCPC; and outlines the information Smithsonian must submit to NCPC to ensure preparation of the appropriate NEPA document. This will ensure a smooth, cooperative process for NCPC and Smithsonian, minimize delay, promote an effective and efficient working relationship between agency staff, and allow Smithsonian projects to proceed through the Commission review process in a timely, efficient manner.



PUBLIC OUTREACH AND PLANNING ASSISTANCE

NCPC Piece on Adapting Designed Landscapes Featured in APA Fall Newsletter

Adapting Designed Landscapes, written by NCPC Senior Urban Planner **Sarah Ridgely**, was published in the American Planning Association's Urban Design and Preservation Division's fall newsletter. The article examines research conducted by NCPC staff and the resulting findings that were incorporated into the Parks & Open Space Element. The article is available on NCPC's website: <https://www.ncpc.gov/news/item/64/>.



ULI Panel Examines Potential Woodbridge Ferry Service

Office of Public Engagement Director **Julia Koster** participated in an Urban Land Institute Washington Technical Assistance Program in Woodbridge, Virginia on December 11-12, 2018. Program participants examined the possibility of connecting Woodbridge with Washington and other communities via a fast ferry service.

Chinese Planners from Jiangsu Visit NCPC

On Wednesday, December 12, 2018 NCPC hosted a six-member delegation from Jiangsu Institute of Urban Planning and Design in China. Urban Planner **John Gerbich** discussed NCPC's planning policies and guidance for Washington, DC and the surrounding National Capital Region. The visitors shared information about current urban planning and design challenges in Jiangsu.

Construction Watch Blog: National Law Enforcement Museum

NCPC's recent blog looks back at the agency's review of the National Law Enforcement Museum, which opened to the public on October 13, 2018. The museum features a series of interactive exhibits, collections, educational space, and a theater that are intended to provide visitors an opportunity to "walk in the shoes" of law enforcement officers. It is adjacent to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial across from the National Building Museum. All blogs are available at www.ncpc.gov/news/.

