



Southeast Neighborhood Library (1.)



Capitol Gateway (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. Approval of preliminary site and building plans for the Southeast Neighborhood Library Modernization and Expansion, 403 7th Street, SE. (8342)
2. Report to the Zoning Commission of the District of Columbia for the Capitol Gateway Zone Design Review at Square 653, 1301 South Capitol Street, SW. (ZC 21-27)

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. Preliminary and final building plans for Pepco Electric Vehicle Charging Stations, Prince George's County, Maryland (8340)
2. Report to the Zoning Commission of the District of Columbia for the 1st-Stage PUD Modification of Significance, 2nd-Stage and Consolidated PUDs and Related Map Amendment, 1275 5th Street, NE. (ZC 15-24B)

Planning Updates

Pennsylvania Avenue Initiative

At a special meeting on February 16, NCPC staff will provide the Commission with an information presentation on three vision concepts that explore ways to prioritize pedestrians, contribute to the District's economy, and elevate the national identity of the Avenue as a civic venue for expressions of democracy, and also culture, play, and seasonal interests throughout the year. On March 3 staff will seek Commission authorization to release the concepts for public input and comment, and anticipates briefing the U.S. Commission of Fine Arts in March. Public and stakeholder input on the visions will inform future concept development. Please visit the Initiative's webpage (<https://www.ncpc.gov/initiatives/pennave/>) for more information and future meeting updates.

Beyond Granite

On January 20, 2022, the Trust for the National Mall in partnership with NCPC and NPS hosted the *Beyond Granite* virtual kickoff with more than 90 participants that included Steering Committee members and collaborating agencies and featured presentations from academic experts, monument scholars, noted authors and celebrated landscape architects. The Steering Committee members represent a range of disciplines, including curators, artists, designers, urban planners, community leaders, and scholars. This workshop will be followed by a series of topic-focused working group meetings with Steering Committee members to collaborate on questions such as how to measure project success, what themes and meanings to prioritize, and how and where the works will be installed. The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation is sponsoring *Beyond Granite* through a grant.





Federal Capital Improvements Program

On January 12, NCPC hosted a virtual training session for applicant agency representatives to provide an overview of changes to the new Federal Capital Improvements Program (FCIP) submission portal, changes to the FCIP solicitation process, and how to submit capital projects during the first data call. Urban Planner **Chris Shaun Smith** will provide an information presentation to the Commission during the February 3 meeting regarding the revised FCIP submission and review process, including new climate change and equity questions that are now a part of FCIP review and scoring.



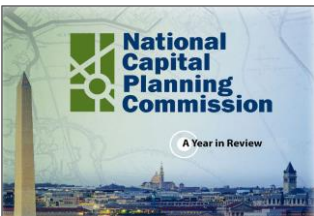
Monumental Core Streetscape Guide and Manual

The Interagency Working Group met in January to initiate updating the Construction Manual. Staff will present the Draft Streetscape Design Guidelines for Vertical and Surface Elements at the February Commission meeting and request release for 90-day public comment period. Staff anticipates presenting the guidelines to the U.S. Commission of Fine Arts in February or March. Public meetings on the guidelines will take place in March.



NCPC Equity Action Plan

Staff prepared and submitted to the Office of Management and Budget the agency's Equity Action Plan, which presents five action items for advancing equity throughout NCPC's core work. These include the *Beyond Granite* temporary commemoration project, updates to the Comprehensive Plan, screening through the FCIP process, incorporating equity-related resources and tools to assist applicants and the public in master plan and project review, and expanded public engagement with Commission meetings and NCPC's 2024 Centennial. This plan was developed in response to Executive Order 13985: Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities Through the Federal Government.



Public Outreach

Year in Review

NCPC released the 2021 Year in Review, a look back at the challenges and accomplishments of the previous year and a look ahead to upcoming activities. The redesigned and mobile-friendly annual report explores how agency initiatives advanced sustainability, equity, and innovation last year. The report is available at: <https://www.ncpc.gov/ar2021/>



Dr. Elizabeth Rule

Guide to Indigenous DC

On January 27, 2022 NCPC welcomed **Dr. Elizabeth Rule** for a public event titled *A Guide to Indigenous DC*. Dr. Rule discussed the recent history and presence of Native Americans in the Washington region. She also shared the Guide to Indigenous DC app she developed that explores the people, places and events linked to Washington's Native American history. Dr. Rule is Assistant Professor of Critical Race, Gender, and Culture Studies at American University. She is an enrolled citizen of the Chickasaw Nation.



New Meeting Platform

NCPC will transition the online Commission meeting platform to Zoom starting with the March 3, 2022 meeting. The new platform provides more capabilities and has the potential to allow the meetings to be run more efficiently. A special Commission meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 16 using Zoom to allow Commissioners and the public to learn about how meetings will be conducted on this new platform. This special meeting will also include an information presentation on Pennsylvania Avenue.



Personnel

Office Renovation

On January 17, 2022, demolition and construction began to downsize and reconfigure NCPC's office suite. The construction is expected to continue through early Spring 2022. Updates to the Commission chambers will occur through the spring and summer months after the office suite renovations are completed. Agency staff will continue to telework while the office remains closed throughout the construction period.