



McMillan Reservoir (8042)



NIST Building 245 Radiation Physics Laboratory (7893)

## Report of the Executive Director

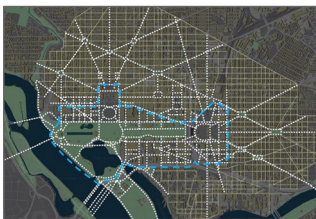
During the past month, the Executive Director took the following actions under the Commission's delegation authority. Unless otherwise noted, all projects are in Washington, DC.

1. Final site and building plans for a backwash equalization pumping station at the McMillan Reservoir, 2500 1st Street, NW. (8042)
2. Preliminary and final site and building plans for phase 3 modernization of the Building 245 Radiation Physics Laboratory at the National Institute of Standards and Technology, 100 Bureau Drive, Gaithersburg, Maryland. (7893)
3. Final site and building plans for refurbishment of a parking garage at the Defense Intelligence Agency Headquarters Building, 20 MacDill Boulevard, SE. (8004)
4. Approval of a report to the Zoning Commission of the District of Columbia regarding a text amendment for public school zoning regulations across Washington. (ZC 19-11)

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

1. Approval of a report to the Zoning Commission of the District of Columbia regarding a text amendment to St. Elizabeths East Zones (Subtitle K), 2700 Martin Luther King Jr Avenue, SE. (ZC 12-08C)

## Planning Updates



### Monumental Core Streetscape Framework and Lighting Policy

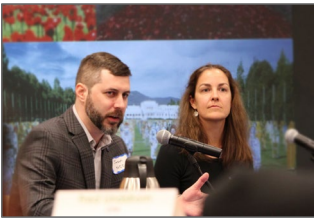
The Commission reviewed concept designs for the Monumental Core Streetscape Framework and Lighting Policy at the November 2019 meeting. NCPC will host two public meetings on this framework and policy: on Tuesday, January 14 at 6:30 pm and on Wednesday, January 15 at 10:00 am. A 60-day public comment period opens on January 14 and extends through March 14. NCPC staff, on behalf of the National Mall Roads Interagency Working Group, will use the framework and input from these meetings and public comments to develop streetscape design guidelines and federal LED streetlight specifications. More details are available on NCPC's website.



### Comprehensive Plan District Elements: Framework Amendment Act of 2019

On December 3, 2019, the Council of the District of Columbia submitted the Comprehensive Plan Framework Amendment Act of 2019 for NCPC's official 60-day federal interest review. The act amends the District's Framework Element. It was originally submitted to the Council by the Mayor as Bill 22-633 and was the subject of extensive comment at a March 21, 2018 public hearing. The Council subsequently reintroduced its Bill 23-1 and revised and modified it to reflect updated data and descriptions of the forces driving change and to include new sections on housing, resilience and equity, capital improvements, and the development process. The Council modified the categories used for the future land use and generalized policy map and added guiding principles and amended several existing principles. NCPC staff will present its findings and recommendations at the January 2020 Commission meeting.

## Comprehensive Plan for the National Capital Federal Elements



Jason Hutchison (Ottawa) Rebecca Sorensen (Canberra)



National Children's Museum

## Comprehensive Plan Federal Elements: Transportation and Workplace Elements

Staff continues to work with federal and District agencies to refine the policies in the draft Transportation Element. Staff continues work to revise the draft narrative and policies for the Federal Workplace Element, and expects to bring both elements to the Commission in the third quarter of Fiscal Year 2020.

## Federal Capital Improvements Program

NCPC staff initiated the FY 2021-2026 Federal Capital Improvements Program (FCIP) cycle. The National Capital Planning Act requires that NCPC annually review and recommend a six-year program of regional federal capital projects. NCPC uses the FCIP as a planning tool to help guide planning and development in the region. NCPC submits the six-year program with planning and funding recommendations to the Office of Management and Budget.

## Commemoration: Memorials and Museums Master Plan Update

On December 9, 2019 NCPC embarked on an initiative to update the *Memorials and Museums Master Plan* (2M Plan). The update to the 2M Plan is an effort to not only reexamine potential memorial locations but also to explore how the 2M Plan should address the nation's memorial landscape as it relates to thematic distribution, use of public space, and alternative forms of commemoration. Participants included experts from academia, history, and the planning and design disciplines. Representatives from the Public Design Commission (New York City), National Capital Authority (Canberra), and National Capital Commission (Ottawa) attended and shared their approach to memorials.

As part of the ongoing discussion on commemoration, that evening NCPC hosted **Michael Murphy**, the founding principal and executive director of MASS Design Group. His lecture "Space and Memory" was part of a series of broad discussions that addressed the changing needs of commemoration. He has built an impressive portfolio of public space architecture and commemorative works where recognizing diverse perspectives, multiple narratives, and unheard stories were all key to the design.

## Open to the Public Proceedings Report and Next Steps

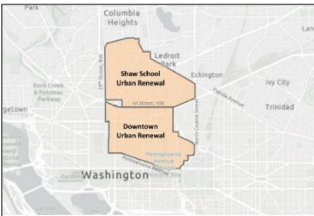
Security in public spaces was the central theme for the two-part colloquium hosted by NCPC and the American Society of Landscape Architects on September 24-25, 2019. An important discussion point was how to safeguard users while ensuring that these spaces are inclusive, inviting, and active. NCPC staff developed a proceedings report highlighting big ideas and key takeaways from the sessions that is now available on NCPC's website. Staff will next conduct individual workshops with key stakeholders to look at prominent and heavily used public spaces that have a complex administrative structure and often accommodate large gatherings and public events. The workshops will ultimately provide guidance and future policies for an update of the Urban Design Element.

## National Children's Museum to Open on Pennsylvania Avenue

The National Children's Museum will open in late January at the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center on Pennsylvania Avenue. It will contribute to one of the best arts, culture, and entertainment venues in the nation. First opened in 1974, the museum will return to the nation's capital after nearly 15 years. The museum's exhibits will explore a variety of math, science, and arts topics. It will also host the Dream Machine, a play structure that engages both sides of the brain.



Times Square (NYC)



End of an Era



Arlington Memorial Bridge



Marcella Brown



Jennifer Hirsch

## Public Outreach

### NCPC Hosts International Landscape Architects

On Tuesday, December 17 NCPC hosted **Michelle Delk** and **Nick Koster** from Snøhetta, an international architecture, landscape architecture, interior design, and brand design office. Michelle a partner and landscape architect from Snøhetta's New York City office, shared some of the firm's diverse projects including the Norwegian National Opera & Ballet (Oslo), Karl Johans Gate (Oslo), National September 11 Memorial Museum Pavilion (NYC), Times Square pedestrian improvements (NYC), and the Willamette Falls Riverwalk (Oregon City, Oregon).

### Blog: End of an Era

At its December 5, 2019 meeting, NCPC approved a request to terminate the urban renewal plans for the Downtown and Shaw Urban Renewal Areas. In NCPC's most recent blog General Counsel **Anne Schuyler** wrote about the agency's urban renewal authority, the agency's work related to it, and its impacts. All blogs are available online at <https://www.ncpc.gov/news/>.

### Construction Watch Blog: Arlington Memorial Bridge Rehabilitation

Senior Urban Planner **Matt Flis** provided an update on work rehabbing the Arlington Memorial Bridge. NCPC approved preliminary and final site development plans for the project in June 2018 and work on the bridge is expected to be complete in 2021. All blogs are available online at <https://www.ncpc.gov/news/>.

## Personnel

### NCPC Says Farewell to Staff

On January 3, Staff Assistant **Marcella Brown** retired after 20 years with the agency. Marcella joined NCPC in 1999 as the agency's receptionist and most recently served as the executive director's assistant and staff assistant for the Office of the Secretariat. While at the agency she restructured NCPC's library, reorganized the central files, and handled both internal and external research requests. We thank Marcella for her outstanding contributions to the agency and wish her well in retirement.

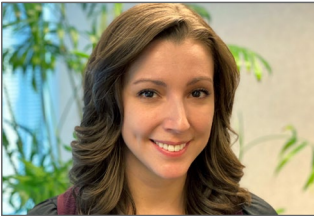
NCPC also says farewell to Senior Urban Planner **Jennifer Hirsch** who joined the Environmental Protection Agency's Office of Community Revitalization. Jennifer joined NCPC in 2011 as the Historic Preservation Officer in the Urban Design & Plan Review Division where she worked on projects including the Eisenhower Memorial and rehabilitation and modernization of the Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library. In 2016 she became the senior urban planner in the Policy & Research Division. There she led efforts to update the Parks & Open Space and Transportation Elements, as well as the *Memorials and Museums Master Plan*. We wish Jennifer all the best in her new position.



Jamie Herr

## NCPC Welcomes Two Urban Planners

Two urban planners recently joined the agency's Urban Design & Plan Review Division. **Jamie Herr** joined NCPC from the Architect of the Capitol (AOC) where she was the program manager for the agency's stormwater management, active transportation, and external engagement programs. Prior to the AOC, Jamie worked for the City of Dublin, Ohio as a city planner focusing on complex project reviews and the update to the 2007 Dublin Community Plan. She also established the Office of Sustainability as the sustainability administrator. Jamie received a Bachelor of Urban Planning from the University of Cincinnati and a Master's Degree in City and Regional Planning from The Ohio State University.



Stephanie Free

**Stephanie Free** is a registered landscape architect and urban planner with nearly a decade of professional experience in the private and public sectors. She has a background in the design and construction of parks, plazas, streetscapes, rooftop open spaces, sustainable design, and green infrastructure, as well as municipal government development plan review and project management. Stephanie has written policy on green building and environmental sustainability, as well as authored award-winning landscape best practice guidelines. She received a Bachelor of Landscape Architecture from the University of Maryland. In 2011 Stephanie interned with NCPC's Physical Planning Division.