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. Revised final site development plans for rehabilitation of the Carnegie Library, 801 Mount Vernon Avenue, NW. (7532)
2. Preliminary and final site development plans for expansion of the National Zoological Park Elephant Yard 1, 3001 Connecticut Avenue, NW. (7997)
3. Preliminary and final site development plans for a temporary art exhibit about litter letters, Anacostia Park, Section D in front of the Anacostia Recreation Center. (7996)
4. Final site development plans for the Consolidation Phase 2 Lighting Plan at the U.S. Department of Homeland Security Headquarters, 2703 Martin Luther King Jr Avenue, SE. (7929)
5. Preliminary and final site development plans for trail improvements at Fort Totten, between Gallatin and Galloway Streets, NE. (7861)
6. Approval of comments to the Council of the District of Columbia regarding the closing of a public alley in Square 788, S.O. 17-25132, 317 A Street, SE. (8002).
7. Approval of a report to the Zoning Commission of the District of Columbia regarding a Map Amendment from RF-1 to ARTS-2, Square 361, Lot 827, Ward 1, Community Three Development, LLC, 1925 Vermont Avenue, NW. (ZC 18-01)

PLANNING UPDATES

Pennsylvania Avenue Initiative

Physical Planning Director Elizabeth Miller and Senior Urban Designer Sarah Ridgely presented an update on the initiative at the Penn Quarter Neighborhood Association’s June 27 Breakfast Meeting. The Executive Committee continues exploring new programming opportunities along the Avenue, and recently began the conceptual planning and design work to inform potential future physical improvements. A number of organizations are already enhancing programming. Some recent events include Movies on the Memorial, an event sponsored by the U.S. Navy Memorial; and Can I Kick It, an event sponsored by the DowntownDC BID joining classic kung fu movies with a live soundtrack at Freedom Plaza. For more information on the initiative, visit the project website at https://www.ncpc.gov/initiatives/pennave/.
**Comprehensive Plan for the National Capital: Federal Elements Parks & Open Space Element**

Staff is reviewing feedback and comments received from 43 different agencies, groups, and individuals during the draft Parks & Open Space Element’s public comment period that closed on May 27, 2018. Staff anticipates submitting the final element to the Commission in the fall of 2018.

**Workplace and Transportation Elements**

Staff began groundwork on revising the Federal Workplace and Transportation Elements by identifying policies that need to be updated, revised, or clarified, and new policy areas to be included in the update. Staff anticipates submitting these elements to the Commission in the spring of 2019.

**Monumental Core Streetscape Project**

The Interagency Working Group holds monthly meetings to advance the Monumental Core Streetscape Project. Currently, the group is developing an urban design framework for streetscapes, which includes lighting. This fall, staff expects to submit a streetscape and lighting framework for concept review and comment by NCPC and the U.S. Commission of Fine Arts.

**Inter-Agency Security Committee**

Staff participated in the quarterly meeting of the Interagency Security Committee (ISC). The ISC’s mandate is to enhance the quality and effectiveness of security in, and the protection of, buildings and nonmilitary federal facilities in the United States. The June 19 meeting focused on ISC-approved risk assessment tools. Members from the Social Security Administration presented their Compliance and Risk Survey Tool, the Department of Justice discussed its Risk Management Process Training Tool, and the Federal Protective Service presented their Modified Infrastructure Survey Tool.

---

**PUBLIC OUTREACH AND PLANNING ASSISTANCE**

**Executive Director on Carter Center Commemoration Panel and ULI Jacksonville Transportation Panel**

On June 6, the Executive Director participated on Reading Monuments, a panel discussion sponsored by Art Papers at the Carter Center in Atlanta. He addressed issues of representation and narrative, as well as ideas for new approaches and media for commemorative works. Joining him on the panel were artist Lauren Woods and designer Bryan Lee Jr. Noah Simblist, Professor of Art at Virginia Commonwealth University, moderated the session.

The Executive Director also participated on an Urban Land Institute Advisory Services Program panel the week of July 17-22 in Jacksonville, Florida. The panel examined the potential expansion of Jacksonville’s Ultimate Urban Circulator, and made recommendations for specific station area locations.

**NCPC Planner on World MetroRail Congress Americas TOD Panel**

On June 26, Urban Planner Kael Anderson participated on the Transit Oriented Development: Modernizing best practices panel discussion at the World MetroRail Congress Americas in Philadelphia. The conference drew more than 400 attendees from across the North American rail industry.
NCPC Planner Speaks at University of Maryland

On June 27, Urban Planner Meghan Spigle was a guest lecturer at the University of Maryland School of Architecture. She spoke about the SW Ecodistrict and carbon neutrality to Professor Ming Hu’s “Carbon Neutral Development through Net Zero and Net Impact Design” graduate seminar.

NCPC Website Wins Awards

Two national organizations recently honored NCPC’s new website. The site won a 2017 Gold Award in the 16th Annual Horizon Interactive Awards and an Award of Excellence in the redesigned website category from the National Association of Government Communicators. The mobile-friendly site offers an easily navigable destination for users interested in NCPC and features a variety of resources, including an interactive memorial map of Washington, DC.

NCPC’s Latest Blog: International Chancery Center

NCPC’s most recent blog looked back at the development of the International Chancery Center in Washington’s Vann Ness neighborhood. Located on a site that once housed the National Bureau of Standards, it now houses 17 chanceries. All blogs are available at www.ncpc.gov/news/.

Public Participation and Intergovernmental Updates

Office of Public Engagement and Urban Design & Plan Review staff are currently working on a plan for NCPC’s public participation and intergovernmental review activities. Staff completed a series of interviews with local regional jurisdiction’s planning commissions and staff.

PERSONNEL

NCPC Welcomes New Summer Interns

On June 8, Morgan Feldenkris started working in the Policy and Research Division. Morgan is a rising senior at the University of Virginia studying Political and Social Thought with a minor in Urban Planning. He will assist the division with their federal facility ownership and Capper Cramton mapping, among other projects. On June 25, Brenae Smith began working in the Office of the Secretariat. Brenae is a rising sophomore at the University of Maryland who is pursuing a Bachelor of Letters and Science. She will document the staff assistant’s duties in the form of Standard Operating Procedures, create spreadsheets and other documents, and sort and file documents.

Former NCPC Executive Named Nashville Planning Director

Lucy Kemp, former Director of NCPC’s Urban Design & Plan Review Division, was named Executive Director of Nashville, Tennessee’s Metro Planning Commission. For the previous two years she served as its division manager for land development. Congratulations and best wishes to Lucy.