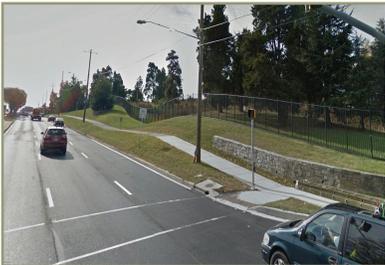


Report of the Executive Director



Site of proposed pedestrian street lights, NIH, Bethesda, MD (1)

During the past month the Executive Director took the following actions under the Commission's delegated authority. Note: Unless otherwise indicated, projects are located in Washington, DC.

1. Approved preliminary and final site development plans for the installation of pedestrian street lights at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services at the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Maryland. (7879)
2. Approved a report to the Zoning Commission of the District of Columbia regarding a Consolidated Planned Unit Development and Related Map Amendment at Square 745 (JS Congress Holdings, LLC). (ZC 16-13)
3. Approved a report to the Zoning Commission of the District of Columbia regarding a Text Amendment to establish the MU-30 Zoning District by amending Subtitles G, U, and Z of the Zoning Regulations (DC Office of Planning). (ZC 17-04)



PLANNING UPDATES

National Capital Memorial Advisory Commission (NCMAC)

Michael Sherman represented NCPC during the May 16, 2017 meeting of the National Capital Memorial Advisory Commission (NCMAC). He provided staff comments on three agenda items: a bill (S.907) to authorize modification to the 2nd Division Memorial which honors those who served in the 2nd Division of the U.S. Army across multiple wars; a site selection consultation for the Desert Storm/Desert Shield Memorial; and the District of Columbia referral of the Marion Barry commemoration proposal on DC public Space (D.C. law 13-275).



DC Comprehensive Plan Second Amendment Cycle

NCPC staff has collected and consolidated comments on the current DC Comprehensive Plan from key federal agencies. Staff is developing a comment letter to reflect issues identified by the agencies and will forward these to the DC Office of Planning (DCOP) as part of the "open call" for comment process, which ends on June 23, 2017. DCOP will submit the revised Comprehensive Plan to NCPC for review in mid-2018.



Carnegie Library NEPA Scoping and Section 106 Consultation Meetings

NCPC, in coordination with Events DC, hosted a NEPA Scoping Meeting on Tuesday, May 9 at the Carnegie Library, and a Section 106 Consultation Meeting on Wednesday, May 17 at NCPC. At the meetings, presenters discussed the proposed concept design for rehabilitation of the Carnegie Library into new retail and educational use by Apple. The Historical Society of Washington will continue to operate its administrative offices, research library, and exhibit galleries in the building.

The NEPA public scoping period will end on May 23, and an Environment Assessment to analyze the potential impacts to the building and site will be developed over the next few months. The next Section 106 Consultation Meeting will be held in late June or early July, as consulting parties will continue the discussion as to whether the proposed rehabilitation impacts the character-defining features of the Carnegie Library or any other related historic resources.



Pennsylvania Avenue Initiative

The Pennsylvania Avenue Initiative Executive Committee is finalizing the urban design analysis prepared by staff and the consultant team. The purpose of the analysis is to examine the physical conditions of the study area that influence the programmatic and spatial relationships between land uses, mobility, urban form, and placemaking. Along with the Market Study prepared for the Initiative, this analysis will be used to develop objectives and strategies to strengthen the Avenue's character and role in our nation's capital. NCPD staff anticipates briefing the Commission on the Initiative later this year.



PUBLIC OUTREACH AND PLANNING ASSISTANCE

Panel Reconsiders Modernist Landscapes

Nearly 200 people attended the May 15 event at the National Building Museum. After moderator **Brad McKee**, Landscape Architecture Magazine, introduced the idea of a fresh look at landscapes that may be "too familiar," **Gary Hilderbrand**, Reed Hilderbrand and Harvard University, then used Boston case studies – the Christian Science Plaza and Boston City Hall – to lay out the approach of using the original design intent to frame modifications to address current conditions and needs. **Beth Meyer**, University of Virginia, outlined the characteristics of a modernist landscape, noting that they are often in urban areas and reflect the technology and materials of their time. The speakers also discussed the role of continuing maintenance, and the preservation issues of working with living landscapes.



Placemaking Panel at the Building Museum

The Swiss Embassy sponsored a panel discussion, More than Living: Building Smart Communities for the Future, at the National Building Museum on Tuesday, May 16. Executive Director **Marcel Acosta** and DCOP Director **Eric Shaw** discussed various proposals to introduce creative placemaking into public spaces in Washington, DC.



NCPD and DOD Hold Annual Briefing

On May 15, Chairman **Preston Bryant**, the Executive Director, Urban Design and Plan Review Director **Diane Sullivan**, Policy and Research Director **Michael Sherman**, and Urban Planner **Nick Bonard** met with Commissioner **Michael Rhodes** and representatives from U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) installations throughout the National Capital Region. This annual briefing was an opportunity to share information about future DoD development activities and initiatives, as well as share information about related NCPD initiatives, including the submission guidelines update, the ongoing parking study, and NCPD's work on flooding and resilience.



NCPC at the National Planning Conference

This year's American Planning Association conference was held in New York City from May 6-9. On May 8, NCPC Urban Planner **Nick Bonard** moderated the session "Innovative Stormwater Management in Washington, DC" that featured **Brian Van Wye** from the District Department of Energy and Environment and **Bethany Bezak** from DC Water. The session highlighted policy innovations such as the District's Stormwater Retention Credit Trading Program and DC Water's installation of green infrastructure to help reduce combined sewer overflows in the region.



NCPC Hosts Students for CityVision Charrette

On May 11, NCPC staff led by Policy and Research Director **Michael Sherman** and Architect **Ken Walton** hosted a group of students from Stuart-Hobson Middle school who were participating in the National Building Museum's CityVision program. CityVision uses design as a framework to teach D.C. public school students how to become active participants in shaping their communities. Through extensive fieldwork and mentoring at the National Building Museum over the past twelve weeks, two groups of students presented their proposals for memorials to NCPC staff for feedback.



Melanie Stern

PERSONNEL

NCPC Welcomes New Interns

Melanie Stern started interning with Policy and Research Division (PRD) on May 16, 2017. She is a Master in Urban Planning candidate at the Harvard Graduate School of Design concentrating in Housing and Community Development and Regional Planning. Melanie will assist with updating the Open Space Element of the Comprehensive Plan and the Commemorative Works initiative.



Teresa Tinta

Teresa Tinta started interning with PRD on May 22, 2017. She is a candidate for the Bachelor of Science in Geography (GIS) at the University of Maryland College Park, College Park, MD. She will assist PRD in the development of 3D Zoning GIS application.