

Report of the Executive Director



National Law Enforcement Museum (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. Final site development plans for streetscape modifications at the National Law Enforcement Museum, 901 E Street, NW. (6321)
2. Preliminary and final site development plans for front entrance gate alterations at the Embassy of Ghana, 3512 International Drive, NW. (7982)
3. Final site development plans for an emergency landing zone at the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, St. Elizabeths West Campus, 2700 Martin Luther King Jr. Avenue, SE. (7933)
4. Preliminary and final site development plans for reconfiguration of Gate 6 at the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, St. Elizabeths West Campus, 2700 Martin Luther King Jr. Avenue, SE. (7983)
5. Approval of a report to the Zoning Commission of the District of Columbia regarding a Zoning Map Amendment at Square 560, Lot 853, 901 3rd Street, NW, 251 Massachusetts Avenue, LLC. (ZC 17-16)



Embassy of Ghana (2)

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

1. Approved a transfer of jurisdiction for land area of the Smithsonian Institution's Anacostia Community Museum, 1901 Fort Place, SE (7980)



U.S. Department of Homeland Security, St. Elizabeths Campus (4)

PLANNING UPDATES

Pennsylvania Avenue Initiative

At the Commission's May meeting, the Pennsylvania Avenue Initiative Executive Committee will release their Findings and Action Plan Summary. This action plan includes the findings from the completed Market Study, Urban Design Analysis, Transportation Study, and the Cultural Landscape Inventory; and outlines goals and near-, mid-, and long-term strategies to improve the Avenue. Staff will also brief the Commission on the programmatic, operational, and physical improvement strategies that will collectively serve as the foundation to guide decision making on how to improve the Avenue.

Monumental Core Streetscape Project and the DC Smart Lighting Project

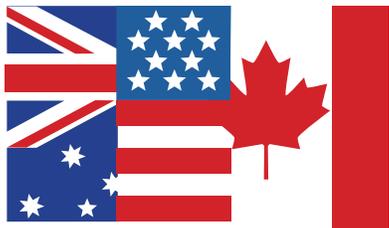
NCPC staff will also brief the Commission at its May meeting on the proposed update to the Streetscape Manual, initiated in 1992 as an interagency initiative for the National Mall Roads Improvement Program. Staff will provide the Commission with a brief overview of the 1992 manual, as amended; its purpose, key issues, and the proposed scope of work.

In conjunction with this briefing, **Judah Gluckman**, Deputy Director and Counsel with the Mayor's Office of the City Administrator, Office of Public-Private Partnerships will brief the Commission on the city's Smart Lighting Project. The Smart Lighting Project is an initiative to establish a partnership agreement to replace the city's streetlights with LED lighting and obtain long-term maintenance services.



Plan Review Guides

This month the Urban Design and Plan Review Division is making progress on the resource guides that will accompany the agency's submission guidelines. The resource guides will provide a more in-depth look at particular topics as they relate to the plan review process. Examples include Capper-Cramton lands, stormwater management, Transportation Management Plans, NEPA and NHPA, flooding, NCPC review of District projects, and foreign missions. Staff plans to have the guides available this summer and posted on NCPC's website.



Capital City Collaborations

On April 17, the Executive Director and National Capital Commission (Ottawa) Chief Executive Officer **Mark Kristmanson** participated in a get-to-know-you call with new National Capital Authority (Canberra) Chief Executive **Sally Barnes**. Ms. Barnes began her position in February 2018. The three discussed past collaborations between the capital city organizations, current projects the agencies are working on, and how the three may work together in the future.

Dockless Bikeshare Program

Staff provided a comment letter to the District of Columbia Department of Transportation (DDOT) on the dockless bikeshare pilot program. The letter summarized recommendations for the program as it relates to federal properties. On April 12, staff hosted a dockless bikeshare meeting with federal stakeholders where DDOT presented assessment information on the pilot program.



Curbed DC

PUBLIC OUTREACH AND PLANNING ASSISTANCE

Draft Parks & Open Space Element Outreach

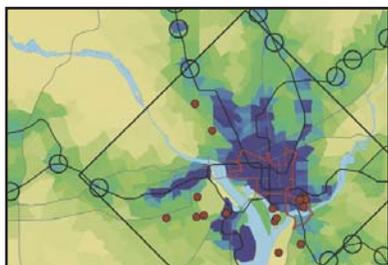
During the month of April, staff conducted a series of public outreach activities to solicit feedback on the draft Parks & Open Space Element. Staff presented the draft element to the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments Planning Directors Technical Advisory Committee on April 10, and on April 23 to the District Department of Energy & Environment. On April 27, they conducted a webinar with National Park Service park superintendents, and on May 2 presented the draft element to representatives from each of the District for Columbia's Business Improvement Districts. NCPC hosted public open houses on April 11 and 12 where staff answered questions, discussed the draft element, and received comments. More than 50 people participated. Areas of interest included the update process and how the element affects parks in the city. The public comment period runs through Monday, May 7, 2018.



NCPC's Latest Blogs: What's New in the Parks & Open Space Element

As part of updating the Parks & Open Space Element, Urban Planner and Landscape Architect **Surina Singh** wrote three blogs detailing emerging issues that influenced the element's update: adapting designed landscapes, balancing commemorative works within parks, and protecting Capper-Cramton parks. The first two are available on the agency's website at www.ncpc.gov/news/.





Parking Study Outreach

Staff met with representatives from the National Park Service (March 27) and the Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission (April 26) to discuss the *National Capital Region Federal Parking Study: An Accessibility-Based Approach for Federal Facilities* that the Commission accepted in September 2017. The meetings' purpose was to solicit feedback on the study to help inform updates to the Comprehensive Plan's Transportation Element. Staff anticipates submitting the Transportation Element to the Commission in early 2019.

American Planning Association Conference

Two NCPC staff members took part in the American Planning Association's 2018 National Planning Conference held in New Orleans, Louisiana from April 21-24. The *How to Evaluate Your Parking Policies* panel, moderated by Office of Public Engagement Director **Julia Koster**, examined federal and local agencies' approaches to parking supply and demand and explored the need to develop quantifiable—but flexible and adjustable—systems to manage parking and influence mode choice. The Executive Director and **Stephen Zitzow-Childs**, Volpe National Transportation Systems Center, discussed NCPC's *National Capital Region Federal Parking Study: An Accessibility-Based Approach for Federal Facilities* while Arlington County's **Richard Viola** discussed the county's commercial parking study.

The Executive Director participated on the *LGBTQ Prides: Tool for Urban Revitalization?* panel that examined how urban planners can engage and partner with under-represented constituencies, including LGBTQ communities and communities of color—in planning and development. The Executive Director was also on the *Recent Grad in the Working World* panel.

OPE Director Koster was also on a panel that examined *Talk vs Action: New Public Engagement*, where she, former NCPC staffer **Will Herbig**, and U.S. Department of Transportation's **Meredith Howell** discussed innovative ways to communicate and connect with audiences.

National Park Service Wins APA Award

The American Planning Association awarded the National Park Service's *National Long-Range Transportation Plan* its Gold National Planning Achievement Award for Transportation Planning. This plan will assist the Park Service in setting transportation management and investment priorities in its lands across the United States, including its units in the National Capital Region.

NCPC Hosts SUNY-Albany Students

On April 21, NCPC hosted a group of undergraduate students from the State University of New York at Albany who spent the past summer in Washington, DC learning about our nation's capital. Senior Urban Planner **Sarah Ridgely**, Urban Planner **Nick Bonard**, and Public Affairs Specialist **Stephen Staudigl** discussed the agency's work, as well as how planning helped shape, and continues to shape, the city.

PERSONNEL

NCPC Director Named Brigade Commander

On April 7, Policy and Research Division Director and Army Colonel **Mike Sherman** took command of the 411th Engineer Brigade, headquartered in New Windsor, New York. The Army selected him for the two-year United States Army Reserve assignment in December 2017. The unit traces its lineage back to World War II, where it saw service in Europe.

