



C&O Canal Inlet and Lift Locks (1.)



Hotel Monaco Solar Panel Installation (3.)



St. Elizabeths East New Hospital (4.)



# 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. Preliminary and final site development plans for the C&O Canal Inlet and Lift Locks Repair and Canal Walls Reconstruction, Georgetown. (8358)
2. Preliminary and final site development plans for the Suitland Tower Antenna Upgrades, 4400 Suitland Road, Suitland, Maryland. (8359)
3. Preliminary and final building plans for the Hotel Monaco Solar Panel Installation, 701 E Street, NW. (8360)
4. Final site and building plans for the St. Elizabeths East New Hospital, 2700 Martin Luther King Jr. Avenue, SE. (8310)

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. Comments to the Council of the District of Columbia for the Realignment of Reed Street, NE and an Alley Closing in Squares 3841 and 3846 - S.O. 22-01115, 2650 Reed Street, NE. (8361)
2. Report to the Zoning Commission of the District of Columbia for the Abraham and Laura Lisner Home for Aged Women Map Amendment, 5425 Western Avenue. (ZC 21-11)

## Planning Updates

### Pennsylvania Avenue Initiative

The Pennsylvania Avenue Initiative's 120-day public comment period on March 16. In April, staff held two online public meetings and met with the Downtown DC Business Improvement District staff, the DC chapter of the American Institute of Architects, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2C Commissioners, and representatives from the skateboarding community.

The vision and concepts have been well covered by ABC7, Fox5, NBC4, WAMU, WTOP, the Washington Business Journal, the Washington Post, DCist, Bisnow, and Verve Times. These stories and interviews highlighted the vision and potential public space improvements to the Avenue and referred the public to the Initiative's webpage. Public and stakeholder input on the vision and concepts will inform future concept development and help identify near-term pilot projects to test ideas to improve public space and event programming, as well as strategic improvements to the Avenue's event-supporting infrastructure in the mid-term.

More briefings are scheduled throughout the duration of the comment period that concludes on July 13. The next online public meeting is scheduled for Saturday, May 21 at 10 am, a link to register for the meeting is available on NCPC's webpage. Recordings of the presentations and more information are available online.



## Independence Avenue

NCPC, the District Department of Transportation (DDOT), and the Smithsonian Institution are partnering to improve the Independence Avenue corridor between 3rd and 15th Streets, SW. The overall goals are to improve pedestrian and vehicular movement and the streetscape by addressing circulation, connectivity, pedestrian amenities, curbside use, and streetscape infrastructure.

The Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments recently awarded the DDOT technical assistance funding through the Transportation Land Use Connections program to conduct an initial transportation assessment that will inform preliminary concepts and serve as a baseline for future phases of work.



## Monumental Core Streetscape Guide and Manual

The Interagency Working Group met in April to advance the draft Small-Scale Element Guidelines and the Construction Manual update. The public comment period for the draft Vertical and Surface Element guidelines closes on May 11. Public comments will inform final guideline development.



## Capital Improvement Plans

Staff reviewed and provided comments on three local jurisdictional Capital Improvement Plans (CIP) in the National Capital Region. On April 8, staff provided comments on Fairfax County's *FY 2023-2027 CIP* which included investments on the Dulles Corridor rail, commuter rail, and Richmond Highway Bus Rapid Transit projects. Prince George's County's *FY 2023-2028 CIP* included multiple projects that will improve regional mobility, which is particularly important for the effectiveness of the federal workforce such as the Southern Maryland Rapid Transit and Purple Line projects. The plan also included projects for the construction of new park trails and stormwater infrastructure projects intended to preserve parkland and restore stream valleys along Capper-Crampton lands. Highlights from Montgomery County's *FY 2023-2028 CIP* included projects that will provide alternatives to manage the region's road congestion and help advance an interconnected sustainable and equitable multi-modal transportation system. Initiatives in all three CIPs are consistent with the policies in the Federal Elements of the Comprehensive Plan.

## Public Outreach

### NCPC Releases Equity Action Plan

In response to Executive Order 13985, on April 14 NCPC released its Equity Action Plan, which addresses inequities in agency policies and programs that potentially serve as barriers to equal opportunity. The plan seeks to integrate equity considerations into the agency's planning for commemoration; policies and text of the Comprehensive Plan's Federal Elements; preparation of the Federal Capital Improvements Program; review of major projects and master plans; and NCPC's public outreach. The Equity Action Plan will also inform future work to ensure that the advancement of equity is a central component of the agency's decision-making framework. Staff will present the plan to the Commission at its May meeting.





### NCPC to turn 100 in 2024

Although NCPC won't celebrate its one hundred years as a federal agency until 2024, planning is underway on a series of proposals to highlight the agency's multi-faceted planning history and its influence on Washington, DC today. One project is to develop an online library of notable planning maps and reports. NCPC's Office of Public Engagement recently met with District Office of Planning staff to discuss coordinated work on the library, particularly recognizing that this reflects our shared planning prior to the Home Rule Act of 1974. NCPC will continue to meet with federal and local agencies and other organizations to discuss potential ideas and partnerships in preparation for this milestone.



### Urban Land Institute Awards

The Executive Director served as a juror for the Urban Land Institute-Washington 2022 Leadership Awards. This year's Trailblazer award will honor Mayor **Anthony A. Williams**, the CEO of the Federal City Council, for building a sustainable, transformative path forward in the land use and real estate industry in the Metropolitan Washington Region. Other honorees include **Caroline Kenney**, Managing Director at Urban Atlantic, and **Stewart Schwartz**, Executive Director of the Coalition for Smarter Growth. The awards will be presented on June 7 at the National Portrait Gallery.