



National Zoo Cheetah Conservation Station (1.)



BARC Building 005 Modernization (2.)

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 National Zoo Cheetah Conservation Station Infrastructure Renewal, 3001 Connecticut Avenue, NW. (8537)
2. Comments on concept plans for the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center Building 005 Modernization, 10500 Baltimore Avenue, Beltsville, Maryland. (8539)
3. Report to the Zoning Commission of the District of Columbia for the Text Amendments to Reduce Publicly Assisted Affordable Dwelling Units Parking Requirements, District-wide. (ZC 23-17)

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. Report to the Zoning Commission of the District of Columbia for the Consolidated Planned Unit Development and Related Map Amendment at Square 3351, 7050 Eastern Avenue, NW. (ZC 23-19)
2. Report to the Zoning Commission of the District of Columbia for the Georgia Avenue Map Amendment, 7709 Georgia Avenue, NW. (ZC 23-11)
3. Report to the Zoning Commission of the District of Columbia for the Map Amendment at Squares 2704 and 2706, 14th Street, NW. (ZC 23-14)

Planning Updates

Pennsylvania Avenue

The first consultant team, led by HR&A, started their initial work on the New Pennsylvania Avenue Plan's implementation program. Procurement for the second consultant team is underway; this team will be responsible for developing the master plan Concept Design. Later this year, HR&A will provide their initial findings to the Master Plan team to kick off Phase 2. HR&A and the master plan team will closely work together to initiate NEPA and 106 Consultation in Phase 3 in late 2025. On April 20, Pennsylvania Avenue hosted Red Bull Showrun, a demonstration event for motorsport enthusiasts. With over 50,000 fans of all ages showing up to experience Formula 1 racecars in action, the crowd-pleasing event ignited the energy of downtown and geared up for more fun and creative programming taking place on the Avenue in the future.

Monumental Core Streetscape Guide

In April, the Commission accepted the Small-Scale Elements Guidelines, completing the Streetscape Guidelines. NCPC staff will package the Urban Design Framework, Vertical, Surface, and Small-Scale Elements, Appendices, and Sample Agreements into a single comprehensive Streetscape Design Guideline document. These guidelines will be posted to the NCPC website and distributed to the Interagency Working Group and partner agencies. Additionally, NCPC staff continues to make progress on the Streetscape Construction Manual and, in collaboration with the District Department of Transportation and the DC Office of Planning, the District Companion Streetscape Review Guide.





SW Ecodistrict Plan Discussion

On April 2 at Arena Stage, Urban Design & Plan Review Director **Diane Sullivan** joined General Services Administration (GSA) Regional Commissioner, Public Buildings Service **Melanie Gilbert**, Southwest Business Improvement District Executive Director **Steve Moore**, City Partners Founder and Partner (and former NCPC Commissioner) **Geoffrey Griffis**, and FD Stonewater Partner **Norman Dong** for a discussion about the *SW Ecodistrict Plan: Then and Now*. Developed in 2013, NCPC's *SW Ecodistrict Plan: A Vision for a More Sustainable Future* is a long range, comprehensive approach to transform a 110-acre, isolated federal precinct into a well-connected, mixed-use neighborhood, workplace, and cultural destination linking the National Mall and the Southwest Waterfront. While the vision of a SW Ecodistrict is not new, the concept has received renewed interest for its potential to address multiple emerging challenges—the Administration's climate goals, Washington's development challenges, and GSA's underused federal buildings. The public/private panel explored the opportunities and challenges of this ambitious vision as it relates to federal real estate.



Arlington County Building

NCPC staff provided advisory federal interest comments to the Arlington County Community Planning, Housing & Development Department on the proposed 1840 Wilson Boulevard – National Science Teacher Association Building, which is subject to a 1982 Arlington County Board resolution on views from the National Mall ("Resolution of Concern Regarding Building Heights Related to the National Capital Mall Axis"). The proposed project would demolish an existing five-story office building to construct a new seven-story mixed-use residential building. NCPC staff comments focused on potential impacts on views from the primary east-west vista from the National Mall to the Western Horizon as identified in the Urban Design Element's Technical Addendum.



Kennedy Center-Foggy Bottom Technical Assistance Panel Report

At their April 4 meeting, the Commission received a briefing on the Technical Assistance Panel (TAP) report findings and urban design concept. The TAP's purpose was to provide guidance on potential next steps for addressing the challenges created by the highway infrastructure that severs Foggy Bottom from the Kennedy Center and Potomac River. Overall, Commissioner's expressed support for the work, recognizing it will be a long-term initiative that requires a champion and coalition of stakeholders. NCPC staff will continue to reach out to federal and local stakeholder to determine next steps.



Foreign Missions in Washington, DC

On April 9, Urban Planner **Angela Dupont** presented at the U.S. Department of State Office of Foreign Mission's "Foreign Mission Properties: Acquisition, Dispositions, Renovations, and Permitting in the District of Columbia" event. Various federal and district agencies, including NCPC, discussed their review authority of foreign missions in Washington, DC.



National Planning Conference

On April 15, the Executive Director welcomed the audience to the 2024 American Planning Association (APA) Student Planning and Design Competition finalist session at the National Planning Conference in Minneapolis. Three finalist teams presented to a jury and audience. The Executive Director was one of the competition lead organizers, along with other APA leaders and the City of Minneapolis Community Planning and Economic Development Department. Over 21 student teams submitted planning proposals for the New Nicollet Redevelopment site in Minneapolis. The Massachusetts Institute of Technology team won the competition, followed by the University of Minnesota and the University of Illinois-Chicago.



Public Outreach

Georgetown Lecture

On April 17, Policy and Research Director **Michael Sherman**, gave a lecture to the Georgetown University Geospatial Analysis class, “Introduction to Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and their application within the fields of urban planning, asset management and public administration.” His lecture, entitled “Points, Lines, Polygons and Pixels: War Stories and Lessons Learned from Managing GIS and CAD Planning Technology,” discussed his GIS work and experience with NCPC, port operations, private practice, base closure and realignment, ArcGIS Technology and implications of new technology in planning practice/public administration.



NCC's Urbanism Lab

On April 11 in Ottawa, Urban Planner **Karin Schierhold** joined a panel representing three capital cities where she presented the Pennsylvania Avenue vision and concepts at the National Capital Commission (NCC)'s Urbanism Lab – The Ceremonial Capital. NCC Chief, Planning & Design **Andrew Sacret** presented visionary plans for Ottawa's Confederation Boulevard, and PCA-STREAM Director, Research & Innovation **Étienne Riot** presented future perspectives for Paris's Champs-Élysées. A moderated discussion on the role of ceremonial boulevards followed. Video of the event is available online at <https://ncc-ccn.gc.ca/events/the-ceremonial-capital>. Karin also met with representatives from Public Services and Procurement Canada to discuss shared opportunities and challenges related to public realm and security.



DC History Conference

As part of NCPC's Centennial, Urban Planners **Kael Anderson** and **Brittney Drakeford** along with Prologue DC's **Carmen Bolt** presented at the DC History Conference on Saturday, April 6. The session, moderated by Urban Planner **Melissa Lindsjo**, explored the complicated legacy of planning pioneer and former NCPC Chair **Harland Bartholomew** and efforts to confront historic planning inequities and their impacts on Washington residents. Urban Planner **Johanna McCrehan** presented a poster with key findings from the *Beyond Granite: Pulling Together* exhibit along with staff from the Trust for the National Mall. Staff also displayed a copy of the Centennial exhibit panel on highways at the DC History Conference History Network on April 5.