

## 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. Approval of preliminary and final site and building plans for replacement and relocation of the Friends of the National Zoo Trailer at the National Zoological Park, 3001 Connecticut Avenue, NE. (8022)
2. Approval of an amendment to the Pennsylvania Avenue Development Corporation (PADC) Square Guidelines for Square 254, Parcel A for a Facade Renovation Project at National Place, 1331 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW. (P8019)
3. Approval of a report to the Zoning Commission of the District of Columbia about Map and Text Amendments for Square 487, Lot 17, WMATA Headquarters, 600 5th Street, NW. (ZC 18-05)



National Place (2)

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. Approval of comments to the Council of the District of Columbia about the W Street, SE Street Dedication by Easement in Square 5784, located between Railroad Avenue, SE and Shannon Place, SE. (8020)
2. Approval of preliminary and final site development plans for the exterior exhaust at the W Hotel, 515 15th Street, NW, submitted by the District of Columbia Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs. (P8024)



600 5th Street, NW (3)

### PLANNING UPDATES

#### NCPC, Partners Win Local Award for Banneker Park

On October 18, the National Capital Area Chapter, American Planning Association presented the 2018 Frederick Gutheim Award for Distinguished Leadership in Planning for the Banneker Park Pedestrian Access Improvements project. This project is a unique example of collaboration between local and federal governments and a private developer that jointly implemented federal planning recommendations. This project was a cooperative effort between NCPC and the National Park Service, the Office of the Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development/District Department of Transportation, Zimmer Gunsul Frasca Architects LLP, and Hoffman-Madison Waterfront (The Wharf) to construct pedestrian and bicycle access improvements on Banneker Park, located at the southern terminus of 10th Street, SW.



#### Pennsylvania Avenue Initiative

On October 9, Pennsylvania Avenue Initiative representatives briefed Councilman **Jack Evans** on the executive committee's progress. Building upon the Initiative's findings and strategies summary, the committee will begin to prepare concept development alternatives in 2019.

#### Small Cell Infrastructure

The DC Public Space Committee held a special public meeting on the District Department of Transportation's draft Small Cell Infrastructure Guidelines on October 15. NCPC staff provided general input and will transmit the Commission's full comments to the committee after its November 1 meeting. After receiving feedback from stakeholder agencies, the public, and providers, the District Government will revise the guidelines for final review. Staff anticipates this review will occur late 2018 or early 2019.

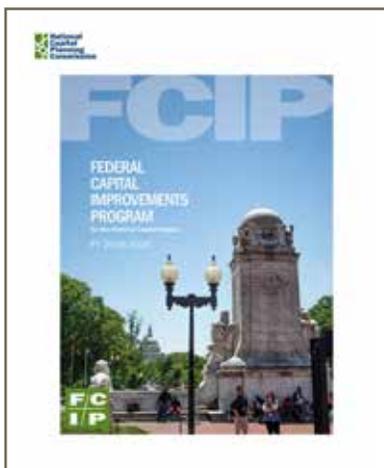




## COMPREHENSIVE PLAN



## TRANSPORTATION FEDERAL WORKPLACE ELEMENTS



### Conceptual Lighting Framework

NCPC staff is working with the Monumental Core Streetscape Interagency Working Group to prepare a conceptual lighting framework for areas of federal interest. The working group is collaborating with the District Department of Transportation to coordinate the lighting framework with the city's Smart Lighting program. Staff anticipates presenting the lighting framework to the Commission in early 2019 for concept review.

### Comprehensive Plan

On September 26, 2018 staff hosted representatives from HNTB Corporation's Emerging Technology Group to discuss lessons learned in planning and implementing Autonomous Vehicle systems. On September 24, staff hosted **Chuck Hardy**, GSA's Chief Workplace Officer, to discuss trends in office space development. These outreach efforts will inform NCPC staff's policy development for the Transportation and Workplace Elements of the Comprehensive Plan. Staff anticipates submitting these elements to the Commission in the spring of 2019. The Parks & Open Space Element will be brought to the Commission for adoption in December.

### Review of Visualize 2045

NCPC provided a comment letter to the Transportation Planning Board (TPB) regarding Visualize 2045, the federally required long-range transportation plan for the National Capital Region. Visualize 2045 identifies all regionally significant transportation investments planned through 2045 and provides detailed analysis to help decision makers and the public "visualize" the region's future under current plans. NCPC commended the TPB for including aspirational projects, programs, and policies and noted that these were generally consistent with objectives and policies in *the Comprehensive Plan for the Nation's Capital*.

### Landscape Manual Comments

Staff provided comments to Prince George's County on its revised Landscape Manual. The manual's purpose is to enhance the quality of life of county residents, the appearance of communities, and the overall environmental health of Prince George's County by improving the design, sustainability, and quality of landscaping. This manual contains all the regulations for landscaping, buffering, and screening that apply to development in Prince George's County.

### Federal Capital Improvement Program

Staff completed and posted to the agency website the Federal Capital Improvement Program (FCIP) summary for Fiscal Years (FY) 2018-2023. The FY 2018-2023 FCIP included 21 projects that received funding in FY 2018, with a total estimated cost of \$684,262,000. The National Capital Planning Act requires NCPC to annually review and recommend a six-year program of federal capital projects for the region. Additionally, the Office of Management and Budget requires that all federal agencies consult with NCPC in advance regarding any proposed development or land acquisition in the region. NCPC evaluates each proposed federal capital project for conformance with plans and policies adopted by the Commission, regional planning bodies, and local and state governments.



## PUBLIC OUTREACH AND PLANNING ASSISTANCE

### Helen Marriage Discusses Public Art Events

On Tuesday, October 16 NCPC hosted Artichoke Director **Helen Marriage** who shared details about large-scale, astonishing public art events she produces. This well-attended event discussed Artichoke's most recent spectacle *Processions*, a tribute to the women's suffrage movement staged in Great Britain's four capital cities this past summer. The moderator, DC Office of Planning Deputy Director **Sakina Khan**, discussed Washington's evolving approach to public art.

### Latest Blog: Construction Watch: MLK Library



NCPC's most recent blog looks at the Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library rehabilitation and modernization project. This is the first time the library has undergone a major renovation since its opening in 1972. The project includes the construction of a fifth-floor addition and a complete overhaul of the building and site. When complete, the building will feature a ground-level café and plaza, a new roof garden, a new auditorium and exhibition space, and a double-height reading room. All blogs are available at [www.ncpc.gov/news/](http://www.ncpc.gov/news/).

### Fall Hike and Paddle on the Potomac Heritage Trail Event



In celebration of the National Trails System Act 50th Anniversary, NCPC, Fort Belvoir, NPS, and the Northern Virginia Regional Commission hosted a public hike and paddle event on October 30. This was intended to test a seasonal event at Fort Belvoir that fills a gap in the Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail network and was an option in NCPC's 2017 Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail Final Draft Feasibility Study.

### Walkable Suburbia

On October 23, NCPC welcomed authors **Jason Beske**, AICP and **David Dixon**, FAIA of the book: *Suburban Remix: Creating the Next Generation of Urban Places*. They discussed how similar characteristics that create a walkability downtown—density, connectivity, strategic use of parking, and the creative embrace of climate can bring walkability to the growing group of suburbs that see their future in the creation of walkable urban centers.

### NCPC and Georgetown University Host Chinese Delegations



On October 31, **Julia Koster**, Director, Office of Public Engagement, was a guest lecturer on regional planning activities to a group of government officials from Guangdong Province of China. The delegation is attending a multi-week training at Georgetown University to study best practices in regional development and megacity networks.

On Thursday, October 25, NCPC hosted a 24-person delegation from Shanghai, China. **Matthew Flis**, Senior Urban Designer, and **Carlton Hart**, Urban Planner, discussed the role federal planning has played in the history and development of the capital region.



## PERSONNEL

### On Temporary Detail

On October 9, 2018, Senior Urban Planner **Jennifer Hirsch** began a 90-day temporary detail duty assignment with the National Park Service addressing commemorative works issues.



### Urban Planner Leaves NCPC for District Department of Energy & Environment

NCPC said farewell to Urban Planner **Nicholas Bonard** who recently left the agency to take a job with the District Department of Energy & Environment, where he will manage flooding and stormwater programs. He worked in the Office of Public Engagement on many outreach activities like social media and blogs, and spearheaded the agency's flooding risk management efforts. We appreciate Nick's contributions to NCPC and wish him well in his new endeavors.