

Report of the Executive Director

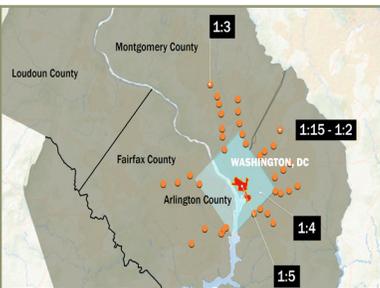


Opening new streets and alleys (2)

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 comments to the Council of the District of Columbia regarding a public street and public alley closing in Squares 3039, 3040, and 3043 – S.O. 17-21093. (7912)
2. Approved comments to the Council of the District of Columbia regarding the dedication of land for the opening of new streets and alleys in Squares 3039, 3040, and 3043 – S.O. 17-21094. (7913)
3. Approved the final NEPA Regulations and submitted the revised language to the Council on Environmental Quality for approval. (7744)

PLANNING UPDATES



National Capital Region Federal Parking Study

NCPC staff, in partnership with the Volpe Transportation Systems Center, will present the National Capital Region Federal Parking Study's analysis, findings, and recommendations at the October Commission meeting. The study assessed the validity of NCPC's current parking ratio goals for application to federal development in light of future (20-year) forecasted land use patterns, transportation network, and population demographics in the National Capital Region. The study accessed NCPC's parking ratios for federal sites based on the Metropolitan Washington Council of Government's regional travel demand model, industry best practices, and parking requirements for private developments and large employment centers in the region. The study tasks included completing a literature review, conducting a regional transportation model analysis, developing a comparison of existing NCPC parking standards to local jurisdiction standards, and developing a Geographic Information System application tool to enable staff to conduct transit accessibility analysis in the future.



Pennsylvania Avenue Initiative

The Pennsylvania Avenue Initiative Executive Committee met on September 27 to begin drafting an action plan for Avenue improvements and to hear a briefing from the District Department of Transportation on their transportation study for the Avenue. Based on foundational research from the Market Study, Pedestrian Life Study, and the Urban Design Analysis, as well as goals and strategies formed at the July workshop, the action plan will frame the near- and long-term work needed to ensure the Avenue is a thriving place in the capital city. The information presentation at the October meeting will share key research findings, initiative goals, and the action plan's near- and long-term approach to improving the Avenue. An update to the Commission on the action plan is anticipated in spring 2018.



Comprehensive Plan Parks & Open Space Element

Staff continues revising and updating the Parks & Open Space Element. Anticipated changes include reorganized content and streamlined policies that address emerging issues. These issues include balancing multiple uses within parks; providing access to, and connections between, parks; improving stewardship of the environment and the landscape; building partnerships and coordination among multiple landowners and jurisdictions; and balancing park space and commemorative works. Staff initiated research to clarify and improve policies in the element concerning Capper Cramton Parks, which fall under NCPC's jurisdiction per the 1952 Capper Cramton Act. Staff anticipates submitting a draft of the revised element to the Commission for review and request release for public comment this fall.



PUBLIC OUTREACH AND PLANNING ASSISTANCE

NCPC Transitions to New Website

Shortly after the October Commission meeting, NCPC will officially switch to its newly designed website. Features include a modern design, easier navigation, and more interactive tools to provide better information about the Commission's work and federal planning resources in the National Capital Region. The new site will work across all mobile devices and offer new ways to display key information. A preview of the new website has been available since August.



Executive Director Participates on ULI Washington Panel

On September 7, the Executive Director participated on the Regionalism, Principles, and Practice panel at the opening session for ULI Washington's Regional Land Use Leadership Institute. The panel, moderated by **Martine Combal**, Vice President, JLL, also included **Robert Buchanan**, Partner, Buchanan Partners; **Cary Hatch**, CEO, MDB Communications; and **Stewart Schwartz**, Executive Director, Coalition for Smarter Growth. This first session for the Class of 2018 focused on the theme of "The Region in Context." Congratulations to Urban Planner **Angela Dupont**, a member of the current class.



OPM Design Thinking Lab Brown Bag

On September 21, 2017, NCPC hosted an internal brown-bag session with representatives from the Office of Personnel Management Lab on Human Centered Design. The lab is both a practice and a space that fosters innovation through design thinking/human-centered design. It seeks to teach human-centered design across the federal government and deliver innovative solutions that address complex public and cross-sector challenges by bringing together a unique combination of private sector fellows, public servants, and students. Discussion focused on commemoration, with topics including how to entice memorial sponsors to seek locations off the National Mall and how to provide future memorial sponsors with new commemoration alternatives.



DC Smart City Summit

On September 12, 2017, staff participated in the Inclusive Smart Cities Summit held at the U.S. Institute of Peace. The summit brought together top leaders from across the globe to discuss the future of smart cities and the need for inclusivity in innovation. Discussion topics included Workplaces of the Future, Transportation of the Future, and The Future of the Workforce.

Global City Team Challenge Exposition

From August 28–29, 2017, staff participated in the 2017 Global City Teams Challenge Exposition. This exposition brought together representatives from more than 100 cities and communities around the world in partnership with more than 300 companies, universities, non-profits, and federal government agencies to share and exhibit their smart city projects and the impacts to their communities. The exposition featured sessions on transportation, public safety, utilities, city data platforms, and public wi-fi/broadband.



PERSONNEL

NCPC Bids Farewell to Deborah Young

On September 29, NCPC Director of Administration **Deborah Young** retired after 38 years in federal service. Deborah joined NCPC in 1992, and spent the majority of her tenure here in the Office of the Secretariat. We wish her all the best in retirement.



Deborah Young