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 and building plans for the New Fort Dupont Ice Arena, 3779 Ely Place, SE. (8343)
2. Preliminary site and building plans for the School Without Walls at Francis-Stevens School Modernization, 2425 N Street, NW. (8401)
3. Preliminary site development plans for the Battleground National Cemetery, 6625 Georgia Avenue, NW. (8404)
4. Preliminary and final building plans for the Robert C. Weaver Federal Building T-Mobile Antenna Equipment Upgrades, 451 7th Street, SW. (8406)
5. Preliminary site and building plans for the Amidon-Bowen Child Development Center, 401 I Street, SW. (8407)
6. Preliminary and final site development plans for the NIH Building 64 East Child Care Center Playground Renovation, 9000 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, Maryland. (8403)
7. Preliminary and final building plans for the NSA Bethesda Buildings 74 and 75 Fire Alarm Antennas, Bethesda, Maryland. (8405)
8. Preliminary site and building plans for the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center Building 002 Modernization, 10300 Baltimore Avenue, Beltsville, Maryland. (8277)

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 Proposed Closing of a Public Alley in Square 2011 - S.O. 21-01199, 5900 33rd Street, NW at Quesada Street, NW. (8408)
2. Comments to the Council of the District of Columbia for the Proposed Closing of a Portion of Douglas Street, NE Adjacent to Squares 4348 and 4350 - S.O. 22-05506. (8409)
3. Preliminary site and building plans for the Ward 8 Senior Wellness Center, 1700 Q Street, SE. (8410)
4. Preliminary and final site development plans for the NIH Building 38A Plaza Deck Waterproofing and Site Improvements, 9000 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, Maryland. (8402)

**Planning Updates**

**Monumental Core Streetscape Guide and Manual**

The Interagency Working Group is preparing the final set of small-scale guidelines for benches, bicycle racks, and post-and-chain barriers, and updating construction details and specifications for tree related elements. In early 2023, NCPC staff anticipate submitting the draft small-scale guidelines to the Commission for concept review and the vertical and surface elements for final review.
NCPC Wins Award

The American Planning Association National Capital Area Chapter gave the Planning Excellence Award in Sustainability and Resilience to NCPC's Federal Transportation Element, Addendum, and Transportation Monitoring Program. The element and monitoring program highlight NCPC's role as a national leader in sustainable transportation and parking policies and their impact on shaping federal and regional transportation choices. The association presented the award to NCPC staff at their annual conference on September 30.

Pennsylvania Avenue Initiative

In late August and September, NCPC and National Park Service leadership met with District Councilmember Brooke Pinto, and NCPC staff met with Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development John Falcicchio and Events DC leadership to discuss the Pennsylvania Avenue Initiative. Staff briefed the Embassy of Canada, Folklife Festival, and the Metropolitan Washington Council of Government’s Access for All Committee and presented the Initiative to The Association of the Oldest Inhabitants of D.C. Members of the public learned about the Initiative at the Pink Walk (September 18) and Fiesta DC (September 24). Snallygaster Beer Festival (October 8), and upcoming events include the Capital Harvest Farmer’s Market (October 19). In November, an information presentation will be provided to the Commission on key findings from the public comments received.

Interagency Security Committee Quarterly Membership Meeting

On September 20, approximately 100 members attended the Interagency Security Committee Quarterly Membership Meeting. NCPC staff Michael Sherman, Matthew Flis, and Angela Dupont presented the agency's security planning and design related work, including recent perimeter security projects, NCPC's Public Space and Security Initiative, updates to the Comprehensive Plan, and the Pennsylvania Avenue Initiative. The meeting also included a presentation from the Federal Bureau of Investigation’s on their methodology for prioritizing facility risk.

FCIP Funded Report

NCPC staff publicly released the Federal Capital Improvements Program (FCIP) FY 2022-2027, which includes projects that received funding in FY 2022. In FY 2022 there were 43 projects that received a total of $1,554,124,723. The FCIP FY 2022-2027 Funded Report can be found here: https://www.ncpc.gov/plans/fcip/

Public Outreach

Black History on Pennsylvania Avenue Walking Tour

On September 13, 2022, NCPC staff went on a Black History on Pennsylvania Avenue walking tour with tour guide Tim Wright of Attucks Adams. NCPC staff learned about the emancipation of enslaved Washington, DC residents, a grand march for the women’s vote, the infamous Snow Riot, the evolution of Home Rule, and local DC history.
NCPC Participates in Equity Planning Panel Discussion

On September 30, during the American Planning Association National Capital Area Chapter’s fall conference, Policy and Research Division Director Michael Sherman moderated a panel discussion on equity planning in the National Capital Region with Communications & Research Specialist Bsrat Mezghebe, District of Columbia Office of Planning Development Review Specialist Maxine Brown-Roberts, and Montgomery County Planning Department Deputy Planning Director Tanya Stern. Panelists discussed how National Capital Region jurisdictions are taking action to address equity, diversity, and inclusion in their planning work. The session explored strategies at the federal, regional, and local levels to address equity issues in planning; opportunities to address inequities in the region’s commemorative landscape; approaches in small area plans to mitigate systemic inequities in land use, housing, and economic development; equity-related considerations in comprehensive and capital planning; and public engagement and outreach activities to target and reach underrepresented communities.

Harvard Graduate School of Design Presentation

On September 28, 2022, the Executive Director; Paul Farber, director and co-founder of Monument Lab; and Brent Leggs, Senior Vice President at the National Trust for Historic Preservation spoke virtually to a Harvard Graduate School of Design For the Public course. They discussed public memorials and commemoration, NCPC's role in memorial and museum work in the nation’s capital, and primary considerations for developing a new alternative to our current commemorative process through the Beyond Granite initiative.

Personnel

NCPC Bids Farewell to Three Employees

Patricia Thompson, NCPC's front desk information receptionist and Office of Administration’s administrative assistant for the past 14 years, is retiring. Her friendly, pleasant, and warm demeanor while assisting guests both in person and over the phone has earned her many accolades over the years. She will be sorely missed by her NCPC family as she enters her new adventure as a federal government retiree. She is looking forward to spending time with her children and six grandchildren. We thank Patricia for her service and wish her all the best in her retirement.

Solomon Gossaye, a long time contractor, has been a vital part of the NCPC IT team for nearly 14 years. He was heavily involved with the agency's recent move to cloud storage and automation, migration to a true VOIP phone system, worked as a network support engineer, and assisted with audio and visual design and operation of the Commission Chambers. Solomon will continue to work for TSpec in his new position joining their network team as a field network engineer supporting business clients. NCPC wishes him the best and hopes for his continued success.

Garrett Wolff, NCPC says farewell to Urban Planner Garrett Wolff who recently left the agency's Physical Planning Division to pursue new opportunities in the private sector. Projects that he worked on at NCPC include the Pennsylvania Avenue Initiative, the Monumental Core Streetscape Manual, Arlington Building Height Studies, and the Federal Capital Improvements Program. NCPC thanks Garrett for his contributions to the agency and wishes him well in his new endeavors.