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 rehabilitation of the Building 245 Radiation Physics Laboratory and addition of a D Wing, National Institute of Standards and Technology, 100 Bureau Drive, Gaithersburg, Maryland. (7893)
2. Preliminary and final site and building plans for a lithium battery storage facility at the Naval Support Facility Carderock, 9500 MacArthur Boulevard, Bethesda, Maryland. (7999)
3. Preliminary and final site and building plans for a new cell therapy unit production facility at the National Institutes of Health, 9000 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, Maryland. (8000)
4. Approval of a report to the Zoning Commission of the District of Columbia about a Text Amendment to Subtitle A, Sections 209.2 and 301.3, regarding construction of playing fields and accessory structures at the RFK Stadium Campus, 2400 East Capitol Street, SE. (ZC 18-04)
5. Approval of a report to the Zoning Commission of the District of Columbia about a Text Amendment to create a new MU-4A Zone, DC Office of Planning. (ZC 18-06)

PLANNING UPDATES

Pennsylvania Avenue Initiative

The Physical Planning Division is analyzing the programming trends along the Avenue over time, and conducting a high-level analysis of events held on the Avenue as compared to other parts of the city. This work will support the Executive Committee’s goal to identify ways to strengthen the Avenue’s daily activities and special events to attract a more diverse audience of residents, workers, and tourists. Staff anticipates completing the analysis by the end of the year. For more information on the initiative, visit the project website at https://www.ncpc.gov/initiatives/pennave/.

Monumental Core Streetscape Project

NCPC staff will present plans on the first phase of the Monumental Core Streetscape Project to the Commission at its September meeting. Information will include an overview of the proposed urban design framework for streetscapes, proposed boundary adjustments, and project next steps, which includes a conceptual lighting framework. Staff will also submit these plans to the U.S. Commission of Fine Arts, and return to both commissions for review of the conceptual lighting framework later this year.

Small Cell Infrastructure

The District Department of Transportation, in consultation with local and federal agencies, drafted small cell infrastructure guidelines that were released on August 24, 2018. It is anticipated that the draft guidelines will be reviewed by the DC Public Space Committee and the U.S. Commission of Fine Arts in October and by NCPC in November. The Commission received an informational briefing on small cell infrastructure at its July meeting.
Discussions Aid Workplace and Transportation Element Updates

Staff met with several regional experts to inform updates to the Federal Transportation and Workplace Elements. On July 31, 2018 D.C. Policy Center Fellow Mike Maciag discussed telework, workplace mobility, and migration trends and research gathered for a recent article titled *What Does Telecommuting’s Rise Mean for Traffic and Transit?* On August 14, NCPC hosted Metropolitan Washington Council of Government’s Transportation Planning Board (TPB) Planning and Research Director Timothy Canan and Systems Performance Planning Director Andrew Meese. The meeting focused on the TPB’s regional coordination; long-range Visualize 2045 Plan; Constrained Long Range Plan and regional employment; as well as land-use, population, and transportation trends. On August 15, staff met with Regional Marketing Director, Jenna Fortunati and Director of Research and Communications, Paul Mackie from the Arlington County Mobility Lab to discuss mobility strategies for the National Capital Region and tools for measuring the return on investment of Transportation Management Demand Strategies. Staff anticipates submitting the two elements for Commission review in spring 2019.

PUBLIC OUTREACH AND PLANNING ASSISTANCE

Planner Discusses Future of Urban Planning


NCPC’s Blogs: Brutalist Federal Buildings and Washington’s Streetlights

NCPC’s latest two blogs focus on architectural and design components in the nation’s capital. The first examines why there are so many brutalist federal buildings. The second looks at the different types of streetlights found in the city. Office of Public Engagement summer intern Dana Marks wrote both. All blogs are available at www.ncpc.gov/news/.

AIA DC Panel Examines Modernist Landscapes

On August 28, 2018 AIA DC’s District Architecture Center hosted *Adapting Modernist Landscapes in the Public Realm*, a panel discussion that examined questions such as how do existing modernist landscapes in Washington, DC adapt to meet changing needs and respond to changing technologies? Office of Public Engagement Director Julia Koster moderated the panel that featured Senior Urban Planner Sarah Ridgely; Jon Fitch, Owner, Landscape Architecture Bureau; and Otto Condon, Urban Principal, ZGF Architects.
**Field Notes Updated**

NCPC released an updated version of its Field Notes, a handy take-away that provides information about the agency and nation’s capital in an attractive, hand-held size. Copies are available in NCPC’s offices.

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**PERSONNEL**

**Thank You Summer Interns**

Jeannie Bellina, graduate student at George Washington University; Morgan Feldenkris, senior at the University of Virginia; Talya Guenzburger, junior at Brandeis University; Dana Marks, graduate student at Clemson University and the College of Charleston; and Brenae Smith, sophomore at the University of Maryland, recently completed their internships. We thank them for their efforts and wish them well in their future endeavors as they return to their respective schools.