



## Commission Action

June 4, 2020

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<b>PROJECT</b> <b>District of Columbia Capital Improvement Plan FY 2021 - 2026</b> Washington, DC	<b>NCPC FILE NUMBER</b> 0348
<b>SUBMITTED BY</b> Mayor of the District of Columbia	<b>NCPC MAP FILE NUMBER</b> 00.00(07.00)45135
<b>REVIEW AUTHORITY</b> Advisory per 40 U.S.C. § 8723(b)	<b>APPLICANT'S REQUEST</b> Approval of comments to the Council of the District of Columbia
	<b>ACTION TAKEN</b> Approved comments to the Council of the District of Columbia

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The Commission:

**Commends** the District of Columbia on the inclusion of projects that support federal interests, in particular, those that advance earlier joint NCPC-DC planning work. As set forth in the *Comprehensive Plan for the National Capital* (Comprehensive Plan), federal interests are characterized by one of the following general types:

- Public space improvements that respect the historic character and significance of the L'Enfant and McMillan Plans;
- Transportation systems that provide safe, reliable, and sustainable mobility options for the region;
- Infrastructure improvements of the highest design quality;
- Preservation, enhancement, and development of parks and open space to accommodate a range of users, uses, and programming;
- Development projects that protect the environment, and balance accessibility and security needs; and
- Construction and rehabilitation of public buildings that reflect the image of the nation's capital.

**Requests** that the District of Columbia government agencies coordinate with NCPC and affected federal agencies to identify submission requirements, schedules, and potential planning issues prior to formal review of projects and studies.

**Finds** that the following projects and studies may significantly affect federal interest and require coordination with NCPC and affected federal agencies:

- South Capitol Street Corridor (KA0-AW000) and South Capitol Street Bridge – GARVEE (KA0-SCG19) – These ongoing projects fund the replacement of the Frederick Douglass Memorial Bridge and improvements to South Capitol Street intersections with the Suitland Parkway and Anacostia Freeway. NCPC approved the final landscaping design in February 2019. Future land use and design issues are critical to transforming this area into a prime gateway to the nation's capital.
- K Street Transitway (KA0-LMC02), Street Car (KA0-LMTCE), Streetcar-Benning Extension (KA0-SA394), and Project Development (KE0-TOP02) – These ongoing projects fund the planning and

infrastructure for mass transit systems. NCPC welcomes these projects, which are expected to improve east-west connections between Washington Circle, Union Station and the Benning Road Metrorail station. Continued coordination with the Commission during future phases will help address potential impacts to federal interests, including federal properties and important viewsheds within the L'Enfant City.

- H Street Bridge (KA0-BR005) – This ongoing project funds the full replacement of the H Street “Hopscotch” Bridge. The bridge spans over 1st Street NE and 2nd Street NE; Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) tracks; and Amtrak tracks and platforms at Union Station. NCPC is coordinating with the Federal Railroad Administration on the Washington Union Station Expansion Project. To date, the Commission most recently reviewed the concept plans for the Expansion Project in January 2020. The private air rights located behind Union Station on either side of the bridge will also be developed in the future, as the Commission recently heard in a May 2020 information presentation. As such, replacement of infrastructure and the redevelopment of the Union Station area requires continued coordination with the Commission and other parties to resolve these complex planning, design, and land use concerns.

**Notes** the following additional projects and studies are potentially of federal interest and may require future coordination with NCPC:

#### Revitalization

- McMillan Site Redevelopment (EB0-AMS11) – This ongoing project funds the site’s redevelopment into a mixed-use area, while retaining many of its historic features. The Commission reviewed the redevelopment of the former federal property in 2014 and 2016. Given the master planning and redevelopment activities of the nearby Armed Forces Retirement Home and Veterans Administration Hospital, we encourage consideration of opportunities for enhanced NCPC-DC Office of Planning coordination.
- Walter Reed Pool (AM0-W4PLC) and Children’s National (EB0-CHN19) – These ongoing projects are part of the redevelopment of the former military facility into a mixed-use development. Continued coordination is anticipated, as this portion of the campus is adjacent to federal property being developed into a Foreign Mission Center.
- Hill East (EB0-EB422) – This ongoing project redevelops Hill East, also known as U.S. Government Reservation 13. Specifically, it would support multiple investments on the site, including design and construction of new roads, utility infrastructure, green space, and rehabilitation of the historic building and easements.

#### Transportation and Mobility

- 11<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge (KA0-HTF00) and 11<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge Park (KA0-ED0D5) – These ongoing projects fund an enhanced transportation corridor for cars, pedestrians, bicycles, and the DC Streetcar. They create an elevated park; replace functionally deficient and structurally obsolete infrastructure; provide an additional alternate evacuation route from the nation’s capital; and support the Anacostia Waterfront Initiative. The Commission approved a final design for the 11<sup>th</sup> Street Bridges project in February 2011 and preliminary design for the 11<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge Park in April 2020.
- Transportation Mitigation (KA0-LMMIT) and Travel Demand Management (KA0-ZU000) – These ongoing projects will support transportation management and mitigation such as pedestrian area improvements, bicycling infrastructure, and intermodal facilities. These improvements help federal facilities meet NCPC’s automobile parking ratio policies.

- Streetscapes and Beautification (KA0-LMBSS) – This ongoing project funds streetscape improvements and beautification efforts. It includes the East Capitol Street corridor, which is an important gateway to the National Capital.

#### Building Enhancement and Modernization

- Archives (AM0-AB102) – This ongoing project funds the construction of a purpose-built facility for the District of Columbia Archives that would improve the preservation of and public access to archival records of federal interest.
- Daly Building Rehabilitation (AM0-DLY19) – This reprogrammed project funds the design and modernization of the Daly Building, which is adjacent to John Marshall Memorial Park, U.S. Department of Labor Headquarters, and the District of Columbia Court of Appeals.
- General Renovation (AM0-CGN02-CTF) – This reprogrammed project funds upgrades to the current DC Jail, which has been a primary use of Hill East/U. S. Reservation 13. The project also funds the initial design of a new correctional facility.
- Renovation of University Facilities (GF0-UG706) – This ongoing project will renovate the University of the District of Columbia Van Ness campus and other facilities. In December 2011 the Commission approved plans for the project and requested the applicant coordinate with NCPC staff and the Department of State due to potential impacts of the proposed student housing adjacent to the International Chancery Center.

#### Parks and Open Space

- Eastern Market Metro Park (AM0-EST01) – This ongoing project funds modifications to the public space surrounding the Eastern Market Metro Station and along the Pennsylvania Avenue SE corridor, both federal reservations. The Commission approved this project at its February 2020 meeting.
- Kingman Island Education Center (KG0-KINGI) – This ongoing project provides funds for educational and recreational improvements at Kingman & Heritage Islands, including outdoor classrooms, bathrooms, accessible routes, and pathways. The Commission approved an improved entrance to the Islands in November 2007.
- Franklin Square Park (AM0-QN751) – This ongoing project funds improvements to Franklin Park, a federally-owned park. The Commission reviewed and approved final plans for this project in April 2019.

#### Environment and Infrastructure

- Powerline Undergrounding (KA0-LMGGR) – This ongoing project focuses on undergrounding electrical feeders most vulnerable to outages during storm conditions. It may enable reduced reliance on overhead propulsion infrastructure for the streetcar system.
- Streetlight Management (KA0-LMLIG), Core Infrastructure Network Upgrade (TO0-CNU00-MP), and Infrastructure and Security – DPR (TO0-NPR15-IT) – These ongoing projects fund rehabilitation and expansion of the District's streetlight portfolio and the addition of Wi-Fi in public spaces. NCPC, on behalf of the National Mall Road Interagency Working Group released the concept Monumental Core Streetscape Project Urban Design Streetscape Framework and Lighting Policy in November 2019 to coordinate street light improvements with DDOT and the District of Columbia Office of Public-Private Partnerships (OP3).
- Stormwater and Flood Mitigation (KA0-LMWWM) and Integrated Flood Modeling (KG0-IFM20) – These ongoing projects support stormwater management; flood modeling and mitigation; and stream, wetland, and waterway restoration. NCPC coordinates with other federal and local agencies

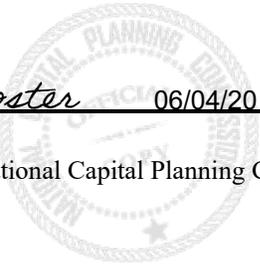
to improve water management; recently approving multiple components of the DC Clean Rivers Project, and in partnership with the DC Silver Jackets, released the Flood Risk Resource Guide.

- Combined Sewer Overflow Service Area – This ongoing DC Water project funds large-scale green infrastructure installations and a series of deep diversion facilities to capture combined sewer overflow and route it to the Blue Plains Wastewater Treatment Facility. NCPC has reviewed several portions of this project and will continue coordinating with partner agencies such as NPS when federal lands may be impacted.
- Washington Aqueduct Authority – This ongoing DC Water project supports water distribution to the federal government through federal legislation enacted and a memorandum of understanding executed in 1997.

**Notes** that while an unusually high level of projects would be reprogrammed due to unforeseeable budgetary pressures, NCPC understands that important projects -- such as the 11<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge Park – will be funded as soon as possible.

**Notes** the statutory requirement mandating the District’s submission for Commission review of a number of CIP projects, such as:

- Acquisition or disposition of land or buildings by the District of Columbia government (40 U.S.C. § 8722 (b) (1) and § 8734 (a)); and
- Development projects undertaken by the District of Columbia government that affect District of Columbia public buildings and grounds, including parks (40 U.S.C. §8722 (b) (1) and § 8722(e).

  
*Julia Koster* 06/04/20  
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Julia A. Koster  
Secretary to the National Capital Planning Commission