SW Ecodistrict Plan Addendum Accepted by the National Capital Planning Commission
Commission Also Receives Eisenhower Memorial Information Presentation

Washington, DC – At its monthly meeting today the National Capital Planning Commission (NCPC) accepted the Addendum to the SW Ecodistrict Plan. This Addendum, drafted by NCPC staff in consultation with members of the SW Ecodistrict Task Force, details the assumptions and technical information that informed preparation of the SW Ecodistrict Plan accepted by the Commission in 2013. It includes and addresses public comments.

The SW Ecodistrict Plan will guide future programming, planning, design, and development decisions for federal land in the SW Ecodistrict. This approximately 110-acre site is located south of the National Mall between 4th and 12th Streets, SW. Approximately 56 percent of this land is federally owned. Like the plan, the Addendum is not a regulatory document. It provides guidance to inform future area and project planning and development activities.

The Commission also heard four information presentations. The Commission does not take action on information presentations. Representatives from the Eisenhower Memorial Commission provided an update on recent design modifications to the proposed Dwight D. Eisenhower Memorial. The modifications were made to address issues raised by the Commission during April 2014 review, specifically consistency with the seven design principles adopted by NCPC during the memorial’s site selection process. The updated design eliminates the previously proposed east and west tapestries, and replaces them with two freestanding columns placed at the northeast and northwest corners of the site, in alignment with the main south tapestry in front of the U.S. Department of Education.

The Commission also heard an information presentation on assessment reports for two proposed heritage trails for the Foggy Bottom/Northwest Rectangle and Southwest Federal Center neighborhoods. Building upon a successful collaboration for the Federal Triangle Heritage Trail, NCPC worked with Cultural Tourism DC to conduct an initial assessment for the feasibility of developing these new trails.

The Commission was also updated on plans by the National Park Service, the District of Columbia, and the Downtown DC Business Improvement District to create a new vision for Franklin Park. Through the design process the team developed a preferred design alternative for the federal park that would transform it into an active, flexible, sustainable, and historic urban park. Franklin Park is located south of K Street, NW between 13th and 14th Streets.

Lastly NCPC heard plans by DC Water to expand a sea wall built to protect the Blue Plains Wastewater Treatment Plant. This sea wall would protect the facility, located on the Potomac River in Southeast Washington, DC, from the impacts of storm surges and sea level rise caused by climate change.

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This month’s agenda also included three consent calendar item (no presentations given):

- Final master plan for Joint Base Anacostia-Bolling (MP55)
- Preliminary site and building plans for the Fuller Road access control facility at Marine Corps Base Quantico in Prince William County, Virginia (7590)
- Preliminary site development plans for the Metro Memorial Park to be located at the intersection of New Hampshire and South Dakota Avenues, NE (7598)

In addition, the Executive Director approved seven items, and the Chairman one item, under authorities delegated by the Commission. A video of today’s meeting video will be available at www.ncpc.gov/videos next week.

The National Capital Planning Commission is the federal government's central planning agency in the District of Columbia and surrounding counties of Maryland and Virginia. The Commission provides overall guidance for federal land and buildings in the region. It also reviews the design of federal projects and memorials, oversees long-range planning for future development, and monitors capital investment by federal agencies.

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