



## MEDIA ADVISORY

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For Immediate Release  
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### **NCPC's Urban Design Element Wins Federal Planning Award**

*Receives Honor Award from the American Planning Association's Federal Planning Division*

**Washington, DC** –The Federal Planning Division of the American Planning Association announced that the National Capital Planning Commission's Federal Urban Design Element and Technical Addendum won the Honor Award in the Outstanding Federal Planning Program category.

NCPC adopted the Urban Design Element, part of the *Comprehensive Plan for the National Capital*, at its February 4, 2016 monthly meeting. The Comprehensive Plan's Federal Elements provide a policy framework for the federal government in managing its operations and activity in the National Capital Region. Policies in the Urban Design Element are intended to guide skyline, viewshed, streetscape and public realm character throughout the capital and at federal facilities.

In its comments the jury noted that the Urban Design Element:

“Stresses how the built environment responds to natural geographic conditions and how the distinct system of public spaces and buildings shape the city's human experience in subtle and formative ways. Urban identity encompasses the character of the monumental core, federal buildings, the symbolic skyline, unique view-sheds, and commemorative works.”

“The Committee recognized the holistic view of urban form and its relationship to history, culture, the natural environment, and aesthetic appeal. Also significant are the quality of presentation, specific recommendations for preserving and enhancing the form and character of the nation's capital, and potential for transferring design principles to other settings.”

The Federal Planning Division awards were presented at a workshop luncheon held on Friday, April 1 during the Federal Planning Division portion of the American Planning Association National Conference held in Phoenix, Arizona.

Honor Award: Federal Urban Design Element and Technical Addendum  
Location: National Capital Region  
Sponsor: National Capital Planning Commission  
Contractor: Digital Design Imaging Services, Inc.

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