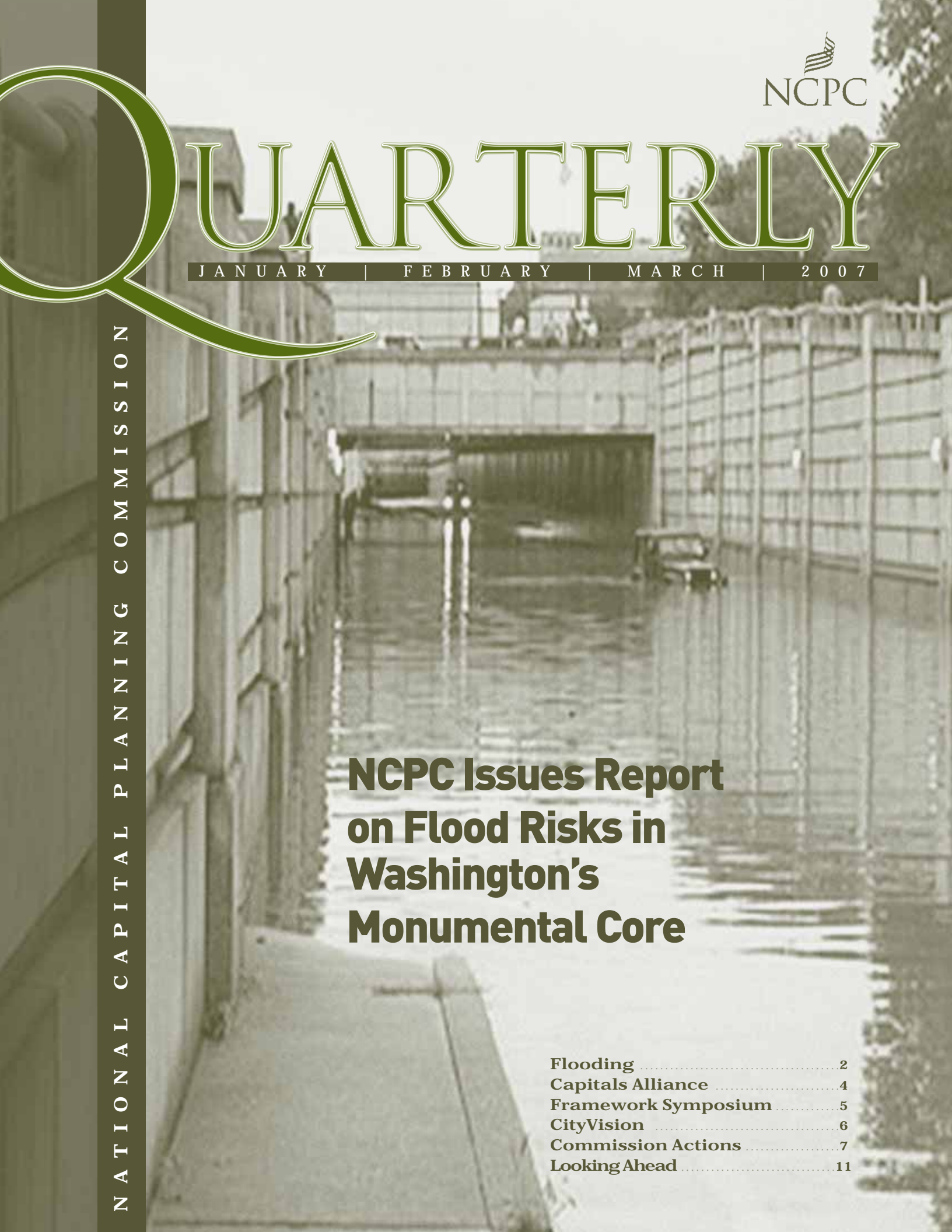


# QUARTERLY

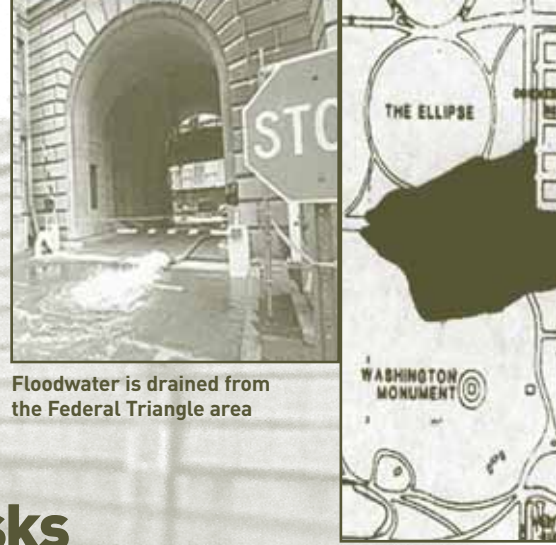
JANUARY | FEBRUARY | MARCH | 2007

NATIONAL CAPITAL PLANNING COMMISSION



## NCPC Issues Report on Flood Risks in Washington's Monumental Core

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Floodwater is drained from the Federal Triangle area

## NCPC Issues Report on Flood Risks in Washington's Monumental Core

At the February Commission meeting, National Capital Planning Commission (NCPC) staff presented the findings of its study on flooding threats within the nation's capital. The study was prompted in part by the June 2006 flood that damaged several federal office buildings and museums in the city's monumental core.

The final report identifies the types of flooding likely to occur in the downtown area and identifies the authorities ultimately responsible for flood control and prevention within the District of Columbia.

The report represents a first step toward developing a comprehensive approach to flood prevention and control in the nation's capital. Because many museums, memorials, and federal office buildings lie within the most flood-prone areas of the city, the federal government has a keen interest in understanding the causes of flooding and mitigating the consequences. NCPC, as the federal government's planning agency for the nation's capital, will take the lead in coordinating the planning efforts of a complex array of federal and local authorities responsible for flood prevention and stormwater management.

"By adopting a comprehensive approach to the problem," explained NCPC planner Ms. Desiderio, who wrote the study, "we can ensure that each agency's response doesn't interfere with the work of others."

### Flood Risks

Although Washington is susceptible to several types of flooding, it is most at risk from overbank flooding and urban drainage flooding. Overbank flooding occurs when a river receives more rain or snowmelt than it can handle. Urban drainage flooding happens when stormwater runoff exceeds the capacity of the storm sewer to carry it away.

While overbank flooding was not the cause of recent flooding in downtown Washington, it remains a potential threat to the city's monumental core, including the area known as the Federal Triangle.

In 1940, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) constructed a levee along the northern edge of the National Mall between the Lincoln Memorial and the Washington Monument. Its effectiveness, however, depends upon a system of temporary closures at 23rd Street, NW, 17th Street, NW, and Fort McNair.

ACOE has sought funding since 2000 to improve the system of closures and fortify several low points in the earthen structure. NCPC also has strongly endorsed this project in its annual Federal Capital Improvements Program.

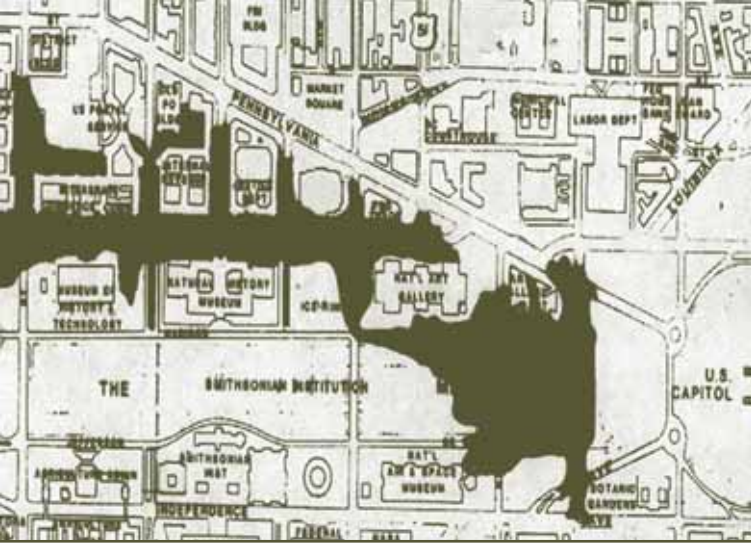
Even with an improved levee, many areas—including East Potomac Park, the Tidal Basin, and the National Mall up to the Reflecting Pool—are at risk for severe overbank flooding. The Mall, which is under the jurisdiction of the National Park Service, is home to many monuments and memorials and the cost of cleanup and restoration resulting from a single catastrophic event or repeated inundations could be substantial.

This report will provide a platform from which we can continue to make Washington a better place to live and work.

Chairman John V. Cogbill, III

Urban drainage flooding, like that which occurred in June 2006, is a separate, chronic risk. One-third of the city, including the downtown business district, has a combined sanitary and stormwater sewer system. During particularly heavy rains, the sewer system may become overburdened and unable to collect all the water, which then pools up in the streets.

Many buildings constructed in low-lying areas and on top of Washington's submerged streams have found they must dewater their basements and subbasements because water still flows in the old river beds and infiltrates building foundations.



Detail from ACOE map showing areas of likely urban drainage flooding

In June 2006, tropical downpours soaked the city for several days. According to an independent consultant retained by the General Services Administration (GSA) to determine the cause of the flooding, the rainfall over the entire course of the storm was equivalent to that which might occur only once every 50 years, and during the most intense period it was equivalent to a 200-year event.

The flooding paralyzed operations at four federal office buildings within the Federal Triangle including the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), the Commerce Department, the Justice Department, and the National Archives. The newly renovated William McGowan Theater in the National Archives was heavily damaged, and the IRS was so badly inundated that full restoration of the building is not expected until spring 2007. The National Gallery of Art and several Smithsonian buildings also became incapacitated when water in the basements shut down the buildings' electrical and climate control systems.

Questions still remain about why the Federal Triangle area flooded so badly and so quickly. The GSA's consultant determined that the flooding actually started before the rainfall should have exceeded the sewer's capacity. Because much of the Federal Triangle is built upon submerged streams that are the natural drainage for the area, it is possible that continual dewatering reduced the sewer's capacity to take away rainfall, but further research is necessary to reach a definitive conclusion.

### Managing the Risks

No fewer than seven federal and local agencies are responsible for implementing and enforcing the many laws, policies, and executive orders in place to prevent overbank and urban drainage flooding in the District of Columbia.

On the federal level, the key flooding statute is the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP), implemented by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). NFIP provides for creation of 100-year floodplain maps in conjunction with local governments. Buildings within the 100-year floodplain must obtain private flood insurance, and

eligibility for flood insurance usually requires the local community to adopt development restrictions that meet federal requirements. With the 100-year flood line fixed at the National Mall levee, private development to the north (in the downtown district) will be exempt from flood insurance and flood-proofing requirements.

The NCPC report clarifies that federal agencies are held to an even higher standard than the NFIP rules. Not only does the National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA) require federal agencies to assess the environmental impact of any building projects or site changes, Executive Order 11988 explicitly discourages the federal government from floodplain development in all of its actions and funding.

With regard to urban drainage flooding, the report indicates that D.C.'s sewer system needs capital improvements, but funding remains a significant problem. While most municipal stormwater programs are funded through a combination of property taxes, general revenues, and user fees, the D.C. Water and Sewer Authority is funded solely through user fees, which limits its ability to renovate its system.

Even with an improved levee, many areas—including East Potomac Park, the Tidal Basin, and the National Mall up to the Reflecting Pool—are at risk for severe flooding.

### Moving Forward

To follow up on the February Commission meeting, NCPC will organize a one-day forum for relevant stakeholders to begin the process of identifying the most important options for mitigating flood risks in the nation's capital. Upon the request of the Commission, NCPC staff will return to the May meeting with recommended actions as well as the results of an examination of the flooding risks east of the Anacostia River.

"This study is long overdue," said NCPC Chairman John V. Cogbill, III. "This report will provide a platform from which we can continue to make Washington a better place to live and work."



Sandbag levee, 1942

# Fifth Meeting of the Capitals Alliance



Alliance members look at the model of Canberra's Griffin Legacy

Delegates from eleven countries participated in the fifth meeting of the Capitals Alliance—a forum for senior planning officials from around the globe to exchange information and planning strategies. Delegates met in the Australian capital of Canberra the week of January 21. In addition to the host city, the national capitals in attendance included Beijing, Brasilia, Islamabad, Moscow, Ottawa, Paris, Seoul, Tshwane (formerly Pretoria), Washington, DC, and Wellington.

NCPC Deputy Executive Director Marcel Acosta and NCPC Director of Public Affairs Lisa MacSpadden represented America's national capital. Mr. Acosta and Ms. MacSpadden profiled the nation's capital and the role of the National Capital Planning Commission in planning for the capital city. They gave presentations on the agency's *Extending the Legacy* plan and the forthcoming National Capital Framework Plan.

Also in attendance from Washington, DC was the executive director of the Anacostia Waterfront Corporation, Adrian Washington, who presented the city's plan to redevelop the waterfront.

The conference provided attendees with in-depth sessions on a number of key issues unique to capital cities: commemoration, promotion and celebration, planning and development of a capital city. Larry Beasley, who served as Vancouver's planning director for more than a decade delivered the keynote address. Beasley emphasized a great capital must first be a great city.

"A capital city serves as a model for an entire country, embodying its hopes and inspiring its people," said Beasley during his presentation. "It should be a diverse and engaging economic, social and physical place."

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## NCPC Reaches Out with Framework Plan



On January 9, NCPC hosted an open meeting to update the public on the status of the National Capital Framework Plan. The Framework Plan, scheduled for release later this year, will help relieve pressure on the National Mall by illustrating how thoughtful planning can convert off-the-Mall destinations into accessible, inviting, and attractive places for commemoration and cultural celebration. The Framework Plan is a joint initiative of NCPC and the U.S. Commission of Fine Arts (CFA).

NCPC's Elizabeth Miller reviewed goals for the Framework Plan with participants. Following her presentation, members of the public spoke informally with NCPC staff and consultants working on the project. They circulated among displays illustrating opportunities for new cultural attractions, infrastructure improvements, and public amenities in East Potomac Park, Southwest Federal Center, Federal Triangle, and Northwest Rectangle. Discussions focused on initiatives

Mr. Beasley chairs the National Advisory Committee on Planning, Design and Realty for Ottawa's National Capital Commission and is a "Distinguished Practice" Professor of Planning at the University of British Columbia. At the invitation of NCPC and the Commission of Fine Arts, Mr. Beasley will participate in the agency's Framing a Capital City symposium, scheduled for April 11 at the National Building Museum. He will be part of a panel discussion on the qualities and uses of public spaces in Washington.

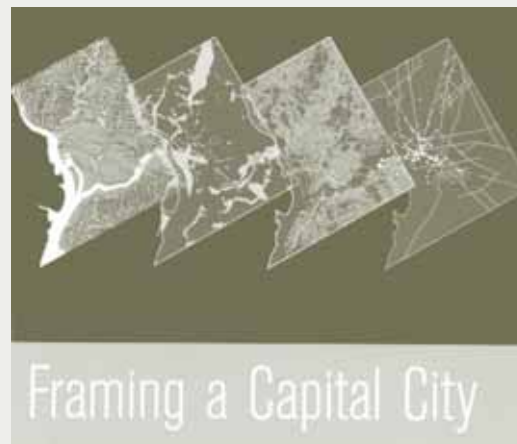
While in Canberra, Alliance members participated in tours to the Australian War Memorial (a national museum commemorating the sacrifice of the Australian men and women who served in wars), the Anzac Parade (an avenue lined with commemorative works of national significance), and the new Parliament House (opened in 1988, it houses the legislative branch of Australia's national government). The tour of Parliament House was given by the architect who designed the building, Romaldo Giurgola.

For more information on the 2007 Capitals Alliance, or to access papers presented by Alliance participants, please visit [www.ca2007.nationalcapital.gov.au](http://www.ca2007.nationalcapital.gov.au). Information on Capitals Alliance can also be found on NCPC's website, under About Us.

that might enhance the city's quality of life for residents as well as improve the visitor's experience.

As a result of the January public meeting, NCPC established connections with groups representing tourism and recreation interests, including the Guild of Professional Tour Guides of Washington, D.C., and the Washington Convention and Tourism Corporation. Participants in these follow-up meetings had the opportunity to discuss issues that should be considered in the further development of the Framework Plan.

NCPC staff also presented their preliminary work to several local stakeholders, including the Downtown Business Improvement District Developers Forum and the National Mall Road Workgroup, and met with organizations interested in planning and historic preservation, including the Committee of 100 and the National Coalition to Save Our Mall.



## Symposium Weighs D.C.'s Future

For more than two centuries, Pierre Charles L'Enfant's visionary plan for the nation's capital has withstood the test of time, balancing the city's role as a showcase for the nation with the everyday needs of a working city.

On April 11, 2007, NCPC and the U.S. Commission of Fine Arts (CFA) will gather experts in urban planning, architecture, and landscape design for "Framing a Capital City," a symposium to explore initiatives that will help planners accommodate demands for future monuments and memorials without increasing development pressure on the National Mall.

Organized in collaboration with the National Building Museum, "Framing a Capital City" is expected to make a significant contribution to the forthcoming National Capital Framework Plan, a joint NCPC-CFA initiative to identify sites for cultural attractions and commemorative works throughout the city. By locating museums and memorials in all quadrants of Washington, NCPC and CFA hope to unite more neighborhoods with the city center, create vibrant public spaces, and ensure that federal projects will serve as catalysts for further municipal and private investment.

Noted scholars and authors will join policymakers and citizen activists in the day-long symposium to discuss the landscape of narrative and commemoration, the evolution of public space, the creation of a sustainable urban ecology, and the unique challenges facing a city with national and local responsibilities.

All sessions are free and open to the public, but the National Building Museum requests advance registration. AIA and AICP continuing education credit is available. To register and obtain a full list of participants, sessions, and times, please visit the Calendar of Events page at [www.nbm.org](http://www.nbm.org).

# Students Unveil Designs for Future Memorials

On January 12, NCPC planners were on hand at the National Building Museum when local area students unveiled design proposals for future memorials in the nation's capital. The youth were part of the Museum's semiannual CityVision event, an award-winning outreach program that assembles architects, educators, and urban design professionals to help local students develop a better understanding of the built environment.

NCPC joined the CityVision program in 2006, meeting with students each week throughout the fall semester to teach basic principles of design, encourage creative thinking, and develop competency in communication and leadership.

"The CityVision program teaches Washington, D.C. public school students how to initiate change and promote change in their communities," said Chase Rynd, executive director of the National Building Museum. "Through the design process, students develop problem-solving, teamwork, and advocacy skills."

Students from Browne Junior High School, MacFarland Middle School, and Paul Public Charter School presented designs for memorials at three locations chosen by NCPC: Banneker Overlook, the RFK Stadium site, and East Potomac Park. All three are included in NCPC's National Capital Framework Plan study, which will identify locations for new cultural attractions throughout the city.

"CityVision is an investment in the city's future that fits well with our planning efforts," said Marcel Acosta, NCPC's deputy executive director and keynote speaker at the event. "The work you see here tonight is not just an abstract exercise; it reflects a bigger, national-level discussion that is unfolding right now about commemorative works and the future of our National Mall."

The students presented their concept designs to a panel of professionals for evaluation and feedback. The student group assigned to the Benjamin Banneker memorial, located on 10th Street, SW, created a more park-like setting with improved visitor amenities. Those working on East Potomac Park took an urban design approach, addressing the site's challenges which include frequent flooding, deteriorating pathways, and the need for improved

lighting. At the RFK stadium site, students created a memorial to commemorate the victims of Hurricane Katrina. The DC Armory near the stadium sheltered hundreds of victims in the aftermath of the deadly storm.

CityVision takes place during the fall and spring of each academic year. Up to twelve students are selected from three participating schools to attend the program. They meet for a full day, every week for 14 weeks. The program culminates in a final public presentation at the Building Museum in which team members present their work to a panel of professionals.

In the fall semester, NCPC planners Stefanie Brown and Elizabeth Miller coordinated the project, and Ms. Brown, along with Kenny Walton, David Zaidain, and Ellyn Goldkind were weekly volunteers. Jonathan McIntyre, Lucy Sherman, and Shane Dettman also contributed their time and expertise.

NCPC looks forward to continuing its work with the CityVision program in the spring semester, when a new group of students will develop designs for potential new museums in the nation's capital.

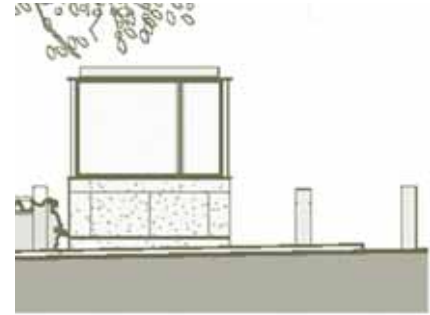
The work you see here tonight is not just an abstract exercise; it reflects a bigger, national-level discussion that is unfolding right now about commemorative works and the future of our National Mall.

Marcel Acosta, Deputy Executive Director



# March

March 1, 2007



## Commission Approves Perimeter Security Plan for National Museum of American History

The Commission approved final site development plans for perimeter security at the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of American History, located on the National Mall on Constitution Avenue, between 12th and 14th Streets, NW.

The museum's security design employs a variety of measures including walls, benches, cable-reinforced fences, and fixed and retractable bollards. Guardhouses will be located adjacent to existing driveways and feature flat, copper-roofs, stone base panels, and windows on all sides.

In its approval of the project, the Commission recommended the Smithsonian Institution consider incorporating foundation plantings within the yard facing the National Mall. The Commission also recommended the Smithsonian submit for review and approval any new or existing signs that are to be relocated.

## Commission Comments on Plan for George Washington University Campus

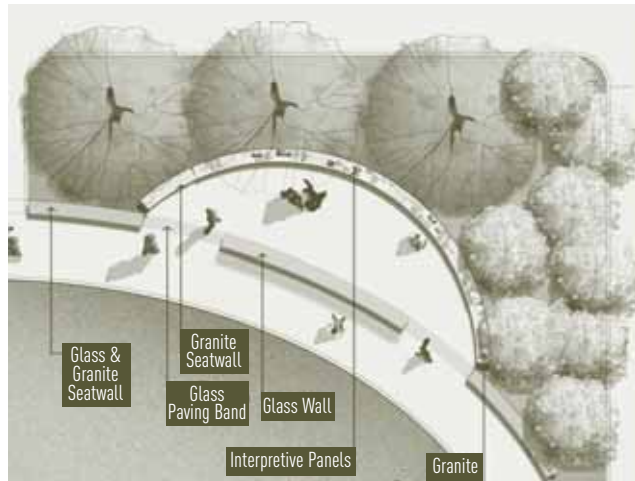
NCPC recommended that the District of Columbia Zoning Commission approve the first stage Planned Unit Development (PUD) and zoning map amendment in conjunction with George Washington University's 2006-2025 Campus Plan. The PUD specifies uses and densities for 16 development sites on 10 of the University's 20 squares.

NCPC reviewed the proposal for its potential impact on the federal interest, which includes numerous original L'Enfant streets and reservations, the Height of Buildings Act of 1910, the Foggy Bottom Metrorail Station, and adjacent historic resources.

The Commission determined that the first stage Planned Unit Development (PUD) will not have a negative impact on the federal interest and recommended Zoning Commission approval. However, the Commission required that, for approval of each second-stage PUD, George Washington University demonstrate consistency with the Height of Buildings Act of 1910 in Condition 6.b of the Campus Plan. Condition 6.b states the height, bulk, and design of each submission will be compatible with adjacent structures.

# February

February 1, 2007



## John Marshall Memorial Park To Receive Upgrade

The Commission commented favorably on the design concept for John Marshall Memorial Park. Located between Pennsylvania Avenue and C Street, NW, the park honors John Marshall, the longest-serving chief justice of the United States Supreme Court (1801-1835).

Plans submitted by the National Park Service on behalf of the John Marshall Park Foundation call for a significant modification and rehabilitation of the park created in 1981 by the Pennsylvania Avenue Development Corporation. Congress originally authorized the park in 1882.

The design concept calls for:

- Improving the existing landscape and changing the central rectangular lawn into an ellipse
- Replacing the base of the statue of Judge Marshall and moving the statue to the lower plaza
- Rehabilitating the north plaza's fountains and adding new tables and chairs
- Constructing four "interpretive rooms" around the ellipse featuring etched glass walls
- Placing a new Constitutional pillar at the north side of the elliptical plaza
- Improving accessibility with new ramps, stairs, walkways, and lighting

The Commission recommended the foundation design the fountains for year-round use and consider security needs when selecting trees and other plantings for the site.

## Wisconsin Avenue Terminus of the Georgetown Waterfront Park Moves Forward

The Commission approved revised preliminary site and building plans for Georgetown Waterfront Park's Wisconsin Avenue Terminus. The 2.3-acre section will function as the main entrance for the park's recreational area. It will feature an interactive water element, open lawn areas, a pergola with seating, a plaza space at the foot of Wisconsin Avenue, and a waterfront promenade. The Crescent Bike Trail will pass through the park at its boundary near K Street.

The National Park Service changed the design of the pergola—including its materials, geometry, and height—in response to the Commission's July 2005 review of the project. The pergola's seating will be granite and match that used in the fountain and river overlooks to provide a consistent appearance. The seating will be curved, allowing the user to see both the waterfront and the surrounding park.

The sidewalk's north extension was enlarged slightly and the pedestrian crossing will be more prominent. A single-lamp Washington Globe, as opposed to a multi-lamp fixture, will line the park's perimeter along K Street and 31st Street. The entire Georgetown Waterfront Park will encompass 10 acres along the Potomac River and extend from 31st to 34th Streets, NW.





### Streetcars to Return to Washington, D.C.

The Commission approved final site and building plans for the Anacostia Streetcar Initial Line Segment. The project submitted by the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) will function as a demonstration line for the potential extension of a streetcar network in other parts of the capital city. The four-stop, 1.3 mile streetcar line will run south from the Anacostia Metro Station to South Capitol Street near Bolling Air Force Base.

The Commission encouraged DDOT to investigate alternative technologies for expansion of the streetcar line that do not require overhead wires, noting that overhead wires are prohibited by law in the historic L'Enfant city and Georgetown. The Commission also noted that DDOT should submit each segment of the new streetcar line to the Commission for review.

The Commission requested that DDOT return to the Commission for review of elements including pylons, signs, and passenger shelters.

### District of Columbia Commended for Comprehensive Plan

The Commission adopted a resolution commending the District of Columbia for preparation of *The Comprehensive Plan for the National Capital: District Elements*. The Plan, which the Commission cited as “dynamic and functional,” will serve the needs of citizens and stakeholders and ensure Washington, D.C. remains one of the world’s great cities.

Under the National Capital Planning Act, the Commission is responsible for reviewing and approving the District Elements of the Comprehensive Plan to ensure they are consistent and coordinated with the Federal Elements and create “no adverse impacts to the federal interest.” The Commission noted a few

areas that required revision and anticipates reviewing and approving amended District Elements at the April 2007 Commission meeting.

*The Comprehensive Plan for the National Capital* provides guidance for growth and development in the District of Columbia for the next twenty years. The Plan consists of Federal Elements adopted by NCPC in 2004 and the District Elements that are now being finalized by the District of Columbia government.

### Reconstruction of Historic L'Enfant Street Planned

The Commission approved preliminary and final site and building plans for street and sidewalk reconstruction along H Street, NE, between 3rd and 14th Streets. The project will also improve lighting, add trees, and enhance street furniture and other amenities along the rejuvenating corridor. The work is part of the District Department of Transportation’s (DDOT) “Great Streets” program, which the Commission commended for improving public spaces and creating a more pedestrian-friendly urban environment.

To save on construction costs and minimize street disruptions, the reconstruction project will also install tracks for a future streetcar line expected to begin operation within the next five years.

The Commission requested DDOT return to the Commission for review of elements planned for a city-wide streetcar system including pylons, signs, and passenger shelters.

# January

January 4, 2007



## Planned Unit Development on Connecticut Avenue Might Exceed Height Limit

The Commission commented on the District of Columbia Zoning Commission's proposal regarding a Planned Unit Development and related zoning map amendment for 1000 Connecticut Avenue, NW. The proposed twelve-story commercial building, located at the intersection of Connecticut Avenue and K Street, NW, is approximately 134 feet high, including a parapet.

The Commission's authority on District zoning amendments extends to a project's impact on the federal interest, which in this instance is governed by the Height of Buildings Act of 1910. The Commission advised the Zoning Commission that the proposed parapet feature might exceed the allowable height permitted by the Act. The Act states no parapet walls shall extend above the limit of height." The Commission recommended that NCPC staff and the District Office of Planning work together to improve the definition of architectural elements such as parapets and cornices that are used to embellish buildings.

## Proposed Washington Gateway in Northeast Exceeds Height Limitations

The Commission reviewed and commented on the District of Columbia Zoning Commission's submission regarding Washington Gateway, a consolidated Planned Unit Development in Northeast. The Gateway is a mixed-use project for a 3.1 acre triangular site bounded by New York Avenue, NE, Florida Avenue, NE, and Metrorail's red line tracks.

The project includes a hotel/residential building on the west side of the property and an office building on the east side. Retail would be located along Florida Avenue, and entry to both buildings would be from a landscaped plaza in the center. The site is just outside the northern boundary of the original L'Enfant city.

In evaluating this project, the Commission concluded that:

- The project is inconsistent with the Height of Buildings Act of 1910
- The height of the residential/hotel building raises security concerns for the nearby Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives headquarters
- Planned parking garage and loading dock entrances would adversely affect this significant city gateway and limit the opportunity to locate a significant commemorative work at the intersection of New York and Florida Avenues, as envisioned in NCPC's 2001 *Memorials and Museums Master Plan*

The Commission recommended that the Zoning Commission reconsider its approval of this project and require the applicant to consult with the General Services Administration and ATF to resolve security concerns and modify the design of the residential/hotel building to improve the character of this important gateway and potential commemorative work site.

# Commission Notes

## NCPC Wins Prestigious Preservation Award

In February, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation honored NCPC with its Chairman's Award for Federal Achievement in Historic Preservation. The award recognized NCPC's "leadership role in preserving the heritage and culture of Washington, D.C." Specifically, the Council cited NCPC's efforts to recenter the city's monumental core on the U.S. Capitol, as originally intended by Pierre L'Enfant. NCPC's efforts are exemplified by the agency's signature planning initiatives, including the 1997 *Extending the Legacy Plan*, the 2001 *Memorials and Museums Master Plan*, and the forthcoming National Capital Framework Plan.

## Security Plan Showcased at New York Museum

NCPC's *National Capital Urban Design and Security Plan* featured prominently in a perimeter security exhibit held at New York's Municipal Art Society. "The New Street: Innovation at the Perimeter" utilized examples from Chicago, New York City, and Washington, D.C., to illustrate how public spaces can be protected unobtrusively through innovative security designs. This point is a major theme of NCPC's security plan and is evident in the designs guided by NCPC, including those now protecting the Washington Monument and the White House. The exhibition, organized by Rogers Marvel Architects, ran from November 8, 2006 through January 3, 2007.

## Staff Announcements

NCPC's longest-tenured employee, William J. "Billy" Knight retired after 28 years of dedicated service to the agency. Billy joined NCPC in August 1979 and completed his career on January 8, 2007, with a farewell breakfast organized by his coworkers. In his position with the Office of Administration, Mr. Knight made countless contributions to the smooth functioning of NCPC, from managing supplies to providing logistics for the Commission's monthly meetings. NCPC bid an official farewell to Mr. Knight at the January Commission meeting, wishing him many years of good health and happiness in retirement.

## Looking Ahead



### April 5

A CapitalSpace public preview will take place on April 5 from 5:30 to 7:30 PM at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Library. NCPC, the National Park Service and the District of Columbia will present preliminary findings of CapitalSpace—a joint initiative to create a unified park system for Washington, DC. CapitalSpace will be the first inventory and park assessment in more than 30 years. See Planning Initiatives at [www.ncpc.gov](http://www.ncpc.gov) for more information.

### April 10-29

The Exhibit "Worthy of the Nation" will open in the West Hall of Union Station with a ribbon cutting on April 10. The exhibit will trace the unique history of planning in the nation's capital and will feature historic photos and maps from NCPC's recently released book, *Worthy of the Nation: Washington, DC, from L'Enfant to the National Capital Planning Commission* by Frederick Gutheim and Antoinette J. Lee.



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### April 11

A select group of the nation's most talented city planners, designers, scholars, architects, and policymakers will convene at the National Building Museum for the symposium, "Framing a Capital City." The event, hosted by NCPC, the Commission of Fine Arts, and the Museum is free, but reservations are required. More information can be found under events at [www.nbm.org](http://www.nbm.org).

# QUARTERLY

January | February | March | 2007

NATIONAL CAPITAL PLANNING COMMISSION  
401 9TH STREET, NW, NORTH LOBBY, SUITE 500  
WASHINGTON, DC 20004

## Calendar of Events

### April 5 Capital Space Public Preview

5:30-7:30 PM at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Library.  
See Planning Initiatives at [www.ncpc.gov](http://www.ncpc.gov) for more information.

### April 10-29 Worthy of the Nation Exhibit

West Hall of Union Station. Ribbon cutting at 1:30 PM on April 10. Exhibit runs through April 29.

### April 11 Framing a Capital City Symposium

9:00 AM-6:30 PM at the National Building Museum. Reservations are required.  
More information can be found at [www.nbm.org](http://www.nbm.org).

### April 11 National Capital Region Rail Line Security Summit

8:30 AM-12:45 PM at L'Enfant Plaza Hotel. NCPC staff will present the recommendations of the Rail Realignment Feasibility Study. RSVP by April 3 to [lara@designhouseonline.net](mailto:lara@designhouseonline.net).

### April 18 Griffin Legacy Lecture

6:00PM at NCPC. David Heaton of Australia's National Capital Authority will discuss *Extending the Griffin Legacy*, an examination of the ongoing relevance and potential of Canberra's 1912 Griffin Plan. Free.

## Commission Members

John V. Cogbill, III, Chairman, Presidential Appointee

Herbert F. Ames, Presidential Appointee

José L. Galvez, III, Presidential Appointee

Arrington Dixon, Mayoral Appointee

Stacie S. Turner, Mayoral Appointee

The Honorable Robert M. Gates  
Secretary of Defense

The Honorable Dirk Kempthorne  
Secretary of the Interior

The Honorable Lurita Alexis Doan  
Administrator of General Services

The Honorable Joseph I. Lieberman  
Chairman, Senate Committee on Homeland Security and  
Governmental Affairs

The Honorable Henry A. Waxman  
Chairman, House Committee on Oversight and  
Government Reform

The Honorable Adrian M. Fenty  
Mayor of the District of Columbia

The Honorable Vincent C. Gray  
Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia

Executive Director  
Patricia E. Gallagher, AICP



National Capital Planning Commission  
401 9th Street, NW  
North Lobby, Suite 500  
Washington, DC 20004  
Telephone 202.482.7200  
Fax 202.482.7272  
[www.ncpc.gov](http://www.ncpc.gov)

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