National Capital Planning Commission
2024-2027 Climate Adaptation Plan

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Introduction

The National Capital Planning Commission (NCPC), an independent executive branch agency, defines and protects the federal government's interests in the development of the National Capital Region. Over the past several years, NCPC has strengthened climate change adaptation integration into its programs, policies, and operations. Since its 2021 Climate Action Plan, NCPC has continued to develop near-term, long-term, and ongoing opportunities to incorporate climate adaptation goals and policies in its four core activities:

Comprehensive Planning: The Comprehensive Plan includes goals and policies for effectively siting federal facilities, supporting transportation management and sustainable development patterns, creating and preserving parks and open space, and promoting flood risk mitigation to provide an efficient workforce and protect and enhance the public use of federal assets. NCPC uses Comprehensive Plan goals and policies to encourage federal adaptation actions that enable the federal government to manage climate change risks in the National Capital Region.

Federal Capital Improvements Program (FCIP): Capital improvement plans link the visions articulated by project plans with annual capital expenditure budgets, allow for a systematic evaluation of potential projects, and facilitate coordination among the units of government that are responsible for project implementation. Through review of capital improvement plans by regional jurisdictions and FCIP reporting, NCPC coordinates capital improvement planning at federal and local levels. NCPC uses the FCIP process to encourage agencies to identify climate adaptation strategies in their project submissions.

Project and Plan Review: NCPC works directly with federal agencies through the planning and design review process to identify climate change risks and describe adaptation measures considered in the projects and plans submitted to NCPC for review. Early engagement provides opportunities to integrate climate adaptation goals early and influence project outcomes.

Special Initiatives: NCPC's long-range planning work promotes efficient energy and water use and enhanced environmental performance and resilience. NCPC includes climate adaptation strategies when preparing plans and initiatives that address the current planning needs of the federal government in the National Capital. Current work includes the Monumental Core Streetscape Guide, the Pennsylvania Avenue Initiative, and Independence Avenue Urban Design and Streetscape Plan.

NCPC uses the climate reporting process to reflect on how its work addresses current climate change risks, aligns with other federal, regional, and local adaptation efforts, and complements other initiatives. NCPC is coordinating its efforts regarding climate adaptation, resilience, flood risk mitigation, sustainability, and equity.

In summary, through our agency strategic goals and priority adaptation actions, NCPC is committed to advancing climate change adaptation and resiliency planning to support sustainable infrastructure and development in the National Capital Region.

Marcel C. Acosta

Executive Director / Chief Sustainability Officer
National Capital Planning Commission

Section 1: Agency Profile

Agency Profile	
Mission	The National Capital Planning Commission (NCPC), an independent executive branch agency, defines and protects the federal government's interests in the development of the National Capital Region. We are guided by the National Capital Planning Act; the National Historic Preservation Act; the National Environmental Policy Act; and environmental and energy statutes, regulations, and executive orders. Through our core activities of comprehensive planning, the federal capital improvements program, project and plan review, and special long-range planning initiatives, we protect the broad and multifaceted interests related to federal land; buildings and operations; parks and open space; and the form, character, and experience of the nation's capital.
Adaptation Plan Scope	Our Commission is composed of 12 representatives from the federal and District governments. They meet monthly to adopt, approve, or advise on plans and projects that impact the nation's capital and region. The Commission is supported by 30 staff members with professional backgrounds in city and transportation planning, architecture, landscape architecture and urban design; economic development and real estate; historic preservation, and community engagement. Currently, five Divisions support the Agency's core activities and are included in the Climate Adaptation Plan: Office of Administration Office of Public Engagement Urban Design and Plan Review Division Policy and Research Division Physical Planning Division Throughout 2024, NCPC will be reorganizing its planning staff into two divisions – current planning and long-range planning. Functions will remain the same, though processes will be streamlined under the new organizational structure.
Agency Climate Adaptation Official	Marcel Acosta
Agency Risk Officer	Tamara Lewis
Point of Public Contact for Environmental Justice	Julia Koster
Leased Buildings	One leased building: 24,053 Rentable / 19,005 Usable Square Feet *(2024 Agency Budget)*

Employees	30 FTE / 1 Contractor / 5 Paid Commissioners *(2024 Agency payroll report - National Finance Center)*
Budget	Total Agency Budget: $8,750,000 FY22 Enacted Level: $8,750,000 FY23 Enacted Level: $8,750,000 FY24 Enacted Level: $8,750,000 FY25 Presidential Budget: $8,850,000 *(NCPC Office of Administration, April 2024)*
Key Areas of Climate Adaptation Effort	1: Comprehensive Plan Updates 2: Federal Capital Improvements Program Review Process Updates 3: Project and Plan Review Process Updates 4: Monumental Core Streetscape Project – Guide and Manual Update 5: Flood Risk Management *(NCPC's 2021 Climate Action Plan)*

NCPC is building resilience and strengthening adaptive capacity through its work across key program areas: the Comprehensive Plan; the Federal Capital Improvements Program (FCIP) review process; Project and Plan Review; Special Projects and Initiatives; and Flood Risk Management. Resilience is a focus within each program area:

Within the Comprehensive Plan, the Federal Environment Element includes climate-focused policies. When this is updated in FY25, there will be additional focus on flooding resilience and adaptive capacity within the National Capital Region. Resilience is also a theme within other sections of the Comprehensive Plan including Urban Design and the Introductory Chapter.

The FCIP review process also incorporates climate and environmental metrics when NCPC staff review applicant projects. Those include climate adaptation and mitigation considerations such as renewable energy use, water conservation and reclamation measures, runoff mitigation, greenhouse gas reduction, alignment with design standards (LEED, Earthcraft, Living Building Challenge, etc.), land conservation, and adaptation for sea level rise, flooding, failing infrastructure, and other environmental hazards.

The Plan Review process likewise has a resilience focus. Projects are reviewed to ensure they meet all Comprehensive Plan elements, federal guidelines such as the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and National Historic Presentation Act (NHPA), relevant executive orders, and internal guidance. Climate, resilience, and adaptation metrics are found within these review focus areas.

NCPC leads various special projects and initiatives including the Pennsylvania Avenue Initiative, the Monumental Core Streetscape Design Guidelines, and the Independence Avenue Urban Design and Streetscape Plan. Within each of these planning efforts, staff prioritize resilience, green infrastructure, stormwater management, design for climate adaptation, expansion of the urban tree canopy, and enhanced environmental performance.

NCPC also manages flooding and resilience efforts which includes responding to EO 13690 by working with federal partners to develop guidance that incorporates the new federal flood risk management standards. New guidelines and an approach for using these guidelines in the plan and project review process will be presented to the Commission for review with adoption in 2024. NCPC is also assisting in coordinating the Federal Triangle strategy with the Silver Jackets[1].

Throughout all NCPC's work, staff utilize their backgrounds in planning, landscape architecture, architecture, policy, transportation, and urban design to advocate for plans, policies, and projects that address climate resilience and adaptation across the National Capital Region. NCPC often convenes both federal and district partners to ensure there is communication and coordination across agencies, including on climate-focused projects and planning efforts.

[1] [1] *The D.C. Silver Jackets is an interagency team comprised of members from federal, District of Columbia and regional agencies, as well as academia. This team leverages resources to identify and implement comprehensive, resilient, and sustainable solutions to reduce flood risk around the District and to assist local communities*.

Section 2: Risk Assessment

NCPC assessed the exposure of its employees and resources to climate hazards including: extreme heat, extreme precipitation, sea level rise, flooding, and wildfire risk.

Climate Data Used in Agency Risk Assessment

Hazard	Description	Scenario	Geographic Coverage
Extreme Heat	Measured as whether an asset is projected to be exposed to an increased number of days with temperatures exceeding the 99th percentile of daily maximum temperatures (calculated annually), calculated with reference to 1976-2005. Data are from high-resolution, downscaled climate model projections based on the Localized Constructed Analogs (LOCA) dataset prepared for the 4th National Climate Assessment.	RCP 4.5	CONUS
		RCP 8.5	CONUS
Extreme Precipitation	Measured as whether an asset is projected to be exposed to an increased number of days with precipitation amounts exceeding the 99th percentile of daily maximum precipitation amounts (calculated annually), with reference to 1976-2005. Data are from high-resolution, downscaled climate model projections based on the LOCA dataset prepared for the 4th National Climate Assessment.	RCP 4.5	CONUS
		RCP 8.5	CONUS and AK
Sea Level Rise	Measured as whether an asset is within the inundation extents from NOAA Coastal Digital Elevation Models and the 2022 Interagency Sea Level Rise Technical Report. Intermediate and Intermediate-High sea level rise scenarios used as proxies for RCP 4.5 and 8.5, respectively.	RCP 4.5	CONUS and PR
		RCP 8.5	CONUS and PR
Wildfire Risk	Measured as whether an asset is in a location is rated as high, very high, or extreme risk based on the U.S. Forest Service Wildfire Risk to Potential Structures (a data product of Wildfire Risk to Communities), which estimates the likelihood of structures being lost to wildfire based on the probability of a fire occurring in a location and likely fire intensity. Data reflects wildfires and other major disturbances as of 2014.	Historical	All 50 States
Flooding	Measured as whether an asset is located within a 100-year floodplain (1% annual chance of flooding) or 500-year floodplain (0.2% annual chance of flooding), as mapped by the Federal Emergency Management Agency National Flood Hazard Layer.	Historical	All 50 States and PR

Exposure to extreme heat, extreme precipitation, and sea level rise were evaluated at mid-(2050) and late-century (2080) under two emissions scenarios, Representative Concentration Pathway (RCP) 4.5 and RCP 8.5. Exposure to flooding and wildfire risk were only evaluated for the present day due to data constraints.

Climate Scenarios Considered in Agency Risk Assessment

Scenario Descriptor		Summary Description from 5th National Climate Assessment
RCP 8.5	Very High Scenario	Among the scenarios described in NCA5, RCP 8.5 reflects the highest range of carbon dioxide (CO_2) emissions and no mitigation. Total annual global CO_2 emissions in 2100 are quadruple emissions in 2000. Population growth in 2100 doubles from 2000. This scenario includes fossil fuel development.
RCP 4.5	Intermediate Scenario	This scenario reflects reductions in CO_2 emissions from current levels. Total annual CO_2 emissions in 2100 are 46% less than the year 2000. Mitigation efforts include expanded renewable energy compared to 2000.

2A. Climate Hazard Exposures and Impacts Affecting Federal Buildings

NCPC is a small agency that operates out of a small, leased space in a non-federal building in Washington, D.C. NCPC does not own or maintain real property. Please see section 2C below for our assessment of the most significant current and/or projected climate hazard impacts and/or exposure to the Federal resources we steward.

2B. Climate Hazard Exposures and Impacts Affecting Federal Employees

Climate Hazard Exposure to Employees	RCP4.5 2050 (Mid-Century)	RCP4.5 2080 (Late-Century)	RCP8.5 2050 (Mid- Century)	RCP8.5 2080 (Late- Century)
Annual Days with Maximum Temperatures over 90°, 95°, 100°, and 105 ° F	>90°: 66.5 days >95°: 27.5 days >100°: 6.8 days >105°: 1.0 days	>90°: 75.6 days >95°: 36.2 days >100°: 11.2 days >105°: 2.1 days	>90°: 74.6 days >95°: 35.7 days >100°: 10.7 days >105°: 2.0 days	>90°: 104.7 days >95°: 67.3 days >100°: 32.5 days >105°: 11.1 days
*Annual days with **precipitation exceeding** the 99th percentile.*	**7.7 days**	**8.3 days**	**8.2 days**	**9.7 days**
*% of District of Columbia impacted by sea **level rise.***	**0.3%**	**0.9%**	**0.3%**	**1.3%**

Wildfire Risk	Days Per Year with no Precipitation: **192.8 Days** Max Number of Consecutive Dry Days:**13.2 Days**	Days Per Year with no Precipitation: **192.6 Days** Max Number of Consecutive Dry Days: **13.5 Days**	Days Per Year with no Precipitation: **194.1 Days** Max Number of Consecutive Dry Days: **13.4 Days**	Days Per Year with no Precipitation: **195 Days** Max Number of Consecutive Dry Days: **13.9 Days**

Climate hazard exposure to NCPC employees is based on worksite location and commute. NCPC's office is in Washington, D.C. Almost all agency employees live within the National Capital Region, in the District of Columbia and neighboring counties in Maryland and Virginia, and are exposed to the same climate hazards regardless of worksite location.

In analyzing climate hazard exposure to employees, the District of Columbia was used as the area of analysis. Washington, D.C. is where the NCPC office is located, where most employees reside, and is the center of the National Capital Region where NCPC's projects are focused, thus offering a geography for climate hazard analysis. To conduct this analysis, the Climate Mapping For Resilience and Adaptation (CMRA) tool was used.

As nearly all NCPC employees live within the National Capital Region, of which all counties/cities are impacted by climate hazards, categories in the climate hazard exposure table above show specific climate impacts to the geography in which NCPC employees live and work.

2C. Climate Hazard Exposures and Impacts Affecting Federal Lands, Waters and Cultural Resources

NCPC's mission and agency operations will not be directly affected by climate hazard impacts. NCPC does not manage procurement, real property, public lands and waters, fund capital projects, or have implementation authority. As such, we do not undertake or budget for any direct adaptation actions outside of incorporating climate change adaptation goals and policies into our core functions.

However, climate hazard impacts will affect federal development projects that NCPC reviews. While applicant agencies are responsible for their specific project plans, NCPC has the authority to review the project to ensure that it is consistent with the Comprehensive Plan's goals and objectives, including policies that encourage applicant agencies to include risk assessments, adaptation strategies, resilience planning, and emergency preparedness in their projects and long-term planning efforts. It is also important for NCPC to address climate change impacts in its own long-range planning projects and special initiatives.

There are many federally owned properties vulnerable to climate change impacts in the Washington, DC region, including parkland, military installations, museums, memorials and monuments, and agency headquarters which could be damaged or significantly impaired if no action is taken. In addition to federal operations and properties, many federal sites also house national treasures and important documents of national significance which could be permanently damaged or lost if no action is taken.

In addition to damage to physical property and disruption of operations, long term climate change may affect the form of the city and the integrity of the Plan of Washington. The Plan of Washington has been the basis of the street grid and the urban development pattern in Washington since the establishment of the capital in 1791. For example, symbolic views to national memorials, the

White House, and the U.S. Capitol may be permanently altered if large scale infrastructure solutions to mitigate increased flooding are required in the vicinity of the National Mall.

Increased Flooding: The National Capital Region is vulnerable to three types of flooding: riverine, coastal, and interior. A riverine flood occurs when heavy rains or snowmelt in the Potomac River watershed - upstream of the city - causes flooding hours or days later in Washington, DC. Coastal floods occur when tropical storms or hurricanes push water up the Potomac River from the Chesapeake Bay and Atlantic Ocean. Interior floods or flash floods, occur when heavy rainfall overwhelms the stormwater sewer system.

Extreme Precipitation: The Federal Triangle, Rock Creek Park and the Tidal Basin area near the National Mall have flooded due to extreme rain events in the past. Constitution Avenue is prone to flooding even during small rain events. 2018 was DC's wettest year, with just over 50 inches of rain. In 2019, a record-breaking storm produced nearly a month's worth of rain in one hour. Current trends indicate that the Washington DC area will experience more frequent heavy rainfall events, especially in the fall and winter.

Sea-level Rise: Sea-level rise and variability in weather events is likely to exacerbate the frequency and intensity of riverine, interior, and storm surge flooding. Potomac and Anacostia River levels have increased 11 inches in the past 90 years due to sea level rise and subsidence. The US Army Corps of Engineers predicts up to 3.4 feet of additional sea level rise in Washington DC by 2080.

Average Temperature Rise and Extreme Heat: Washington DC's average annual temperatures have increased by 2 degrees over the last 50 years and predicted to continue to rise. The area also suffers from the urban heat island effect, where paved areas in the District of Columbia can be 10-15 degrees hotter than the actual temperature during heat waves, while large natural areas like Rock Creek Park can measure 10 degrees cooler. Typical average summer high temperatures of 87 degrees are projected to increase to the mid-to upper 90's by 2080. Increased average temperatures will also increase the number of heat emergency days (days with a heat index of 95 degrees or above) and cause longer heat waves. In Washington DC, heat emergency days are projected to increase from the recent average of 30 per year, to potentially 70 per year by 2080.

Severe Weather Events

Washington DC is vulnerable to coastal storms, like hurricanes, that cause storm surge flooding. More intense storms increase the risk of flooding, and can damage property, cause power outages, interrupt operations, and overwhelm aging infrastructure and other urban assets. Predictions suggest that by 2050, a 100-year storm could be as likely as today's 25-year storm.

Wildfire

In 2023 and 2024, Washington, D.C. was impacted by both regional and international wildfires. Severe wildfires in Canada during summer 2023 led to hazardous, unhealthy air quality conditions within the National Capital Region for prolonged periods. In March 2024, wildfires in Virginia led to smoky conditions and diminished air quality within the region. Both incidents underscore that climate hazards far outside of the District can still have significant impacts. As wildfires become more prevalent and grow in size and severity, it is likely that Washington, D.C. will be impacted with poor air quality more frequently in the future.

2D. Climate Hazard Exposures and Impacts Affecting Mission, Operations and Services

NCPC's mission, agency operations, and services are generally not directly impaired by climate-related hazards. NCPC operates out of a leased space and does not manage procurement, real property, public lands and waters, fund capital projects, or have implementation authority. As such, we generally do not undertake a structured method of assessing operating risk related to climate-related hazards.

However, NCPC does identify information technology (IT) system risks, reviews new IT systems in accordance with National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) standards which include physical and environmental controls related to climate hazards and performs contingency testing to evaluate the IT system's resilience in the event of a human or natural disaster.

In 2021 NCPC's server connectivity was impacted by the Schuylkill River flooding caused by Tropical Depression Ida. Resulting widespread damage affected a facility that hosts internet services, impacting connectivity for offices in the Northeast, including NCPC's. This prompted the agency to migrate most of its on-premises services and applications to a cloud-based system in FY22 to reduce its physical hardware footprint and increase energy efficiency. To minimize risk in the event of a regional disaster at one of the cloud facilities, NCPC selected an alternate processing center in a different region to serve as a backup. Currently, 95% of NCPC IT infrastructure is cloud-based.

While mission, operations, and services are not directly impacted by climate hazards, NCPC's approach to its core functions, such as the Comprehensive Plan development and project review, is influenced by an awareness of climate and resilience. As outlined in other sections such as *2C – Climate Hazard Impacts on and Exposure to Federal Lands, Water and Cultural Resources*, NCPC's geographic focus includes areas impacted by climate hazards. Because of this, NCPC applies a resilience lens to its projects and responsibilities, advocating for plans, policies, and projects that address climate resilience and adaptation across the National Capital Region. NCPC recognizes that climate hazards may expand in the future and is prepared to address those hazards as they arrive.

Section 3: Implementation Plan

3A. Addressing Climate Hazard Impacts and Exposure

1. Addressing Climate Hazard Exposures and Impacts Affecting Federal Buildings

NCPC is a small agency that operates out of a small, leased space in a non-federal building in Washington DC. NCPC does not own or maintain real property. Please see section 3 below for our priority actions related to the most significant current and/or projected climate hazard impacts and/or exposure to the Federal resources we steward.

2. Addressing Climate Hazard Exposures and Impacts Affecting Federal Employees

PRIORITIZED ACTIONS TO ADDRESS CLIMATE HAZARD IMPACTS ON AND EXPOSURE TO FEDERAL EMPLOYEES		
Climate Hazard Impact on and/or Exposure to Employees	Priority Actions	Timeline for implementation (2024-2027)
Climate hazards have the potential to disrupt the ability for employees across the National Capital Region to commute and access the office, particularly in extreme weather events.	NCPC will continue to incorporate OPM guidance on employee telework and assess its telework policy.	NCPC does not anticipate any significant updates to its telework policy.

Climate hazard exposure to NCPC employees is based on worksite location and commute. NCPC's office is in Washington DC. Almost all agency employees live within the National Capital Region, in the District of Columbia and neighboring counties in Maryland and Virginia, and are exposed to the same climate hazards regardless of worksite location.

NCPC offers a flexible telework policy. Agency employees generally work at the office six days each pay period but have the option of regular and situational telework. Telework options can promote continuity in federal operations because of weather phenomena such as winter storms and hurricanes, and the presence of national emergencies that may include but are not limited to public health and national security.

NCPC encourages employees to take public transit when commuting and traveling on official business. The agency participates in SmartBenefits which incentivizes public transit use. Approximately 93% of agency employees use public transit to commute from locations within the District and surrounding counties, including Washington Area Metropolitan Transit Authority (WMATA) Metrorail and Metrobus, Maryland Area Rail Commuter (MARC) and Virginia Railway Express (VRE) trains. Additionally, three employees carpool, a practice NCPC encourages. Climate hazard exposure is consistent with hazards associated with use of those public transit systems in the region.

Given NCPC's flexible telework approach and the ability for all staff to effectively and efficiently work remotely, NCPC does not anticipate a need to make any adjustments to workplace policy due to climate hazards at this time.

3. Addressing Climate Hazard Exposure and Impacts Affecting Federal Lands, Waters and Cultural Resources

Type of Land or Water Asset	Climate Hazard Impact on and/or Exposure to the Asset	Priority Action
National Capital Region	*Extreme Heat*	• The Federal Comprehensive Plan calls for robust urban tree canopy, as do the Monumental Core Streetscape Guidelines. • The Monumental Core Streetscape Guidelines include climate-and-heat-smart recommendations on paving. • FCIP and Project Review both include a focus on architectural sustainability, such as LEED. These include design parameters for climate-smart design, both for the building and building systems. • Continuing Action: continue to prioritize these metrics through our planning and review responsibilities.
National Capital Region	*Flooding*	• FCIP, Project Review, and the Federal Comprehensive Plan all include elements, policies, or guidance on flooding and mitigation. • The Monumental Core Streetscape Design Guidelines include guidance on green infrastructure and stormwater management. • NCPC is in the early stages of developing a Flooding Initiative; this will be a comprehensive, multi-agency project focused on flooding in and around the District. • Special planning studies, such as the Pennsylvania Avenue Initiative and Independence Avenue Plan, incorporate stormwater management and flooding mitigation/green infrastructure into the studies.
National Capital Region	*Sea Level Rise/Coastal Inundation*	• The Federal Comprehensive Plan (and particularly the Environment Element) include guidance on sea level rise and climate resilience. • Flooding Initiative – beginning a comprehensive, multi-agency project focused on flooding, inclusive of sea level rise.

		• The Tidal Basin and West Potomac Park Seawall Rehabilitation, reviewed and approved by NCPC, repairs 6800' of seawall, fixing settlement issues that have made this area prone to coastal flooding.
National Capital Region	*Wildfire*	• Currently there are no projects or initiatives focused on wildfire, as the area we work in is primarily urban. • Should wildfire risk within the National Capital Region grow, NCPC should more closely look at actions to address those threats.
National Capital Region	*Drought*	• FCIP and Project Review both include guidance on water conservation and reclamation. • Metrics within LEED or other sustainable design metrics (which are included within FCIP and project review) promote minimizing water usage. • The Bureau of Engraving and Printing Currency Production Facility, which was reviewed and approved by NCPC, retains and reuses 100% of on-site stormwater.

As an agency that does not have a portfolio of real property or management responsibilities for federal lands, waters, and cultural resources, NCPC does not directly impact land, water, and cultural resource conservation. However, through its review authority as well as through its special planning projects, NCPC can influence and guide how other agencies approach and manage those resources. Many of the projects that NCPC reviews or engages with through its planning efforts are sponsored by agencies that have significant land, water, and cultural resources including the National Park Service, the General Services Administration, the Smithsonian Institution, and the Department of Defense. NCPC resources such as the Federal Comprehensive Plan, the Monumental Core Streetscape Design Guidelines, and the NCPC Pollinator Guide address climate hazards and direct agencies to plan and design for climate resilience. This is especially important on projects with nationally significant cultural resources.

America the Beautiful	
Pollinator Guide	The NCPC Pollinator Guide provides applicant agencies information and direction on the incorporation of pollinator and native species into project planting plans. Native plantings that provide habitat and sustenance to important species help build more resilient landscapes that can better adapt to the changing climate.
Monumental Core Streetscape Design Guidelines	The Guidelines include guidance on green infrastructure, native plantings, tree canopy, and stormwater management. Capital projects that follow this document will create a public realm that has greater canopy coverage (reducing the urban heat island effect), more robust plantings (increasing habitat), and green infrastructure that captures and treats stormwater.
Project Review/Comprehensive Plan	Through the review of applicant projects as well as through the Federal Comprehensive Plan, NCPC promotes the conservation of natural resources, the integration of green infrastructure and stormwater management, and the expansion of the urban tree canopy.

America the Beautiful Initiative:

The America the Beautiful Initiative largely focuses on conservation at the landscape scale, aiming to conserve and protect 30% of US lands and waters to combat the impacts of climate change. As an agency that does not have a portfolio of real property or management responsibilities for federal lands, NCPC does not directly impact land and water conservation. However, through its role in FCIP and Project Review, as well as through its development of Federal Comprehensive Plan policy and internal guidance, NCPC impacts conservation at the site scale, furthering the spirit and intent of the America the Beautiful Initiative.

This guidance has manifested on projects such as the Bureau of Engraving and Printing Currency Production Facility, where 100% of stormwater is retained and reused on site, surface parking was reduced by 34%, tree canopy was expanded through the introduction of over 2000 trees, and native plants and pollinators were incorporated across the site. All projects that are reviewed by NCPC through the Project Review or FCIP processes are analyzed for compliance with Comprehensive Plan and NCPC policy; projects are scrutinized to ensure they meet all sustainability, conservation, and resilience requirements to the extent possible. Projects that meet these requirements advance the goals of the America the Beautiful Initiative.

3B. Climate-Resilient Operations

1. Accounting for Climate Risk in Planning and Decision Making

The FCIP review process includes prompts to encourage applicant agencies to assess their consistency with their respective agency processes and tools that measure and assess climate hazard risk exposure.

The Plan Review process also includes prompts for applicant agencies to confirm their consistency with their respective agency processes and tools that measure and assess climate hazard risk exposure. Projects that are subject to the NEPA and NHPA process undergo a formal environmental analysis or assessment which includes consideration of climate hazard risk.

Regarding mission and operations, NCPC does not have an agency-wide process or tool to incorporate consideration of climate hazard risk exposure in planning or decision making, though NCPC is mindful to contract with vendors that assess and mitigate climate hazards and risk exposure.

2. Incorporating Climate Risk Assessment into Budget Planning –

Since NCPC does not manage real property or federal lands, NCPC does not have an agency-wide process or tool to incorporate consideration of climate risk in planning or budget decisions. Climate risk considerations and processes are vendor specific.

3. Incorporating Climate Risk into Policy and Programs

Agency Policies Reviewed:

Across the categories listed below, NCPC is dedicated to incorporating climate risk into policy and planning. It is central to the agency's work across divisions and is a lens that informs nearly every planning and review effort.

<u>Climate Adaptation and Resilience:</u>

Currently, four NCPC divisions review policies and guidance related to climate adaptive capacity and resilience:

- Policy and Research Division (PRD)
    - Comprehensive Plan Introduction Chapter Update: The Comprehensive Plan for the National Capital's Introduction Chapter update was reviewed by the Commission and released for public comment in December 2023.
    - The update addresses several planning areas, including equity, climate change, and resilience. The introduction outlines the planning framework and guiding principles for the Comprehensive Plan's Federal Elements. A new section on critical planning challenges addresses environmental sustainability and resiliency; social, health, and racial equity; commemoration diversity; urban space and security; and the changing federal footprint.
- Urban Design and Plan Review Division (UDPR)
    - Submission Guidelines Equity Updates: Updates to the Submission Guidelines were reviewed by the Commission and released for public comment in December 2023. The updates amend the Submission Guidelines to encourage applicants to conduct early and meaningful community engagement, and to submit information about the equity impacts of plans and projects to inform the decision-making process. Two of the proposed equity considerations in the guidelines specifically address environmental justice including the Data Analysis consideration and the Sustainability, Resilience, and Health consideration. The Data Analysis consideration

asks applicants to identify if the proposed plan or project is in or directly adjacent to an underserved community, and to include a brief profile of demographic information and indicators of any socioeconomic and/or environmental burdens present in the community. CEQ's Climate & Economic Justice Screening Tool is referenced as a potential data source for applicant agencies.

    - Pollinator Best Practices Resource Guide: The Pollinator Best Practices Resource Guide was completed and presented to the Commission in January 2024. Many of the plans and projects NCPC reviews include new or restored landscape plans that propose trees, shrubs, grasses, vines, groundcovers, perennials, and/or meadows. Comprehensive Plan policies support sustainable practices in federal landscape development to include plants that support pollinator species. This guide summarizes best practices for incorporating pollinator-friendly plant species, including those that support monarch butterfly and honeybee habitats, in federal landscapes subject to review by NCPC. The resource guide is for general information purposes and is not a regulatory document.

- Office of Public Engagement (OPE)
    - Flooding: In 2024, NCPC resumed work on flood management planning and coordination across federal and District agencies on flooding-related topics, building upon the substantial work NCPC has completed previously.
- Physical Planning Division (PPD)
    - Monumental Core Streetscape Guidelines (PPD): The Guidelines include guidance on green infrastructure, plantings, tree canopy, and stormwater management. Capital projects that follow this document will create a public realm that has greater canopy coverage (reducing the urban heat island effect), more robust plantings (increasing habitat), and green infrastructure that captures and treats stormwater.

<u>Nature-Based Solutions:</u>

Two policies encourage the use of nature-based solutions:

- Monumental Core Streetscape Design Guidelines
- NCPC Pollinator Resource Guide

<u>Environmental Justice:</u>

NCPC released its Equity Action Plan Update in June 2023. Three action items in the plan closely align with the Climate Plan's priority actions: Comprehensive Plan updates, Federal Capital Improvement Program updates, and Project and Plan Review updates. Work toward implementing these actions will be coordinated to address environmental justice and climate change.

Environmental Justice is a key consideration as the agency carries out its' mission, such as:

- updating the Comprehensive Plan, including a new introduction, equity crosswalk, and strengthening policies;
- integrating environmental justice and equity questions into the FCIP solicitation process; and
- on-going discussions with project and plan review applicants.

To advance equity and environmental justice, NCPC is updating engagement practices to make planning processes and meetings more accessible and identify opportunities to engage with underserved communities.

Tribal Nations:

NCPC has an opportunity to consider impacts to tribal lands, Tribal Treaty Rights, and Traditional Ecological Knowledge through our National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) Section 106 responsibilities during the project review process. These responsibilities apply to those projects where NCPC has an approval authority.

- NCPC has identified tribal communities in the region and contacted them to be included in outreach efforts.
- The Introduction Chapter of the Comprehensive Plan includes a background and history of Tribal Nations in the National Capital Region.

Co-Benefits of Adaptation:

NCPC regularly updates its Comprehensive Plan. During the process of review and update, climate mitigation topics and strategies can be integrated into the document. For example, the Introduction Chapter update addresses several planning areas, including equity, climate change, and resilience. The introduction outlines the planning framework and guiding principles for the Comprehensive Plan's Federal Elements. A new section on critical planning challenges addresses environmental sustainability and resiliency; social, health, and racial equity; commemoration diversity; urban space and security; and the changing federal footprint. As future Comprehensive Plan chapters are reviewed, climate and resilience will continue to inform the updates.

4. Climate-Smart Supply Chains and Procurement

NCPC does not undertake a formal assessment of climate hazard risk to critical supplies and services. NCPC's mission and agency operations are generally not directly impaired by climate-related hazards. NCPC operates out of a leased space and does not manage procurement, real property, public lands and waters, fund capital projects, or have implementation authority. As such, we generally do not undertake a structured method of assessing operating risk related to climate-related hazards.

5. Climate Informed Funding to External Parties

NCPC does not provide funding to Tribal, state, territorial, local governments, or non-profits through grant and loan programs.

3C. Climate Training and Capacity Building for a Climate Informed Workforce

Training and Capacity Building	
Agency Climate Training Efforts	*Percent of the agency's Federal staff that have taken a 60+ minute introductory climate training course (e.g., Climate 101).* 66%. All agency technical (planning, urban design, historic preservation) staff (15 FTEs), executive planning staff (4 FTEs) and the General Counsel (1 FTE) completed a 3-day National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) training course in 2023. The course included instruction on how climate change is considered in the NEPA process.
	Percent of the agency's senior leadership (e.g., Sec, Dep Sec, SES, Directors, Branch Chiefs, etc.) that have completed climate adaptation training. 100%. The Commissioners, Executive Director, agency executive staff, and General Counsel received an in-depth training on flood risk and adaptation in the Federal Triangle area of Washington DC during a 2023 Commission retreat.
	Percent of budget officials that have received climate adaptation related training. 100%. The Director of Administration received an in-depth training on flood risk and adaptation in the Federal Triangle area of Washington DC during a Commission retreat.
	Percent acquisition officials that have received climate adaptation related training. 100%. The Director of Administration and agency CO received in-depth training on flood risk and adaptation in the Federal Triangle area of Washington DC during a Commission retreat. Agency executive staff and technical staff who serve as CORs completed a 3-day National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) training course in 2023.
Agency Capacity	*Number of full time Federal staff (FTE) across the agency that have tasks relevant to climate adaptation in their job description..* 66%. All agency technical (planning, urban design, historic preservation) staff (15 FTEs), executive staff (5 FTEs), and the management and program analyst (1 FTE) have tasks relevant to climate adaptation in their job description.

The majority of NCPC staff are urban planners and designers. Long term considerations of climate literacy, mitigation, and adaptation are integral to urban planning work. Depending on role, between two-thirds and 100% of agency staff have completed or received some form of climate adaptation related training in the last two years. However, NCPC has limited resources for staff training and professional development, limiting the agency's ability to provide training

beyond what has already been completed. Currently, there is no climate-focused training on the horizon for NCPC staff, though the agency supports staff pursuing various free online trainings.

NCPC encourages climate literacy and supports climate adaptation and resilience related training opportunities for staff to further their understanding and expertise. NCPC will continue to engage with local and regional organizations and agencies (such as the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, the District of Columbia government, academic organizations, professional organizations such as ASLA, APA, AIA, and ULI, and federal agencies) to stay informed and exchange information.

Through its review authority over federal projects, NCPC's process requires applicants to coordinate with other federal agencies and local communities on issues that affect external stakeholders, including transportation management, urban design, environmental conservation, climate change adaptation, resiliency planning, and environmental justice.

NCPC continues to lead and facilitate interagency coordination and collaboration efforts which address climate adaptation in the National Capital Region. NCPC will continue to incorporate climate change adaptation, resiliency planning, and environmental justice best practices in its operations and work on the Comprehensive Plan, FCIP, the agency's project and plan review process, and its long-range planning activities.

3D. Summary of Major Milestones

Section of the Implementation Plan	Description of Milestone	Climate Risk Addressed	Indicators for success
Monumental Core Streetscape Project: Construction Manual (includes green infrastructure and climate-smart design guidance)	Expected to be completed in 2024	Extreme heat, extreme precipitation	NCPC will coordinate with project partners/partner agencies and monitor how they use the Manual for planning, design, and construction projects.
Monumental Core Streetscape Project: Federal LED Streetlighting Standards (transitions streetlighting to more energy-efficient LED lights)	Expected to be completed in 2024	N/A – addresses sustainability and resilience through lessening energy consumption with the introduction of high-efficiency LED streetlighting	NCPC will coordinate with project partners/partner agencies and monitor how they use the Standards for planning, design, and construction projects.
Monumental Core Streetscape Project: Companion Streetscape Review Guide (provides design guidance for streetscapes of national	Expected to be completed in 2024	Extreme heat, extreme precipitation	NCPC will coordinate with DDOT and the DC Office of Planning and monitor how they use the Guide

significance outside of the Monumental Core; includes green infrastructure, tree canopy and landscape guidance, and climate-smart design guidance)			for planning, design, and construction projects.
Federal Comprehensive Plan Updates (Environment Element, Workplace Element, Urban Design Element, Introduction Chapter)	Environment – expected to be completed in FY25 Workplace, Urban Design, Introduction – expected to be completed in FY24	Sea level rise, extreme heat, extreme precipitation	Commission acceptance and approval.

Section 4: Demonstrating Progress

4A. Measuring progress

Key Performance Indicator: Climate adaptation and resilience objectives and performance measures are incorporated in agency program planning and budgeting by 2027.		
Section of the CAP	**Process Metric**	**Agency Response**
3A – Addressing Climate Hazard Impacts and Exposure	Step 1: Agency has an implementation plan for 2024 that connects climate hazard impacts and exposures to discrete actions that must be taken. (**Y**/N/Partially) Step 2: Agency has a list of discrete actions that will be taken through 2027 as part of their implementation plan. (**Y**/N/Partially)	Yes – NCPC will continue to incorporate climate hazard impact consideration and analysis into its work in project and plan review, comprehensive plan updates, and Federal Capital Improvement Program review.
3B.1 – Accounting for Climate Risk in Decision-making	Agency has an established method of including results of climate hazard risk exposure assessments into planning and decision-making processes. (**Y**/N/Partially)	Yes.

3B.2 – Incorporating Climate Risk Assessment into Budget Planning	Agency has an agency-wide process and/or tools that incorporate climate risk into planning and budget decisions. (Y/**N**/Partially)	No- Since NCPC does not manage real property or federal lands, NCPC does not have an agency-wide process or tool to incorporate consideration of climate risk in planning or budget decisions. Climate risk considerations and processes are vendor specific.
3B.5 – Climate Informed Funding to External Parties	Step 1: By July 2025, agency will identify grants that can include consideration and/or evaluation of climate risk. Step 2: Agency modernizes all applicable funding announcements/grants to include a requirement for the grantee to consider climate hazard exposures. (Y/N/Partially)	N/A
Key Performance Indicator: Data management systems and analytical tools are updated to incorporate relevant climate change information by 2027.		
Section of the CAP	**Process Metric**	**Agency Response**
3A – Addressing Climate Hazard Impacts and Exposure	Agency has identified the information systems that need to incorporate climate change data and information, and will incorporate climate change information into those systems by 2027. (Y/N/Partially)	Partially - NCPC is currently developing data management tools specifically for the Federal Environment Element.
Key Performance Indicator: Agency CAPs address multiple climate hazard impacts and other stressors, and demonstrate nature-based solutions, equitable approaches, and mitigation co-benefits to adaptation and resilience objectives.		
Section of the CAP	**Process Metric**	**Agency Response**
3B.3 – Incorporating Climate Risk into Policy and Programs	By July 2025, 100% of climate adaptation and resilience policies have been reviewed and revised to (as relevant) incorporate nature-based	Partially – NCPC continually updates chapters within the Federal Comprehensive Plan. Not all chapters will have been reviewed and updated with resilience policies by July 2025.

	solutions, mitigation co-benefits, and equity principles. (Y/N/**Partially**)	
Key Performance Indicator: Federal assets and supply chains are evaluated for risk to climate hazards and other stressors through existing protocols and/or the development of new protocols; response protocols for extreme events are updated by 2027.		
Section of the CAP	**Process Metric**	**Agency Response**
3B.4 – Climate- Smart Supply Chains and Procurement	Step 1: Agency has assessed climate exposure to its top 5 most mission-critical supply chains. (Y/**N**/Partially) Step 2: By July 2026, agency has assessed services and established a plan for addressing/overcoming disruption from climate hazards. (Y/**N**/Partially)	N/A - NCPC's mission and agency operations are generally not directly impaired by climate-related hazards. NCPC operates out of a leased space and does not manage procurement, real property, public lands and waters, fund capital projects, or have implementation authority. As such, we generally do not undertake a structured method of assessing operational, asset, and supply chain risks related to climate-related hazards.
	Agency has identified priorities, developed strategies, and established goals based on the assessment of climate hazard risks to critical supplies and services. (Y/**N**/Partially)	NO - NCPC does not undertake a formal assessment of climate hazard risk to critical supplies and services.
Key Performance Indicator: By 2027, agency staff are trained in climate adaptation and resilience and related agency protocols and procedures.		
Section of the CAP	**Process Metric**	**Agency Response**
3C – Climate Training and Capacity Building for a Climate	Step 1: By December 2024 100% of agency leadership have been briefed on current agency climate adaptation efforts and actions outlined in their 2024 CAP. (**Y**/N/Partially)	The majority of NCPC staff are urban planners and designers. Long term considerations of climate literacy, mitigation, and adaptation are integral to urban planning work. While NCPC does not provide its own training for

Informed Workforce	Step 2: Does the agency have a Climate 101 training for your workforce? (Y/N/**Partially**) Step 3: By July 2025, 100 % employees have completed climate 101 trainings. (Y/N/**Partially**)	staff, NCPC contracts with vendors to provide Environmental Law training, and encourages staff to seek out climate training related opportunities such as conferences and symposiums. Depending on role, between two-thirds and 100% of agency staff – including 100% of agency leadership – will complete or receive some form of climate adaptation related training in the next two-three years.

4B. Adaptation in Action

As highlighted throughout the Climate Adaptation Plan, NCPC's mission, agency operations, and services are unique in comparison to larger federal agencies who own and maintain real property, manage public lands and waters, fund capital projects, or have implementation authority. As such, many of the sections of this CAP are not fully applicable to NCPC, especially those that build off analysis and mapping of real property and employee location. Since we are unable to fully conduct those analyses, we wish to highlight via narrative our climate adaptation efforts, both past and present. These efforts are extensive, including updates on our priority adaptation action items from our 2021 Plan as well as relevant highlighted projects.

NCPC EFFORTS & ACCOMPLISHMENTS – PRIORITY ACTION ITEMS:

Priority Adaptation Action 1 – Comprehensive Plan Updates

Updates to the Federal Elements of the Comprehensive Plan are opportunities to incorporate adaptation strategies into planning and decision-making guidance and increase awareness of current climate change risks.

NCPC is updating the Federal Workplace Element to include policies that encourage agencies to include resilience planning and adaptation strategies in their projects and long-term planning efforts. NCPC is also working to better understand the long-term implications, accelerated by the pandemic, on workplace locations and transportation choices, which will have sustainability implications. An upcoming update to the Federal Environment Element will reflect updated federal sustainability and adaptation planning guidance, strengthen policy language related to resiliency and aging infrastructure, and include policies to address environmental justice.

Key Accomplishments: NCPC's Policy and Research Division (PRD) in partnership with the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments initiated a study to better understand the cumulative impacts of federal telework and hybrid workplaces on the region. This Federal Workplace study identifies future scenarios and analyzes how they may impact office demand,

federal footprint, the transportation network, climate goals, and federal procurement.

The Comprehensive Plan for the National Capital's Introduction Chapter update was reviewed by the Commission and released for public comment in December 2023. The update addresses several planning areas, including equity, climate change, and resilience. The introduction outlines the planning framework and guiding principles for the Comprehensive Plan's Federal Elements. A new section on critical planning challenges addresses environmental sustainability and resiliency; social, health, and racial equity; commemoration diversity; urban space and security; and the changing federal footprint.

PRD is also identifying opportunities to strengthen policy language related to resiliency and adaptation, aging infrastructure, and environmental justice to be included in a future Environment Element update.

Risks Addressed: extreme precipitation, increased flooding, erosion, average temperature rise, extreme heat, severe weather events, aging infrastructure.

Priority Adaptation Action 2 – Federal Capital Improvements Program Review Process Updates

The annual FCIP review provides an opportunity to use the solicitation process to collect information and the reporting process to document agencies' commitment to incorporating federal sustainability, adaptation, and resilience planning goals. The FCIP may report on how projects meet certain resiliency goals as defined by E.O. 14008, E.O. 14057, and other federal sustainability guidance**.** Each summer, NCPC submits the FCIP to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for use in its preparation of the President's annual budget. Through the FCIP, NCPC provides OMB with its planning and funding recommendations for federal public works over a six-year period.

During FCIP review, NCPC engages federal agencies for the submission of capital improvement projects in early stages of project development. NCPC can use the FCIP solicitation process to ask how federal agencies are integrating renewable energy, resilience, and climate readiness in their projects, and help guide applicants to consider climate adaptation and resilience early in their planning process.

Key Accomplishments: Over the last four years, NCPC has made changes to the FCIP program to address climate change and equity. Per the guidance of OMB, NCPC used the FCIP solicitation process to ask how applicant agencies are incorporating renewable energy, resiliency, climate readiness, and equity into planning for their capital projects. These changes include using the FCIP as a tool to engage with federal applicant agencies during the submission of projects to seek information and resources on how they are considering climate change and resiliency as well as equity in the planning process for their capital improvement projects.

As part of a phased approach, initial questions were developed and incorporated the FY22 solicitation process. In FY23, NCPC reevaluated and refined the questions after receiving feedback from agency representatives and conferring with OMB. Responses to these questions are integrated into project scorecards.

Risks Addressed: extreme precipitation, increased flooding, erosion, average temperature rise, extreme heat, severe weather events, aging infrastructure.

Priority Adaptation Action 3 – Project and Plan Review Process Updates

The project and plan review process provides an opportunity to encourage applicant agencies to meet federal sustainability, adaptation, and resilience planning goals.

During the project and plan review process, NCPC generally engages federal agencies early in their planning and design process regarding plans and projects that will be submitted for Commission review. NCPC can use the consultation process to initiate discussion regarding relevant topics such as renewable energy, resilience, and climate literacy. Early discussions can provide opportunities to influence project development in ways that can help align with climate action goals.

Key Accomplishments: NCPC's Urban Design and Plan Review Division (UDPRD) continues to address climate action by including discussions on renewable energy, resilience, climate literacy, and compliance with federal guidance in conversations with applicants as it relates to their project and masterplan submissions. UDPRD is noting these topics and considerations in the Executive Director's Recommendations (EDRs). EDRs are transmitted to the Commission to assist in their deliberation regarding projects and master plans. This effort will develop over time in response to project submissions and future federal guidance.

In FY24, NCPC introduced a Pollinator Best Practices Resource Guide. Many of the plans and projects NCPC reviews include new or restored landscape plans that propose trees, shrubs, grasses, vines, groundcovers, perennials, and/or meadows. Comprehensive Plan policies support sustainable practices in federal landscape development to include plants that support pollinator species. This guide summarizes best practices for incorporating pollinator-friendly plant species, including those that support monarch butterfly and honeybee habitats, in federal landscapes subject to review by NCPC. The resource guide is for general information purposes and is not a regulatory document.

Updates to the Submission Guidelines were reviewed by the Commission and released for public comment in December 2023. The updates amend the Submission Guidelines to encourage applicants to conduct early and meaningful community engagement, and to submit information about the equity impacts of plans and projects to inform the decision-making process. Two of the proposed equity considerations in the guidelines specifically address environmental justice including the Data Analysis consideration and the Sustainability, Resilience, and Health consideration. The Data Analysis consideration asks applicants to identify if the proposed plan or project is in or directly adjacent to an underserved community, and to include a brief profile of demographic information and indicators of any socioeconomic and/or environmental burdens present in the community. CEQ's Climate & Economic Justice Screening Tool is referenced as a potential data source for applicant agencies.

Risks Addressed: extreme precipitation, increased flooding, erosion, average temperature rise, extreme heat, severe weather events, aging infrastructure.

Priority Adaptation Action 4 – Monumental Core Streetscape Project – Guide and Manual Update

Updating the Streetscape Manual is an opportunity to address identified climate risks and showcase and standardize sustainable design and resiliency planning best practices.

NCPC, in collaboration with an Interagency Working Group, is updating the 1992 *National Mall Streetscape Manual*. New principles and guidelines for streets within the project boundary are intended to: (1) visually unify the character and experience of the capital city; (2) incorporate

sustainable best practices; and (3) improve coordination among eleven federal and local agencies.

Key Accomplishments: The Commission accepted the Final Guidelines for Vertical and Surface Streetscape Elements in March 2023 and the Small-Scale Elements in April 2024. The Vertical and Surface Elements include guidance on tree canopy and stormwater and the Small-Scale Element Guidelines include electric vehicle charging stations and LED streetlight specifications.

Risks Addressed: extreme precipitation, increased flooding, average temperature rise, extreme heat

Priority Adaptation Action 5 – Flood Risk Management

NCPC's work on flooding is an ongoing interagency effort that provides opportunities to assess and update current risks and formalize information exchange.

NCPC participates in an interagency working group led by the District of Columbia (DC) Silver Jackets that is working towards a comprehensive flood risk management strategy for the Federal Triangle area. In addition, NCPC participates in various working groups that aim to align efforts among local and federal agencies to protect assets within the National Capital Region, including coordination and exchange of information on flood mitigation guidance.

Key Accomplishments: NCPC's Office of Public Engagement (OPE) leads the agency's flooding and resilience efforts which includes responding to EO 13690 by working with federal partners to develop guidance that incorporates the new federal flood risk management standards. New guidelines and an approach for using these guidelines in the plan and project review process will be presented to the Commission for review. NCPC is also assisting in coordinating the Federal Triangle strategy with the Silver Jackets.

Risks Addressed: extreme precipitation, increased flooding

HIGHLIGHTED RELEVANT PROJECTS – NCPC PROJECT AND PLAN REVIEW:

In 2023, the Commission reviewed a range of projects and provided comments regarding balancing impacts to historic, cultural, and environmental resources while integrating sustainable features and current technology to achieve climate adaptation, mitigation, and resilience goals. The three notable projects below highlight NCPC's commitment to resilience and sustainability.

Bureau of Engraving and Printing Currency Production Facility

NCPC approved final site and building plans for the Bureau of Engraving and Printing Currency Production Facility to be located in Beltsville, Maryland. Plans submitted by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, in coordination with the Department of the Treasury and the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, are for a new 920,000 square foot 40-50' tall facility to be located on a 104-acre site on the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center grounds. It would replace an existing facility in downtown Washington, DC.

In its approval, Commissioners appreciated the improvements made to the project in response to previous NCPC feedback submitted during the review process. These include a reduction in wetland, stream, and buffer impacts made by retaining and reusing 100-percent of stormwater on-site and redirecting wastewater to the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission; developing a Transportation Management Plan that reduces single occupancy vehicle trips;

reducing surface parking by 34-percent (385 spaces) resulting in an improved employee parking ratio; reducing vehicle emission air pollutants by approximately 27-percent by making off-site intersection and roadway improvements; increasing tree canopy by planting 2,035 new trees; and incorporating native pollinator plant species, including milkweed, into the landscape plan. Through the design and engineering strategies outlined above, the landscape and building are resilient to climate threats and are intended to allow this vital government facility to adapt to a changing climate throughout its operational life.

Tidal Basin and West Potomac Park Seawalls Rehabilitation

The Commission approved final site development plans submitted by the National Park Service for the repair and rehabilitation of 6,800 feet of seawall along portions of the Tidal Basin and West Potomac Park. Over time, the seawalls have significantly settled, leading to overtopping and poor drainage during certain times. The NPS only has funding for rehabilitation and repair and is therefore taking a phased approach. The first part will be stabilizing sections of the wall and restoring the historic functional height. This will allow the Park Service time to consider additional measures.

Commissioners supported the project goals, noting that while this is a short-term solution it should improve public accessibility and convenience. However, flooding along the seawall will persist and worsen due, in part, to increased rainstorms. They noted that long-term solutions to address rising sea levels could have more significant impacts on the landscape and nearby memorials and will need to consider historic preservation, visitor experience, sustainability, and program needs and be well-coordinated among stakeholders.

NIH Garages 6, 7, and 9 Mounted Solar Arrays National Institutes of Health

NCPC approved a submission by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) for plans to install carport-mounted solar arrays on three multi-level parking (MLP) garages on the NIH campus in Bethesda, Maryland. The project will add solar arrays on MLPs 6, 7, and 9 and will be mounted atop a louvered carport-style structure. The project also includes racking, inverters, wire, and transformers. The final array height will be less than the height of adjacent buildings The project includes no land disturbance and is minimally visible. The solar arrays are 937.5, 437.5, and 500kWAC respectively for a total of 1,875kWAC. This project will make the NIH facilities more resilient to power disruptions in the event of extreme weather events and will lessen the facilities reliance on outside energy sources. The Commission has reviewed other solar installations, including at Joint Base Anacostia-Bolling recently.