Comprehensive Plan COVID-19 Crosswalk - Overview

The role of the Comprehensive Plan (Comp Plan) as a long-term, high-level planning document is critical during city-wide, regional and national emergencies. The Comp Plan helps as a guide for responding to and recovering from COVID-19 and provides direction based on the District’s underlying values on how to address a dual public health and economic crisis.

The Comp Plan includes new language, policies, and actions that broaden the frame of emergency and resilience planning, ongoing public health and economic monitoring, housing affordability and the equitable distribution of housing choices, and recovery methods. The Comp Plan also includes expanded resilience and equity language. The expanded emphasis on resilience includes data, policies, and actions that address planning for economic resilience; encouraging continued access to housing and public services following a disaster event; and incorporating hazard mitigation and response needs into planning for civic facilities and infrastructure. The emphasis on expanding and preserving housing affordability highlights the need for all residents to have access to safe, decent, and affordable housing options especially during times of economic instability. The addition of equity in the Comp Plan informs policies and actions related to resilience and disaster response, and recognizes that underlying social and economic conditions of communities play a significant role in their ability to immediately respond to and recover from shocks and stresses.

The added emphasis on resilience and equity in addition to information throughout the Comp Plan such as economic and population data, maps, and land use data can help guide planning efforts for COVID-19 recovery. The Comp Plan serves as a critical anchor to help the District move toward its goals based on its underlying values, which remain unchanged.

As a result of taking necessary actions to protect public health, economic opportunities were put on hold, social patterns disrupted, educational routines transformed, and healthcare systems taxed. The 2020 public health emergency and resulting economic crisis arising from the Coronavirus and resultant COVID-19 disease have altered and will continue to change many aspects of Washington, DC. These changes reaffirm the urgency of implementing policies and actions in the Comp Plan from investing in housing affordability, to taking a health in all policies approach.

OP has identified 96 policies throughout the Comp Plan that explicitly guide the District’s COVID-19 response and recovery. In addition to the collection of policies, actions and narrative text has been identified as helping shape the context in which the District will undertake response and recovery to the dual public health and economic crisis. This collection of policies, actions, and narrative text are presented in the form of a “COVID-19 crosswalk”. Policies, actions, and narratives highlighted in yellow throughout the crosswalk represent changes made as a direct response to COVID-19. These changes, along with the catalogue of policies, actions, and narratives, position the Comp Plan to appropriately guide the city through and beyond the dual public health and economic crisis. When implemented together, these policies and actions will prioritize the District’s recovery efforts, while affirming core values of equity, health, safety, prosperity, and opportunity.
## CITYWIDE ELEMENTS

### INTRODUCTION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Narrative/Policies/Actions</th>
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<td>The effort to be a more inclusive* city never stops—to ensure that make economic opportunities equitable and reach all of our residents available to all residents, and to enhance protect and conserve the most valuable things we value most about our the District’s communities. We also strive The effort to make Washington, DC more resilient in response to changing conditions that bring new stressors and new opportunities alike is also ceaseless. 100.43</td>
<td>100.3</td>
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<td>As the guide for all District planning, the Comprehensive Plan establishes the priorities and key actions that other plans address in greater detail. The broad direction it provides may be implemented through agency strategic plans, operational plans, long-range plans on specific topics (such as parks or housing), and focused plans for small areas of the city Washington, DC.</td>
<td>103.3</td>
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<td>The Comprehensive Plan is not intended to be a substitute for more detailed plans, nor dictate precisely what other plans must cover. Rather, it is the one document that bridges all topics and is crosscutting in its focus. It alone is the Comprehensive Plan that looks at the big picture of how change will be managed in the years ahead.</td>
<td>103.5</td>
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<td>While the draft update of the Comprehensive Plan was available for public review, a new and aggressively contagious Coronavirus emerged in Wuhan, China, infecting thousands of people across the globe and causing Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19). In response, Mayor Bowser issued orders to close nonessential businesses and, along with the governors of Maryland and Virginia, issued a stay at home order. The number of cases and deaths caused by COVID-19 and the economic and social impacts of the resulting crisis are still unknown, but even when related data become available, it will take months and possibly years to fully comprehend and respond to the impacts of this public health emergency.</td>
<td>108.1 – 108.2</td>
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<td>The 2020 public health emergency and resulting economic crisis arising from the Coronavirus and resultant COVID-19 disease have altered and will continue to change many aspects of Washington, DC and its residents’ lives. This experience also highlights the importance of a relevant and updated Comprehensive Plan. A long-term, high-level plan is always important, but especially during uncertain times and emergencies. The Comprehensive Plan serves as a critical anchor to help the District move toward its goals based on its underlying values, which remain unchanged during unexpected and traumatic events. The policies set forth in the Comprehensive Plan can unify and align communities as well as address unprecedented circumstances and their ongoing effects.</td>
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1 The Framework Element was passed by DC Council in October 2019. Inclusion of the Framework Element in the COVID-19 Crosswalk is to catalogue how the Comp Plan is positioned to help response and recovery efforts.
The rising cost of housing is one of the most pressing and critical issues facing the District and the region. To achieve our goal of an inclusive city, we must meet the challenge of providing housing for a variety of household types, including families, the elderly, and the homeless; for owners and renters; for existing and new residents; workforce housing; and housing affordable at all income levels. Tied in with housing cost issues are deeper concerns about displacement, the impacts of gentrification, and long-term competitiveness.

For many lower income households, increasing housing costs have become difficult to afford, in part because their income growth has not kept pace with increased costs. Most lower income residents are financially burdened by housing costs, which can lead to displacement from their neighborhood, or even the District. In addition, housing insecurity has negative impacts on household health, school performance, job access, and other indicators of wellbeing. Residents of color are a majority of lower-income households in the District and, therefore, face a disproportionate share of the problems caused by housing insecurity and displacement.

Rising housing costs and decreasing availability of affordable housing are causing more households to be severely burdened, which means their housing costs consume more than 50 percent of household income. In 2017, more than 42,800 households were severely burdened by rental housing costs, while another 32,600 rental households were burdened by housing costs consuming 30 to 50 percent of their income. These households must reduce expenditures on other necessities, such as food and health care. Further, households that are severely burdened by housing costs must often choose between a home that is in a desirable location—close to their community, jobs and/or services—and a home that is more affordable.

The District has taken enormous strides toward strengthening its affordable housing infrastructure. The city has some of the strongest tenant protection provisions in the country; the highest level, per capita, for affordable housing investment; the lowest residential real property tax rate in the region; and provides additional discounts for seniors and renters. It has innovative programs such as tax abatements to stimulate the development of workforce housing. From 2015 to 2018, the District of Columbia has successfully delivered, through subsidy or inclusionary zoning, 5352 new or preserved affordable housing units. The District is also committed to addressing temporary or permanent displacement of residents with programs and policies tailored to community needs. For example, the principles for the District’s New Communities Initiative include: one to one replacement of existing affordable housing, Build First, mixed-income housing, and opportunities for residents to return and/or stay in the community. Still, more systemic work is needed to address the impacts of rapid population growth in the District and across a region that is broadly lacking sufficient affordable housing.

Technology is rapidly changing how we live, work, and travel and it will continue to shape the District in unexpected ways. Since the 1980s, telecommuting has changed travel patterns; on-line purchases have changed retailing; and e-mail has changed the way business and government operate. For instance, working from home is one of the fastest growing ways.
employees “commute” to work. Mobile computing, self-driving cars, new construction methods, green technology and other advances will have new and unexpected impacts on our lifestyles, how the city makes development decisions, and the shape of future growth.

One aspect of technological change is its potential to deepen economic divides in the city. In 2004, the National Poverty Center reported that 85 percent of the nation’s white children had access to a home computer, compared to just 40 percent of black and Latino children. Recent Census data suggests the District has made significant progress in this area, but gaps remain as effectively 100 percent of white children and 89 percent of black children have access to a computer. Access to technology will be an important part of improving the well-being of District residents in the future. This will place a premium on education and training, and an emphasis on providing residents with the skills to use technology and access information.

Resilience in the District is defined as the capacity to thrive amidst challenging conditions by preparing and planning to absorb, recover, and more successfully adapt to adverse events. Resilience planning recognizes the volatility of the forces driving change. Ideally, we want to capitalize on positive impacts, and diminish negative impacts of the forces driving change.

Considering shocks and stresses helps to understand the District’s vulnerabilities. Shocks are sudden, acute disasters like storms, flooding, cyber-attacks, or economic crises, such as the 2008 Great Recession. Stresses are ‘slow-burning disasters’ that weaken the city every day and are magnified by shocks: these include poverty, trauma, housing insecurity, and stressed transportation systems.

The District’s resilience goals focus on inclusive growth that benefits all residents, preparing for the impacts of climate change, embracing advances in technology while minimizing the negative impacts of change. Ensuring that every neighborhood is safe and our residents are healthy is one way to have a more resilient city. Being more resilient strengthens our collective capacity to thrive in the face of shocks and stresses. Building resilience is about addressing everyday stresses, which not only makes our city more inclusive, but enables the District to recover quicker from catastrophic events. Incorporating resilience into the Comprehensive Plan is critical to achieve our goals.

As an example, the stress of poverty, combined with substantial population growth, has created a housing affordability crisis that must be addressed. The need for more housing, and more affordable housing, has become an important policy goal that, if addressed and achieved, will help the city be more resilient.

The District’s policies and investments should reflect a commitment to eliminating racial inequities. Addressing issues of equity in transportation, housing, employment, income, asset building, geographical change, and socioeconomic outcomes through a racial equity lens will allow the District to address systemic and underlying drivers of racial inequities.

Increasing access to jobs and education by District residents is fundamental to improving the lives and economic well-being of District residents. Quality education equips students with the skills and tools to succeed.

Despite the recent economic resurgence in the city, the District has yet to reach its full economic potential. Expanding the economy means increasing

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| Despite the recent economic resurgence in the city, the District has yet to reach its full economic potential. Expanding the economy means increasing |
shopping and services for many District neighborhoods, particularly east of
the Anacostia River, bringing tourists beyond the National Mall and into the
city’s business districts, and creating more opportunities for local
entrepreneurs and small businesses. The District’s economic development
expenditures should help support local businesses and provide economic
benefits to the community.

Focus the city’s resilience goals on supporting inclusive growth for all
residents, preparing the city for the impacts of climate change, and
embracing advances in technology, while minimizing the negative impacts of
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<th>LAND USE</th>
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<td>The Comprehensive Plan’s companion document, A Vision for an Inclusive City, sets forth the District’s desire to employ the highest and best use of its land for the benefit of all residents. Supporting growth through an equity lens provides opportunities for understanding that vulnerable populations and neighborhoods need additional attention to allow them to share in the prosperity of the District. Vulnerable and underserved communities.</td>
<td>304.2</td>
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<td>Smart city innovations, such as autonomous vehicles (AVs), sustainable infrastructure, and technology, will shape growth. The change in retail from brick-and-mortar businesses to online platforms and the increasingly prevalent use of automation across sectors are recent examples of why continuously monitoring and adjusting the understanding of the District and responding to change is needed.</td>
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<td>Policy LU-1.1.2: Resilience and Land Use</td>
<td>304.6</td>
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<td>Implement District-wide, neighborhood-scale, and site-specific solutions for a climate adaptive, emergency responsive, and resilient Washington, DC.</td>
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<td>Action LU-1.1.A: Resilience Equity and Land Use</td>
<td>310.8</td>
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<td>Develop projects that decrease the vulnerability of people and places to climate risks and public health emergencies, as well as promote future resilience.</td>
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<td>An inclusive neighborhood should create a sense of belonging, civic pride, and a collective sense of stewardship and responsibility for the community’s future among all residents. Indeed, a neighborhood’s vibrancy has to be measured by more than the income of its residents or the size of its homes.</td>
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- Transportation options for those without a car, including convenient bus service, carsharing, bicycle facilities, and safe access for pedestrians;
- Easy access to shops and services meeting that meet day-to-day needs, such as child care, groceries, and sit-down restaurants;
- Housing choices, including homes for renters and for owners, and a range of units that meet the different needs of the community;
• Safe, clean public gathering places, such as parks and plazas—places to meet neighbors, places for children to play, and places to exercise or connect with nature;
• Quality public services, including police and fire protection, high-quality, safe, and modernized schools, health services, and as well as libraries and recreation centers that can be conveniently accessed (though not necessarily located within the neighborhood itself);
• Distinctive character and a “sense of place” defined by neighborhood architecture, visual landmarks and vistas, streets, public spaces, and historic places;
• Evidence of visible public maintenance and investment—proof that the city District “cares” about the neighborhood and is responsive to its neighborhood needs; and
• A healthy natural environment, with street trees and greenery, and easy access to the city’s Washington, DC’s open space system.

The understanding of what makes a great neighborhood has evolved, particularly in terms of addressing social equity, advancing sustainability, and building community resilience to everyday and long-term challenges, such as environmental and manmade disasters and public health emergencies. Where a resident lives—a person’s neighborhood—remains one of the greatest predictors of individual health and economic outcomes. Vibrant neighborhoods have distinct character and can support growth. This investment and development should advance neighborhood vitality, growth, and economic mobility, and increase access, equity, and where appropriate, jobs.

**Policy LU-2.1.2: Neighborhood Revitalization**

Facilitate orderly neighborhood revitalization and stabilization by focusing District grants, loans, housing rehabilitation efforts, commercial investment programs, capital improvements, and other government actions in those areas that are most in need, especially where projects advance equity and opportunity for disadvantaged persons. Use social, economic, and physical indicators, such as the poverty rate, the number of abandoned or substandard buildings, the crime rate, and the unemployment rate, as key indicators of need.

**Policy LU-2.4.1: Promotion of Commercial Centers**

Promote the vitality of the District’s commercial centers and provide for the continued growth of commercial land uses to meet the needs of District residents, expand employment opportunities, for District residents, accommodate population growth, and sustain the city’s Washington, DC’s role as the center of the metropolitan area. Commercial centers should be inviting and attractive places, and should support social interaction and amenities ease of access for nearby residents.

**TRANSPORTATION**

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<td>Transportation has always played an important role in Washington, DC’s security by providing a means of evacuation, as well as routes for emergency and relief services; and by connecting residents to critical services and</td>
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**COMPREHENSIVE PLAN COVID-19 CROSSWALK**

| Essential workers to their job sites. The city of District must continue to plan for and safeguard its transportation system, protecting its value as a major component of our Washington, DC’s urban infrastructure and economy. Transportation safety is also critical not only in the sense of preparing for and responding to major incidents, but also in protecting the lives of residents, workers, and visitors as they travel around the District. All users of the transportation system should have safe access in the District. |
| In light of the events of September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks, public health emergencies, and major weather events, every major American city has embarked on emergency preparedness and traveler information systems designed to inform citizens how to respond in the event of an emergency. As the nation’s capital, the District considers this emergency preparedness is a critically important issue for the District. |

| Should the District face an emergency situation, the transportation system provides the critical means to evacuate residents, workers, and visitors; to support the movement of emergency service response teams; and/or to connect residents to critical services and essential workers to their job sites. Depending on the nature of an incident, persons may need to rely on car, train, bus, bike, and/or walking. It is essential that the District maintaining and planning for a well-functioning, coordinated system that can adapt to the needs of an incident is essential. Given the District’s reliance on the regional transportation network in the event of an evacuation, close coordination with partners in Maryland and Virginia and at WMATA is would also be needed to respond to the event. |

| Although the District is more equipped now than it has been in the past to respond to emergencies, additional planning is needed in order to better prepare the region’s transportation network and emergency management systems to respond to and rapidly recover from disruptions. The District should not only should the District continue to plan for evacuations at the local level and provide the necessary information to the public, it must also improve coordination with its regional partners and take advantage of new technologies and, as well as federal support, in preparing for the transportation needs resulting from a wide range of potential emergencies. |

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<th><strong>HOUSING</strong></th>
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<td>The rising costs have led to a shortage triggered a crisis of affordability, particularly for the District’s lowest-income residents. Over 20 percent (56,700) of all households in 2017 were severely burdened by housing costs, and another 16 percent (44,600) of households were burdens. Residents must set aside a growing share of their earnings for housing and utilities, leaving less disposable income for health care, transportation, food, and other basic needs, and the ability to set aside savings to prepare for the future.</td>
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<td>While the market for housing has been robust during the last five years since 2010, there is no guarantee this trend will continue indefinitely. The first six months of 2006 lessons from the financial mortgage collapse of 2007 suggest that softer demand due to high prices and rising interest rates or other risks could test the resiliency of Washington, DC’s housing market. Measures to increase affordable housing must be mindful of to</td>
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account for market dynamics and the burden placed on the private sector so that forward momentum can be sustained. This may require additional bold steps by District government, such as the recent increased allocation of funding in 2015 to the HPTF from deed recordation and transfer taxes and other sources.

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<th>Overall, key indicators suggest that demand for housing will remain strong in the District. However, it is important to recognize that events, such as the 2020 public health emergency may change this outlook. Still, indicators including the historically strong employment market, improving schools, and a walkable urban lifestyle that is attractive to a new generation of residents will likely continue to drive housing demand. The increase in young children (zero-14 years) is an early indication of their parents’ desire and intention to stay in the District. Retaining new and existing families is important to Washington, DC’s vibrancy and health.</th>
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<th>Policies to promote resilient housing specifically address housing that can withstand potential physical and resulting economic shocks from major hazards and stresses. Such shocks can destabilize the housing market and threaten affordability especially for vulnerable residents. Affordability and sustainability policies can keep residents housed and safe. For example, energy and water efficiency reduces household expenses and deepens housing affordability for District residents. Inclusive housing enhances the community’s ability to respond, as one, to chronic stresses and unanticipated shocks. Combined resilient and inclusive housing provides residents with the financial capacity and social networks to absorb, recover from, and overcome current and future challenges facing the District.</th>
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<th>The benefits of creating safer and more sustainable housing for all residents go beyond reducing the risk to life and property from shocks or stresses. It decreases demands on emergency response, such as allowing people to shelter in place versus evacuating Washington, DC or going to public shelters during disaster events. It also decreases the potential for disruptive impacts on vital services, commerce, and the economy by reducing the number of vulnerable people who will end up being physically displaced by economic or other forces following such events.</th>
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<th>Policy H-1.6.3: Permanent Post-Disaster Housing</th>
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<th>Support households affected by large-scale disasters either by successfully retaining them in their homes and avoiding displacement or by returning them to safe, suitable, and affordable housing promptly through technical assistance and clear and comprehensive reconstruction guidelines. Include special emphasis on rebuilding homes in locations and according to standards that make them more resilient to future shocks and stresses.</th>
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<th>Action H-1.6.A: Monitoring and Updating Data to Support Recovery from 2020 Health Emergency</th>
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Monitor and update appropriate data to support 2020 public health emergency response and recovery efforts. Such data will include a wide
| Range of housing factors and drivers, such as jobs, population, housing supply and demand. |  
|---|---|
| **Policy H-2.1.3: Avoiding Displacement** |  
Maintain programs to minimize displacement resulting from the conversion or renovation of affordable rental housing to more costly forms of housing loss of rental housing units due to demolition or conversion, and the financial hardships created by rising rents on tenants and other shocks or stresses. These programs should include Employ TOPA, DOPA, and other financial tools, such as the HPTF and the Preservation Fund. In addition, provide technical, and counseling assistance to lower-income households and the strengthening of strengthen the rights of existing tenants to purchase rental units if they are being converted to ownership units. | 510.7 |

| ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT |  
|---|---|
| Data included in this Element precede the 2020 public health emergency. While the District’s economic position may be substantially affected in the early 2020’s, the District anticipates that economic trends highlighted in this chapter will hold in the long-term along with the policies contained in this chapter, which are designed to guide the District through both growth and recession cycles. |  
As a result, the District’s economy has become strong, benefitting from sustained growth, which generates a tax base that balances costs with revenue. However, the District’s economic growth has contributed to increases in property values that present challenging barriers for both established and emerging businesses, which can be particularly severe among small businesses. Additionally, more work remains to ensure that all residents have access to retail, commercial facilities and job opportunities with career pathways. The District is striving to ensure that all residents are able to enjoy the benefits of economic growth in the District and the region. | 700.3 |
| In recent decades Prior to 1998, the District has faced chronic negative economic trends that have limited its ability to meet the needs of many residents. These trends include population loss, job decline, high unemployment and poverty rates, fiscal insolvency, and the loss of spending power to the suburbs. Economic indicators also point to growing geographic disparities, with areas in the northwest portion of the city particularly advantaged and areas east of the Anacostia River particularly disadvantaged. While there have been positive signs on many fronts since 2000, deepened. As of 2019, Washington, DC, is financially healthy and experiencing sustained population and job growth. However, the historic east-west socio-economic divide in the District city has become more stark. |  
In addition, downtown retail has begun to rebound rebounded after years of decline following steep declines in previous decades, and neighborhood commercial shopping districts like U Street NW, 14th Street NW, and Barracks Row also rebounded are thriving again. After decades in which retailers shunned areas east of 16th Street NW, new supermarkets retail and fresh food options are being developed in the eastern half of the Washington, DC, including in Wards 7 and 8 east of the Anacostia River, national/brand tenants are clustered arriving in Columbia Heights and Fort | 700.12 |
Lincoln; and a thriving commercial and cultural district is emerging along H Street NE.

Tourism has also rebounded; in 2017 the District hosted nearly 23 million visitors. Those visitors were accommodated by a growing supply of hotel rooms, totaling 32,000 rooms in 2018, with 2,500 since 2001 and 1,200 hotel rooms additional rooms under construction and another 6,100 in predevelopment. The sustained expansion of hotel rooms is particularly notable because it has coincided with the introduction of short-term rental housing options, which significantly increased lodging options for visitors.

The overarching goal for economic development in the District is: to drive inclusive economic expansion and resilience by growing the economy and reducing employment disparities across race, geography, and educational attainment status.

The sharing economy has the potential to reshape the District’s built environment and infrastructure by shifting where work occurs and how people move. However, many of the people who deliver the goods and services in the sharing economy are employed as independent contractors, and there are significant concerns related to worker compensation, benefits, retirement planning, and career stability.

The DC Office of Planning (OP) anticipates job growth to maintain a long-term average of approximately 9,000 per year through 2035. Based on available data, OP’s long-term growth rates balance cycles of rapid growth against periods of economic contraction. DOES expects nearly all sectors of the economy are projected to grow during the next decade, but certain retail segments closely connected to neighborhood commercial corridors—such as clothing, furniture, and electronics—are forecast to contract. These contractions are associated with the rise of online retailing.

Action ED-1.1.B: Data Tracking

Maintain and regularly update statistical data on employment in core sectors, wages and salaries, forecasts by sector, and opportunities for future employment

Action ED-1.1.C: Monitoring and Updating Data to Support Recovery from 2020 Public Health Emergency

Monitor and update appropriate data to support 2020 public health emergency response and recovery efforts. Such data will include a wide range of economic indicators and drivers, such as jobs, population, and housing.

Action ED-1.1.CD: Business Support Structures

Streamline processes and create a more centralized system that assists to assist businesses in meeting regulatory requirements quickly and efficiently, with a particular focus on serving small businesses, businesses that show the promise to create many jobs, and businesses that help the District meet goals, such as its commitment to reduce greenhouse gases. Continue Centralize centralizing information and assistance to small and local businesses on starting a new business, the business permitting processes, zoning, fees and regulations, incentives, financing, unique programs, and opportunities. Create and maintain a fast-track permits and
approvals system for businesses interested in opening or expanding in priority, under-served neighborhoods.

**Action ED-1.1.E: Improve Access to Capital and Financing Opportunities**

Support collaboration between District agencies and private organizations that facilitate increased access to capital for District entrepreneurs. This includes strategic grantmaking, facilitating small business access to capital, and facilitating new forms of investment, such as social impact investing and Opportunity Funds.

**Action ED-1.1.H: Stabilize Business Occupancy Costs**

Explore program and policy alignments that stabilize or reduce commercial occupancy costs in the District, especially for historically disadvantaged businesses. Potential options include alignment with the District’s sustainability programs to reduce energy costs, increased awareness of small business capital programs, and agreements for the reuse of public lands.

In 2017, DC’s Economic Strategy identified six opportunity areas for innovation: the impact economy, smart cities and civic solutions, professional services innovation, hospitality innovation, security technology, and data science and analytics. Each of these fields presents opportunities for economic expansion through entrepreneurship and career development. They are also important safeguards against changes in federal policy that may impede the District’s economic growth through increased national distribution of federal employment and reduced federal procurement spending. Supporting innovation in the District’s economy helps ensure that the tax base continues expanding to finance critical investments, including affordable housing production, environmental protection and sustainability, and transportation improvements.

Economic innovation is a critical component of building Washington, DC’s economic resilience as national and global economics undergo a period of accelerated change. While the District advances these growth opportunities, it is also important to monitor and adjust job training to keep pace with changing employment opportunities and occupational requirements.

**Policy ED-1.3.4: Leveraging and Adapting to Technological Change**

The District supports economic resilience by aligning workforce development and small business development with economic development to ensure that residents benefit from economic growth driven by technological innovation.

**Action ED 1.3.C: Support Emerging Entrepreneurs**

Directly, or through partnerships with private entities, establish a fund or funds to help local entrepreneurs grow investment-ready businesses. Emphasize increasing access to capital, particularly among lower-income entrepreneurs in emerging fields, such as the impact economy, urban innovation.smart cities, hospitality and professional services innovation, data, and security tech.
Nonetheless, the District still loses, or “leaks,” an estimated $1 billion per year in retail spending from its resident population, amounting to almost $4,000 per household. The retail economy is important to the tax base, and new retail options are anticipated to capture more consumer spending from residents, workers, and visitors, which strengthens the tax base. Retail expansion has occurred in numerous neighborhood commercial areas across the District and in the Central Employment Area. Since 2006, District-wide retail growth has dramatically reduced the District’s retail leakage as a proportion of resident spending, which was estimated at $1 billion per year in 2006. Between 2009 and 2016, retail sales and use taxes were up 36 percent, and retail employment was up 28 percent. The leakage is even higher when the potential spending of the daytime population, including workers and visitors, is included. The District’s underperforming retail sector has a pronounced impact on its fiscal health, since retailing pays both real property taxes and sales taxes, and is more also likely to employ District residents than office development (see text box on next page).

### Policy ED-2.2.3: Neighborhood Shopping

Create and support additional shopping opportunities in Washington’s neighborhood commercial districts to better meet the demand for basic goods and services. Reuse of vacant buildings in these districts should be encouraged, along with appropriately scaled retail infill development on vacant and underused sites. Promote the creation and growth of existing locally-owned, non-chain establishments because of their role in creating unique shopping experiences, as well as in generating stronger local supply chains that facilitate community wealth building.

### Policy ED-2.2.4: Destination Retailing Support Local Entrepreneurs

Continue to encourage “destination” retail districts that specialize in unique goods and services, such as furniture districts, arts districts, high-end specialty shopping districts, and wholesale markets. Support the creative efforts of local entrepreneurs who seek to enhance the District’s destination economy by manufacturing and retailing goods within Washington, DC, which increases the local employment and tax revenue generated by consumer retail spending base.

### Policy ED-2.2.7: Planning For Retail

Coordinate neighborhood planning efforts with the District’s economic development planning and small business development implementation programs to improve retail offerings in local commercial centers by leveraging the Vibrant Retail Streets Toolkit. Evaluate techniques, such as consolidating retail near highly trafficked locations along major corridors (particularly near transit station areas). Consider strategies to increase a retail area’s market position, including by coordinating promotion, according to existing and forecasted demand and consider converting retail to other uses where an increased consumer base is required.

### Action ED-2.2.4: Update Retail Action Agenda

Prepare and implement a Update the District-wide Retail Action Agenda.
The Agenda should include an evaluation of the current and projected amount of market-supportable retail, strategies for increasing retail offerings in historically underserved communities, overcoming retail development barriers, neighborhood-specific submarket-specific retail positioning strategies evaluations, and an analysis of how changing retail trends and technologies, such as online retailing and automation, are likely to impact retail businesses and employment in the District. Recommendations for overcoming retail development barriers, neighborhood-specific evaluations for new retail development and assistance programs.

Future growth is expected in both the tourism and convention sectors, with strong job gains projected during the next five years.

### Policy ED-2.4.1: Institutional Growth

Support growth in the higher education and health care sectors. Recognize the potential of these institutions industries to provide employment and income opportunities for District residents, and to enhance the District’s array of cultural amenities and health care options.

### Action ED-2.5.C: Siting of Food Aggregation, Processing, and Production Facilities

Explore the feasibility of developing food hubs, central storage, and community kitchens to expand healthy food access, federal nutrition program participation, and economic opportunity in underserved areas. These sites should be co-located whenever possible with job training, business incubation, and entrepreneurship programs.

### Policy ED-3.1.2: Targeting Commercial Revitalization

Continue to target government economic development programs to areas of greatest need, including older business areas with high vacancy rates and commercial centers that inadequately serve surrounding areas. Focus on those areas where the critical mass needed to sustain a viable neighborhood commercial center can be achieved.

### Action ED-3.1.A: Neighborhood Commercial Revitalization

Expand commercial revitalization programs such as tax increment financing structures, Great Streets, and the District’s DC Main Streets program to include additional commercial districts, particularly in the northeast and southeast quadrants of the city District. Use the commercial revitalization programs to increase the stability of small and locally owned businesses by helping them adapt to demographic and market changes.

Small goods and services businesses are an important part of what makes the District’s neighborhood commercial areas work. They provide full- and part-time employment opportunities for city Washington, DC residents and contribute to the city’s District’s tax base. They help sustain the diversity of neighborhood shopping areas, and enable the marketplace to respond to changing business conditions and consumer preferences. It is the city’s Washington, DC’s small business proprietors that have initiated many of the District’s commercial revitalization efforts, driven by a desire and commitment to upgrade their businesses, properties, and neighborhoods.

### Policy ED-3.2.1: Small Business Retention and Growth

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| 709.3 | 710.4 | 711.15 | 713.6 | 713.13 | 714.1 | 714.6 | 13 | Page |
Encourage the retention, development, and growth of small and minority businesses through a range of District-sponsored promotion programs, such as Made in DC and 202 Creates, as well as through technical and financial assistance programs.

**Policy ED-3.2.3: Access to Capital**

Expand access to equity, debt capital, (including small business loans and lines of credit), long-term debt financing, and small business loans and grants for small and medium-sized businesses to support new and expanded business ventures. These tools should be used to leverage private investment in facade facility improvements, new and expanded business ventures, streetscape improvements, and other outcomes investments that help revitalize commercial districts and generate local jobs.

**Policy ED-3.2.10: Local Business Operational Planning**

Promote the development of business operational plans to assess and build capacity of local businesses to prepare for, withstand, operate, and recover from identified threats and risks. The intent of business continuity plans is to implement safeguards and procedures that minimize disruptions during and after disasters, and to eliminate threats that can jeopardize the financial solvency of the small business.

**Action ED-3.2.B: Business Incentives**

Use a range of financial incentive programs to promote the success of new and existing businesses, including enterprise HUBZones, the Inclusive Innovation Fund, Certified Business Enterprise minority business set-asides, loans, and loan guarantees, low-interest revenue bonds, federal tax credits for hiring District residents, and tax increment bond financing.

**Action ED-3.2.D: Small Business Needs Assessment**

Conduct an assessment of small and minority business needs and impact evaluations of existing small business programs in the District. The study assessment should include recommendations to improve existing small business programs and to developing new, performance-based programs as needed.

**Action ED-3.2.E: Neighborhood Commercial District Resilience Toolkit**

Create a toolkit that builds on the Vibrant Retail Streets Toolkit to provide community-based economic development organizations tools to navigate changing markets. The toolkit will help organizations identify and leverage public space assets, build market strength, apply creative placemaking, and implement temporary uses.

At the heart of Washington, DC’s economic development strategy agenda for the District is the need to create good quality good-quality jobs and with livable wages and good benefits that are filled by District residents. “Quality” Good-quality jobs should offer stable employment with opportunities to advance. By improving the District’s educational system and job readiness programs, more residents will participate in the workforce and unemployment will decrease, and the benefits of a stronger and more By taking these steps, the District can
In addition, The need to improve occupational skills, job training, and job placement in the city is clear. Although In 2017, the region’s 3.2 3.8 percent unemployment rate in 2005 was lower than other comparable regions, and but its job growth rate of 2.3 1.4 percent was the best one of the slowest among large metropolitan regions in the nation.

**Policy ED-4.2.2: Linking Job Training to Growth Occupations**

Target job training, placement, and vocational career programs towards core and growth sectors and occupations, such as hospitality, information technology, health care, construction, home health aids, and computer user support specialists. Seek opportunities to link the pipeline of potential employees from workforce development programs to small, locally owned businesses, higher education, health, construction, retail, and office support.

**Policy ED-4.2.7: Living-Wage Jobs**

Promote the attraction and retention of living-wage jobs that provide employment opportunities for unskilled and semi-skilled workers. Use marketing strategies and performance-based incentives to encourage the relocation of firms with such positions to the District.

**Policy ED-4.2.11: Innovation in Training**

Support innovative training strategies to fill skill gaps in the local labor force, including partnerships with the private sector, industry associations, and individual government agencies. Examples of such strategies include the Cadet Training Program of the DC Fire and Emergency Medical Services Department, the DC Infrastructure Academy, and trade organization apprenticeship programs, and the GSA’s pre-apprenticeship program for the Southeast Federal Center.

**Policy ED-4.2.16: Digital Literacy**

Support digital literacy by improving access to technology, including providing internet access and training, through the DCPL system. Increased internet access and technological skills are critical to the District’s workforce development programs. Focus on the communities with the greatest need, including vulnerable populations and those with limited access to technology.

**Action ED-4.2.B: Labor Market Monitoring**

Maintain accurate data on the job market to better connect job seekers with job opportunities in high-growth, high-demand sectors. Monthly data on employment, occupation, and income should continue to be compiled by DOES.

**Action ED-4.2.D: Outreach to Residents and Employers**

Improve the distribution of Distribute information on the District’s job training, skill enhancement, and job placement programs, particularly in...
communities with high rates of unemployment. Ensure that outreach strategies provide for persons with limited reading proficiency.

**Action ED-1.1.C: Monitoring and Updating Data to Support Recovery from 2020 Public Health Emergency**

Monitor and update appropriate data to support 2020 public health emergency response and recovery efforts. Such data will include a wide range of economic indicators and drivers, such as jobs, population, and housing.

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<tr>
<th>PARKS, RECREATION, AND OPEN SPACE</th>
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<td><strong>Narrative/Policies/Actions</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>The critical parks, recreation, and open space issues facing <strong>Washington, DC</strong> the District of Columbia are addressed in this <strong>Element</strong>. These include:</td>
<td><strong>800.2</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>• <strong>Coordinating and sharing Coordination and shared stewardship</strong> between <strong>Washington, DC</strong> the District of Columbia and the federal government on park and open space planning, <strong>design</strong>, and management <strong>to produce better outcomes for District residents</strong>;</td>
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<td>• Providing additional recreational land and facilities in areas of the city <strong>District</strong> that are currently underserved and in newly developing areas;</td>
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<td>• Maintaining, upgrading, and improving existing parks and recreation facilities as key features of successful <strong>vibrant</strong> neighborhoods in <strong>Washington, DC</strong>; the <strong>District</strong>.</td>
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<tr>
<td>• <strong>Increasing funding for capital improvements and operations through partnerships and creative strategies</strong>;</td>
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<td>• Fostering community health so that residents can seek healthier lifestyles regardless of income, ability, or employment;</td>
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<td>• Leveraging open space to support resilience, including flood mitigation, well-connected habitats on land and water, an increased tree canopy, and strong ecosystems for wildlife; and</td>
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<td>• Designing parks, trails, and recreational facilities to improve the safety of staff and visitors.</td>
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**Policy PROS-1.3.7: Health and Wellness**

Use **Washington, DC**’s parks, open space, and recreation spaces to help meet the District’s health and wellness priorities, which are linked to physical activity, public safety, healthy food access, psychological health, air and water quality, and social equity.

**Sustainable DC 2.0, Washington, DC**’s plan to make the District the healthiest, greenest, and most livable city in the United States, affirms that building a culture of health means thinking beyond hospitals and clinics as the main sources of personal well-being. The opportunity to make healthy choices starts in homes, schools, workplaces, neighborhoods, and communities. Access to high-quality parks and open spaces and completing at least 150 minutes of physical activity per week are key components to achieving personal wellness.

**Policy PROS-2.1.9: Use of Emerging Technologies**

809.17
Support the use of emerging technologies, such as tech lounges and e-sports, to create interactive gathering spaces for residents, particularly youth and older adults.

**Policy PROS-2.2.7: Physical Activity in Everyday Spaces**

Prioritize community-driven strategies to support physical activity in non-traditional, everyday spaces across the District. Childhood play is essential to physical, cognitive, creative, social, and emotional development. However, many children face barriers to play, such as a perceived or actual lack of safe spaces. District government and its partners should provide additional opportunities for play in everyday locations where kids and families already spend time, including bus stops, grocery stores, and sidewalks.

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<th>Narrative/Policies/Actions</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Action UD-2.1.H: Resilient Public Life Guide</strong></td>
<td>Study and develop design guidance for how public spaces can be managed and designed to be more resilient during times of natural, security, and public health emergencies.</td>
<td>908.18</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Evolving technology and digital tools can influence and maximize opportunities for a more robust and inclusive public life. The urban design of public places can leverage technology in a variety of ways, such as measuring the success of public spaces in ways that are both experiential and quantitative; merging physical elements of the public realm with virtual augmentation to create new and ephemeral experiences; and communicating information and wayfinding for increased efficiency, safety, and social interaction. The integration of technology into these aspects of public life should be balanced with a vision of people-centered urbanism anchored by real-life experience, equity, and urban vitality.</td>
<td>915.2</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Policy UD-3.1.4: Markets for Small and Local Businesses</td>
<td>Use public spaces to support the creation of temporary markets and vending to both expand opportunities for small and local businesses and encourage more active use of public spaces.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Policy UD-3.1.5: Sidewalk Culture</td>
<td>Encourage the use and expansion of sidewalk cafes throughout the District through more efficient and quicker permit processes, while discouraging the enclosure of sidewalk cafes that effectively transforms them into private indoor space. The design of sidewalk cafes should complement the street environment and not impede pedestrian movement.</td>
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<td>Policy UD-3.1.6: Digital Public Life</td>
<td>Support the District’s urban design and public life goals through the use of emerging interactive technologies. Enhance community engagement through place-based interactive surveys. Improve resident knowledge of</td>
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</table>
local architecture and heritage, and expand information distribution for upcoming programming and events.

**Action UD-3.1.D: Digital Public Realm Initiative**

As a pilot test, develop online tools to collect and share data about public life consistent with appropriate privacy protections. Leverage aggregated information from personal mobile devices and from smart-city infrastructure to better understand how the public realm is used to inform policies and actions that improve public space design, increase physical connectivity, improve access to amenities and local businesses, improve wayfinding, and disseminate real-time information to residents about events, public gatherings, and security concerns.

The organization and location of parks, playgrounds, and plazas can also make active recreation opportunities more accessible to children and their families. Placing food markets and other healthy food options throughout the District can increase convenient and equitable food access and promote healthy eating. Complete streets can encourage walking and bicycling among young and older adults alike by developing safe, vibrant, and accessible streetscapes. Furthermore, streets that are safe for all will encourage more active use.

**HISTORIC PRESERVATION**

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<td><strong>Action HP-2.7.A: Preservation Enforcement</strong></td>
<td>1016.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Improve enforcement of preservation laws through a sustained program of inspections, imposition of appropriate sanctions, and expeditious adjudication. Strengthen interagency cooperation and promote compliance with preservation laws through enhanced public awareness of permit requirements and procedures. <strong>Ensure that protections remain in place during any public health emergency.</strong></td>
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**COMMUNITY SERVICES AND FACILITIES**

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<th>Narrative/Policies/Actions</th>
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<tr>
<td>The Community Services and Facilities Element contains policies and actions on for public facilities that provide health care facilities, child care and senior care services, as well as community facilities that include library, police stations, fire stations, and other municipal facilities such as maintenance yards. A well-balanced and adequate public facility system is a key part of Washington, DC’s drive to sustain and enhance the quality of life for its residents, and to deliver services on an equitable and inclusive basis, supporting growth and prosperity, resilience, public health and safety, civic gathering, learning, and cultural production and expression.</td>
<td>1100.1</td>
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<td>This element also addresses the vulnerability of District facilities and services to natural and human-made shocks, such as extreme weather events, public health events, and security incidents, and to long-term stressors, such as sea level rise and other adverse effects of climate change.</td>
<td>1100.3</td>
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<tr>
<td>The critical community services and facilities issues facing Washington, DC the District of Columbia are addressed in this element. These include:</td>
<td>1100.5</td>
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</table>
- Assessing, rehabilitating, and maintaining facilities and lands to provide efficient **and effective** delivery of public services to existing and future District residents;
- Investing in and renewing of the public library system **and** enhancing the library’s role as a cultural anchor and center of neighborhood life;
- Providing facilities to offer affordable and high-quality health care services **in an equitable and accessible manner**;
- Providing for the public safety needs of all Washington, DC residents, workers, and visitors;
- Making the District’s critical facilities and health and emergency response systems more resilient to chronic stressors and to sudden natural or human-made events; and
- Ensuring that District-owned land and facilities meet the needs of a growing population, informed by a cross-systems Public Facilities Plan.

**Within this compact footprint and using a finite number of public facilities and lands, the District must serve the health, education, recreation, safety, and security needs of residents. With the District's population anticipated to grow, District ownership and decision-making control over these public assets will grow more critical.**

**Policy CSF-1.1.89: Co-Location**
Encourage the strategic co-location of multiple community services in the same facility, public municipal uses on publicly-owned and controlled sites, provided that the uses are functionally compatible with each other and are also compatible the site’s future land use designation with land uses and activities on surrounding properties. Consider co-location of private and public uses as a strategy that can help advance District-wide and neighborhood priorities, such as the creation of affordable housing and equitable access to services.

**Policy CSF-1.1.11: Developing a Food Systems Network**
Support development of a system of food hub and processing centers where nutritious and local food can be aggregated, safely prepared, and efficiently distributed to District agencies, feeding sites, shelters for persons experiencing homelessness, schools, nonprofits, and local businesses for the District’s normal institutional meal operations as well as leveraged for emergency feeding efforts during disaster events.

**Action CSF-1.1.E: Opportunities to Promote Local Food Businesses**
Identify best practices and potential locations for food hubs, food business incubators, and community kitchens to expand healthy food access and food- based economic opportunity in underserved areas through co-location with job training, business incubation, and entrepreneurial assistance programs.

**Action CSF-1.1.H: Central Kitchen Facility**
Explore the potential for establishment of a central kitchen facility, as required by the Healthy Students Act and subject to funding availability, which could function as a meal preparation site for the District’s
institutional meal programs (e.g., schools, shelters for persons experiencing homelessness), an aggregation center for fresh food to be distributed to local businesses, and a job training facility, among other potential functions including emergency feeding.

One of Washington, DC’s most important resources is the health of its residents. While many of the District’s residents and neighborhoods enjoy exceptional health, significant health disparities persist along dimensions of income, geography, race, gender, and age in the District.

DC Health promotes health, wellness, and equity across the District and protects the safety of residents, visitors, and those doing business in the nation’s capital. The responsibilities of DC Health include identifying health risks; educating the public; preventing and controlling diseases, injuries, and exposure to environmental hazards; coordinating emergency response planning for public health emergencies; promoting effective community collaborations; and optimizing equitable access to community resources.

The World Health Organization defines social and structural determinants of health (SSDH) as the conditions in which people are born, grow, work, live, and age and the wider set of forces and systems shaping the conditions of daily life. These forces and systems include economic policies and systems, development agendas, social norms, social policies, and political systems. The District has adopted this understanding of the larger factors that shape health and that influence the systems and conditions for health and outcomes, including health equity in the District.

While the 2006 Comprehensive Plan focused on advancing equitable access to health care services to address disparities in health outcomes, the District’s approach has evolved to better recognize and incorporate the role and effect of social and structural determinants on health. Thus, the Comprehensive Plan now seeks to improve population health by providing health-informed policy guidance for the future of Washington, DC’s built and natural environments. While policies contained in this section focus on the traditional health care infrastructure and clinical care delivery system, transportation, housing, economic development, and other important social/structural determinants are addressed in other Comprehensive Plan Elements.

Planning for accessible and equitable health care facilities social infrastructure is complicated by a broad set a number of factors, particularly including the changing nature of the nation’s health care delivery system and the District’s limited jurisdiction over private service providers. Nonetheless, The Comprehensive Plan can inform and guide public and private investments in support of at least state the city’s Washington, DC’s commitment to provide an adequate distribution of facilities and services that support the health of District resident, promote health equity across the District, and increase the District’s emergency preparedness. This includes for an adequate distribution of public facilities across the city, as well as measures to advance public health through the design of Washington, DC's city and conservation protection of the environment.

The 2020 public health emergency is anticipated to have broad impacts that can exacerbate existing inequities in the District, including
disparate health effects. While the data in this chapter precede the 2020 health emergency, the policies contained in the Health and Health Equity section below address equity in a manner that supports the District’s response to and recovery from the 2020 health emergency in the near-term, and that provides guidance for shocks and stressors that may occur in the long-term. Additionally, social and structural determinants of health such as income, employment, housing and transportation, are also addressed in other elements of the Comprehensive Plan.

| Health equity is defined as the commitment to ensuring that everyone has a fair and just opportunity to be healthier. Many of the determinants of health and health inequities in populations have social, environmental, and economic origins that extend beyond the direct influence of the health sector and health policies. Thus, public policies in all sectors and at different levels of governance can have a significant impact on population health and health equity. Washington, DC is moving toward a Health in All Policies (HiAP) approach, a systems-wide, cross-sector consideration of health in government decision-making. This HiAP approach seeks to advance accountability, transparency, and access to information through cross-sector and multilevel collaboration in government. |
| Access to affordable, equitable, quality clinical care and health behaviors are crucial for improving health outcomes. DC Health has advanced this framework through several strategic plans, including DC Healthy People 2020 (DC HP2020), the DC Health Systems Plan (HSP), and the DC State Health Innovation Plan (SHIP), and by continually developing and deploying innovative tools that help track and improve health outcomes. |
| The District has adopted an overarching framework of health equity. Achieving health equity requires an explicit focus on and targeting of societal structures and systems that prevent all people from achieving their best possible health, including poverty, discrimination, and lack of access to economic opportunities. |

**Policy CSF-2.1.1: Enhance Health Systems and Equity**

Support the Strategic Framework for Improving Community Health, which seeks to improve public health outcomes while promoting equity across a range of social determinants that include health, race, gender, income, age and geography.

**Policy CSF-2.1.3: Health in All Policies**

Advance a health-forward approach that incorporates health considerations early in the District’s government planning processes.

**Action CSF-2.1.A: Public Health Goals**

Continue efforts to set public health goals and track and evaluate key health indicators and outcomes.

**Action CSF-2.1.B: Primary Health Care Improvements**
**Intensify efforts to improve primary health care and enhance coordination of care for the District’s most vulnerable residents to improve health, enhance patient experience of care, and reduce health care costs.**

*Action CSF-2.1.C: Health Care System Roadmap*

Continue refining and implementing the District’s health care system roadmap for a more comprehensive, accessible, equitable system that provides the highest quality services in a cost-effective manner to those who live and work in the District.

*Action CSF-2.1.E: Built Environment and Health Outcomes*

Explore tools that can help decision-makers, practitioners, and Washington, DC residents to better understand how changes in the built environment can affect human health. Such tools can include Health Impact Assessments (HIAs).

*Action CSF-2.1.F: Advancing Grocery Store Access in Underserved Areas*

Enhance healthy food access, address diet-related health disparities, and generate economic and social resilience by supporting the development of locally owned, community-driven grocery stores in areas with low access to healthy food options. Such support should include targeted financing, technical assistance, and co-location with new mixed-use developments.

Healthy communities, where social and structural determinants of health are met and supported, are also resilient communities. According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (USDHHS), “health is a key foundation of resilience because almost everything we do to prepare for disaster and preserve infrastructure is ultimately in the interest of preserving human health and welfare.” Communities with poor health outcomes and disparities in disease incidence, physical activity levels, and healthy food and health care access are more vulnerable and slower to recover from major shocks and chronic stressors. When these social and structural determinants of health are addressed, communities improve their ability to withstand and recover from disaster, becoming more resilient.

While much focus is given to the vulnerability of the built environment and physical systems, underlying social and economic conditions of communities also play a significant role in their ability to recover rapidly from system shocks, such as extreme weather events, public health emergencies, or security incidents. Thus, community resilience is directly related to the ability of a community to use its assets to improve the physical, behavioral, and social conditions to withstand, adapt to, and recover from adversity.

Given the strong links among resilience and community health, equity, and social cohesion, communities can employ multiple strategies to become more resilient, including improving access to health care facilities and social services, increasing access to healthy foods, expanding communication and collaboration within communities so that individuals can help each other during adverse events, and providing...
equitable disaster planning and recovery, recognizing that some areas of the District will be more heavily impacted than others due to existing socio-economic conditions and other factors. These cross-cutting components of resilience and public health are addressed with policies that are contained throughout the Comprehensive Plan. While this section focuses on health facilities and services, it is important to understand these within the broader context of health in all policies, equity, and resilience.

**Action CSF-2.2.A: Assessing Disparities and Supporting Recovery Strategies from Adverse Events**
Assess the impacts of adverse events on communities with varying socioeconomic characteristics and levels of vulnerability. Track disparities in impacts to help inform response and recovery strategies aimed at reducing inequity and strengthening communities.

These past investments have increased provider capacity throughout Washington, DC. The strategic focus needs to emphasize coordinated, patient-centered care: the right care, at the right time, in the right place. Looking to the future, the District should invest in addressing the underlying factors that pose persistent barriers, including factors that lead to the underuse of preventive services, while retaining emergency care capacity.

Washington, DC is fortunate to have many health care facilities, including full-service hospitals, primary care health centers, long-term care facilities, and assisted living residences (ALRs). Additionally, as shown in Figure 11.8, in 2017 there were 161 pharmacies and a variety of outpatient private medical facilities in Washington, DC that offer an expanding range of services. However, with the changing demographic and health care services landscape, new needs and gaps have emerged.

**Policy CSF-2.13.45: Development and Coordination of Behavioral Health Issues and Substance Abuse Drug and Alcohol Treatment Facilities**
Coordinate development of an adequate number of equitably distributed and conveniently located behavioral health issues and substance abuse drug and alcohol treatment facilities to provide easily accessible, high-quality services to those District residents in need of such services. DC HP2020 identified behavioral health issues as the District’s number one priority.

**Policy CSF-2.1.6: Health Care Planning**
Improve the coordination of health care facility planning with planning for other community services and facilities, and with broader land use and transportation planning efforts in the city. Coordinate city population and demographic forecasts with health care providers to ensure that their plans are responsive to anticipated growth and socio-economic changes. Continue to use strategic plans to improve community health. These plans integrate demographic forecasts and health data to prepare for Washington, DC’s socio-economic changes and growth.

**Action CSF-2.3.E: Health in All Policies**
To the extent possible, relevant District agencies should evaluate the potential impact of their policies and actions on population health and align these with strategies identified in Sustainable DC 2.0 and in the 2017-2019 Action Plan of DC HP2020.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Policy CSF-3.1.2: Libraries as Civic Infrastructure</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td>Recognize libraries as valuable public infrastructure that support residents of all ages through intellectual development, workforce development, and cultural activation, programming, and exchange.</td>
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<th><strong>Policy CSF-3.1.4: Tailoring Libraries to the Neighborhoods They Serve</strong></th>
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<td>Encourage library functions, services, and spaces to be tailored in accordance with each neighborhood’s needs.</td>
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<th><strong>Fire</strong></th>
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<td>Second, fire and emergency medical services are essential to protecting life and property, to responding to natural and human-made hazards, and to providing pre-hospital medical care and transport for its residents and visitors with medical emergencies, fires, and to assist residents requiring paramedic help or ambulance transportation.</td>
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<th><strong>Critical Physical Facilities and Infrastructure in Washington, DC</strong></th>
<th>1114.3a1</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Within Washington, DC, a network of facilities provides essential support functions in case of disasters and emergencies. Critical facilities and infrastructure, such as government buildings, utility plants, fiber optic telecommunications lines, highways, bridges, and tunnels, are critical assets to the continuity of operations within the District. These facilities are considered critical in maintaining the overall functionality of the District’s emergency services network. These facilities are essential in ensuring the provision of infrastructure, critical systems, and other government services. In the event of a disaster that compromises any of these structures or services, the cascading effects could be detrimental. During such a breakdown, an effective response will depend on the adaptability of the whole community, including District residents, first responders, and emergency managers.</td>
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| **With the highest per capita EMS call volume in the nation, Washington, DC’s emergency response system is overtaxed with non-emergency and low-priority medical calls. To address this issue, in 2016 the District created the Integrated Healthcare Collaborative (IHC), also known as the Integrated Healthcare Task Force. The IHC included government and non-governmental organizations representing medical, human services, finance, and public safety sectors. Topics addressed included nurse triage, alternative transport, connection to care, policy, communications, and marketing. Recommendations were published in the IHC Final Report in 2017, and their implementation began in 2018.** | 1115.6 |

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<tr>
<th><strong>Policy CSF-4.2.5: Preservation of FEMS Resources for High-Priority Emergencies</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Support the development and implementation of strategies to preserve resources for high-priority emergencies and to reduce non-emergency and low-priority medical calls. Such strategies should include those that can raise awareness and education regarding fire prevention and emergency assistance techniques. Early intervention by bystanders can complement FEMS efforts, save lives, and better triage resources.</td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>Action CSF-4.2.A: Level of Service Monitoring</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Continue to prepare an annual evaluation of the response times for fire and emergency medical calls in order to evaluate the need for additional</td>
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facilities, equipment, and personnel and identify specific geographic areas where services require improvement, on an annual basis, or as needed during disaster response efforts. This should include a review of the distribution of fire hydrants and water flow capabilities.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Policy CSF-5.1.1: Ensuring Safety, Security, and Humane Operation</th>
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<tr>
<td>Provide adequate correctional capacity and resources to ensure safe, secure, orderly, healthy, and humane operation of correctional facilities. The appropriate design, construction, maintenance, operation resources, and staffing of these facilities is necessary to realizing public safety objectives.</td>
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In the years since the 2006 Comprehensive Plan adoption, Washington, DC’s approach to emergency management and homeland security has evolved significantly. The District has expanded its focus to include not only pre-disaster planning but also a comprehensive approach that integrates all facets of emergency management, including preparedness, mitigation, response, and recovery. In addition, resilience has emerged as a centrally vital issue to the future of cities. The District has recognized this and has endeavored to characterize threats to the District on an ongoing basis and create living plans and practices that can help the District be prepared for, respond to, and recover from severe weather events, public health events, human-made incidents, and chronic stressors. Emergency management and resilience are highly interrelated, particularly as they pertain to public facilities.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Policy CSF-6.1.1: District Preparedness</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Continue to create a District-wide culture of preparedness, informed by a sustainable and effective system, that prepares Washington, DC to prevent and protect against, mitigate, respond to, and recover from all threats and hazards. HSEMA develops and implements homeland security and emergency preparedness plans in coordination with a wide array of local, regional, and federal government agencies, as well as private sector entities. HSEMA serves as the central communications point for District agencies and regional partners before, during, and after an emergency: provides training exercises to District agencies and communities; and leads cross-agency coordination in preparation for special events, such as demonstrations, marches, and parades.</td>
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<tr>
<th>Policy CSF-6.1.2: Direction, Coordination, and Support During Incidents and Events</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Continue to enhance the capability to provide overall direction and support of significant incidents and events within or affecting the District through the O&amp;M of the Emergency Operations Center, as well as the District’s 24/7 watch center, an intelligence fusion center, a public</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
### Policy CSF-6.1.3: Reducing Vulnerability in Recovery Phase

Capitalize on opportunities during the recovery phase to further reduce vulnerability by integrating mitigation activities into Washington, DC’s post-disaster recovery operations, including Preliminary Damage Assessment (PDA) and after-action processes.

### Policy CSF-6.1.5: Emergency Communications

Establish and maintain capabilities to deliver coordinated, prompt, and actionable information to the whole community through the use of clear, compatible, accessible, and culturally and linguistically appropriate methods to effectively relay information regarding any threat or hazard and, to the extent possible, District actions and assistance being made available for those in need.

### Policy CSF-6.1.6: Technology and Emergency Preparedness

Ensure ongoing coordination of District technology initiatives with DPS efforts, providing effective, efficient, and secure services to government agencies, as well as residents, businesses, and visitors who depend on them.

### Policy CSF-6.1.7: Securing Essential Resources

Continue to assess and secure essential resources, including personnel, facilities, equipment supplies, technology, and technological systems, in response to a changing community and threat/hazard environments.

### Policy CSF-6.1.8: Stakeholder Engagement

Continue engaging with key stakeholders and partners in relevant aspects of DPS to strengthen District-wide preparedness. Continue to build collaborative partnerships with key private sector stakeholders to facilitate timely coordination, information dissemination, and emergency response and recovery efforts, particularly during catastrophic incidents.

### Policy CSF-6.1.9: Maximize External and Alternative Funding Means

Maximize the use of federal funding, as well as funding from the private sector and nongovernmental sources, to implement the District’s preparedness, mitigation, response, and recovery strategies. When applicable, for events that qualify for federal disaster declaration, develop requests for individual assistance, public assistance, and hazard mitigation assistance. Create policies and procedures to incorporate hazard mitigation into the repair, relocation, or replacement of damaged public facilities and infrastructure. To the extent possible, include a process for identifying and prioritizing eligible projects and programs that can leverage additional funding.

### Action CSF-6.1.A: District Preparedness System

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Continue to administer, define, refine, implement, and maintain DPS to provide continuity of government, maintain continuity of operations, and provide emergency services to the community.

**Preparedness System**
Continue to develop and maintain a program that allows DPS stakeholders and partners to regularly integrate the accessibility requirements of individuals with disabilities and others with access and functional needs across all phases of DPS, as mandated by the DC Human Rights Act, Americans with Disabilities Act, and Rehabilitation Act. This includes developing and delivering training to agencies on inclusive methods and practices for preparedness. Continue to develop and maintain strategic, operational, and tactical-level plans for providing individuals with disabilities and others with access and functional needs accessible programs and services, including mass care and shelter services, transportation and evacuation, and notification and communication.

**Action CSF-6.1.C: Development Projects and Risk Reduction**
Explore methods for further reducing risks and vulnerabilities of major development projects to human-made and natural hazards.

Explore and evaluate the potential use and impacts of new and emerging technologies on the District’s emergency preparedness, mitigation, and response operations. Arenas with rapidly evolving or emerging technologies include robotics (including drones and autonomous vehicles), data and connectivity, energy and resources, and digital visualizations and interfaces.

This section addresses the preservation and enhancement of Washington, DC’s facilities and lands to address vulnerability of critical facilities to adverse effects of natural and human-made shocks, such as extreme weather events, health events, and security incidents, and to long-term stresses, such as sea level and temperature rise driven by climate change.

**Policy CSF-6.2.1: Consider Vulnerabilities and Mitigations When Planning Critical Facilities**
Consider and evaluate vulnerabilities and mitigations for planning and preserving District-owned facilities from human-made and natural incidents and events, as well as chronic stressors, such as sea level rise and heat emergencies. Identify and prioritize major vulnerabilities and hazards. Incorporate risk and hazard mitigation into operational and investment planning.

**Policy CSF-6.2.4: Temporary Post-Disaster Housing**
Provide residents displaced by disaster with local access to emergency shelter and temporary, interim housing as part of the community disaster recovery process. Coordinate with federal and regional partners to promptly identify and secure safe, temporary housing options for those in need. Seek to reduce barriers to provision of interim housing through existing regulations, ordinances, codes, and policies.
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<tr>
<th>Policy CSF-6.2.5: Technology and Resilience</th>
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<tr>
<td>Explore the use and impact of new and emerging technologies on resilience vulnerability assessment and mitigation planning.</td>
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<tr>
<th>Policy CSF-6.2.6: Community Resilience Hubs</th>
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<tr>
<td>Explore Community Resilience Hubs as a key component of Washington, DC’s resilience strategy. Community Resilience Hubs are intended to serve as a gathering place for residents who are experiencing a shock or stress in their neighborhood. Hubs could be located in places in the community, such as a recreation center or church, or could be provided in a virtual format when necessary.</td>
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<th>Policy CSF-6.2.7: Promote Resilient Communities</th>
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<td>Promote resilient communities in Washington, DC by advancing resilience on a District-wide basis and at a neighborhood-specific level. Improve coordination across plans and strategies that address Washington, DC’s social, health, physical, and food systems and the positioning of District assets to help neighborhoods withstand, adapt to, and recover from adversity.</td>
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<th>Policy CSF-6.2.8: Temporary Facilities</th>
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<td>Coordinate across District agencies and relevant private sector entities to plan for surge capacity of existing facilities or temporary facilities that may be needed during emergency response and recovery. Identify existing facilities that can add to their capacity and adaptive space that can be used for temporary facilities.</td>
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<tr>
<th>Action CSF-6.2.A: Community Risk Assessments</th>
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<tr>
<td>Update the CRA of DPS on a recurring basis to reflect changes in the risk profiles of relevant natural and human-made systems in the District.</td>
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<th>Action CSF-6.2.B: Preserving Critical Community Facilities</th>
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<td>Safeguard critical facilities from a wide range of threats and hazards and develop fortified and redundant systems to deliver essential services at all times.</td>
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<td>Develop a training program on Critical Community Facilities for law enforcement, public utilities, and private sector personnel.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Continue to support development of criteria and methodologies to assess the vulnerability of critical District-owned facilities to human-made and natural shocks, as well as chronic stressors.</td>
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<tr>
<th>Action CSF-6.2.G: Community Resilience Hubs</th>
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Explore the potential of establishing Community Resilience Hubs to strengthen community ties and to help establish reliable networks for vital services and disaster preparedness and recovery.

*Action CSF-6.2.H: Temporary Facilities*

Develop and periodically update a plan for surge capacity of existing facilities or temporary facilities that may be needed during emergency response and recovery. Consider taking into account relevant threats and hazards, an up-to-date inventory of facilities and other relevant spaces in the District, and facility capacity and constraints.

### EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES

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<th>Narrative/Policies/Actions</th>
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<td><strong>Policy EDU-1.2.4: Using District-Owned Facilities for Healthy Food Access</strong></td>
<td>1204.5</td>
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<td>Encourage the renovation and new construction of schools to support healthy food education and access. Assess feasibility of incorporating space for teaching kitchens, prep kitchens, cafeterias, and educational gardens in renovated and modernized buildings.</td>
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**Schools as Community Anchors**

In addition to supporting the academic needs of local students, schools can reflect the social, educational, recreational, and personal needs of the broader community. Historically, the District’s schools have been anchors for the community at large, serving as neighborhood gathering places.

The District has a history of collaborative arrangements with its school facilities. For years, Washington, DC’s schools have hosted recreational programs, public services, and even family services, such as health care. DCPS foresees many opportunities to establish mutually beneficial partnerships with District agencies and the nonprofit sector in the future to help sustain schools as community anchors. This principle is strongly supported by the 2013 DCPS Facilities Master Plan MFP and is regarded as key to improving the emotional and physical health of our neighborhoods. Schools can be leveraged as anchors and cultural assets for District neighborhoods—community hubs that can serve local needs beyond their core educational mission and use.

**Policy EDU-2.1.2: Wrap-Around Services**

Where space is available, continue to accommodate wrap-around health and human services programs within local schools to address the non-academic needs of students and families. Include affordable child care services wherever feasible.

**Policy EDU-2.1.6: District Schools and Resilience**

As part of the educational facilities planning process, explore the potential role that schools can serve for sheltering, gathering, and service provision during disasters and emergencies.
To meet future demands effectively, the District should take a cross-system approach to infrastructure, identify ways to use existing infrastructure more innovatively, apply new and emerging technologies to make infrastructure more efficient, and expand capacity where needed. This approach should focus on improving quality of life. The District will also need to plan for a future where infrastructure is forced to contend with increased pressures from climate change. Infrastructure should be designed in a resilient way to withstand chronic stressors and system shocks.

Infrastructure is critical to the continued success and growth of Washington, DC; infrastructure capacity and effectiveness directly impact quality of life. Infrastructure systems provide vital services to residents, workers, and visitors; shape and enhance the public realm; underlie and contribute to health, wellness, safety, security, and quality of life; are fundamental to promoting economic growth; and form a backbone that allows the District to function as a home to hundreds of thousands of persons and as the nation’s capital. In these ways, infrastructure fundamentally contributes to Washington, DC’s ability to fulfill the Comprehensive Plan’s vision of an equitable, inclusive, and resilient District.

Telecommunication is the transmission of information by wire, radio, optical cable, electromagnetic, or other means. The provision of high-quality digital infrastructure—wireless networks, fiber optics, and broadband telecommunications—is important to residents and businesses, and is vital to economic development. Such infrastructure is critical in the 21st century, particularly given the security and information needs of the nation’s capital.

Technology advances will continue to progress rapidly. Physical changes to infrastructure will be needed to integrate these new technologies, including enhanced wireless infrastructure and updated fiber to help accommodate the increased speed and volume needed for digital communications. The advancement of technology will also impact the way infrastructure is used in Washington, DC. Technology will create new ways for infrastructure systems to be integrated and to become more efficient. The District should start planning for potential related opportunities and the implications of these changes.

Digital access has become a need for most residents of the District. The digital divide is commonly understood to be the gap between people with useful access to digital and information technologies and those with little to no access at all. Bridging this divide can help contribute to long-term success, inclusion, and equity in the District. OCTO’s Connect DC Program works to increase digital literacy, improve access to devices, and provide digital connectivity to underserved District residents. Map 13.5 shows internet access in the District.

Minimizing the digital divide through solutions such as expanding public wireless internet access, digital literacy programs, and access to job opportunities and technical internships that focus on digitally underserved neighborhoods are core goals for Washington, DC.

**Policy IN-4.1.1: Development of Communications Infrastructure**
Washington, DC should plan, coordinate, and oversee development and
maintenance of communications infrastructure, including cable networks, fiber-optic networks, and wireless communications facilities to help support daily functions and goals related to equity and opportunity, economic development, transportation, public health and safety, security, resilience, and education goals.

**Policy IN-4.1.2: Digital Infrastructure Accessibility**
Strategically expand the public wireless coverage that provides District residents, workers, and visitors access to highly reliable and secure internet-based services. Promote digital infrastructure that provides affordable broadband data communications anywhere, anytime to the residents of the District. Investigate the cost-effectiveness of providing municipally-owned wireless broadband connectivity to guarantee more affordable high-speed internet access for residents, businesses, schools, and community organizations.

**Policy IN-4.1.3: Equitable Digital Access**
Enhance access to digital services in the District to reduce the digital divide, strategically expanding public wireless coverage to serve underserved communities and providing such access at schools, libraries, and other District government facilities.

The District Preparedness System (DPS) forms the foundation of Washington, DC’s efforts to integrate preparedness principles District-wide, addressing protection, mitigation, response, and recovery capabilities and needs. Success of the DPS relies heavily on collaboration among District agencies with utilities across the region. By working together to identify and build the capabilities to address them, DPS stakeholders can continue to prepare for the most critical threats and hazards. DPS includes consideration of civic facilities (such as hospitals, fire and police stations, schools, libraries, and parks), as well as infrastructure.

Washington, DC faces major infrastructure challenges, a growing population, and increasing risks posed by natural hazards and climate change in addition to human-made hazards and incidents. As the effects of climate change intensify and risks increase, it is critical for the District to plan for more frequent and severe impacts on infrastructure systems. This need is emphasized in the Resilient DC Strategy, which lays out Washington, DC’s approach to handling these challenges.

In addition to addressing sudden threats and hazards through DPS, Washington, DC is working to address chronic stressors, such as poverty, safety, and access to health care and healthy food, through a wide range of policies contained throughout the Comprehensive Plan. While Washington, DC recognizes that many, if not most, of the Comprehensive Plan policies are connected to resilience, policies that explicitly identify resilience are contained in specific subsections of this element to provide a logical framework: this section and the CSF-2.2 Healthy Communities and Resilience section in the Community Services and Facilities Element.

In addition to infrastructure hardening and other protective measures, infrastructure providers in Washington, DC should continue to focus their efforts on improving the robustness and reliability of critical
systems to facilitate the continuous flow of goods, utility services, and information, particularly during times of crisis.

**Policy IN-7.1.1: District Preparedness**

Prepare Washington, DC to prevent and protect against, mitigate, respond to, and recover from all hazards that threaten the District, including human-made and climate change hazards. Integrate preparedness goals into relevant efforts across relevant District agencies and utilities, including through coordination with DPS.

**Policy IN-7.1.2: Consider Vulnerabilities and Mitigations when Planning Critical Infrastructure**

Support efforts by utilities to consider and evaluate vulnerability and mitigations for planning and protecting critical assets and systems from human-made and natural incidents and events, as well as chronic stressors, including sea level rise and heat emergencies. Identify and prioritize major vulnerabilities and hazards, such as flooding. Incorporate risk and hazard mitigation into operational and investment planning. Mitigations can include elevating natural gas lines and hardening water systems.

**Policy IN-7.1.4: Technology and Resilience**

Explore the use and impact of new and emerging technologies on resilience vulnerability assessment and mitigation planning.

**Action IN-7.1.B: Community Risk Assessments**

Update the Community Risk Assessment (CRA) of DPS on a recurring basis to reflect changes in the risk profiles of relevant natural and human-made systems in Washington, DC. Incorporate relevant infrastructure information in the CRA process.

**Action IN-7.1.C: Protecting Critical Infrastructure**

Protect critical facilities from a wide range of threats and hazards and develop fortified and redundant systems in order to deliver essential services at all times.

**Action IN-7.1.D: Training for Protecting Critical Infrastructure**

Develop a training program for protecting public utilities for law enforcement and private sector personnel.

**Action IN-7.1.E: Vulnerability of Critical Infrastructure**

Continue to support development of criteria and methodologies to assess the vulnerability of critical infrastructure to human-made and natural shocks, as well as chronic stressors.

**Action IN-7.1.F: Mitigating Vulnerability of Critical Infrastructure**

Explore approaches and tools to address identified vulnerabilities of critical infrastructure. Regional, District-wide, and site-specific factors should be taken into account, as well as near-term and long-range risks.
### Action IN-7.1.G: Emerging Technologies and Critical Infrastructure

Review and evaluate the impacts of new and emerging technologies on the District’s resilience and their potential for helping District government and utility operators to advance near-term and long-range infrastructure resilience objectives.

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<tr>
<th>ARTS AND CULTURE</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Data included in this Element precede the 2020 public health emergency.</strong> While the District’s economic position may be substantially affected in the early 2020’s, the District anticipates that economic trends highlighted in this chapter will hold in the long-term along with the policies contained in this chapter, which are designed to guide the District through both growth and recession cycles. Actions have been added to the Economic Development and Housing Elements of the Comprehensive Plan to address response to and recovery from impacts of the 2020 public health emergency that affect the arts and culture sector.</td>
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<tr>
<td>However, many new cultural spaces house commercial entertainment and organizations that provide attractions oriented toward visitors or Washington, DC’s high-income residents. Despite the addition of new cultural spaces, many established organizations have faced serious challenges adjusting to the increasing costs of space and living in the District. Going forward, additional low-cost cultural production, presentation, and administration spaces are needed to support growth of locally significant cultural practices.</td>
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| **Policy AC-1.1.1: Enhancement of Existing Facilities**  
Preserve and enhance District-owned or controlled neighborhood arts and cultural spaces. Assist in the improvement of arts and cultural organizations’ facilities in order to enhance the quality, diversity, and distribution quantity of cultural infrastructure arts offerings. | 1403.5 |
| **Policy AC-1.2.7: Mitigate Cultural Displacement**  
Reinforce and elevate existing cultural anchors, practices, and traditions in communities undergoing significant demographic change. Such efforts should reflect the history and culture of established communities in these neighborhoods and also embrace new residents. In addition, support cross-cultural programming that fosters a shared understanding of Washington, DC’s history and culture among all residents. | 1404.12 |
| According to the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, the District has a high concentration of arts and cultural employment. The cultural workforce strengthens the District in two primary ways: growing arts and cultural industries and facilitating innovation in the broader economy. | 1408.3 |
| The jobs, wages, and tax revenue created through the cultural economy are important; however, culture is not defined by, or limited to works that generate, financial returns. The District recognizes that less economically tangible cultural activities are also valuable. Analyzing the | 1408.6 |
The cultural economy has helped the District understand its size, structure, and composition. Through this analysis and numerous stakeholder interviews, the Cultural Plan identified affordable housing, business development, and cultural tourism as focus areas in the cultural economy.

Affordable housing is important for all residents, including members of the cultural workforce. Many members of the cultural workforce are self-employed or hold a series of jobs that balance income with creative freedom. As a consequence, many cultural creators have lower and less predictable incomes. Like many other residents, the creative workforce is facing increasing challenges securing and maintaining affordable housing as market rate housing has become more expensive.

**Policy AC-3.1.1: Housing for the Cultural Workforce**

Encourage innovative approaches that remove barriers to housing for the cultural workforce, such as work-live housing, where the residential use is an accessory to production space.

**Policy AC-3.1.2: Increase Awareness of Housing Programs**

Improve cultural creators’ awareness of the District’s housing programs, including through the provision of information on eligibility for self-employed residents.

**Policy AC-3.1.3: Affordable Artist Housing**

Include provisions to support all affordable housing for residents with low incomes who work in arts professionals and cultural occupations in the District’s affordable housing programs. Housing provided specifically for residents with arts and cultural occupations should include dedicated facilities that support those occupations, such as loading docks, oversized doorways, and wash basins.

**Action AC-3.1.A: Housing Toolkit**

Develop a toolkit that provides arts and cultural creators information about housing programs offered in Washington, DC. The toolkit should include information on rent supplements, affordable dwelling units, inclusionary housing, home purchase assistance, and homelessness assistance.

**Policy AC-3.2.1: Small Business Development**

Encourage individuals and organizations seeking to establish, strengthen, or expand cultural organizations to use the District’s small business development resources. These programs help creators build high-impact organizations and increase access to technical assistance and funding.

**Policy AC-4.1.1: Making Funding Inclusive**

Ensure that District city funding for the arts occurs should be distributed through a fair and transparent process and supports the delivery of services to the broadest possible spectrum of the community, with a particular emphasis on underserved communities.
### Policy AC-4.1.2: Grant Programs for Cultural Creators
Continue to implement and refine CAH grant programs that support both individual creators and nonprofit cultural organizations.

### Action AC-4.1.A: Sustain Grant Funding for Arts and Culture
Continue providing grant funding through CAH and community affairs agencies.

### Action AC-4.1.B: New Sources of Cultural Funding
Explore new sources for cultural funding that increase the impact of the District’s grant funding through a new form of support, such as the models and programs outlined in the DC Cultural Plan, including social impact investment, public-private partnerships, and leverage funds.

### Action AC-4.2.A: Innovative Cultural Business Models
Explore how Washington, DC can partner with other cultural funders and stakeholders to advance innovative business models that lower barriers to forming financially sustainable cultural businesses.

### Policy AC-4.3.4: Engaging Our Arts and Cultural Communities
Increase the involvement of the arts and cultural communities in the design of the physical environment, and include artistic considerations in local planning and redevelopment initiatives.

### Policy AC-4.3.8: Coordination with Other Jurisdictions
Encourage other jurisdictions in the region to help sustain and enhance the cultural promotion of the metropolitan area facilities located within the city that serve the region as a whole.

### AREA ELEMENTS

#### CAPITOL HILL

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| **Policy CH-1.2.8: Streets as Open Space**
Maintain and enhance "functional" open space within Capitol Hill, particularly the landscaped areas contained within street rights-of-way. These areas include the Pennsylvania Avenue SE esplanade, East Capitol Street, the numerous triangle parks along diagonal streets avenues, public plazas, such as the area around Eastern Market MetroMetrorail, and the front "yards" of most Capitol Hill row houses, portions of which are located within the public right-of-way. | 1508.8 |

| **Policy CH-2.4.1: Redevelopment of Public Reservation 13**
Redevelop Reservation 13 as a mixed-use neighborhood that combines housing, retail, office space, health care, civic, education, institutional, and recreational uses. This site could be a future potential opportunity for an anchor employer or institution. Established uses such as the DC Correctional Facility should be retained. Health care and institutional uses on the site should be reorganized to accommodate infill uses, improve the site’s vitality and efficiency, and create an environment more conducive to pedestrian travel. | 1513.6 |

#### CENTRAL WASHINGTON

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<td><strong>Policy CW-1.2.5: Central Washington Economic Opportunity</strong></td>
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Develop programs to maximize the economic benefits of development in Central Washington for District residents. A priority should be placed on programs that link District residents to jobs in the area; programs that retain, assist, and expand small and minority businesses; and programs that avoid the displacement of small or locally-owned businesses.

**Policy CW-1.2.6: Central Washington Social Services**

Continue the important role that Central Washington plays in the District’s social service delivery system, particularly in the provision of health care and medical services, and services for homeless persons experiencing homelessness, older adults, the elderly, and persons with disabilities. Ensure that centrally located facilities providing these services are retained or added as the city’s population and employment base expand.

**Policy CW-2.3.4: Chinatown Wholesaling**

Support the retention of small food wholesalers and other small non-retail businesses that contribute to the success of Chinatown and help sustain its economic vitality.

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**FAR NORTHEAST SOUTHEAST**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Narrative/Policies/Actions</th>
<th>Citation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Policy FNS-1.2.78: Health Care Facilities</strong></td>
<td>1709.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provide Encourage and support additional facilities to meet the mental behavioral and physical health needs of Far Northeast and Southeast residents, including primary and urgent care facilities, youth development centers, nutrition and chronic disease treatment, family counseling, and drug abuse and alcohol treatment facilities. Such facilities are vital to provide residents access to health care and maintain good health reduce crime and promote positive youth development. Specific plans for new social service and health facilities should be developed through needs assessments, agency master plans, strategic plans, and the District’s public facility planning process. All plans should be prepared in collaboration with the community, with input from local Advisory Neighborhood Commissions (ANCs) and civic associations, residents and businesses, and local community development corporations and nonprofit service providers. Facilities should be easily accessible and meet the needs of the community.</td>
<td>1709.12</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Policy FNS-1.2.89: Facilities for Children, and Youth, and Older Adults</strong></td>
<td>1711.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Continue to develop additional parks, recreation centers, playgrounds, waterfront access, and other facilities and programs which meet the needs of children, and youth, and older adults in the Far Northeast/Southeast community. Use the Age-Friendly DC Strategic Plan to help implement specific strategies for facilities that serve residents of all ages. The District must recognize that children are the future of Far Northeast/Southeast and should have a positive and healthy environment in which to live, play, and grow.</td>
<td>1711.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Policy FNS-2.1.1: Minnesota/Benning Revitalization</strong></td>
<td>1711.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support revitalization and further development of the area around the Minnesota Avenue Metro station, including the adjacent business district to the south along Minnesota Avenue. Upgrade and expand existing businesses</td>
<td>1711.5</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
in this area, and encourage new small business development, educational facilities, **healthy food retail, green spaces**, and community-based human services, such as job training, health care, and child care facilities. Any new public facility or private development in this area should contribute to its image as an attractive and vibrant community hub and should be responsive to the needs of surrounding neighborhoods.

### FAR SOUTHEAST SOUTHWEST

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Policy FSS-1.1.409: Minority/Small Disadvantaged Business Development</strong> <strong>Provide technical assistance to minority-owned and small businesses in the Far Southeast/Southwest to improve the range of goods and services available to the community. Joint venture opportunities, minority business set-asides, business incubator centers, and assistance to community-based development organizations should all be used to jumpstart local business and provide jobs in the community.</strong></td>
<td>1808.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Policy FSS-1.1.1110: Workforce Development Centers</strong> <strong>Support the development of additional vocational schools, job training facilities, and workforce development centers, including the Infrastructure Academy. Encourage the retention of existing job training centers, and the development of new centers on such sites such as the St. Elizabeths Campus and DC Village to increase employment opportunities for local residents.</strong></td>
<td>1808.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Action FSS-R.1.1.A: Resilient Public Facilities</strong> <strong>Identify and support greater investments to make the existing public facilities in the Far Southeast/Southwest Planning Area more resilient to the anticipated effects of extreme heat, floods, severe weather, and health events. This includes incorporating necessary upgrades or retrofits to the improvement or reconstruction of schools, libraries, child care centers, recreation centers, health clinics, and other facilities that provide services to residents at a higher health risk and vulnerable to climate risks and social inequities.</strong></td>
<td>1808.18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Policy FSS-1.2.1: Health Care Facilities</strong> <strong>Sustain and support capacity and equity in existing health care facilities in Far Southeast/Southwest and develop additional health care and social service facilities to respond to the urgent unmet need for primary and urgent care, pre- and post-natal care, child care, youth development, family counseling, and drug and alcohol treatment centers. Pursue co-location or consolidation of these facilities with other public facilities where possible, and where the uses are compatible.</strong></td>
<td>1809.1</td>
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### LOWER ANACOSTIA WATERFRONT NEAR SOUTHWEST

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<tr>
<td><strong>Policy AW-1.1.610: Pedestrian Orientation of Waterfront Uses</strong> <strong>Provide a high level of pedestrian and cyclist amenities along the shoreline, including informational and interpretive signs, benches and street furniture, and public art. Pedestrian and cyclist facilities should be designed to accommodate the greatest number of users with varying abilities. Where possible, trail design should support the safe use of the trail in the evenings. Continue to coordinate with federal agencies to ensure the continuity of character and wayfinding, and explore additional</strong></td>
<td>1907.11</td>
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opportunities for public access on federally owned waterfront properties.

**Policy AW-2.1.3: Connecting to the Southwest Waterfront**

Continue to enhance pedestrian connections from the Southwest neighborhood, Waterfront Metro station, and L’Enfant Plaza area to the Washington Channel Wharf by creating new public spaces and trails, eliminating Water Street, reducing surface parking, linking the Banneker Overlook to Maine Avenue, and providing safer pedestrian crossings across Maine Avenue SW.

**Policy AW-2.6.5: Buzzard Point Public Spaces**

Following the guidance of the Buzzard Point Vision Framework, identify and implement a set of interconnected parks and playgrounds designed for a variety of users. Develop Half Street SW with green features that link to the stadium plaza, other parks, and the Anacostia River.

### MID CITY

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Policy MC-2.1.3: Georgia Avenue NW Design Improvements</strong></td>
<td>2011.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upgrade the visual quality of the Georgia Avenue NW corridor through urban design and public space improvements, including tree planting, new parks and plazas, upgraded triangle parks, and façade improvements that establish a stronger identity and improved image.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Policy MC-2.1.6: Pocket Parks and Plazas</strong></td>
<td>2011.9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pursue opportunities to create new publicly accessible open spaces along the Georgia Avenue NW corridor.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Policy MC-2.2.2: Public Realm Improvements</strong></td>
<td>2012.8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Improve the streets, sidewalks, and public rights-of-way in the 14th Street NW/Park Road NW vicinity to improve pedestrian safety and create a more attractive public environment.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Policy MC-2.2.3: Pocket Parks Park Capacity</strong></td>
<td>2012.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pursue opportunities to create new publicly accessible open space in Columbia Heights and to increase community access to public school open space during non-school hours. Continue to improve the quality of existing parkland and outdoor recreation facilities.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Policy MC-2.4.6: Adams Morgan Public and Institutional Facilities</strong></td>
<td>2014.14</td>
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<tr>
<td>Encourage the retention and adaptive reuse of existing public facilities in Adams Morgan, including the use of schools for public purposes, such as education, clinics, libraries, and recreational facilities. In addition, encourage the constructive, adaptive, and suitable reuse of historic churches with new uses, such as housing in the event such facilities cease to operate as churches.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Policy: MC-2.7.4: Increased Green Space</strong></td>
<td>2017.7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Encourage preservation and improvement of existing green spaces in Eckington. Identify new opportunities for additional public green space and tree planting throughout the neighborhood and along the Metropolitan Branch Trail, including additional pocket parks.</td>
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### NEAR NORTHWEST

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Policy NNW-1.2.6: Increasing Park Use and Acreage</strong></td>
<td>2109.6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Identity opportunities for new pocket parks, plazas, and public spaces within the Near Northwest Planning Area, as well as opportunities to expand and take full advantage of existing parks.</td>
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### ROCK CREEK EAST

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Policy RCE-1.2.8: Health Care Facilities for Special Needs Populations</strong></td>
<td>2209.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provide additional facilities, <strong>services, and programs</strong> to meet the mental and physical health needs of Rock Creek East residents, and to promote healthy aging especially facilities for the elderly.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Action RCE-2.2.B: Petworth Co-Location Opportunities</strong></td>
<td>2212.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Explore opportunities to co-locate new and improved public facilities along Spring Road NW and at the Petworth Library/Roosevelt Senior High School/ MacFarland Middle School campus. Consider other uses in the co-location development programs, such as a health care center, housing, and senior living.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Policy RCE-2.5.8: Irving Street Washington Hospital Complex Campus Development</strong></td>
<td>2215.14</td>
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<tr>
<td>Encourage continued development of the <strong>Irving Street Washington Hospital Complex Campus</strong> with hospitals and health care services. Promote land uses that are flexible enough to accommodate the future needs of the facilities while considering the impacts to the surrounding residential areas and the additional impacts to the District’s roadway, infrastructure, and public service resources.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Action RCE-2.5.B: Irving Street Hospital Campus Strategic North Capitol Crossroads Planning</strong></td>
<td>2215.16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coordinate with hospital operators on the <strong>Irving Street Washington Hospital Complex campus</strong> AFRH, Catholic University, adjacent neighborhoods, and other institutional, federal, and community stakeholders to ensure that necessary facility expansions and large site redevelopments contribute to a coordinated plan that leverages the opportunity to improve multimodal mobility, open up publicly accessible green space, convert historic assets into new amenities, and provide new housing options to meet Washington, DC’s growing demand, are well planned and mitigate potential adverse impacts on surrounding areas. Review existing hospital facility strategic plans to determine appropriate land uses and determine if zoning changes are needed.</td>
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### ROCK CREEK WEST

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<tr>
<td><strong>Policy RCW-1.2.3: National Park Service NPS Areas</strong></td>
<td>2309.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conserve and improve the more than 2,000 acres of natural open space in the forested neighborhoods that lie between the Potomac River and Rock Creek Park, including Battery Kemble Park, Glover Archbold Park, the Potomac National Heritage Scenic Area, and the Fort Circle Parks. Support efforts to restore water quality and improve natural habitat, along with capital</td>
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improvements to improve enhance trails and provide appropriate recreational features.

**Policy RCW-2.3.1: Public Space in Van Ness**

*Enhance the linear public space on both sides of Connecticut Avenue NW with larger landscaped areas and increased café seating where appropriate. Create focal points with public art and activate plazas with temporary placemaking and other programming.*

**UPPER NORTHEAST**

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Policy UNE-1.2.6: Connecting to the River</strong></td>
<td>2409.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recognize the Anacostia River and the land along its banks as an essential and integral part of the Upper Northeast community. Improve the connections between Upper Northeast neighborhoods and the Anacostia River through trail, path, transit, and road improvements, linking the Gallaudet <strong>University</strong> campus as an institutional open space with the adjacent open spaces to the east, including the Mt. Olivet Cemetery and the National Arboretum, and extending to the Anacostia River and <strong>Riverwalk</strong>. Opportunities also exist for connections between the Gallaudet campus and the network of open spaces to the west, including the Metropolitan Branch Trail and the Burnham Spine to create a green spine through Northeast DC for bicycle and pedestrian movement from the Mall/Union Station area to the Anacostia River and back down to the Mall along the proposed Anacostia River Walk. Provide amenities and facilities in the planned waterfront parks that meet the needs and promote the resilience of Upper Northeast residents.</td>
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**Policy UNE-2.1.2: Capital City Florida Avenue Market**

Redevelop the **Capital City Florida Avenue** Market into a regional destination that may include residential, dining, entertainment, office, hotel, maker, and wholesale food uses. The wholesale market and the adjacent DC Farmers Market are important but undervalued historic amenities that should be preserved, upgraded, and more effectively marketed.

**Policy UNE-2.1.4: Northeast Gateway Urban Design Improvements**

Improve the image and appearance of the Northeast Gateway area by creating landscaped gateways into the community, creating new parks and open spaces, upgrading key streets as specified in the Northeast Gateway Revitalization Strategy, and improving conditions for pedestrians along Florida Avenue and other neighborhood streets.

**Action UNE-2.1.B: Northeast Gateway Open Space**

Develop additional and interconnected public open spaces in the Ivy City and Trinidad areas, including a public green plaza and park on the West Virginia Avenue **Public Works Campus**, open space on the current site of the DCPS school bus parking lot, and improved open space at the Trinidad Recreation Center and the Crummell School grounds.