



THE DC OFFICE OF PLANNING

**Amending the DC Comprehensive Plan
Community Workshop #6
Summary & Public Comment Digest**

Meeting Date:	Thursday, November 3, 2016
Meeting Location:	Jefferson Middle School Academy, 801 7th Street SW
Featured Area Element(s):	Capitol Hill Area Element & Lower Anacostia Waterfront/Near Southwest Area Element
Number of Attendees:	91
Agenda:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Registration (6:00-6:30pm) • Presentation on Comprehensive Plan & Amendment Cycle (6:40pm-7:00pm) • Open House (7:10pm-7:45m) • Final Thoughts from the Public (7:45pm-8:10pm) • Next Steps & Closing

This document presents written comments received from the public at the **Open House** Comment Boards and delivered verbally during the **Final Thoughts from the Public** session. Please note that this document serves as the initial step in the DC Office of Planning’s public meeting report out process for the Comprehensive Plan Amendment cycle. A more in-depth Community Outreach and Engagement Summary Report that covers all 7 PlanDC community workshops and identifies key themes from the public comments will be developed and released at a later date.

I. OPEN HOUSE

Following an informational presentation by the DC Office of Planning (OP) on the District’s Comprehensive Plan and the current Amendment Cycle, OP held an Open House for attendees that included a series of topic-specific stations with boards containing information and/or data on the Comprehensive Plan’s Area Elements and Citywide Elements; growth and development in DC; and resilience, a new topic being integrated into the Comprehensive Plan for the first time. All stations were staffed and included comment boards for attendees to share insights and feedback. The purposes of the Open House were for attendees to provide their comments and insights pertinent to each particular topic station and for OP staff to share information and answer topic-/area-specific or process questions. For planning purposes, the District is organized geographically by Area Elements in the Comp Plan. There are a total of 10 Area Elements in the Comp Plan. Each meeting featured 1-2 Area Elements based on the geographic area of where it was held. Additionally, participants from across the city could attend any of the 7 PlanDC community workshops and OP provided an opportunity for comments on any of the 10 Area Elements at each meeting.

Open House Stations:

- 1) Comprehensive Plan Vision & Core Themes
- 2) What is the Comprehensive Plan?
- 3) Future Land Use Map & Generalized Policy Map
- 4) Area Elements — *3 boards*:
 - Capitol Hill Area Element
 - Lower Anacostia Waterfront/Near Southwest Area Element
 - Area Elements Summary
- 5) Citywide Elements—*12 boards*:
 - Land Use
 - Urban Design
 - Economic Development
 - Transportation
 - Infrastructure
 - Community Services & Facilities
 - Housing
 - Educational Facilities
 - Historic Preservation
 - Environmental Protection
 - Parks, Recreation & Open Space
 - Arts & Culture
- 6) Growth & Development
- 7) Resilience
- 8) Ask a Director
- 9) Ask a Planner

OPEN HOUSE PUBLIC COMMENTS BY TOPIC

Open House comments were transcribed based on attendees' written comments. A commenter's name is noted when provided.

Future Land Use and Generalized Policy Maps

- 501 I Street SW should remain R-3 to keep integrity of surrounding neighborhoods
- More family housing near schools addresses SW future issues on many levels
- More corner stores in neighborhoods
- Concerned about too much high rise development
- Do not change designation of 501 I Street SW
- Should preserve commercial zoning at 15th Street, NE
- Get rid of the RFK parking lots
- Greater residential density near metro and other major transit routes
- More parks and programs for kids
- Welcome new neighbors and more affordable housing
- Allow all neighborhoods to grow and change instead of pushing all growth to a few areas
- Build for people, not cars

- Important to adhere to the Southwest Small Area Plan

Area Elements

Capitol Hill Area Element

Includes the following neighborhoods: Capitol Hill, Kingman Park, Stanton Park, Near Northeast, Hill East, Lincoln Park, RFK Stadium, Eastern Market

What do you like about where you live?

- Convenience
- People and neighbors
- Walkability
- The row houses, trees, people, baby carriages, dogs, alone, in groups, all of it
- The neighborhood feeling
- Bring back SW Arts festival
- Access to green space and river trails
- Density of people from a variety of backgrounds
- Sense of community
- Diversity of uses--housing, retail and commercial
- Bicycle connections to rest of city
- Access to retail on PA avenue and navy yard
- Great to have access to have healthy food option nearby
- Access to parks, Anacostia river, lots of walkability
- Trees, greenspace
- Eastern Market
- Trees

What improvements are needed in your area/neighborhood?

- Please increase the number of neighbors, so more can share in what makes Capitol Hill great
- Keep creating parks for all
- Stop high rise especially when there is no space (lots of congestion)
- New parks, splash parks, transportation (not streetcar)
- Housing options for seniors, mixed generation, 2-3 bedrooms
- Transportation options for seniors
- Health facilities, adult day care, rehabilitation and continuing care
- Fences around small unused (because unsafe) playgrounds at Maryland Avenue and 10th Street NE and Massachusetts Avenue and 17th Street SE
- Develop RFK to be a new urban village
- Keep houses and apartments in the original RFK plan
- Convert RFK parking lots into something else
- More retail, need better sources to buy underwear and socks
- Increase density without destroying the neighborhoods

- Preserve/conservate the urban fabric=historic districts or/and conservation districts
- Keep working on improving accessibility and walkability--good for baby carriages and seniors
- Dense, mixed use development--housing, retail, commercial together, like the main street feel that makes the Hill Home
- Reconnect SE Blvd to street grid, connect neighborhood to river
- Better lighting under 395 underpasses
- Better lighting for pedestrians, current sidewalks are dark
- Slow traffic and improve pedestrian infrastructure and the traffic on East Capitol, Independence Avenues, 17th and 19th Streets
- More abundant and affordable housing
- More condos for seniors who want to move to one level

Lower Anacostia Waterfront/Near Southwest Area Element

Includes the following neighborhoods: Southwest, Capitol Riverfront, Buzzard Point, Anacostia Park, Poplar Point, Hains Point, Fort McNair, Navy Yard

What do you like about where you live?

- Quiet neighborhood
- Mix of population and architecture
- Beautiful tree-lined streets with iconic architecture
- Mixed income, mixed family structure, neighborhood that feels like a neighborhood
- Trees, open space, low density, owner-occupied homes
- I used to like the quiet but it is not quiet anymore
- Neighborhood feel, right downtown
- Walk to work
- Wonderful green space
- Access to Hains Point, great space to walk, bike, picnic, love access to community pool
- Green space, trees
- Convenient to urban services
- Diverse population
- Open public and community spaces
- Bike friendly

What improvements are needed in your area/neighborhood?

- Walkways along as much of riverfront as possible
- Less high rise development
- Very important, more housing
- More dense high-rise development that provides more housing options to more people
- Revive the SW Circulator bus
- Maintain SW iconic churches

- Development that encourages homeownership and families
- The Circulator bus
- No zoning changes at 501 I Street SW
- Fix parking and traffic problems, system loaded beyond capacity
- No zoning change at SEU site, townhouses preferred
- Access to Buzzard Point, combined development of SW and Buzzard Point will be a loss of open space
- More bike lanes, better public transportation, SW Transportation plan, fewer high rise or boxy buildings
- Redesign the oval at South Capitol Street for improved traffic flow out of neighborhood
- Additional open/park space at Buzzard Point
- Less high rise
- Stop church conversions to high rise/high density
- More moderate priced restaurants not aimed at tourists
- Dog parks
- Preserve open space and access to sunshine
- No more high rises
- Work with Federal government to turn the empty Capitol Page dorm (NJ and E Street SE) into much needed housing. It is 10 minutes from 2 metro stations
- Ban tour buses and trucks from using neighborhood streets as cut through--keep them on main roads
- Splash parks, programming for 1-4 year olds north of M Street SW
- Indoor Pool
- Repair SW duck pond
- No Shakespeare development
- Townhomes
- Yes to Shakespeare Theater
- Affordable housing
- More housing, including Shakespeare Theater development
- M Street is too wide and would be great place for streetcar
- Kayak Parking
- Water sports, waterfront access like Kayak and Stand Up Paddle Boarding
- Family-friendly housing

Other Area Elements

What improvements are needed in your area/neighborhood?

- Conduct surveys throughout the District to elicit community feedback that is much more comprehensive
- How can we put policies in place to allow housing options for middle income residents?
- Increase density to increase housing supply?
- Incentivize to build family-sized units

- How can we finance new affordable housing?
- Break up concentrated poverty
- The piecemeal approval of projects chips away at density and contributes to the supply shortage
- Small Area Fair market rate--how does the Comp Plan account for this newly approved housing policy?

Citywide Elements

Land Use Element

Write your issues, ideas, questions below:

- Keep Green Spaces (i.e. 4th and M Streets SW)
- More green spaces, more sunshine, fewer high rises
- Encourage innovative design that preserves community fabric and avoids the “K Street canyon” effect
- Join Anacostia and Southwest with bridges
- Need gas stations in Southwest
- How to coordinate with NCPD Parks and Open Space Element?
- More mixed income affordable housing, especially in areas around metro stations
- Space for community gardens
- Incentivize development away from vulnerable areas (i.e. Watts Branch, Buzzard Point, etc)
- Stop changing land use and zoning in order to build high rises
- More health facilities
- More senior-focused housing
- More deeply affordable housing for 0-30% AMI
- Investment beyond the housing fund
- Build housing at Reservation 13 now
- Support workforce housing 30-60 AMI [Area Median Income] in Southwest
- Pedestrian-only areas in commercial zones, specifically downtown Georgetown stretch of M Street, prioritize people not transit
- McMillan should not just be a park, need equitable development, not a giant park

Urban Design Element

Write your issues, ideas, questions below:

- Permit control--Developers seem to have influence with no input from neighborhood/resident – example, Cafritz apartments at Military and Connecticut Avenue NW, Ward 3
- Communal Space--Design in blocks with shared green space and shared resources
- Help churches become more vibrant community centers

- Colorful benches for seniors
- Ramps
- Fix sidewalks
- Streetlights are poorly lit along the sidewalks (safety issue)
- Need more well-lit parks
- Warning for arsenic within soils
- Develop a Main Street feeling for community gathering
- Neighborhood organizing to contribute to gardening and tree planting and care
- Enhance visibility and activate space (parks)
- Maintain distinctive SW churches
- More LEED buildings up to 50%
- No billboards
- Improve connectivity from one area to another via existing bridges
- Add bridges for bikes and pedestrians
- No pop ups of any kind in traditional row homes
- More retail on first floors of new buildings. Break up the blocks, DOT building is good
- More bird friendly design
- Retain the uniqueness of SW, maintain the low-rise character
- Retain and add more large open spaces for parks/community gathering
- No more church conversion high rises
- If you want churches in neighborhoods, they must be supported in efforts to be sustainable
- No obstruction of view with new development
- Support transforming church spaces
- More bike lanes which leads to more walkability

Economic Development Element

Write your issues, ideas, questions below:

- Incubator space for entrepreneurs
- Utilizing physical space that can benefit multiple entities and not just one entity
- More retail
- Raise the height limit for economic impact
- We need other things, new types of work, wouldn't it be great if it was characteristic of DC?
- Great if we had an incubator (or hands on trade skills) space. Not necessarily for tech but other sectors
- Do not bring in business that will displace families with small children
- Policies that incentivize small business and celebrate local culture
- A community space for collaboration. Where people can go for study or for work similar to a coffee shop. You can linger, be quiet or engage in conversation without overstaying your welcome
- Available parking around businesses

- Investments by the city in community-owned cooperatives (housing, food, etc), grants and staff
- Tax incentives for businesses owned 51% by community or most historically impacted/underserved communities in DC
- Strengthen economic development initiatives or establish a program within the Common Core standards to encourage students to think about and prepare for entrepreneurship
- There should be no parking
- Do raise the height limitation
- Maintain the planning that was done on the original Southwest
- Bring more of the tech corridor into the City (Dulles and Tysons)
- BID for Southwest
- More park space around buildings in NoMa
- Successful businesses have mentors or support system to help with permits, etc. Only storefront space we have in SW are established corporate sponsors. We are not starting artisanal shops. We don't even have a coffee shop
- Utilities--try to stretch your dollars--cannot do that now--Pepco going up again, they get money for unused utilities
- Jobs that pay enough to afford a house to live here
- How do we incorporate retailers in the future of local business?

Transportation Element

Write your issues, ideas, questions below:

- Return the Circulator bus to Southwest
- More metro maintenance and service
- Extend metro hours
- Encourage continuing expansion of bike lanes, add more in each community
- Have gathering spot for cyclists, pedestrians, etc.
- Aggressively expand EV charging stations
- Do not build streetcars
- Reuse existing infrastructure for transit services with small vehicles
- More bike lanes
- Improve no-parking signs. No one understands them
- No Buzzard Point redevelopment without a real transportation plan to ensure safe passage into and out of that isolated area.
- Bike lanes (safe ones)
- Make M Street more pedestrian friendly and connect to Yards SE development
- Busy I-395
- Make connection to National Mall more pedestrian friendly and spruce up 4th Street underpass
- Fix metro and extend streetcar
- Return the Circulator
- Bike lanes that do not dead end
- Make M Street in Georgetown pedestrian only or at least pedestrian friendly

- Ride sharing is important but should not replace bus/metro
- Policy to make ride-sharing more equitable to serve everyone in the city
- More express buses and rush hour parking towing enforcement
- Bring back SW Circulator, look at neighboring BID subsidy if that is what it takes. Capitol Hill-6, SW-0
- Walk more
- More bus service for East Capitol Street
- Get rid of speed traps
- Create system of electric buses instead of streetcar that recharge en route
- Build access from L Street SE to the Anacostia waterfront across SE/SW freeway
- Want to feel safe walking at all times
- Being street smart
- Need to ensure emergency vehicle access in the face of ever increasing traffic congestion in SW
- Put bike lanes in places
- Hyper loop
- Above ground monorail
- Find the future transit options, buses underground
- More water taxis
- Better lighting for underpasses in all Wards
- More coffee shop-type corner stores in Capitol Hill neighborhoods
- More green and access to sunlight

Infrastructure Element

Write your issues, ideas, questions below:

- Need a movie theater and hardware store in Southwest
- Frequent transit like Circulator needed
- Wifi
- Bluetooth data collection
- Bury power lines
- Too much development
- Not enough family housing
- Too many big square buildings
- Not enough bike lanes
- Lack of SW Transportation Plan
- Add green space
- Add community gathering space
- Storm water management
- CSX train tunnels
- Really tall rises next to single family or low rise homes
- Park area for seniors
- No overhead trolley power lines

- More affordable housing at 30% AMI or less
- Trash out of storm drains
- More workforce affordable housing
- Retain and create open space for community
- Return of the Circulator
- Fios
- Traffic congestion
- Timing of Maine Avenue lights
- Developers should improve infrastructure (not City)
- One dish for apartment building versus individual for each unit
- Energy conservation
- Reduce carbon footprint
- Synchronize with Sustainable DC Plan
- Increase citywide recycling--what are the goals?
- Lead pipes in water service to house
- Do we have enough infrastructure for higher density?
- No gas stations in SW
- No veterinarians in SW

Community Services and Facilities Element

Write your issues, ideas, questions below:

- Community center for families in every Ward
- More support for neighborhood libraries
- Add adult education classes in unused government and school buildings
- Need playgrounds in SW
- Emergency/power for clinics and other high-demand facilities that may not qualify as “critical” facilities (put them close to kids)
- Senior care facilities in each Ward, include daycare, rehab facilities and continuing care like Thomas Circle
- More open spaces/rooms for community meetings/education programs
- Provide more programs and resources to the residents in Wards 7 and 8
- More senior citizen housing developments and senior communities
- Have neighborhoods comment and be part of planning for community centers, classes and programs
- Places that rooms/walking distance with long term care for older people
- Commuting times for caregiving spouses are too long
- Maximize healthcare as a part of information dissemination and delivery
- Are there portable ways to deliver information and different platforms (Hospital, senior care facilities, DCPL)
- Retraining and reunification to ensure worker are accountable

- How will metro work in the future?
- SW DC still does not have a transportation plan despite 5 years of the ANC 6D requesting one
- More bike lanes (and safer for cyclists)
- Protected bike lanes
- Bring back the Circulator to 7th Street SW
- Metro infrastructure is terrible
- How long can the DC Rail Plan be integrated with Long Bridge EIS and Union Station expansion EIS?
- Why would the city move forward with a project like “The Wharf” without a comprehensive traffic plan for SW?
- Better late night bus service
- Bike racks that are well lit
- Preserve late night service for us young consumers for bars, restaurants, etc. but also for restaurant workers and other workers who already have limited means and without metro will lose affordable transit too
- Create community-based, neighborhood-based shuttles for seniors like jitneys with fixed stops (e.g., grocery store, library, wellness center, etc.)
- Provide facilities and services that can help ensure that vulnerable populations are viable and have access to jobs and opportunities
- Identify and acknowledge and validate the wholeness of a person
- What does it mean to be a viable part of a community?
- The needs and issues of vulnerable populations (collective/ecosystem) and DC needs to think in “systems” way to address all issues together rather than individual components in isolation
- Baby boomers are an oncoming demand, need for services and facilities and the city needs to start thinking about dissemination of information to help inform decisions and to provide information about services, facilities and education around health and other critical issues to an aging population
- Grey tsunami
- Money to establish a platform to investigate, identify and evaluate best practices to help communities to age in place and implementation of systems of preparation
- Need an approach to produce information and explore health sensitivities and information should be part of education
- Recognize diabetes as a public health issue
- How do you reach people in need where there is clear research around the needs of population
- More information culturally specific to the groups that need it
- Develop information/education that is aligned with goals
- Most underserved communities have no access to the internet, we need greater coordination and continuum of care (e.g., diet, services, job training, social skills, communication skills)
- Transportation to jobs by underserved communities--e.g., shared Uber account

Housing Element

Write your issues, ideas, questions below:

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- Low income and subsidized housing should be spread out, not consolidated like a prison, e.g., Capitol Hill
- What can we do within rent control confines
- Encourage larger 2-3 bedroom units as a more flexible housing supply that can adapt to changes in demand
- More innovative housing to enable a mix of generations and community
- Housing and health co-located
- Senior center and senior housing with 2-3 bedrooms
- More affordable housing especially for low income seniors
- Nursing homes, rehab facilities, continuing care retirement communities needed in Ward 6
- Create an AMI for DC alone from 0 to \$40K
- Support AirBnb friendly policies that help homeowners pay mortgage and owners of small apartments increase income
- Provide “great” housing for everyone who works and makes DC their home base (business, govt, embassies, congress, non-profits, schools, higher education)
- Encourage 3 and 4 bedroom apartment developments, do not allow developers using inclusionary zoning to split families into multiple units
- Need more family housing near schools, not studio and 1 bedroom units
- Concerned I will not be able to afford owning a home in DC, moving out of DC will have to happen if I want to own. How do you address issue for millennials?
- Help new residents, including millennials, to attain affordable housing
- With all the development in SW, the city needs to incentivize developers to build “home ownership” not just rental units
- Build-first for Greenleaf
- Affordable housing in downtown
- We need more affordable housing for families with small children
- Affordable housing in high-opportunity area like around Metro stations
- More family housing, greater than 1-2 bedrooms
- More townhouses instead of apartments
- Workforce housing at 30-60% AMI
- Multi-generational housing

Educational Facilities Element

Write your issues, ideas, questions below:

- Historic Preservation
- Educational Facilities
- Need more family housing to utilize urban schools, too many studio and 1-bedroom apartments erodes DC school system

- Community schools that all residents can access such as using fitness, library, computers when school is not in session, auditorium, meeting space, etc.
- More variety in learning. Lots of energy but so little structure. We need “permission” to step outside to adventure and to lead
- Create family-centered social services and educational programming for adults, with the goal of strengthening families (e.g., GED, computer courses, opportunities or assisting the school). There are existing models in DC, 1990 Programs in NE schools
- Establish a Cultural Diversity initiative in school at all levels and early childhood-12th grade, to ensure that students and parents develop a wholesome understanding of various cultures. Traditions and ethnicities. It is not enough to side in the diverse space and not discuss the importance of diversity. More public school classes for 3 and 4 year olds
- Affordable housing so teachers could live near the school where they work
- Add adult education classes, art, drama, music at night
- Address economic and racial segregation in our schools
- Should have moved UDC to St Elizabeth’s Campus
- Need to plan enough capacity for each system and area of the city
- More schools
- More programs for kids
- More Parks
- Programming at Randall Rec for toddlers
- Splash parks north of M Street SW
- Restore education programs to Southeastern University (SEU)
- It is very frustrating that the schools in certain Wards offer more for our children
- We need more vocational schools again
- We can reach millennials through film and digital media and support “media literacy” and storytelling programs/apprenticeships. K-12, Higher education, Professional awareness or working age, seniors/aging in place. Understanding propaganda, marketing, journalism, telling your own story or other people’s stories

Historic Preservation Element

Write your issues, ideas, questions below:

- DC has really strong HP program--strong controls
- Not all churches have historical value and structures do not support the multiple ministries (Westminster)
- Churches may want to rebuild with affordable housing
- Need to balance HP and growth--kudos for doing that
- Balance historic preservation with architectural innovation and creativity
- Develop plan to ensure that historic districts are mixed income
- Why didn’t conservation districts get adopted?
- What happened to conservation districts?
- In SW the beautiful churches are disappearing, they should be preserved

- More staff for Historic Preservation Office
- Why didn't HPO step in to designate the Hawthorne School when the ANC made a deal with the developer? HP process is not working
- Roof additions are inherently bad, ugly pop ups, design review is good
- Embrace a mix of modern with classic as European cities do
- The unique value of the beauty of this city is met in visual space, neighborhood integrity and the height limit. Please maintain and honor these features, they will add great value to the future
- Rigorously enforce existing HP laws in Historic Districts, too many exceptions being given
- St Paul's is falling apart--church needs to be more a part of the community and be repaired
- Non-historic districts have elements to protect and preserve too. Near SW, for example, with its mid-century modern and mix of housing levels, townhomes, garden apartments, condos, rentals apartments and co-ops
- Need some storytelling mechanism to help newcomers know the history of what is already here and its value, like Story Corps
- What is the difference between the purpose and the goal statement, they seem to say the same thing
- How can the city promote the use of properties like Friendship Baptist for arts uses (rehearsal space, maker space, etc.), quality of the space gets the creative juices flowing
- Try again to have Hill East become a historic district, explain to residents what being a historic district means and does not mean
- Historic Preservation is tearing everything down. In SW we cannot even see the water anymore
- HPO needs to get out into the Historic Districts and talk to residents on a regular basis. Come to Capitol Hill Restoration Society and the ANCs to describe the Historic Districts and what they mean to residents

Environmental Protection Element

Write your issues, ideas, questions below:

- By 2025 clean up the Anacostia and Potomac Rivers
- Take into account impact of sprawl elsewhere if DC does not densify
- Liberate more land along the river front for enjoyment of the outdoors, family life outdoors and community activities
- Limit new roads, buildings in flood plains (e.g., DDOT's "park drive" in Anacostia River, Move DC Study)
- Move transit options at off peak times
- Protect the shoreline with buffers for wildlife and aquatic species
- Walk more
- Need more money for rat abatement
- More bioswales and other gardens around buildings
- More trees, replant street trees quickly
- Stop wholesale destruction of urban wildlife habitat
- More green

- Access to sunlight and waste
- Local DC-owned parks need more green, more trees, gardens, etc., less plastic, more shade

Arts and Culture Element

Write your issues, ideas, questions below:

- High priority for Public Art--street corners, easements with property owners, art installations throughout the city
- Playable art in Parks
- Support churches trying to increase arts programming such as Westminster “Jazz and Blues”
- 11th street bridge park – art on 11th
- Keep the arts in SW, including bringing back the SW Arts festival that was not held this year. And a place to have it
- They are letting all our open spaces go in SW
- Create performing and media arts centers for artists in every ward partially funded by the city
- Continued support for DC Arts and Humanities
- The cost of live theater performances is very expensive these days. How can the City help reduce that cost to the public?
- Arts organizations need more support outside of grants
- The need to house arts/culture programs is urgent
- Idea: if we have a physical location that can satisfy an urgent need in the arts community why not collaborate on a strong sound solution where everyone wins
- Different types of art--well covered, easily accessible. However, there is a place for a type of art “maligned” called “elitist art” which is art that challenges the boundary of where a culture is at that moment. This is the type of art that is mangled by government management of art. So what is the purpose this evening’s gathering with this form of art? “cubist art” is an example
- Create space/walls where children can create art, graffiti along road walls, let the children be expressive, i.e. art walk in Brookland
- Getting people together to discuss /teach their skills, etc. Community education courses to learn the knowledge experience, also café learning sessions
- Always get back to community with follow-up for this session and others
- Include artist studios within the community not at the boundaries
- Encourage more collaboration with arts organization’s space: i.e. Arena, Randall School and Shakespeare Theatre
- Encourage more movie theaters in Wards 5, 6, 7, 8

Parks and Recreation Element

Write your issues, ideas, questions below:

- Amidon Park on G Street – bad maintenance by DGS
- Community had to raise money for bench replacement at Amidon Park, 2 years for lights
- Consider rail to trail options
- Safety issues at park near 3rd and G Streets and overpass in SE near old Results Gym, poor lighting in parks
- More large open public spaces for festivals, public gathering spaces lost to development, want more low rises
- More programming for kids in parks, art not just sports
- As we develop lots include public space in new plans
- Protect large street trees in street and private property
- A floating park
- Build people parks, not dog parks
- Have more centrally located parks, instead of mostly scattered parks on edges
- Need to educate kids about value/teaching tools about parks, accountability of the community
- Work with DPR to increase environmental education programming, transform park without vegetated green space (trees, gardens, etc.), plant new trees and plants
- 87% of DPR parks have a 20% tree canopy, work with Casey Trees to increase
- Safety along parks on H Street corridor--lighting, feeling welcome for all, maintenance
- Multiuse trail--need design standards, especially lighting, mile markers and signage
- Senior playgrounds with exercise equipment
- Outdoor recreation for seniors via DPR
- Randall Community Center needs information and programming to be in operation
- Anacostia Waterfront 2 parcels DC can acquire (Federal reservation)
- East Capitol Natatorium should be torn down and rebuilt (like Wilson)
- A big waterfront park at RFK
- More public space at RFK
- Waterfront access at RFK
- Activate desolate park space with programming
- Protect local wildlife and plant species from overdevelopment
- Need money for VA Avenue park renovation at CSX
- No more federal reservations in DC, the feds mismanage them
- Cut the grass in all the parks
- Sometimes affordable housing is a better use of underutilized parks
- More programs for kids
- Splash park in Southwest
- Southwest needs parks and programs
- Randall programming for toddlers
- Active water trash removal like Baltimore Harbor trash monster
- Compost opportunities

- To effectively balance competing demands--ensure existing publically-owned green spaces and vegetation are off limits to new development
- Hold developers accountable for implementing their GAR [Green Area Ratio]

Resilience

What does resilience mean to you?

- Address potential for future flooding
- Prioritize food and equity
- Encourage/require buildings to survive storms with limited impact
- Community and youth education about climate change impacts on urban area, resilience efforts--this will help build sustainability for own resilience efforts by focusing training and development among (especially) long time DC residents and young people in Wards 5, 7, and 8
- Community is largest factor in individual resilience
- Do not build in flood prone areas. Consider historic and future climate data
- Democratize vulnerable areas (parks, open space that everyone can enjoy)
- Are you planning for time to regrow functionality post-disaster?
- Passive survivability--shelter in place--operable windows, access to water, energy and power
- Help strengthen neighborhood in situations including faith-based--church buildings can be vital parts of resiliency and disaster help
- Micro-grids--distributed solar cooling centers
- Include environmental/ecological resilience in the definition
- When our environment is resilient (diverse, connected habitat and community green spaces), our communities and economy will be more resilient to these hazards and challenges too.
- Resilience in how we as a community plan for natural disaster; how we plan for and respond to relations between law enforcement and residents in the city; resilience in providing healthy communications
- Raise the cost of RPP [resident parking permit] to discourage long term car storage and free more street parking for productive users; shoppers, businessmen, contractors, deliveries, etc.
- Reservation 13 could be a net zero demonstration neighborhood
- More parks, at capacity at schools

II. Final Thoughts from the Public

Following the Open House, meeting attendees were invited to share at the microphone in front of the entire audience their “top thought about DC’s future” or to build on thoughts shared by others. The following is a transcription of the comments shared verbally during this session. The name of the commenter is noted when it was provided.

Public Comment 1: Efficiently realize and acknowledge that development is a package containing components like bricks and mortar but also safety, parking, evacuation, congestion, view corridors and

other features. Our Government must enact legislation that citizens deserve substantive community benefits along with consistent and enforceable law. Officials must act in a timely manner.

Public Comment 2: More affordable housing is needed. The free market will never build enough affordable housing and more housing – market rate and affordable is needed. We need to look at the city as a whole in order to create enough market rate housing so that in 20-30 years there will be enough units that stay affordable. The District should increase density in order to achieve more housing and affordable housing, rather than doing it piecemeal.

Public Comment 3: How are conservation districts treated in the Comp Plan?

Public Comment 4: There is a concern of runaway development in Southwest. It seems like green space is disappearing, churches are being torn down and some approved development is more intense/dense than was approved in the Small Area Plan. Everything planned seems to be an effort to build higher and denser. However, more family housing, like row houses, is needed so that there are housing options.

Public Comment 5: Southwest needs more family housing. The area needs more parks for children. The District should keep as much open space as possible. Design needs to be balanced between new housing and open space. 501 I Street SW should not change in the Comprehensive Plan.