

Community Services and Facilities

Element Summary: 11-CSF

GOAL

Provide high-quality, accessible, efficiently managed, and properly funded community facilities to support the efficient, equitable and resilient delivery of municipal services, protect and enhance public health and safety, support Washington, DC's growth and development, and enhance the well-being and a high quality of life of current and future District residents.

CONTENTS

- **CSF-1 Ensuring Adequate Community Services and Facilities:** highlights planning and financing tools and strategies to optimize stewardship of publicly-owned resources.
- **CSF-2 Health:** links public health outcomes to social and structural factors outside of the health delivery system, emphasizing health resilience and racial equity as focal policy issues.
- **CSF-3 Libraries and Information Services:** calls for the completion of modernization of existing libraries, planning for the future needs through a facilities master plan, and provides guidance for their role as neighborhood and cultural anchors.
- **CSF-4 Public Safety:** provides guidance on stewardship of fire, emergency medical services, and police resources for continued protection of the health and safety of Washington, DC residents, workers, and visitors.
- **CSF-5 Corrections:** highlights the District's holistic approach to its incarceration system and provides guidance on modernization needs and supportive services for returning citizens.
- **CSF-6 Emergency Preparedness and Resilience:** presents the District's integrated approach for management of threats and hazards, including resilience planning for climate change.

Deanwood Library and Community Center



Source: Office of Planning

DCPL West End Library (example of co-located library, housing, retail, and fire station)



Source: DCPL

Community Services and Facilities

Element Summary: 11-CSF

SUMMARY OF MAJOR POLICY THEMES

Exploring Innovative Tools and Strategies for Planning and Financing Civic Facilities

- Create a cross-systems Civic Facilities Plan to help inform the use and disposition of District-owned lands, and facilities and investments on an integrated systems basis.
- Strengthen the link between land use planning and the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) and explore new tools to finance capital projects.

Enhancing Health Systems

- Highlight links between public health outcomes and non-health variables, such as housing, transportation, poverty, geography and race.
- Improve community health and address health resilience and equity by acknowledging the significant differences in public health outcomes based on race and geography in the District and providing policies to enhance access to resources.

Advancing Library Role as a Neighborhood and Cultural Anchor

- Complete the modernization of the District's library system, including the Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Central Library.
- Emphasize customization of branch libraries to the needs of the neighborhoods they serve.
- Advance the role of libraries in the cultural life of the District and address current and future community needs for library facilities through the facilities master plan.

Enhancing Public Safety

- Emphasize "A Safer Stronger DC" as an initiative to address neighborhoods that are still experiencing high levels of crime while highlighting the overall reduction in crime in the District over the past 10 years.
- Modernize MPD facilities that are reaching obsolescence due to age, and develop an FEMS facilities master plan to assess gaps and needs.
- Emphasize enhancement of services for citizens returning from incarceration, including healthcare, housing, skills training, and employment and clarify the structure and function of correctional facilities.

Promoting Resilience

- Address the vulnerability and resilience of critical facilities to adverse effects of natural and man-made shocks and chronic stressors, including those driven by climate change such as temperature and sea level rise, through multi-pronged and integrated strategies including the District Preparedness System (DPS) and a broad set of policies that collectively will help the District prepare for and recover from a wide range of potential incidents and effects.