

**GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Office of Planning**



**Responses to Additional Questions for the
Agency Performance Oversight Hearing on FY 2017-2018**

Eric Shaw

Director, Office of Planning

Submission to

Committee of the Whole
Chairman Phil Mendelson

February 26, 2018

Committee of the Whole
John A. Wilson Building
1350 Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20004

**Office of Planning
 FY 17-18 Performance Oversight
 Responses to Additional Pre-Hearing Questions
 February 26, 2018**

- 1. For each initiative in OP’s fiscal year 2018 Performance Plan, please provide:**
 - (a) A status update on the progress of work toward the initiative;**
 - (b) The total number of personnel (FTEs and contract) assigned to the initiative; and**
 - (c) The amount of funding budgeted to the initiative.**

Please see “FY 2018 Performance Plan Update” attached.

- 2. If applicable, please explain the impact on your agency of any legislation adopted at the District or federal level during fiscal year 2017 and fiscal year 2018 to date.**

Nationals Park and Ballpark District Designated Entertainment Area Signage Regulations Amendment Act of 2016. This legislation (effective in April 2017) authorizes Nationals Park and the Ballpark District as Designated Entertainment Areas (DEAs) and establishes guidelines for the issuance of permits for the erection of graphic displays and digital signs on the exterior of Nationals Park. It allows for up to five (5) DEA sign permits in this area. The legislation also directs OP along with the District Department of Transportation to review all DEA sign permit applications, referred by DCRA, and provide a written report to DCRA within 70 days of DCRA's receipt of the application. OP and DDOT also shall not submit their written reports until after the affected Advisory Neighborhood Commissions (ANC) have submitted comments or not taken action during their 45-day review period. OP's Design Division has been tasked with conducting the reviews of these applications. OP helped draft four criteria it will consider as part of our review: protect the view along prominent corridors and riverfront; create public spaces through signs that are creative, artistic, use new technologies, and prioritize the pedestrian experience; minimize the impact on adjacent properties; and complements architecture and public space through locations, size, and design.

- 3. Please identify any statutory or regulatory impediments to OP’s operations.**

There are no statutory or regulatory impediments to OP's operations.

- 4. Please provide a list of all studies, research papers, and analyses the agency prepared, or contracted for, during fiscal years 2017 and 2018. Please include the purpose, as well as the current status, of each.**

Plan/Study/ Analysis	Purpose	OP or Consultant	Status
Public Space Stewardship & Activation Guide	To advance the District’s practice in using transportation rights-of-way for purposes other than vehicle movement, including as places for placemaking around community and culture	Gensler, contracted through Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments’ TLC grant	In Progress. To be completed by June 2018.

<p>Anacostia Waterfront Initiative 15th Year Progress Report</p>	<p>To document progress and accomplishments towards the revitalization of the Anacostia Waterfront on the 15th year anniversary of the visionary Anacostia Framework Plan</p>	<p>OP writing the content; procurement underway for consulting contract for graphic design of final report</p>	<p>In Progress. To be completed by September 2018.</p>
<p>The Buzzard Point Vision Framework + Design Review Guide</p>	<p>The Buzzard Point Vision Framework builds upon the District’s Anacostia Waterfront Framework Plan developed in 2003 and the subsequent rezoning of the area to transform Buzzard Point from a mostly industrial area to a new waterfront neighborhood with medium to high density residential and commercial uses. The Vision Framework provides design direction for a potential 11.3 million square feet of development with 6,000 potential residential units, and new office, retail, and other commercial uses in a walkable waterfront neighborhood that includes the new soccer stadium, Audi Field, currently under construction. The Buzzard Point Vision Framework + Design Review Guide contains overarching design objectives, Riverwalk, and Streetscape Guidelines and is currently being used by the Zoning Commission, District agencies, developers and property owners, neighbors, and other partners to review several major developments currently in the pipeline of design or now under construction.</p>	<p>OP and AECOM (through DMPED contract) for content writing and graphics production</p>	<p>Completed— November 2017</p>
<p>Assessment of Building Projection Regulations: DCMR Title 12: Construction Code, Chapter 32: Encroachments</p>	<p>During 2017 OP assessed the District’s building projection regulations as part of the 2015 update of the construction codes. This assessment included a summary of building projections’ evolution as building embellishment and recommended changes to incorporate as part of the current update. These recommendations were made in coordination with DDOT and DOEE. OP identified defining characteristics associated with projections in the District of Columbia that are used to determine if proposed projections are embellishments “deemed to be in the general public interest.” OP’s recommendations included clarifying certain requirements and introducing a formal process for considering modifications to requirements that include reviews by OP and DDOT, based on the impact that projections have on urban design and public space.</p>	<p>OP</p>	

<p>Union Market: Streetscape Design Guidelines</p>	<p>Streetscape guidelines for future development in the Union Market area were developed in 2017 through a collaborative process that involved DDOT, OP, EDENS, and other property owners. The purpose of the guidelines is to maintain a vibrant street life by enhancing the distinct industrial character, incorporating new commercial uses, unifying the streetscape, and ensuring the transportation network accommodates all users. These guidelines also build upon the Florida Avenue Market Small Area Plan, approved in 2009. To ensure design character and consistency within the area, all development plans are required to follow the dimensions and materials along public streets, also including street tree placement, lighting and flexibility for incorporating sidewalk cafes, vending, small parks, and public art that add to a bustling commercial atmosphere and a variety of spaces to experience and explore.</p>	<p>OP and DDOT</p>	<p>Completed—November 2017</p>
<p>Downtown East Re-Urbanization Strategy</p>	<p>A planning document that will guide future development of the Downtown East—the area of downtown DC between the Mount Vernon Triangle and NoMa neighborhoods and generally paralleling the I-395 Freeway corridor—and act as a resource for local and private sector stakeholders and District agencies making investments in the area. It provides recommendations that capitalize on the existing strengths of the neighborhood to increase the physical connectivity between downtown and Union Station; engage major institutions as partners; enhance community vitality; and shape public spaces for people.</p>	<p>OP and Beyer Bender Belle for content writing and graphics production</p>	<p>In progress; to be completed by spring 2018y</p>
<p>Cultural Plan</p>	<p>The DC Cultural Plan is intended to strengthen arts, humanities, culture, and heritage in neighborhoods across the city by increasing cultural participation, supporting artists and talent development, stimulating cultural production, and informing decision-making. The Plan lays out a vision and recommendations on how the government and its partners can build upon, strengthen and invest in the people, places, communities, and ideas that define culture within the nation’s capital.</p>	<p>OP and HR&A Advisors</p>	<p>A discussion draft was released in January 2018. The public comment period runs through February 28th, during which time OP held a public feedback meeting. Please see the response to question 26</p>

			for additional information.
State Data Center Demographic analyses	The list of publications from the SDC over the last year includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Migration: Who Moved IN and OUT of the District • Computer and Internet Use in DC • Hispanic Population Characteristics by Nativity • Disability Characteristics Among DC Residents • Income Distribution and Poverty Trends • DC Veterans Profile • Marital Events of District Residents • Caribbean American Heritage • Hispanic Heritage • DC Population and Housing Profile • Earth Day 2017 	OP	Publications are posted to the OP website.
Historic Preservation Plan	Establishes the vision, goals, and annual targets for preservation activities in DC through 2020; meets federal requirement for a state preservation plan.	OP	Draft issued for 45-day public comment, ending 3/1/18

5. Please list all citywide planning projects active during fiscal years 2017 and 2018. For each project, please include:

- (a) A brief description of the project; and**
- (b) The start date and projected completion date.**

Key citywide projects, FY 2017-2018:

Topic	Description	Status	Start/complete
Cultural Plan	The Cultural Plan strengthens arts, humanities, culture, and heritage in neighborhoods across the city by increasing cultural participation, supporting artists and talent development, stimulating cultural production and informing decision-making. It lays out a vision and recommendations on how the government and its partners can build upon, strengthen and invest in the people, places, communities and ideas that define culture within the nation's capital.	OP finalized the draft plan; the Mayor released it as a discussion draft in January 2018. The public comment period runs through February 28, 2018, during which time OP held a public feedback meeting. Regarding the plan's education recommendations, OP is participating on the recently launched Any Given Child Community Arts team, a partnership	Started: March 2016 Draft plan released: January 2018 Final plan expected: Spring / Summer 2018

		with the DC Education Collaborative and the Kennedy Center.	
Creative Placemaking	DCOP received a grant from the Kresge Foundation to undertake creative placemaking and civic engagement activities. OP's program, "Crossing the Street: Building DC's Inclusive Future through Creative Placemaking" rolled out in early 2016 with a focus on creating fun and inclusive experiences neighborhoods across the city. The projects are designed to build community in areas that are experiencing rapid change, using arts and culture to activate space and foster conversation and collaboration.	To-date, OP has completed: 16 creative placemaking projects, three university studio projects, and one special event (DC Design Forum). These projects staged more than 50 final events that attracted more than 7,000 people and engaged more than 100 community organizations. OP is developing the final set of curatorial partnerships and projects related to: community heritage and storytelling; temporary reuse of vacant, blighted and underutilized spaces located in Wards 7 & 8; and a creative showcase project in a vacant space located in Ward 5. OP developed a visual summary of all projects completed.	Started: November 2014 Projected completion: Spring 2018
Development Activity Tracking	OP tracks real estate development that results in net new capacity of at least 10 units or 10,000 square feet of non-residential space. Projects are tracked from early conceptual stages of development through to completion. The data is used as part of the methodology to forecast the District's long-range growth of household, population and jobs. In FY 18 the database will go through a comprehensive overhaul including upgraded technology to make dissemination to the public easier. The database is publicly shared upon request.	GIS/IT began development of new tools to manage and publish data on pending development activity in the district. These tools replace older processes and will result in on-line interactive data accessible to the public that is updated more regularly.	Start: 2001 End: Ongoing

GSA Central Business Area Expansion Analysis	OP analyzed planning, land use and zoning to propose refinements to the US. General Services Administration's Central Business Area definitions, which inform the possible locations for government owned or leased facilities.	OP shared preliminary analysis and findings with DMPED, COG and GSA.	Ongoing
Forecasting	OP's State Data Center develops job, household and population forecasts based on development activity and development capacity. Specifically, SDC develops a detailed population forecast for neighborhood clusters through 2035 using the cohort-component method. This forecast is produced by single age, gender, race and ethnicity. OP provides forecast data to agencies as well as entities such as Council of Governments (COG), Office of Revenue Analysis (ORA), Office on Aging (OoA), the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD), and other entities. A key partnership is with the DME for whom SDC shares single-age population forecasts by cluster to inform school facilities planning.	Forecast results and methodology are posted on the OP website. OP is currently engaged with DME in a review and examination of our forecast methodology and results to assess its suitability for future use.	Ongoing, periodic updates
Smart Cities	OP participates on the District's SmarterDC inter-agency team, providing strategy support regarding site selection, use case development, data management, and information product development. OP also participates in the District's Interagency Autonomous Vehicle Working Group, providing land use and analytical expertise as the District prepares for AVs.	OP provided key insights for development of place-based use cases and sensor placement for Pennsylvania Avenue 2040 Phase II "Smart Corridor" Pilot Project.	Start: 2017 End: Ongoing
Vision Zero	OP participated in the interagency process to develop the Vision Zero Action Plan. OP is assigned as a co-lead agency to one strategy (establish an initiative to enhance safety through placemaking) and is a support agency on several other initiatives. DDOT awarded OP a grant in FY 2018 to carry out placemaking interventions that further the goals of Vision Zero. OP will focus on the Downtown East area, and produce	The Vision Zero Action Plan was completed in December 2015. OP is in the process of launching its Vision Zero placemaking initiative in partnership with DDOT.	Start: February 2015 Complete: 2024

	<p>public life and pedestrian count studies, conduct design workshops and other public engagement activities to produce design concepts that improve safety and pedestrian comfort at key problem sites within the area, and test these design concepts with temporary installations that alter the public spaces, making them safer and more inviting places for people of all ages.</p> <p>OP participates in the Major Crash Review Task Force established by the Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety Act of 2015.</p>		
Sustainable DC 2.0	<p>OP and DOEE are currently collaborating on a substantial update to the Sustainable DC Plan ("Sustainable DC 2.0"). The work includes analyzing ways to include improved metrics and infusing goals and targets with a focus on equity throughout the plan.</p>	<p>OP has been supporting the outreach and engagement process. As part of this, OP has led the Health and Food Working Group. The working groups have ended and OP is assisting DOEE with drafting the plan.</p>	<p>Start: September 2017 End: Plan is expected to be released in December 2018</p>
Comprehensive Plan – related citywide research, analysis and policy development	<p>For the Second Amendment to the Comprehensive Plan, CSAD is leading the data, spatial and policy review for the citywide elements. As part of this, CSAD is evaluating sector-based approaches and land use policies related to housing, transportation, capital facilities, environmental protection, economic development, arts and culture, parks and recreation and open space, education facilities, and community services and facilities. CSAD is also incorporating updated forecasts, analysis and narrative into the Framework element.</p>	<p>In FY 17, OP citywide staff conducted a technical and policy review of the citywide elements of the Comp Plan, coordinating with more than 30 relevant partner agencies on review. Concurrently, the State Data Center provided data and GIS is providing spatial analysis. In FY 18, OP began review of amendments proposed for the citywide elements received from the public and other stakeholders.</p> <p>Under the umbrella of the Comprehensive Plan, OP held a Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) Roundtable in May 2017 to discuss ideas on</p>	<p>Start: Summer 2016 Anticipated completion: TBD</p>

		what the next generation of inclusive TOD looks like from the perspective of the private, nonprofit and public sectors.	
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6. Please provide summary statistics on cases reviewed by the Development Review Division and by the Historic Preservation Division in fiscal years 2017 and 2018.

Development Review

	BZA	ZC	Other*	Total
FY 2017	287	117	68	472
FY 2018**	143	41	26	210

* Other = Large Tract Review, EISF, Antenna, etc. reviews

** Through 2/21/18

Historic Preservation Office

	HPO	HPRB	Mayor's Agent	Total
FY 2017	5,225	196	3	5,424
FY 2018*	1,956	76	--	2,032

* Through 2/21/18

7. (a) For fiscal years 2017 and 2018, please provide a table of BZA case statistics depicting the recommendations of OP, the ANC, and the final outcome.

FY 2018 - 90 cases*	OP Recommendation	ANC Recommendation**	BZA Decision
APPROVE	96.7%	90.5%	98.9%
DENY	3.3%	9.5%	1.1%
TOTAL	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
FY 2017 - 207 cases	OP Recommendation	ANC Recommendation**	BZA Decision
APPROVE	96.6%	93.7%	98.6%
DENY	3.4%	6.3%	1.4%
TOTAL	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Cases for which the BZA had rendered a decision (i.e., does not include cases still in process)

* Through 2/21/18

** In each year, the ANC made a recommendation on 93% of cases

(b) For fiscal years 2017 and 2018, list each case where OP made a recommendation to approve, conditionally approve, or disapprove that the BZA did not follow. Please explain each generally.

In FY 2017, there were four cases where the Board of Zoning Adjustment took an action different from the Office of Planning recommendation. It is worth noting that there were an additional 20 cases that were withdrawn prior to the Board taking a decision – in many cases because OP and/or the ANC had indicated opposition, or because the BZA at a public hearing had indicated concern with the proposal. It is also worth noting that in an additional 20 BZA

cases in FY 2017, OP was able to amend its recommendation between the time of our first report and BZA decision – in each case the OP recommendation went from not supporting the application to recommending approval, due to changes in the application that made it more consistent with the intent of the regulations, to address OP and/or ANC concerns so that OP was able to recommend approval.

Of the four cases (listed below) where the BZA took an action different from the OP recommendation, OP had recommended denial, but the Board was convinced through the public hearing process that the applicant had adequately addressed the relevant tests within the zoning regulations. Each case is different in terms of relief requested; in each case the BZA Order describes the OP recommendation and the BZA rationale for the different BZA course of action. In three of the four cases, the ANC supported the application; in the fourth both OP and the ANC recommended approval of some aspects of the requested relief but denial of others.

Case No.	Address and Description	OP Rec'n	BZA Dec'n	ANC Rec'n	Discussion
19298	1901, 1903, and 1905 9 1/2 Street N.W. - area variances and special exceptions to allow the renovation and addition to two existing alley dwellings and the construction of a new alley dwelling, in the RF-1 zone	deny part	granted	support in part	Although the application was amended considerably through a long review process which included three OP reports, OP and the ANC recommended denial of requested height relief. The BZA determined that the applicant had met the burden of proof for the height relief, finding that the applicant had shown that the property demonstrated unique circumstances resulting in a practical difficulty, and that the relief would not harm the zone plan.
19578	944 Florida Avenue N.W. - use variance to allow the operation of a beauty salon in the commercial space of an existing building in a residential zone, in the RA-2 zone	deny	granted	support	OP had recommended denial of the proposal to expand a non-conforming commercial use into the second floor of the building. The Board agreed with the applicant's contention that improvements to the second floor to make it a marketable residential unit would create an undue hardship, and that the expansion of the commercial use into the second floor would not result in substantial harm to

					the zone plan or the public good.
19523	1902 R Street N.W. - area variance - floor area ratio requirements to convert an existing four-story building into a four-unit apartment house, in the RA-8 zone	deny	granted	support	Although this application was modified to lessen the amount of relief needed, OP opposed a request for Floor Area Ratio relief. The applicant argued that the relief was <i>de minimus</i> , and that the building would be consistent with the character of the neighborhood. The BZA found that the applicant had met the burden of proof for this area variance.
19520	2130 Sudbury Place NW - special exception to permit the use of a portion of a one-family dwelling as dog grooming business, in the R-1-A zone	deny	granted	support	This was originally a use variance, and OP analyzed the case as such. At the hearing, the BZA determined that the case would more appropriately be addressed as a special exception; an issue OP had flagged in our report. In our report, OP had also recommended a number of conditions, if the BZA decided to approve the application. At the hearing, the applicant agreed to these conditions, and the BZA determined that the applicant had met the special exception burden of proof.

(c) Please provide any additional information/data that would help us understand OP’s recommendations and the BZA’s decisions for fiscal years 2017 and 2018.

The criteria for review of a variance or special exception typically requires some level of subjectivity – for example, when is an impact "undue" or "substantial." The Office of Planning provides analysis and recommendation based on a reading of the specific criteria of the zoning regulations, based on our understanding of the application, as filed, and the intent of the relevant zoning regulations. The Board of Zoning Adjustment is required to give the Office of Planning "great weight," but is not required to agree with the OP analysis, as they have the benefit of additional input from the community, and information that may have been provided at the public hearing. The Board is charged with weighing input from all sources, not just the Office of Planning, and does so in a comprehensive and thorough manner.

8. Why has OP decided to amend the Comprehensive Plan in two separate packages, beginning with the recently introduced Framework Element amendments (Bill 22-663)?

The Framework Element is an introductory chapter of the Comprehensive Plan, representing about 50 pages of the 1,000-page document that guides the city's growth and development. The Framework provides the factual foundation for the policies and actions that follow in other Comprehensive Plan Elements.

In addition to keeping much needed momentum for the Comprehensive Plan amendment process, the Framework Element amendments accomplish three key objectives:

1. Establishing a current and data-driven context for city decision-making;
2. Providing new information on forces that impact growth and development; and
3. Clarifying our land-use designations and their relationship to zoning reviews, to ensure the District can strengthen affordable housing and other critical community objectives.

Moreover, a new Framework Element creates a clear basis for the further evaluation of the remaining amendment proposals.

9. Please explain why OP diverted from its original public statements that it would provide a 60-day public comment period prior to sending their amendments to Council.

In 2017, during the OP oversight hearing, we committed to return to Council with amendment recommendations in January 2018. Then, OP received over 3,000 proposed amendments during the Open Call, far more than expected. This necessitated a change to the scope and schedule of the amendment process. OP decided that the best way to meet our commitment and move forward was to use a two-phased approach and submit the Framework as a separate piece of legislation.

The Framework does not contain policies or actions. It is firmly rooted in facts and public sources, particularly documents vetted through other planning processes. Proposed amendments help to clarify the District's existing practice and update key trends affecting the city. OP also incorporated Framework amendments proposed by the community that met published criteria for acceptance.

OP released our recommendation for amending the Framework Element on our website on January 9th. The Council Committee of the Whole public hearing is scheduled to be held on March 20th. We invite the public to submit comments to Council either before or after the hearing as well as to testify in-person. Any comments that OP receives directly, we will transmit to Council for their review.

10. Please provide your current timeline of steps to completion of the comprehensive plan, including when the remainder of the amendment package (other than the Framework Element) will be introduced to Council.

This spring, OP will be focused on the Framework Element legislation as it moves through DC Council deliberations. In the meantime, OP continues its evaluation and reconciliation of the nearly 3,000 remaining proposed amendments to the Comprehensive Plan Elements and Maps. To maximize public access to the remaining amendment proposals that OP is currently

evaluating, OP has posted all submissions received during Open Call on the [PLAN]DC website, plandc.dc.gov.

Given that the next steps are dependent on Council approval of the Comprehensive Plan Framework legislation, OP cannot provide a definitive date for introduction of the Comprehensive Plan Elements and Maps. However, the next steps for OP are as follows:

- Complete review of proposals and align them with Framework legislation;
- Release recommendations and hold a 60-day public comment period as planned;
- Conduct additional community engagement; and
- Incorporate feedback and introduce Comprehensive Plan Elements and Maps amendment legislation to Council.

11. How does OP plan on integrating the public input collected to date in the second amendment package of the Comprehensive Plan?

OP evaluated and incorporated, as appropriate, the Framework Element amendment proposals that we received from the community during Open Call, and we have proposed additional amendments that we believe advance the goals we heard through our stakeholder engagement. Furthermore, OP has integrated into the Framework Element facts, figures, and other content from completed District plans and other public documents.

For the remaining Elements and maps, OP will continue its careful review of all proposed amendments received during Open Call. OP will issue a recommendation to “accept,” “decline,” or “accept with modifications” each proposed community amendment, then integrate all changes into a cohesive (amended) draft for public and Council review.

12. Will OP conduct any environmental impact studies on Comprehensive Plan amendments that would presumably have environmental effects? Isn't this required by law?

Under District law, OP is required to prepare an environmental assessment in connection with drafting a Comprehensive Plan amendment. OP prepared an environmental assessment of the proposed amendments to the Framework Element and will do the same for proposed amendments to the other elements and maps of the Comprehensive Plan.

13. How many complaints does HPO receive a year that warrant a cite inspection? How many, if any, do not get a site inspection? Please provide this data for fiscal years 2017 and 2018. Over the past 10 years, has the number changed, and how?

The number of complaints by fiscal year is shown below; collection of this information began during 2012, so 2013 is the first full year available. The tabulated data includes all cases where there is a valid complaint. HPO conducted an inspection in each of these cases.

Service requests to HPO:

FY 2012: 37 (partial)	FY 2016: 225
FY 2013: 327	FY 2017: 229
FY 2014: 343	FY 2018: 46 (to date)
FY 2015: 240	

14. Please describe OP's efforts to work with DCRA to streamline 311 calls pertaining to illegal construction. How has this resulted in quicker response times?

During weekday working hours, most preservation-related violations are reported directly to HPO, and only a few are reported to DCRA via 311. Typically, DCRA refers any preservation-related cases to HPO, or may inspect the work and issue a stop work order for resolution by either DCRA or HPO as appropriate depending on the nature of the work involved. In OP's experience, this process works well and the referrals from DCRA come promptly after receipt from 311.

15. In fiscal year 2018, the Council provided funds to OP for one additional FTE to create a new HPO inspector. Has OP created and hired this new position? If yes, when? How has this improved your work as well as compliance by property owners with our Historic Preservation law?

OP has hired the new inspector, who reported for work on December 10, 2017. The inspector has improved enforcement by allowing HPO to expand its daily coverage during normal construction hours, with an inspector on duty from 7 am to 6 pm, using staggered shifts. The new FTE has assumed most of the new cases allowing the other field inspector to focus on follow-up and close-out of pending cases improving the effectiveness of the compliance program by providing a second inspection resource for property owners.

16. Last year, the Committee recommended that HPO inspectors expand their hours to monitor and respond to illegal construction occurring outside of its regular work hours.

(a) Has OP implemented this recommendation? How? What are the HPO inspectors' hours?

HPO inspectors respond to complaints and monitor historic districts for property neglect, but do not monitor by searching for illegal construction. Based on OP's experience, most illegal construction occurs and is reported to HPO inspectors and review staff during normal weekday construction hours (7 AM to 7 PM). Last fiscal year, HPO received 14 after-hours complaints directly by email, and this year, four so far. After-hours complaints reported to 311 are addressed through DCRA stop work orders, with HPO follow-up during normal business hours.

HPO inspectors follow the agency working hours (8:30 AM to 5:00 PM) or an alternate schedule upon approval. To extend the period of inspection, one field inspector is currently authorized to work from 7:00 AM to 3:30 PM and the other is authorized to work from 9:30 AM to 6:00 PM.

(b) If yes, has it improved compliance by property owners with our Historic Preservation law?

It is early to evaluate the impact of expanded hours (especially during the winter construction slowdown), but so far the additional FTE has allowed HPO to expedite re-inspections and closeout of pending cases, and to maintain inspections coverage during the extended leave of one inspector due to family reasons.

17. How can the District improve compliance by property owners with our Historic Preservation law?

OP believes that expanded inspections coverage during weekday construction hours, combined with more effective follow-up and resolution of cases, will improve compliance. With the additional FTE, OP has been able to increase its weekday inspections hours, and will be able to pursue more frequent and more effective follow-up on all compliance cases. Improved effectiveness of the compliance program should promote greater confidence in the ability to obtain results by reporting illegal construction through the system. Further, HPO will continue to post resources on the HP webpage to educate property owners and promote increased compliance.

18. Please describe HPO's training for new members of the HPRB. Is continued training available for all members, in addition to new members? Does HPO staff also coordinate with National Park Service to provide HPRB member training? When is the next scheduled training session?

HPO staff participates in general orientation for HPRB nominees before their confirmation hearings, and provides an in-depth orientation session to each new HPRB member after confirmation. HPO has coordinated with National Park Service and National Trust staff in providing HPRB training. The Keeper of the National Register and the National Register reviewer for D.C. nominations presented at the last HPRB training session, on June 29, 2017. Continued training has included historic district tours that enable HPRB members to evaluate how their review concerns affected the final design of completed projects. The next HPRB training session is not yet scheduled, but is anticipated for late spring or early summer 2018, once the newly-seated members have attended a few meetings and gained some practical familiarity with the types of issues confronting the board.

19. Has HPO published its 2017 Annual Report? Please provide two copies and also explain if/how it is available online.

HPO has completed a draft of the 2017 Annual Report. The document is currently under review by the Director. Once final, HPO will post the report at:
<https://planning.dc.gov/page/preservation-planning>.

20. D.C. Official Code § 6-1109.04 requires that each year the Mayor shall provide each owner of real property that is a historic landmark and each owner located within a historic district information on the current law and regulations relating to historic property improvements. Did OP meet this requirement in the 2017 calendar year? Explain.

The Office of Tax and Revenue provides this notice, based on DC GIS property records that indicate which properties have historic landmark or district designation. The notice includes HPO contact information and directs property owners to the HPO website for more detailed guidance on building permit requirements, community consultation, and other pertinent responsibilities.

21. Please describe the application and approval process for commemorative works in the District. How can this process be improved? What resources are available for community members and organizations interested in applying for a commemorative work?

Applicants interested in proposing a District of Columbia commemorative work are advised to meet with the Office of Planning prior to submitting an application. At that time OP staff review the guidelines and criteria for commemorative works, the application process, and the application form with the applicant.

The formal review process begins after an application is complete. This includes forwarding the application to the National Capital Memorial Advisory Commission and impacted Advisory Neighborhood Commission(s) for their review and comment. Although not specified as required in the Commemorative Works in Public Space Act of 2000, other agencies that undertake concurrent reviews include the National Capital Planning Commission, Commission of Fine Arts, and the DC Historic Preservation Office. When all required reviews are completed, the application is submitted to the Commemorative Works Committee (CWC) for its formal review and recommendation prior to submittal to the Mayor and DC Council.

In addition to OP, CWC members include representatives from the Department of Parks and Recreation; Department of Public Works; Department of General Services; District Department of Transportation; Commission on the Arts and Humanities; Historic Preservation Review Board; Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs; Department of Housing and Community Development; the Secretary of the District of Columbia; and three public members appointed by the Mayor and confirmed by the DC Council. The Committee serves as an evaluative body charged with reviewing each application with a focus on the appropriateness, design, compatibility of the proposed commemorative work, and location using specific criteria as laid out in the Commemorative Works in Public Space Amendment Act of 2000.

The Office of Planning provides assistance and guidance to community members and organizations interested in applying for a commemorative work. OP's website provides information on the commemorative work process; OP also provides copies of the Commemorative Work in Public Space Act of 2000 and an application. OP staff continues to work with each applicant throughout the approval process and provides specific guidance based on their application and proposed site. While OP staff provides technical advice and assistance to applicants throughout the process, it is the applicants' responsibility to complete all review processes.

22. How many applications for commemorative works did the Commemorative Works Committee (“CWC”) receive each year fiscal year 2013 to date? How many of these applications were acted upon by the CWC? How many were approved by the CWC? Please provide this information in a table format.

Commemorative Works Applications Received			
Fiscal Year	Applications Received	Applications Acted Upon	Recommended for Approval
2013	0	0	0
2014	3	3	3
2015	0	0	0
2016	0	0	0
2017	1	1	1
2018*	0	0	0

Note: * As of 2/22/18

23. Please provide a list of all commemorative works installed in the District to date, beginning with fiscal year 2008. To date, how many commemorative works exist under District jurisdiction (not including federal commemorative works)?

Commemorative Works Installed FY 2008 – 2018	Location	Dedication Date
Carter G. Woodson Mem.	9th Street & Rhode Island Avenue NW	December 5, 2015
Metro Memorial Park	New Hampshire Avenue & South Dakota Avenue NE	June 22, 2015
Chuck Brown Mem. Park	20th Street NE, between Franklin & Hamlin Streets	August 22, 2014

To date, there are three (3) local commemorative works installed in the District. A fourth, the Marion Barry statue, approved in FY 2017, is scheduled to be dedicated on March 3, 2018. Between FY 2000, the year the Act was passed, and FY 2013, the Commemorative Works Committee reviewed and recommended for approval one project: “September 11 Memorial Grove on Kingman Island” in October 2003. The DC Council passed the “September 11 Memorial Grove on Kingman Island Approval Resolution of 2004.” The memorial was not installed. The “Kingman Island and Heritage Island Planning and Feasibility Study Act of 2016” states, “the siting for the 9/11 Memorial Grove is currently under review; its construction on Kingman Island is not certain, but to accommodate the possibility there is an area reserved where this could occur.”

24. Please describe OP’s training process for members of the Commemorative Works Committee (“CWC”). Is there a separate process for public members? When is the next training session scheduled?

The Commemorative Works Committee meets only when a commemorative works application has been submitted to the CWC for approval. As illustrated in the response to Question 22, that process occurs infrequently. However, when the CWC met in June 2017 to review the application for a commemorative work honoring former Mayor Marion Barry, OP included a

training for CWC members on the responsibilities of the CWC and its review authority and on the guidelines and process for consideration of applications.

25. (a) What financial assistance is available to homeowners in historic landmarks or historic districts? If there is one or more SP funds, list them and state for each: the amount spent in fiscal year 2017, the ending balance in fiscal year 2017, and the current balance (as of February 1st).

The Office of Planning has one Local-funded grant program to support historic districts, a targeted grant program for low- and moderate-income historic homeowners. In FY 2017, OP distributed \$284,362 in grants for necessary repairs and improvements to home exteriors. A balance of \$172,006 in this non-lapsing account carried over into FY 2018. Through February 1, 2018, OP has spent \$43,867.

(b) Same as (a) except answer for commercial properties.

There are no OP financial assistance programs for historic commercial properties.

26. Please update the Committee on the status of District's Cultural Plan. Be detailed in your response, addressing implementation, community input, etc.

Mayor Bowser released the Discussion Draft of the DC Cultural Plan on January 19, 2018. The public comment period runs through February 28, 2018; beginning in March 2018, the Cultural Plan team - led by the Office of Planning with support from the Commission on the Arts and Humanities and Office of Cable Television, Film, Music and Entertainment - will assess all feedback received during the public review period and revise the plan accordingly. The Cultural Plan will be finalized and published in Spring/Summer 2018. The final Plan will be a graphically-designed product with photos, maps and graphics providing support and context to the content of the revised text draft.

The Cultural Plan has been developed with input from a robust public engagement process comprised of 10 public meetings where more than 1,500 stakeholders have provided more than 3,000 comments. Engagement was conducted with a tailored approach called "flat engagement" that emphasizes unstructured, open-ended dialogue with decision-makers such as agency directors. This approach was deployed to collect input equitably. The public meetings included one citywide kick-off; four quadrant-based community conversations; four targeted stakeholder meetings including with arts organizations, youth and educators, individual artists and cultural creators, and the deaf community. The final meeting took place during the public comment period and was a citywide open house designed to collect feedback on the discussion draft of the Plan.

In addition to the public meetings the Office of Planning held focus groups or participated in more than 70 additional conversations with cultural organizations across the city. These conversations provided depth and insight to broader feedback received at public meetings. As a part of the "flat engagement" approach, OP offered to hold a focus group conversation with interested stakeholders. Additionally, and as part of the investment research and analysis, OP held conversations with leading cultural and nonprofit funders including the Kresge Foundation,

Enterprise Community Partners, Washington Area Community Investment Fund, and the Reinvestment Fund.

The implementation phase of the Plan will begin in 2018 with the launch of nine activities: designating a DCRA small business navigator; partnering with the Kennedy Center to increase community cultural programming; partnering with Culture 21: A Global Network of Cities, Local and Regional Governments collaborating to advance local culture; leveraging DCPS participation in the Kennedy Center's Any Given Child program to strengthen arts and culture education; creating an African American Civil Rights Heritage Trail; establishing a LGBTQ heritage program; creating a Public Space Stewardship Guide; continue deploying the CAH LiftOff Grant; and launching the 202 Creates Residency Program.

- 27. Subtitle VI(l) of the Fiscal Year 2018 Budget Support Act included a \$200,000 grant to be awarded by OP to a nonprofit organization seeking a matching grant to improve federally-owned park land in the District. What is the process to apply for this grant and the timeframe to award it? Describe any coordination efforts with National Park Service ("NPS") on this matter.**

OP has developed a draft Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) and draft Request for Grant Applications (RFA). OP has contacted the senior planner at National Park Service to notify her of the grant and coordinate federal requirements. OP is awaiting answers to a few questions from National Park Service and is aiming to publish the NOFA in early March and the RFA later in the month. After those steps, OP expects to evaluate applications, make a selection, and award the grant funds in spring of this year.

- 28. How many OP projects were conducted with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in fiscal year 2013 through 2018? Please identify by name of project with a brief description.**

No OP projects were conducted with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in fiscal year 2013 through 2018. OP serves as a supporting agency partner for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Watts Branch flooding study.

- 29. OP's fiscal year 2018 budget provided for one FTE for a legal position. Why was it needed? Has that position been filled? When?**

This legal position was filled on July 7, 2017. This position was needed to assist OP in navigating the numerous and complex legal issues that arise under both local and federal law in OP's work on land use, zoning, affordable housing, and historic preservation.

- 30. Please describe OP's role in generating alley and street names in the District and OP's recent efforts to compile and maintain an alley inventory list.**

OP's role in generating alley and street names is advisory. OP has compiled a list of alleys by city square, located within the limits of the Old City (L'Enfant Plan). The list includes both current and historic names of alleys. OP has shared this list with DDOT, so when a new proposal for naming an alley is brought up for review, consideration can be given to naming the alley by its historic name. Although many alleys had names historically, these historic names are often not official and can be re-named through the formal process.

31. Please describe any challenges experienced by the agency during fiscal years 2017 and 2018 not already discussed.

Please let OP know if there are any specific topics of interest or concern, and we would be happy to respond more fully following the February 28 hearing.

**OFFICE OF PLANNING
2017-2018 OVERSIGHT HEARING
FY 2018 PERFORMANCE PLAN UPDATE**

Council questions 2nd set, #1

<u>Initiative</u>	<u>Update</u>	<u>Staffⁱ</u>	<u>Budget</u>
Seek partnerships and opportunities to advance OP's equity practice and augment the reach of planning work throughout the District. Establish local and national strategic partnerships to enhance OP's focus on equity challenges in DC neighborhoods or on DC citywide planning issues. Continue to dedicate an "equity planner" position to establish best practices research and meet with organizations leading national policy on equity.	In FY 2018, OP has developed a university partnerships framework; created a partnership between the Kennedy Center, DPR, and OP for creative placemaking/Cultural Plan implementation in Ward 8; met with multiple organizations and institutions on equity and planning collaboration opportunities in Wards 7 and 8; confirmed a Spring 2018 planning studio with Georgetown University to complete a neighborhood integrity mapping and planning analysis in Ward 8; and implemented an equity and biking charrette in partnership with WABA.	3	
Pursue neighborhood and corridor-level resilience planning initiatives to support and enhance the District's communities that are vulnerable to climate change and other shocks and stressors. Continue to partner with District and federal agency partners on initiatives to help the neighborhoods in the Watts Branch watershed be more resilient to flooding. Build off completed Small Area Plans and Vision Frameworks to identify and develop resilient land use strategies for at least one additional neighborhood.	In FY 2018, OP has participated in a two-day interagency workshop for the Resilient DC Strategy launch. In November, OP released the final Buzzard Point Vision Framework + Design Review Guide, which includes resilient design guidelines for private sector development in Buzzard Point. OP still serves as an agency partner for the US Army Corps of Engineers Watts Branch flooding study. OP is a member of the new District Critical Infrastructure Working Group, focusing on resilient infrastructure, launched by HSEMA in December 2017.	5	
In FY18, OP will further elevate the work of the State Data Center and Geographic Information Systems using platforms that will help refine, analyze, and present demo-graphic, real estate, and planning systems information along with operational data that highlight OP activities. OP will also identify opportunities for data coordination and sharing with agency partners in a way that can inform processes, such as the CIP, and enhance the sharing of information with the public.	In FY 2018, OP's State Data Center staff were trained in the Tableau tool to facilitate the creation of dashboards to help visualize demographic data in a more useful way. The SDC worked with other OP staff to provide a series of demographic indicators for future planning initiatives. The SDC worked with OCTO/GIS to provide historic census tract data and shape files for several demographic indicators. GIS/IT began development of new tools to manage and publish data on pending development activity in the district. GIS/IT assisted the Bainum Family Foundation and DME in analyzing spatial patterns for the supply and demand for early childhood education. GIS/IT worked with OCTO to inventory OP's data holdings.	4	
Undertake sector research that integrates data and spatial analysis into new thinking and policy around housing, transportation, economic development, capital facilities, sustainability and food. This effort will directly support updates to the Citywide Element of	In FY 2018, OP's Citywide Strategy & Design division led and completed a data and policy analysis for the Framework element of the Comp Plan and finalized the drafting of the element. This division also continued review of the nine other	6	

Initiative	Update	Staffⁱ	Budget
the Comprehensive Plan. OP will coordinate this work with partner agencies such as DME (as it launches its Master Facilities Plan) and share expertise with peer networks such as C-40.	citywide elements it is responsible for, vetting and analyzing proposed amendments against data and policy, and identifying crosscutting and cross-agency opportunities. CSAD also participated on the Smart City Tiger Team and the AV working group, finalized the draft interagency Cultural Plan, undertook multi-site analysis work for a large project that could further administration policy objectives, developed updated policy criteria for the CIP process that enhances the CIP link to the Comp Plan, and led a health & food working group for SDC 2.0.		
OP will help move forward the Cultural Plan by: following up on key recommendations around cultural infrastructure, financing policy and investments; promoting interagency coordination, including support for the Implementation Steering Committee that is set to launch in FY18; aligning cultural policy with other planning initiatives; and connecting the District's strategic cultural thinking to platforms and partners such as Culture 21.	In FY 2018, OP has vetted key recommendations with partner agencies, finalized the draft Plan, and submitted to EOM for review and final approval. OP prepared a communications toolkit. OP leadership participated on the recently launched Any Given Child Community Arts team, a partnership with the DC Education Collaborative and the Kennedy Center.	4	\$30,000 (consultant)
Complete the development of amendments to the Comprehensive Plan for the National Capital: District Elements as part of the second amendment cycle. OP will continue this major project into its final phase of development, public review, and DC Council submission. OP will complete its evaluation of proposed amendments to the Comprehensive Plan Elements submitted by District and federal agencies and the public. The proposed amendments will include new cross-cutting policies to integrate resilience as a new policy framework throughout the Comprehensive Plan.	In FY 2018, OP has continued evaluating the 3,000 proposed amendments received during the public Open Call in FY 2017. OP continued preparing its own draft amendments for the Citywide and Area Elements. Draft amendments, including some proposed by the public, for the Framework Element, were completed. The Framework Element Amendment legislative package was introduced to the DC Council in 2Q FY 2018.	20+ (agency wide effort)	\$87,396 (consultant)
Develop urban design strategies and initiatives that expand the District's distinct design character. By September 2018, identify at least two critical design systems that are distinct to the city, and work with design professionals and government agencies to undertake analysis and planning work to protect and enhance these systems as inventive new projects are added to the city. For example, coordinate with DCRA to refine regulations for building projections.	In FY 2018, OP has worked with DCRA's Administration and Enforcement Technical Advisory Group to discuss proposed changes to building projection regulations as part of the ongoing 2015 code update, including a workshop with design professionals to discuss bay window projections. OP and DDOT are discussing the timeline for developing concept plans for planting trees along priority avenues connecting large parks and open spaces.	2	

Initiative	Update	Staffⁱ	Budget
Elevate awareness of urban design issues in the District of Columbia. Collaborate with the local design community, the private sector and other stakeholders to hold at least two events by September 2018 to discuss critical design issues facing the city and how to address them.	This effort will begin in Spring or Summer 2018.	5	
In FY18, OP will complete its series of illustrated Heritage Guides for each of the city's eight wards, including a historical overview, discussion of preservation challenges and strategies as seen by the community, and information about sites of cultural and heritage significance.	In FY 2018, OP has completed the Ward 6 heritage guide. Wards 3 and 2 are in preparation.	4	
In FY18, OP will develop an online 20th Century Civil Rights Heritage Trail, which will create the nucleus of an improved interactive educational website for the District's entire African American Heritage Trail.	In FY 2018, OCP issued a contract to a consultant and the work has begun.	3	\$28,125 (federal grant)
In FY 18, OP will complete GIS mapping for the L'Enfant Plan, reflecting current conditions and identifying all contributing elements, for use in project reviews and in updating the historic landmark designation of the plan.	In FY 2018, OP has drafted a scope of services for a consultant to complete this work, and will procure services to begin the project.	3	\$25,000 (consultant)
OP will complete an updated 2020 DC Historic Preservation Plan for the years 2017 through 2020, building on the accomplishments and initiatives in the 2016 Preservation Plan.	In FY 2018, OP completed the draft plan and released it for public comment.	3	
In FY18, OP will complete the research phase of a 2½-year study to produce a historic context for LGBTQ history in the District, and an associated inventory of notable sites.	In FY 2018, OP recommended selection of a contractor and has begun internal work on the project.	2	\$50,000 (federal grant)
On at least five affordable housing projects, OP will implement the agency's authority to provide technical support to developers seeking the federal historic tax credit for certified rehabilitation, through assistance with the identification and designation of eligible structures and the processing of applications for project certification.	In FY 2018, HPRB, acting on OP recommendations, designated four apartment buildings as historic landmarks to support owners seeking federal tax credits for affordable housing renovation.	3	
Document and publicize the District's 15 years of accomplishments implementing the Anacostia Waterfront Initiative. Collaborate with the Anacostia Waterfront Interagency Working Group to complete the Anacostia Waterfront Progress Report by September 2018, highlighting achievements towards implementation of the Anacostia Waterfront Initiative (AWI) Framework Plan, including millions of dollars in District government investments in	In FY 2018, OP has completed stakeholder meetings on AWI progress and collected data and input from a variety of District and federal agencies, BIDs, etc. OP has hosted two AWI Working Group meetings (October 4 and December 19). Staff also began working to develop and outline content for the report.	3	\$30,000 (consultant)

Initiative	Update	Staffⁱ	Budget
infrastructure and other improvements. Partner with sister agencies to publicize the District's AWI accomplishments.			
OP will continue its leadership on creative placemaking by framing and initiating the next generation of innovative placemaking initiatives with support from the Kresge Foundation. The FY18 round will build on the success of the first set of "Crossing the Street" grants, creating fun and inclusive experiences that seek to further test the intersection of people, place and design in neighborhoods across the city. Projects, such as storytelling, visual and performance arts, and temporary design, may explore select placemaking recommendations articulated in the Comprehensive Plan, Cultural Plan, and neighborhood plans/initiatives. Completion Date: multi-year.	In FY 2018, OP has developed the final set of curatorial partnerships and projects related to: community heritage and storytelling; temporary reuse of vacant, blighted and underutilized spaces located in Wards 7 & 8; and a creative showcase project in a vacant space located in Ward 5 in partnership with the Kennedy Center, a local arts group and DPR. OP also began framing Round 2 with a concept that links to implementation of the Cultural Plan.	3	\$86,098 (private grant funding)
In FY18, OP will undertake a food economy study that will define the local food business cluster and its regional linkages, analyze changes and trends, define the parameters of the food economy, identify gaps and opportunities, and develop recommendations as a part of a final report. The study will include coordination with the Food Policy Council, engagement with stakeholders, and an OP-hosted food economy forum.	In FY 2018, OP substantially completed tasks 1 and 2 and tasks 3 and 4 have begun. The study is a deep dive into the District's local food economy, to include food production, wholesaling, distribution, catering, restaurants, and more. The project will combine large dataset analysis and targeted surveys and interviews with local food entrepreneurs, operators, and staff.	2	\$150,958 (consultant)
Develop the second phase of the Small Parks Vision and Management Strategy. FY18, OP, in cooperation with the District Department of Parks and Recreation, District Department of General Services, District Department of Transportation, and District Department of Energy and Environment, will continue to develop the Small Parks Strategy that will provide guidance to District agencies and the community on making the most of District-owned small parks so they contribute to the growing recreational and environmental needs of the District and its residents. During FY18, OP will work with partner agencies to explore how to leverage small parks as a part of the District's resilience system; develop guidance for how communities can use small parks; and work with DPR on procedures for community reuse of small parks.	In FY 2018, OP has continued working with DDOT and DPR to confirm buy-in on the strategy and to finalize the inventory (and identification of responsible agency) of District-controlled small open spaces and parks. OP is also providing technical assistance to District agencies using the current inventory to identify sites for those agencies' initiatives and advising agencies discussing possible transfers of jurisdiction of sites from one agency to another.	2	
Prepare one year assessment of new zoning regulations. After a full year of using the newly revised zoning regulations, OP will work with communities, the Office of Zoning, Office of Attorney General, and Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs throughout	In FY 2018, OP has coordinated amendments with DCRA on basement and cellar definitions and how they are measured, and begun working with DCRA on clarification of side yard and front yard setbacks.	4	

<u>Initiative</u>	<u>Update</u>	<u>Staff</u>	<u>Budget</u>
FY 2018 to make necessary changes and amendments to the text as needed to clarify their intent, ensure they are easily understandable, and implement the Comprehensive Plan. OP will prepare an assessment of the new zoning regulations, to provide an update to the Zoning Commission.			

ⁱ Staff who spend a substantial portion of their time on a particular project/initiative.