

CapitalSpace Draft Plan Public Comments



Public Comments Received

Section A. Responses on Public Comment Form

(submitted at October 27, 2009 public meeting)

Eight public comment forms were submitted at the public meeting by:

1. Christine Curella
2. Sylvia Brown, Groundwork Anacostia River DC
3. Anonymous
4. Linda Harper, Cultural Tourism DC
5. Bryan Steffen, Washington Area Frisbee Club
6. Kent Slowinski, Environmental Health Group
7. Darren Spence
8. Daniel Rieden

Their responses to four questions on the comment form are provided below:

Does the CapitalSpace Vision aspire high enough for the world's next great capital city?

Yes, though could include more to activate the space—cultural programming, the arts. Overall, exciting plan!
(1)

There could always be more done but the vision took a large step by bringing together the agencies. Critical to implementation will be multiple layers of advocacy & funding resources, especially the federal appropriations process, green jobs training & tying into policy issues like cleaning-up the Anacostia River (Chesapeake Bay) & healthy living and walkable neighborhoods. (2)

In general, please invoke the participation of the Boy Scouts and Explorers as well as the National Guard. (3)

No, without fundraising and funding potential identified and a solid structure of leadership it remains only a plan. (4)

No, you need to think bigger & reach out to more people & organizations for input. (6)

Not yet. We can devote more time to create a more thorough plan. (7)

I am very impressed by the coordination effort of this project, well done!!! I think you should share this effort with other regions in the country—particularly my hometown Detroit. (8)

Which 2 recommendations from the draft CapitalSpace Plan will have the most positive impact to the parks and open space system of Washington, DC?

The playgrounds initiative. Small parks, central parks. (1)

Linking the Fort Circle Parks & Enhancing urban natural areas. (2)

To help with the clean-up of our parks. One last thought, _____the participation as well of many high school students for extra grades. (3)

Ft parks, big picture. Small parks, small picture given of _____neighborhood. (4)

Improving public schoolyards can help create a link between students and the environment, hopefully stressing the importance of stewardship. Enhancing urban areas—protect what we have, because once it's gone, it's gone. (6)

Linking the Fort Circle Parks; Improving the playing fields. (7)

CapitalSpace Draft Plan Public Comments



Building community support by connecting the objectives to everyday concerns—homelessness, jobs, children's outdoor programs, health, etc. (8)

Which of the 8 Action Items can your organization or community help CapitalSpace accomplish? In what specific ways?

Improving interpretation and promotion of Fort Circle Parks, completing the Fort Circle Parks trail, categorizing small parks & coordinating management and maintenance. (2)

Groundworks Anacostia River DC is a grassroots based organization through the NPS Rivers & Trails department. This relationship with NPS allows us to cut through bureaucracy to initiate and implement plans for the Fort Circle Parks. Groundworks Anacostia River DC aims to create a citizen corps to adopt and care for their environment, especially small parks near them. Just as important, GWARDC wants to be a training partner for careers in park creation & maintenance (i.e., landscape architects, general labor, arborists, etc. (2)

And last, to encounter weekend passes for the National Guard, Thank you! (3)

Ft. Parks, small parks. _____ and links to neighborhoods have on trail record for community organizing for hiking (?) trails, knowledge of DC, and neighborhood histories (4)

There is the potential for WAFC, with over 2,500 members, to partner with the organizing groups on development and/or maintenance of more playing fields. (5)

Coordinate research of natural areas; improve access to public open space (6)

Coordinating research and restoration of natural areas through a District-wide multi-agency ecosystem consortium. Improving overall access to our public open space. (7)

Please feel free to use the additional space below if you need more space to answer the specific questions above, or to provide general comments or questions.

How will the implementation be governed, i.e., will the partnership continue? How will impact be measured? (1)

Creating a entity that will provide a central coordination, funding, and partnership development core (Start this first, it is essential). Open up the door to partnerships quickly. (4)

You would get some good input if you took your presentation to every ANC in the District. None of my ANC commissioners have been able to participate in this process. (6)

Please reduce the amount of animal poop in the parks. I always had access to parks as a child and played sports on weekends. I believe it is important to keep the parks clean enough for the kids to play. (7)

I would like to support your efforts as a landscape architect and site planner with interests in ecology, restoration, and reconnecting with communities. I have experience in this work in City of Detroit and south shore Chicago. I hope to support and be of service to this effort. (8)