

definitions

Comprehensive Plan for the National Capital: Federal Elements

The following terms used herein shall be construed to have the following meanings, unless a different meaning clearly appears from the context:

Active Recreation: Those leisure pursuits requiring moderate to high physical exertion (e.g., hiking, bicycling, skating, and ball playing).

Alternative Fuel Bus: A bus that operates using a fuel other than diesel, such as natural gas or electric batteries.

Alternative Work Schedule: A schedule that varies from the standard 8-hour day/ 40-hour workweek.

Antenna Task Force: A body comprised of NCPC Commission members and federal and local government officials, established in 1994 to explore visual impact and other issues associated with the installation of antennas in the National Capital Region.

Antennas and Towers: Structures and devices that are used for the transmission of electronic, magnetic, or radiowave communication.

Brownfield: Abandoned, idle, or under-used industrial and commercial facilities where expansion or redevelopment is complicated by real or perceived environmental contamination.

Bus Rapid Transit: A transit system that employs express buses using dedicated rights-of-way and passenger stations, allowing it to function in a similar manner to a fixed railway transit system.

Busway: A dedicated right-of-way exclusively for bus travel.

Capper-Cramton Act: Act of May 29, 1930, (46 Stat. 482), as amended, which provides "for the acquisition, establishment, and development of the George Washington Memorial Parkway along the Potomac from Mount Vernon and Fort Washington to the Great Falls, and to provide for the acquisition of lands in the District of Columbia and the States of Maryland and Virginia requisite to the comprehensive park, parkway, and playground system of the National Capital."

Carpool: A group of two to five persons sharing the use of a vehicle for commuter travel.

Central Employment Area or CEA: An area in the District of Columbia, generally bounded on the north by Massachusetts Avenue, NW, and H Street, NW and NE; on the east by Second Street, NE and SE; on the south by the Southwest Freeway and Constitution Avenue, NW, west of 14th Street; and on the west by the Expressway, Virginia Avenue, NW, 21st Street, NW, Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, 22nd Street, NW, and New Hampshire Avenue, NW. (Refer to CEA Map, Federal Workplace Element, p. 42)

Chancery: The principal offices of a Foreign Mission used for diplomatic and related purposes and annexes to such offices (including ancillary offices and support facilities), including the site and any building or buildings on such site which is used for such purposes.

Circulator: A transit vehicle or system that utilizes fixed routes to serve multiple destinations.

Combined Chancery/Embassy: The site and any building or buildings thereon containing both the Chancery and the Embassy of a Foreign Mission.

Commemorative Works Act (CWA): The 1986 Commemorative Works Act provides guidance on the location and design of new memorials and monuments. The Act requires that Congress authorize all memorials on lands administered by NPS or GSA, and that NCPC, CFA, and either the Secretary of the Interior, in the case of parklands, or the Administrator of General Services, in the case of GSA-administered land, approve memorial sites and designs. CWA designated Area I and Area II for locating memorials, and CWA amendments enacted in 2002 created the Reserve. (See map on p. 179 of the Visitors Element.)

Compressed Work Schedule: A schedule that allows employees to compress an 80-hour pay period into fewer than 10 workdays by working more than eight hours during some work days.

Downtown Circulator: A circulator system planned to serve downtown Washington, DC and the National Mall.

Embassy: The site and any building or buildings thereon containing the official residence of an ambassador or other chief of a diplomatic mission.

Executive Order: A legal proclamation or directive used by the President to exercise authority. Executive Orders are not required to be reviewed and approved by the Congress to be legally binding.

Federal Agency: Any department, agency, and other operating unit of the federal government.

Federal Civilian Employment: Those paid persons, full or part time, who occupy Federal positions.

Federal Facilities: Buildings, installations, structures, or land owned or leased by the Federal government.

Federally-leased space: Space in buildings, and land incidental thereto, for which the Federal government has a right of occupancy by virtue of having a leasehold interest.

Federally-owned space: Space in buildings, and land incidental thereto, the title to which is vested, or which will become vested, pursuant to existing agreement, in the Federal government.

Federal Visitor Attraction: A memorial, museum, parkland, natural feature or commemorative work, under the jurisdiction of the federal government, that is of important national historic, symbolic, cultural or educational value to the general public.

Floodplain: The lowland and relatively flat area adjoining inland and coastal waters, including at a minimum, that area subject to a one percent or greater chance of flooding in any given year.

Foreign Mission: Any mission to or agency in the United States involving diplomatic, consular, or other governmental activities of (1) a Foreign government or (2) an organization (other than an International Organization) representing a territory or political entity which has been granted diplomatic or other official privileges and immunities under the laws of the United States, or which engages in some aspect of the conduct of the international affairs of such territory or political entity, including any real property of such a mission and including the personnel of such a mission.

Fort Circle Parks: A major component of the park system of the District of Columbia recommended by the McMillan Plan and acquired by NCPC. Now managed by NPS, this ring of Civil War defenses are interconnected by a ribbon of parks that protect scenic hills and landscaped and natural area corridors that circle the District of Columbia.

GIS: Acronym for Geographic Information System, a computer system that stores and links non-graphic attributes or geographically referenced data with graphic map features to allow a wide range of information processing and display operations, as well as map production, analysis, and modeling.

Green Setting: The park and park-like character of the city and its environs that is due to the presence of trees and abundant landscaping threaded through built-up urban areas, or bordering the shorelines of its rivers and streams.

Hazardous Waste (HAZMAT): Discarded solid, liquid, or air-borne waste material exhibiting traits that have been found to have a harmful impact on human health and the natural environment.

Headway: A measure of the frequency of vehicle arrivals in a transit system, expressed as the amount of time between arriving vehicles at a particular station or stop.

High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV): A vehicle with multiple passengers; the minimum number of required passengers is defined by local or regional regulations.

Historic District of Columbia Boundaries: The original boundaries of the District of Columbia; the diamond-shaped area that forms the current borders of the District of Columbia, Arlington County and a portion of the city of Alexandria marked by boundary stones at one mile intervals.

Intelligent Vehicle Highway System (IVHS): An information and routing system that uses satellite, electronic and radio communications technologies both onboard private vehicles and embedded within a regional highway network to manage traffic control and incident avoidance and response; often tied to a central regional control center.

International Organizations: (1) a public international organization designated as such pursuant to the International Organization Immunities Act (22 U.S.C. 288-288f(2)) or a public international organization created pursuant to treaty or other international agreement as an instrument through or by which two or more foreign governments engage in some aspect of their conduct of international affairs; and (2) an official mission (other than a United States mission) to such a public international organization, including any real property of such an organization or mission and including the personnel of such an organization or mission.

L'Enfant City: The area laid out in 1791 by Pierre L'Enfant and adjacent areas laid out by the McMillan Commission in 1901, bordered by Rock Creek Park on the west, Florida Avenue on the north, Florida Avenue extended on the northeast, the Anacostia River on the east and southeast, and the Potomac River on the southwest.

L'Enfant Plan: The body of designs and plans for the original City of Washington, which were promulgated by President George Washington and recognized by Congress as the general work of Pierre Charles L'Enfant, notably as subsequently laid out by the Office of the Surveyor of the District of Columbia government according to the "King Plats of the City of Washington in the District of Columbia, 1803."

Light Rail: A transit system consisting of surface running trains which run either in dedicated rights-of-way or through shared use of an urban street grid. Train cars are lighter in weight than those used for subway or long-distance travel.

Local Agencies: Operating units of non-federal levels of government, including regional, state, county, city, and the District of Columbia, that have authority over lands within the National Capital Region.

Magnetic Levitation Train: A high-speed train that is levitated above a guide way and propelled using magnets that are electrically powered. Commonly known as "Maglev."

Mall: That section of the Monumental Core bounded by Constitution Avenue on the north, Independence Avenue on the south, First Street, NW/SW, on the east, and Fourteenth Street, NW/SW, on the west. (National Park Service Reservations #3, 3A, 3B, 4, 5, 6). See also, "Mall Complex."

Mall Complex: Popularly referred to as "the Mall," a portion of the Monumental Core east of the Potomac River, consisting of the Capitol Grounds; "The Mall," as defined above; the Washington Monument Grounds; the Ellipse; West Potomac Park; and the Jefferson Memorial grounds.

MARC: Maryland Rail Commuter service, operating between Union Station and various Maryland and West Virginia locations.

McMillan Plan: The body of plans for the systematic improvement and extension of parks and public buildings sponsored by Senator James McMillan on behalf of the U.S. Senate in 1901 and set forth in "Report of the Park Commission" (Senate Document No. 166), 1902, as subsequently realized under guidance of the Architect of the Capitol, the Commission of Fine Arts, and the National Capital Park and Planning Commission.

Metrochek: A program of the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority that allows employers to provide tax-free transit benefits to employees; Metrocheks are exchanged for transit fare cards.

Monumental Core: The general area encompassing the Capitol grounds, the Mall, the Washington Monument grounds, the White House grounds, the Ellipse, West Potomac Park, East Potomac Park, the Southwest Federal Center, the Federal Triangle area, President's Park, the Northwest Rectangle, Arlington Cemetery and the Pentagon area, Fort Myer and Henderson Hall. (See Map 1 on p. 27 of Federal Workplace Element.)

National Capital: The District of Columbia and territory owned by the United States within the National Capital Region outside the District of Columbia.

National Capital Region, or Region: The District of Columbia; Montgomery and Prince George's Counties in Maryland; Arlington, Fairfax, Loudoun, and Prince William Counties in Virginia; and all cities now or hereafter existing in Maryland or Virginia within the geographic area bounded by the outer boundaries of the combined area of said counties. This definition is set in the National Capital Planning Act of 1952.

NCPC's Guidelines and Submission Requirements for Antennas on Federal Property in the National Capital Region: Guidelines developed by the National Capital Planning Commission to be used by federal agencies in the National Capital Region in the preparation and submission of plans for antenna installations.

Parking Ratio: The measure of the number of parking spaces provided for a given number of employees.

Passive Recreation: Quiet leisure pursuits with minimal physical exertion, such as sitting, reading, fishing, and picnicking.

Reserve: A zone considered the commemorative core of the Nation's Capital and a completed urban design, within which no new memorial sites should be allowed, as recommended by the Joint Task Force on Memorials and adopted by NCPC, the Commission of Fine Arts, and the National Capital Memorial Commission. The Reserve encompasses the central cross axes of the National Mall formed by the U.S. Capitol, Lincoln Memorial, the White House, the Washington Monument, and the Jefferson Memorial. (See map on p. 179 of Visitors Element.)

Shuttle: A transit vehicle or system that follows a fixed route between two destinations.

Single Occupant Vehicle (SOV): A vehicle occupied by one person only.

Telework/Telecommuting: A program that allows employees to perform some of the duties of their job from home or from a satellite work center near their home.

Transit-Oriented Development: Development that surrounds a transit station and that is characterized by compact and dense development patterns, a mix of uses, short walking distances between uses, and excellent walking conditions.

Transit Station-to-Workplace Shuttle: A shuttle that provides service between a work place and the nearest transit station.

Transportation Demand Management: The practice of managing the demand for transportation services so that it does not result in the construction of new transportation infrastructure.

Transportation Management Plan: A plan to manage transportation demand, particularly demand for the use of single-occupant vehicles and the roadways and parking spaces needed to serve them.

Vanpool: A group of six or more persons sharing the use of a vehicle for commuter travel.

Variable Work Schedule: A work schedule that varies from the normal work schedule utilized by an employer.

VRE: Virginia Railway Express commuter rail service.

Water Taxi: A water vessel that provides point-to-point commuter service, either on demand or following a regular schedule. Water taxis could also be used by visitors as a means to access visitor attractions.