



Office of Planning OP (BD)

MISSION

The mission of the Office of Planning (OP) is to guide development of the District of Columbia, including the preservation and revitalization of our distinctive neighborhoods, by informing decisions, advancing strategic goals, encouraging the highest quality outcomes, and engaging all communities.

SUMMARY OF SERVICES

OP performs planning for historic preservation, public facilities, parks and open spaces, and individual sites. In addition, OP engages in urban design, land use, and historic preservation review. OP also conducts historic resources research and community visioning, and manages, analyzes, maps, and disseminates spatial and US Census data.

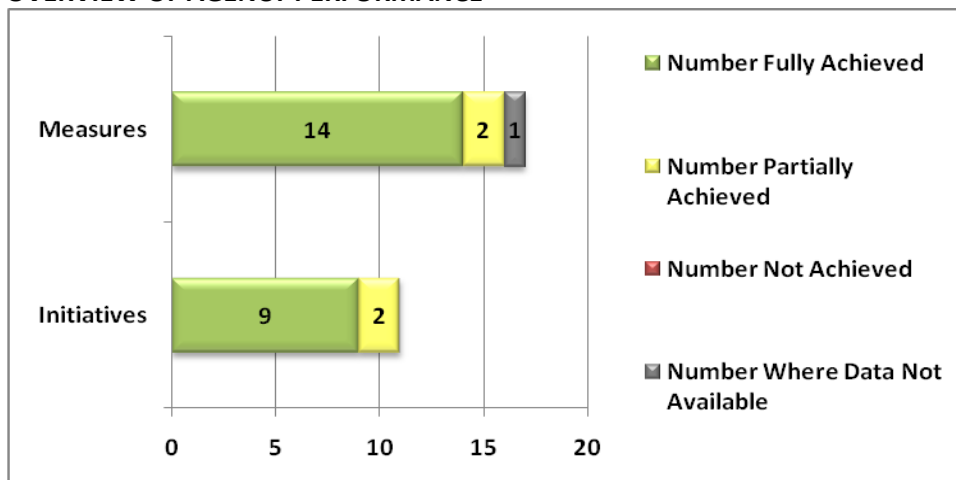
AGENCY OBJECTIVES

1. Catalyze improvements in neighborhoods and commercial areas.
2. Better inform decisions about public and private investments.
3. Deliver resources, clarified regulations, and technical assistance to enhance the quality of the built environment.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ✓ Completed and obtained Council approval for Small Area Plans near Riggs Road and South Dakota Ave; Brookland/CUA Metro Station; St. Elizabeths Hospital; and NoMA
- ✓ OP completed three synergistic studies – 1) Creative DC Action Agenda, 2) Green Collar Jobs Study, and 3) Retail Action Strategy
- ✓ Championed multi-modal transportation by working with DDOT on a dedicated transitway on K Street and completing a study of the North Capitol Cloverleaf
- ✓ Expanded the accessibility of site-specific information for the city by developing DCPropertyQuest and launched a new mobile technology application called “Where’s My Bus?” for DC’s Circulator Bus

OVERVIEW OF AGENCY PERFORMANCE





Performance Initiatives – Assessment Details

Performance Assessment Key:

● Fully achieved ● Partially achieved ● Not achieved ● Data not reported

OBJECTIVE 1: CATALYZE IMPROVEMENTS IN NEIGHBORHOODS AND COMMERCIAL AREAS.

INITIATIVE 1.1: Partner with District agencies to inform capital planning decisions and bring coordinated capital investments throughout the city.

OP worked with DPR, DCPL, and FEMS in FY 2009 on capital planning decisions and investments. With DPR, OP: 1. Developed a space utilization survey for all community and recreation centers. The survey will be used as supplemental information in the update the DPR 2005 Master Facilities Plan, and 2. Provided mapping assistance to determine a location for the Summer Feeding Program. With FEMS, OP: 1. Determined relocation sites for Engine Co. 26 on Rhode Island Avenue and Engine Co. 15 in Anacostia, and conducted a related zoning and land use analysis, and 2. Provided mapping services to determine trends in development and growth around the city. This information was used to compare with FEMS data regarding coverage for fire and emergency medical services. With DCPL, OP: 1. Drafted a scope of work for a Services and Facilities Plan that will guide future capital investments, 2. Conducted demographic research and analysis to assist DCPL in determining which kiosk branches to close, and 3. Provided mapping services documenting major development and growth areas in the city and general maps indicating location of DCPL facilities.

INITIATIVE 1.2: Make recommendation implementation information available to agencies and the public.

In FY 2009, OP conducted quarterly updates on the 626 Comp Plan action items and all small area plan action items, including incorporating action items from four new Small Area Plans that were approved by the Council during FY 2009). OP released an Action Item Status Report in April 2009. In September, OP drafted a progress report on the Comprehensive Plan called "Moving from Vision to Reality." The web-based tool is available on our website - see <http://planning.dc.gov/planning/cwp/view,a,1354,q,645774.asp>.

INITIATIVE 1.3: Help strengthen the District's retail base by implementing recommendations and providing technical assistance.

1) In FY 2009, OP implemented recommendations of the Retail Action Strategy (RAS), including: 1. Drafted an action plan to implement RAS strategies identified for the Upper 14th Street submarket, 2. Identified and prioritized common strategies for completed small area plans, including Upper Georgia Avenue and Kennedy Street, 3. In conjunction with the Washington DC Economic Partnership, developed an implementation forum called "Actionomics" to catalyze collaborative action across the green, retail, and creative economies. The event, to be held in November 2009, will highlight government initiatives and investments and create a "lab" environment to problem solve and foster deal making. 2) In FY 2009, OP provided technical assistance to the Department of Small and Local Business Development. DSLBD requested historic context write-ups for five areas, and OP's Historic Preservation Office



completed and delivered all five.

INITIATIVE 1.4: Improve accessibility for District residents.

1) OP launched the implementation of two Great Streets plans, Upper Georgia Avenue and Pennsylvania Avenue, and an additional Small Area Plan (Kennedy Street Corridor). OP convened monthly and quarterly meetings w/ DDOT, DMPED, DSLBD, and the Washington DC Economic Partnership to coordinate recommendations. OP has developed work plans for Upper Georgia Avenue and Kennedy Street, to be used by the newly-created community-based implementation task forces. Specific implementation items completed in FY 2009 include: 1. Expansion of the Brightwood Neighborhood Investment Fund target area, to include Kennedy Street, 2. NIF funds awarded to create the Kennedy Street Clean and Safe Team. The team has provided litter and graffiti removal, tree box maintenance, debris pick up and other public space maintenance services, 3. The new Vinegar Hill South Main Street has been established, covering portions of Kennedy Street and Georgia Avenue, and 4. DDOT has conducted formal safety audits of all major intersections along Kennedy Street. 2) OP launched the “new mobility” initiative in June 2009. OP conducted research on new mobility and related IT initiatives and innovations worldwide. OP prepared a summary report to define the new (or, “integrated”) mobility concept, outlined the components of a project, and proposed a regional pilot project. OP coordinated a meeting with new mobility experts and local stakeholders. OP collected data from regional jurisdictions and completed an analysis and GIS map of potential hub locations. OP included an integrated mobility component into an ARRA TIGER grant application for a regional rapid transit system to provide funding for a pilot project. 3) OP has partnered with DDOT and worked with developers for two PUDs (Fringe Parking Lot and Skyland) to encourage the placement of SmartBike kiosks. The developer of the Fringe Parking Lot declined the kiosk and the Skyland developer is still considering a location. All PUDs expanded walkability through extended sidewalks and, where appropriate, accommodating the Metropolitan Branch Trail. OP meets monthly with DDOT on public space issues, and with DDOT and DDOE on amendments to parking regulations, trail extensions, environmental standards, and to coordinate PUDs.

OBJECTIVE 2: BETTER INFORM DECISIONS ABOUT PUBLIC AND PRIVATE INVESTMENTS.

INITIATIVE 2.1: Develop and use neighborhood indicators.

OP completed the Neighborhood Indicators Report in Fall 2008. In February 2009, OP initiated the Bellevue small area plan/study using a set of neighborhood indicators. The indicators will track improved health outcomes for residents and track housing and economic revitalization progress in the neighborhood. Specific neighborhood indicators include: 1) Number of venues offering healthy food options within a 15-minute walk, 2) Number of homes weatherized, 3) Library and Rec center usage, 4) Newly created affordable housing units, 5) Increased household discretionary income, 6) Reduction in percentage of vacant and abandoned properties, and 7) Impact of workforce development programs.

INITIATIVE 2.2: Increase transparency in the planning process so that stakeholders have better access to tools and information.

1) Completed the DC Historic Preservation System on schedule. (Found here (although you need a login/password): <http://opapp.op.dcgov.priv/DcHpsWebApp>). 2) Achieved web posting item. OP trained staff from each division in website management, and have tasked them to keep info. updated. OP posts all Zoning Commission and Board of Zoning Adjustment reports



within three days of filing, and all Historic Preservation Review Board agendas are posted a week before the meeting and then HPRB actions are posted within after hearings are held.

INITIATIVE 2.3: Make the most of the District's planned growth and competitive strengths.

1) Completed the Creative DC action agenda in September 2009.

(<http://planning.dc.gov/planning/cwp/view,a,1354,q,646285.asp>) 2) OP had to delay completion of the Housing/Transportation Study so that we could include data from the Washington Metropolitan Council of Governments and other local jurisdictions that was not available at the start of the project. This data included COG's household travel survey data and bus transit data, and parcel-level land use data from local jurisdictions in the region. As a result, the project has been delayed by several months. The draft report is now expected to be delivered in FY 2010. 3) Finalized a Healthy by Design initiative and developed a walkability index. See initiative details at <http://planning.dc.gov/planning/cwp/view,A,3,Q,645480.asp>, and interactive DC Walkscape tool at <http://www.walk.dc.gov/#>. 4) OP carried out a partnership with the National Building Museum to help develop and carry out the Museum's CityVision youth program, and developed and carried out other youth-oriented planning services in FY 2009. For the CityVision program, OP volunteers logged over 700 hours mentoring 50 DC middle school students in the design and planning professions over two school semesters (October 2008 to May 2009). In addition, as part of the 2009 Summer Youth Employment Program and summer internship program, OP provided an informative and fun hands-on work experience for 7 high school-aged students and 8 college and graduate students from June to August 2009. Finally, On January 6, 2009, in cooperation with National Capital Planning Commission staff, OP led urban planning and design fundamentals workshops for six classes at Phelps Architecture, Construction and Engineering High School as part of the school's year-long survey course to explore careers.

INITIATIVE 2.4: Continue to develop and implement a "Green Collar Jobs" program to foster a green economy and ethic in the District of Columbia.

1) OP, the Green Builders Council of DC, and the Associated Builders and Contractors of Metropolitan Washington sponsored a contractor Green Advantage training with over 40 attendees. In total, there were 7 partnerships created in FY 2009 to increase Green Collar jobs skills: 1. Green Builders Council, 2. Association of Builders & Contractors, 3. Goodwill Industries, 4. the U.S. General Services Administration, 5. Washington DC State Energy Partnership (includes several partners), and 6. the DC Pathways Out of Poverty Initiative. 2) In collaboration with OP, DDOE engaged a consultant to study the feasibility of a green business incubator. DDOE is the project lead and OP, DRES, and DSLBD are providing assistance. In addition, OP applied for an EPA grant in April 2009 to explore establishing a green business incubator zone along New York Avenue NE and using the vacant Crummell School. EPA did not award the grant to OP, however OP plans will incorporate the scope into a New York Avenue planning study in FY 2010. 3) Re: a Sustainably Energy Utility, it was decided in FY 2009 that DDOE would serve as project lead with support from OP. The Sustainable Energy Utility Board has been finalized and three meetings have been held thus far.

OBJECTIVE 3: DELIVER RESOURCES, CLARIFIED REGULATIONS, AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO ENHANCE THE QUALITY OF THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT.

INITIATIVE 3.1: Bring clarity and cohesiveness to the District's zoning regulations via a multi-year effort.



OP achieved this initiative. OP released a study of best sustainability practices in zoning in November 2008. OP studied the zoning in the downtown area and released preliminary recommendations in June 2009. In FY 2009 OP also began an internal study for revisions to the Planned Unit Development process. It should be noted that in FY 2009 OP also made the results of six focus issues available for public review: 1. Parks/Open Space, 2. Low/Moderate Density Residential, 3. Institutional, 4. Sustainability, 5. Downtown, and 6. Waterfront. Information on this progress and future work to be done, as well as the recommendations resulting from focus studies, is available on the project website. (<http://dczoningupdate.org/>)

INITIATIVE 3.2: Work with relevant agencies, boards, and commissions to streamline the development review and zoning process.

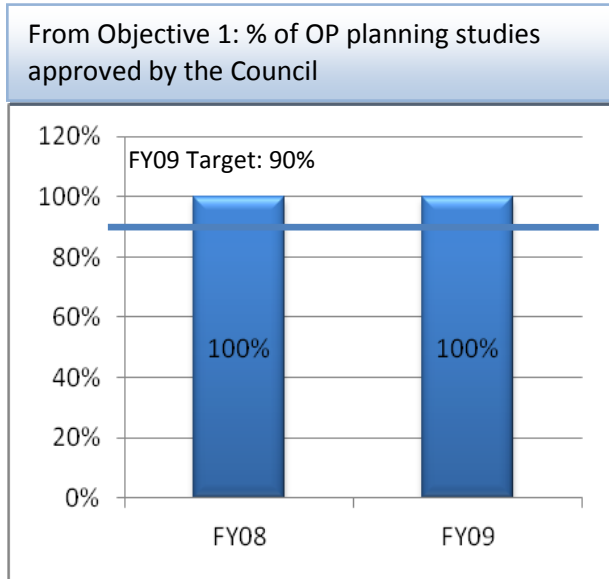
- This action was completed by the due date. OP consulted with the Office of the Attorney General, which determined that legislative action was not needed for this. In July, OP took forward a text amendment to the Zoning Commission to allow for a consent calendar for use by the Board of Zoning Adjustment, and it was approved.

INITIATIVE 3.3: Preserve and protect the District's historic resources.

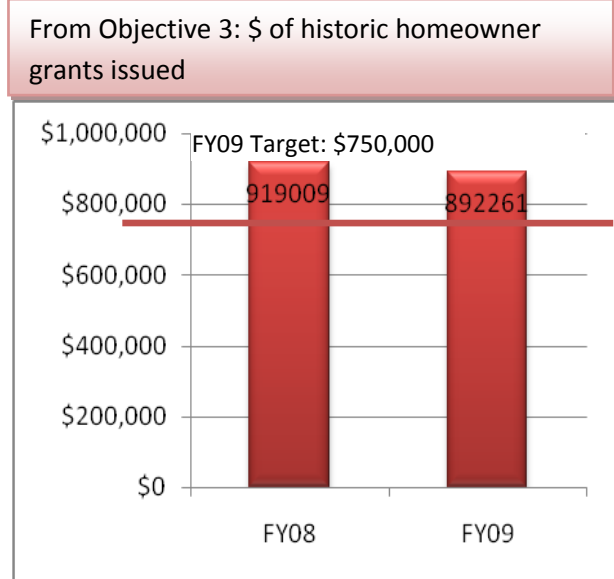
- OP finalized the draft historic preservation review regulations by July 2009 and posted them on the OP website. OP determined to use these draft regs as Historic Preservation Office procedures for an extended test period before considering the adoption of any regulations. (For more, see: <http://planning.dc.gov/planning/cwp/view,a,1284,q,647629.asp>) In FY 2009, OP opened the homeowner grant program to applicants in all 12 eligible historic districts in FY 2009. During the year, 38 grants were awarded in nine historic districts: 1. Anacostia, 2. Blagden Alley, 3. Capitol Hill, 4. LeDroit Park, 5. Mount Pleasant, 6. Mount Vernon Square, 7. Shaw, 8. Strivers' Section, and 9. U Street. In FY 2009 OP issued grants totaling \$892,261 for improvements to eligible properties, vs. a final target of \$750,000.



Key Performance Indicators – Highlights



FULLY ACHIEVED



FULLY ACHIEVED

More About These Indicators:

How did the agency's actions affect this indicator?

- OP completed and obtained Council approval for four Small Area Plans
- OP worked with the community, ANCs, civic associations, District agencies, and the Council
- OP prepared legislative packages for each of the four plans completed
- OP attended and presented testimony at Council hearings
- OP prepared a public comment digest for each plan, providing a response to each of the 500 comments received

What external factors influenced this indicator?

- The Council's Committee of the Whole (COW) held a public hearing on each plan to receive public testimony. Where issues were raised by residents, landowners, or other stakeholders during the hearings, the COW recommended that OP work with the community as proposed projects moved from planning to implementation.

How did the agency's actions affect this indicator?

- 38 grants were awarded in 9 historic districts
- OP worked with DHCD to help homeowners of critical need properties apply for DHCD grants.
- OP worked with DCRA and OAG to pursue longstanding demolition-by-neglect cases, winning a court order on one case
- OP coordinated contractors with nonprofit job training programs and set up a service with the Washington Architectural Foundation to provide architectural assistance to grantees.
- OP brought media attention to this story

What external factors influenced this indicator?

- A lingering question about the tax status of the grants was resolved in FY 2009 through an IRS ruling obtained with the assistance of Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton.
- OP engaged the ANC chairman and DCRA consumer protection officials to mediate disputes between homeowners and contractors.



Key Performance Indicators – Details

Performance Assessment Key:

● Fully achieved
 ● Partially achieved
 ● Not achieved
 ● Data not reported

	Measure Name	FY2008 YE Actual	FY2009 YE Target	FY2009 YE Actual	FY2009 YE Rating	Budget Program
●	1.1 Initiate facility plans, identify public-private partnerships or co-location opportunities, and conduct demographic analyses for two agencies	0	2	2	100%	LONG RANGE PLANNING
●	1.2 % of OP planning studies approved by the Council	100	90	100%	111.11%	NEGRHOOD PLNING REVITALIZATION & DESIGN
●	1.3 % of implementation items achieved or underway within three years	0	75	76.74%	102.33%	NEGRHOOD PLNING REVITALIZATION & DESIGN
●	1.4 Change in retail indicators relative to the baseline	0	0			LONG RANGE PLANNING
●	1.5 % change in transit ridership	3.96	2	2.17%	108.50%	LONG RANGE PLANNING
●	1.6 % of approved PUD, private school, and campus plans that include TDM measures	88.2	60	77.78%	129.63%	DEVELOPMT REVIEW & HISTORIC PRESERVATION
●	2.1 Change in median home sales price	0	-6.6	-2.28%	289.47%	LONG RANGE PLANNING
●	2.2 Change in median household income	0	0.9	6.66%	740%	LONG RANGE PLANNING
●	2.3 Change in District population	0	0.3	0.67%	223.33%	LONG RANGE PLANNING
●	2.4 % of Development Review reports that meet the expectations of boards/commissions	91.8	90	92.69%	102.99%	DEVELOPMT REVIEW & HISTORIC PRESERVATION



●	2.5	% of customers who have the data & analysis needed to fulfill their role in planning the city & influencing quality neighborhood outcomes	90.1	95	94.14%	99.09%	LONG RANGE PLANNING
●	2.6	% change to citizens' access to fresh and healthy food relative to the baseline	0	5	10%	200%	LONG RANGE PLANNING
●	2.7	# of new workforce partnerships created that provide Green Collar job skills	13	5	6	120%	LONG RANGE PLANNING
●	3.1	# of focus issued studied by zoning regulations review task force that are available for online review by the public	9	6	6	100%	DEVELOPMT REVIEW & HISTORIC PRESERVATION
●	3.2	\$ of historic homeowner grants issued	919009	750000	892261	118.97%	DEVELOPMT REVIEW & HISTORIC PRESERVATION
●	3.3	% of completed zoning and preservation conceptual design reviews for DC government projects	90.2	100	92.36%	92.36%	DEVELOPMT REVIEW & HISTORIC PRESERVATION
●	3.4	% of identified capital projects where preservation consultation has been initiated or design reviews completed	0	75	82.35%	109.80%	DEVELOPMT REVIEW & HISTORIC PRESERVATION