

DC COMP PLAN FRAMEWORK CALENDAR

MONDAY JULY 8, 11AM -- COUNCIL ADVOCACY DAY. Meet in the hall outside Room 500 at the John A. Wilson Building, 1350 Pennsylvania Ave, NW.

TUESDAY JULY 9 -- COUNCIL VOTES ON PHIL'S MARKUP. We want to be there to witness and encourage Councilmembers do the right thing.

SUMMER 2019 -- DC GRASSROOTS FORUMS; EDUCATIONAL ADVOCACY

MID-SEPT 2019 -- SECOND VOTE ON COMP PLAN FRAMEWORK BY COUNCIL

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BACKGROUND & UPDATE

16 months after the marathon 13-hour hearing held in March 2018, this past Tuesday afternoon, July 2, Phil Mendelson, Chair of the City the City Council, released for the first time publicly his markup of the leading Chapter of the DC Comprehensive Plan, the Framework Element (50+ pages long).

Here's the original text of the Framework Element >> <https://planning.dc.gov/node/638762>

Here's Chairman Mendelson's edited text of the Framework Element >>
<http://chairmanmendelson.com/2019/07/02/staff-draft-of-comp-plan-framework/>

Here's the Grassroots Planning Coalition "greenline" document >> <https://tinyurl.com/dcgpc-greenline-framework>

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The Framework Element is a leading chapter of the plan, setting the overarching goals and principles of the future vision and development potential of our city. This chapter also defines the development maps of the city called the Future Land Use Map and Generalized Policy Map.

HERE'S OUR REVIEW OF PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE FRAMEWORK ELEMENT

**** What's Not in the Framework, Yet ****

1) RACIAL EQUITY IS MISSING Without the principle of racial equity centrally highlighted in the Comprehensive Plan, we are missing a key planning principle critically important to ending the displacement & disparities that have and continue to exist in our city >>
<http://www.dcgrassrootsplanning.org/heal-the-past/>

2) DISPLACEMENT & OTHER IMPACTS LARGELY MISSING -- The concern about displacement of longtime DC neighborhoods and people of color continues to be downplayed by the Office of Planning and by the Chairman. For example, there's absolutely no mention of the recent data and reports showing that DC is leading the nation in gentrification and displacement of Black families and working people. Where displacement is mentioned in the Framework edits, its limited in scope to

"on-site" displacement by projects like that at Barry Farms. The edits care not about rising gentrification pressures on impacted communities surrounding new luxury projects >>
<http://www.dcgrassrootsplanning.org/clean-this-place-dont-displace/>

3) LAND VALUE RECAPTURE NOT EMPHASIZED -- The basic planning concept of land value recapture got a brief nod in the Framework Element but is limited to certain "Land Use Change Areas" of the city. We want to see that when any project or program in any part of the city get any public subsidy, including zoning entitlements, that the value of the land and air rights granted be used to meet the city's social equity needs, like truly affordable family sized housing. See more here >>
<http://www.dcgrassrootsplanning.org/public-resources-for-the-public-good/>

MENDELSON ADOPTS OP'S SQUISHY DEFINITIONS THAT SUPPORT DC'S KEY MAPS

Chairman Mendelson postured to the Coalition that he would clarify and sharpen the definitions that support the Future Land Use Map and Generalized Policy Map. The maps can be "interpreted broadly" and are only "general guides." Phil goes further and says these maps are "soft-edged" allowing the creeping of higher density zoning into lower density residential areas. The Coalition wants stronger, clearer terms that describe our city's planning maps. We want to eliminate the flexibility and discretion that the Zoning Commission has used liberally in recent years to push up building densities in areas of the city not expecting sudden upzoning and the impacts therein >> <https://tinyurl.com/dcgpc-map-amendments>

====NEXT STEPS====GET ENGAGED====

1) Reach out to the Council and advocate! TAKE ACTION >>
<http://www.dcgrassrootsplanning.org/stopdisplacement/>

Ask Councilmembers you want to see the Coalition's language as to Racial Equity, Impacts Assessments, Land Value Recapture, and Stronger Maps in the Framework Element.

2) Check the Calendar ABOVE and sign up to be at the Council in person on Monday and Tuesday.

3) Be prepared for a busy summer to win the basic planning principles we want in the Comprehensive Plan to help protect longtime District residents and communities under threat >>
<http://www.dcgrassrootsplanning.org/change-is-inevitable-justice-is-not/>