

Comprehensive Plan Evaluation and Revision

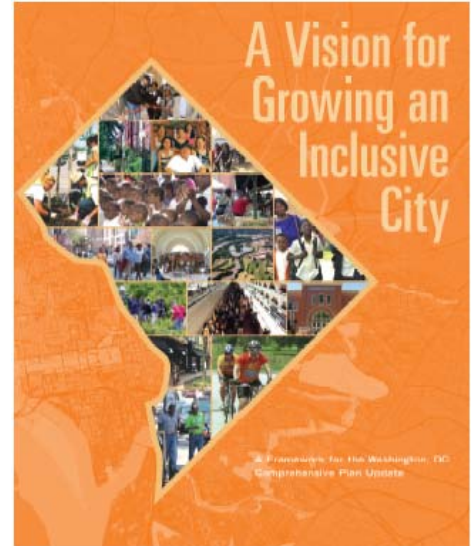
The District of Columbia is a jurisdiction unlike any other in the world. Its Comprehensive Plan has federal and local elements - both of which must be approved by the federal National Capital Planning Commission. The process to evaluate the current draft Plan, "A Vision for Growing an Inclusive City," and revise the District of Columbia's Comprehensive Plan began in 2002 and will conclude in 2006. To this context, add the reality of the District's complex demographics and its "red hot" development dynamic. Then the challenge of revising its Comp Plan for the first time since 1984 becomes clear.

To complete this multi-year project on time, the District selected a national team led by HNTB with JSA as lead for public involvement. To design and implement a "best practice" program, JSA called on the resources of San Francisco-based MIG, and DC-based D-Flat Communications, Community Building Institute and Bordercross Communications.

The public involvement process includes four rounds of city-wide "Comp Plan Week" meetings, numerous small-group issue based discussions, monthly/bi-monthly meetings of a 27-member Citizen Task Force appointed by the Mayor and City Council, inter-agency meetings, a "Latino Community Consultation", and repeated presentations to Advisory Neighborhood Commissions, civic associations, and interest groups.

In support of this program, the public involvement team enlisted the support of formal and informal partners, DC Cable Television, and built a comprehensive public information and education website, www.inclusivecity.org.

To conclude the public involvement program, a public Mayor's Hearing and full City Council public hearings are scheduled. The overall outcome of this project will be the development of a diverse, city-wide constituency for planning the future growth of the District of Columbia.



Location	Washington, DC
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Client	District of Columbia Office of Planning
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Contract amount	\$250,000
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Project duration	August 2002- September 2006
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