NCPC
NATIONAL CAPITAL PLANNING COMMISSION

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D.C. OFFICE OF PLANNING
2003 SEP -9 PM 3:34

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Jose L. Galvez, III

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Dr. Patricia Elwood

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The Honorable Susan M. Collins

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The Honorable Tom Davis

Mayor
District of Columbia
he Honorable Anthony A. Williams

Chairman
Council of the District of Columbia
The Honorable Linda W. Cropp

Executive Director
Patricia E. Gallagher, AICP

IN REPLY REFER TO:
NCPC File No. Z.C. 03-10

SEP 8 2003

Zoning Commission for the
District of Columbia
2nd Floor, Suite 210 South
441 4th Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20001

Members of the Commission:

In response to your request, pursuant to delegation of authority adopted by the Commission on August 6, 1999, I have reviewed the proposed text amendment to the Zoning Regulations of the District of Columbia establishing zoning standards for public libraries, and found that the proposal would not adversely affect the identified federal interests nor be inconsistent with the Federal Elements of the Comprehensive Plan for the National Capital.

A copy of the Delegated Action of the Executive Director is enclosed.

Sincerely,

Patricia E. Gallagher, AICP
Executive Director

Enclosure

ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia
Case 03-10
Exhibit 23

ZONING COMMISSION
District of Columbia
CASE NO.03-10
EXHIBIT NO.23

bc: Andrew Altman, Director
D.C. Office of Planning

Carol Mitten
Chairwoman
Zoning Commission

NCPC File No. ZC 03-10

NCPC
NATIONAL CAPITAL PLANNING COMMISSION

TEXT AMENDMENT TO THE ZONING REGULATIONS OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA ESTABLISHING ZONING STANDARDS FOR PUBLIC LIBRARIES

Delegated Action of the Executive Director

AUG 2 3 2003

Pursuant to the Commission's delegation of authority adopted on August 6, 1999, I find that the proposed text amendment to the District of Columbia Zoning Regulations concerning Public Recreation and Community Centers would not adversely affect the identified federal interests and is consistent with the Federal Elements of the Comprehensive Plan.

* * *

The District of Columbia Zoning Commission has taken a proposed action to amend the text of the District of Columbia Zoning Regulations by providing zoning regulations and standards for public libraries. This amendment includes adding three distinct categories of public libraries and providing use and parking standards for those uses. District of Columbia operations, such as public libraries, have only been regulated by zoning since 1990, and since that time the zoning regulations have not been amended to reflect standards for public libraries as a regulated use.

The proposed text amendment defines three categories of public libraries for zoning purposes. A Full Service Neighborhood Public Library is defined as a permanent facility that not only provides full book service, but ancillary spaces such as meeting rooms, work rooms, kitchen facilities, etc. The second category defines a Community Public Library as one that is housed in a portable structure and includes a small staff and minimal space for activities. Finally, the amendment adds a definition for a kiosk public library, which is also housed in a portable structure but provides no additional space for activities. The text amendment goes on to establish these as matter-of-right uses in the mixed-use, waterfront, and residential districts, which would also allow them to be matter-of-right in commercial districts. The proposed regulations provide parking standards for the libraries and a special exception process by which the Board of Zoning Adjustment can reduce the amount of parking required if a library is located within proximity of a Metro Station.