



WHAT WE DO

The Department of City Planning (DCP) plans for the strategic growth and development of the City through ground-up planning with communities, the development of land use policies and zoning regulations applicable citywide and its contribution to the preparation of the City's 10-year Capital Strategy. DCP promotes housing production and affordability, fosters economic development and coordinated investments in infrastructure and services, and supports resilient, sustainable communities across the five boroughs for a more equitable New York City.

In addition, DCP supports the City Planning Commission in its annual review of land use applications for a variety of discretionary approvals. The Department also assists both government agencies and the public by advising on strategic and capital planning and providing policy analysis, technical assistance and data relating to housing, transportation, community facilities, demography, zoning, urban design, waterfront areas and public open space.

FOCUS ON EQUITY

DCP promotes housing production and affordability, fosters economic development and coordinated investments in infrastructure and services, and supports resilient, sustainable communities across the five boroughs for a more equitable New York City. DCP's contributions toward development of the 10-year Capital Strategy will ensure investments in New York City's neighborhoods align strategic planning priorities with community needs. Under Housing New York: A Five-Borough, Ten-Year Plan, the Department will lead coordinated, ground-up neighborhood planning studies and advance regulatory changes—including mandatory inclusionary housing in newly rezoned areas—to support more economically diverse communities and housing opportunities for New Yorkers at all income levels. Through inclusive community development initiatives with stakeholders, DCP will expand access to quality jobs and services, and stimulate economic development benefitting all New Yorkers. In addition, DCP is committed to expanding public access to land use, housing and population data and planning resources through its online Community Portal, as well as to supporting informed participation by New Yorkers in neighborhood planning and land use review processes.

OUR SERVICES AND GOALS

SERVICE 1 Shape the use and development of land in the City's neighborhoods, business districts and waterfront through participatory planning and zoning changes.

- Goal 1a Advance land use projects and proposals for public review that promote housing and affordability, economic development, sustainability and neighborhood quality of life.

SERVICE 2 Prepare information and policy analysis for the public, other government agencies and elected officials.

- Goal 2a Provide quality technical and strategic planning expertise to the public, other City agencies and elected officials to support decision making.

SERVICE 3 Manage land use and environmental review processes to facilitate public and private development citywide.

- Goal 3a Conduct timely and thorough review of land use and environmental review projects subject to City Planning Commission review to ensure project submissions are technically complete and adhere to all applicable requirements and procedures.

HOW WE PERFORMED

- During this reporting period the Department of City Planning advanced and publicly presented 43 projects, datasets, proposals and initiatives spanning two goals (1a and 2a). In support of Housing New York: A Five Borough, Ten-Year Plan, in September 2014 the Department announced the [Jerome Avenue Corridor Study](#), a ground-up neighborhood planning study to strengthen established residential neighborhoods, promote new housing opportunities for residents at all income levels, and increase economic opportunity through creation of a community driven neighborhood plan centered on affordable housing in Bronx Community Districts 4 and 5.
- In October 2014 the Department advanced its [Vanderbilt Corridor](#) proposal, which would facilitate commercial development along Madison and Vanderbilt avenues in Manhattan, linking new development with significant transit and public realm improvements in Grand Central Terminal and its vicinity, and providing greater options for the transfer of unused landmark development rights.
- During the reporting period DCP advanced several climate resilience activities to complement its [Resilient Neighborhoods initiative](#), including the release of [Retrofitting Buildings for Flood Risk](#), a comprehensive guide for NYC homeowners living in new and existing flood zones; community outreach efforts in southeastern Queens and Brooklyn neighborhoods; and the expansion of online community resources with a new interactive map on its Resilient Neighborhoods webpage.
- Beginning with Fiscal 2015 DCP introduced new performance indicators that reflect recent reforms under [BluePrint](#) to streamline its pre-certification process. The new indicators evaluate the agency's performance from the customer's perspective, more accurately measuring the time it takes from the time applicants formally engage the agency to the certification or referral of their projects. Through ambitious performance targets, DCP aims to reduce overall processing times for project review. A 70 percent target for all project types has been established as a baseline.
- Comparing the first four months of Fiscal 2015 to the same Fiscal 2014 period, the Department's performance for certifying/referring simple zoning actions within 12 months decreased from 85 to 75 percent and the percent of complex zoning actions certified/referred within 15 months decreased from 62 to 56 percent.
- DCP's review of City projects (non-zoning) declined from 100 percent certified/referred in six months to 83 percent, attributed to delays in receiving necessary information for project advancement.
- The Department's certification/referral of renewals and natural area approvals completed within six months declined from 89 percent to 60 percent.

SERVICE 1 Shape the use and development of land in the City's neighborhoods, business districts and waterfront through participatory planning and zoning changes.

Goal 1a Advance land use projects and proposals for public review that promote housing and affordability, economic development, sustainability and neighborhood quality of life.

Performance Indicators	Actual			Target		4-Month Actual	
	FY12	FY13	FY14	FY15	FY16	FY14	FY15
Economic development and housing proposals completed and presented to the public	11	16	10	*	*	4	8
Neighborhood enhancement proposals completed and presented to the public	4	13	8	*	*	2	9

★ Critical Indicator "NA" - means Not Available in this report ↕ shows desired direction

SERVICE 2 Prepare information and policy analysis for the public, other government agencies and elected officials.

Goal 2a

Provide quality technical and strategic planning expertise to the public, other City agencies and elected officials to support decision making.

Performance Indicators	Actual			Target		4-Month Actual	
	FY12	FY13	FY14	FY15	FY16	FY14	FY15
Planning information and policy analysis initiatives presented to the public	NA	NA	87	*	*	22	26

★ Critical Indicator "NA" - means Not Available in this report ↓↑ shows desired direction

SERVICE 3 Manage land use and environmental review processes to facilitate public and private development citywide

Goal 3a

Conduct timely and thorough review of land use and environmental review projects subject to City Planning Commission review to ensure project submissions are technically complete and adhere to all applicable requirements and procedures.

Performance Indicators	Actual			Target		4-Month Actual	
	FY12	FY13	FY14	FY15	FY16	FY14	FY15
Zoning actions (simple) certified/referred	NA	NA	41	*	*	13	8
★ - Certified/referred within 12 months (%)	NA	NA	90%	70%	70%	85%	75%
Zoning actions (complex) certified/referred	NA	NA	35	*	*	13	16
★ - Certified/referred within 15 months (%)	NA	NA	66%	70%	70%	62%	56%
City projects (non-zoning) certified/referred	NA	NA	58	*	*	22	6
★ - Certified/referred within 6 months (%)	NA	NA	86%	70%	70%	100%	83%
Renewals and natural area approvals certified/referred	NA	NA	132	*	*	36	48
★ - Certified/referred within 6 months (%)	NA	NA	73%	70%	70%	89%	60%

★ Critical Indicator "NA" - means Not Available in this report ↓↑ shows desired direction

AGENCY CUSTOMER SERVICE

Performance Indicators	Actual			Target		4-Month Actual	
	FY12	FY13	FY14	FY15	FY16	FY14	FY15
Customer Experience							
Emails responded to in 14 days (%)	75%	81%	87%	85%	85%	92%	87%
Letters responded to in 14 days (%)	52%	44%	44%	50%	50%	20%	29%
Completed customer requests for interpretation	1	4	1	*	*	NA	NA
CORE customer experience rating (0 - 100)	83	88	89	80	80	NA	NA

AGENCY RESOURCES

Resource Statistics	Actual			Sept. 2014 MMR Plan	Updated Plan	Plan	4-Month Actual	
	FY12	FY13	FY14	FY15	FY15 ¹	FY16 ¹	FY14	FY15
Expenditures (\$000,000) ²	\$22.8	\$20.9	\$20.6	\$28.4	\$29.5	\$29.9	\$7.1	\$7.8
Revenues (\$000,000)	\$2.4	\$3.5	\$3.6	\$2.1	\$2.1	\$2.1	\$1.3	\$0.5
Personnel	253	256	256	294	313	312	250	267
Overtime paid (\$000)	\$45	\$56	\$55	\$9	\$9	\$9	\$17	\$17

¹February 2015 Financial Plan ²Expenditures include all funds. "NA" - Not Available in this report

NOTEWORTHY CHANGES, ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS

- As referenced in the above section, the Department introduced new performance indicators to quantify the agency's progress toward accelerating its pre-certification process. These indicators replace previous indicators that reported on the number and percent of land use and environmental review applications processed within specific timeframes with indicators that report on the number of projects (may comprise several applications and their corresponding environmental review) referred within target timeframes.
- Additionally, the Department revised its definition of the indicator 'Planning information and policy analysis initiatives presented to the public' to include datasets the Department routinely releases at no cost via the DCP website. These datasets include geographic and administrative base maps used by City agencies and the public for planning activities. Previously reported four-month and Fiscal 2014 data has been revised accordingly. Data prior to Fiscal 2014 is not available.
- DCP also corrected four-month and Fiscal 2014 data for the number and percent of emails and letters responded to in 14 days.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

For additional information on items referenced in the narrative, go to:

- Jerome Avenue Corridor Study
http://www.nyc.gov/html/dcp/html/cromwell_jerome/index.shtml
- Vanderbilt Corridor proposal
http://www.nyc.gov/html/dcp/html/vanderbilt_corridor/index.shtml
- Resilient Neighborhoods initiative
http://www.nyc.gov/html/dcp/html/resilient_neighborhoods/index.shtml
- Retrofitting Buildings for Flood Risk
<http://www.nyc.gov/html/dcp/html/retrofitting/index.shtml>
- BluePPrint
<http://www.nyc.gov/html/dcp/html/blueprint/index.shtml>

For more information on the agency, please visit: www.nyc.gov/dcp.