

The Committee of 100  
on the Federal City



**PRESS RELEASE**

**For Immediate Release**

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**C100 Requests Mayor Bowser Extend DC**

**Comprehensive Plan Comments Period to April 1, 2020**

*60 Days Too Short to Review 1500-page Document*

The Committee of 100 on the Federal City (C100) is urging Mayor Bowser to extend the 60-day public comment period, from December 20, 2019 to April 1, 2020, for the 1500 pages of amendments to the city's Comprehensive Plan posted for public review by her Office of Planning (OP). Further, the deadline for Advisory Neighborhood Commissions should be extended to May 1, 2020.

In his November 18 letter to the Mayor, Stephen Hansen, C100 Chair, said the extension was warranted because OP had rejected most of the changes submitted earlier by the public with OP using standard, boilerplate language rather than specific, thoughtful explanations. In effect, the Mayor and OP have unilaterally developed an entire new plan for the city's development rather than an update to the present plan without public input.

"In its rigid stance on the time for review and its direction to citizens not to scrutinize the details but only comment on the 'big picture,' your administration risks the charge that it is dismissive and indifferent to your constituents' concerns," Hansen said in his letter. In addition, since Council Chairman Phil Mendelson has said that the Council will not consider the Plan until after the budget next summer, "...there is ample opportunity to allow both the public additional time for review and OP the time to formulate considered responses to public comment" before it goes to the Council.

Hansen also pointed out that short comment period now includes the Thanksgiving and ensuing holidays, another handicap for the interested public to have to deal with in developing their comments.

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