2.0 EXISTING CONDITIONS ANALYSIS

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# BACKGROUND

The Riggs Road and South Dakota Avenue study area is located in the northeast quadrant of the District, primarily in Ward 4 with the southeastern most portion of the study area located in Ward 5. The area of study includes ANC 4B08, 4B09, 5A01, 5A02, 5A03 and includes the neighborhoods of Lam-

ond Riggs, Manor Park, Queens Chapel, Fort Totten, and North Michigan Park.

The primary study area immediately surrounding the Riggs Road and South Dakota Avenue intersection (see Figure 2.1) is predominately commercial retail with pockets of light industrial land uses. The broader secondary study area is primarily residential, interspersed with numerous community assets. The area is served by the Fort Totten Metrorail station which is one of the only Metro exchanges (red, green, and yellow lines) outside of downtown.

The surrounding area was historically part of the Civil War defense of Washington, DC and as a result, Fort Totten and Fort Slocum have been preserved as open spaces as part of the National Park Service's Fort Circle Parks system. In addition to these parks, there is a wealth of public assets including the Lamond Riggs Library, Food and Friends Facility, and four public schools (LaSalle, Bertie Backus, Keene School, and Mamie Lee).

Despite the volume of public amenities and proximity to Metro, the project area has poor walkability and suffers from unclear pedestrian paths. The land uses are inconsistent with pockets of light and heavy industrial uses interspersed with residential and commercial development. There is a general lack of consistent urban streetscape, especially along Riggs Road and South Dakota Avenue in the primary study area.

Nevertheless, many developers plan to consturct new residential and retail development projects in the study area because of the neighborhood's strong residential character and proximity to Metro.

The existing conditions analysis focuses on the following resource areas: Urban Design and Land Use, Public Realm and Community Safety, Parks and Open Space, and Economic Development and Housing.



Figure 2.1 -

study area

District ward map with

WARD

WARD 5

Urban design is the process of shaping the physical setting for public places. Although typically defined as gathering spots, public spaces may also include town squares, parks, and plazas, as well as, right-of-ways like sidewalks and public buildings, such as libraries. The major principles of urban design promote defining a strong sense of community identity,

which can be accomplished through a variety of factors including the scale and character of a neighborhood, ease of movement, wayfinding nodes and land use patterns.

#### Scale and Character

The scale and character of a particular area is defined as the look and feel of a place. Most commonly, descriptions of the scale and character of a community emerge when residents characterize their physical settings in response to "what is your neighborhood like?" Answers are likely to focus on any number of factors that contribute to visual consistency or inconsistencies, such as prevalent neighborhood building materials or colors, typical heights of buildings, cultural landmarks, dominant land uses, and the presence or absence of natural features like trees or water. Despite the pockets of vacant property, the neighborhoods surrounding the intersection have a generally positive visual character. Figure 2.2 shows current examples of pleasant, tree-lined streets with small scale buildings. Off the main streets are residential corridors populated with a high volume of owner occupied single family homes. The quality of the housing stock is good and the exterior structures and landscaping are well maintained.

Figure 2.2- Images of positive visual character in the study area

1st St.from Riggs Road



Houses along Jefferson Ave.



Nicholson looking towards 5th St.



#### Scale and Character (continued)

The area surrounding the intersection has a different visual character. The buildings facing the intersection are set back from the street and are low, single story buildings (see Figure 2.3). The resulting scale makes the street seem excessively wide and detracts from the pedestrian friendliness of the space. DDOT's Design and Engineering manual cites wide roads, low density development, and large building setbacks as a primary cause for speeding. The width of Riggs Road around the primary study area is approximately 65 feet. However, due to the large setbacks resulting from the South Dakota ramps, there is approximately 300 feet between the Tiger Mart and Dakotas Apartments.

## **1910 BUILDING HEIGHTS ACT**

The scale of the District's built environment is based on the 1910 Building Heights Act, which regulates the ratio of roadway widths to building heights. Building heights may equal the width of street they front plus 20 feet, or up to a maximum of 90 feet on residential streets. In most cases, 130 feet heights are permitted on commercial streets.



The area fronting South Dakota Avenue between Galloway Street and Kennedy Street (see Figure 2.4) is bounded by two prominent community facilities: the Bertie Backus Middle School to the south at Galloway and the Lamond-Riggs Neighborhood Library to the north at Kennedy.

Currently, this stretch of South Dakota is characterized as pleasant, with a mature tree canopy on the west side of the street and a row of semi-detatched single family dwellings on the east side of the street. The width of the street is proportional to the mass and setbacks of the small scale two-story residences. The challenge going forward will be to balance the current scale and character of this area with the future mixed-use, multi-story development envisioned for the Cafritz property to the west of the parcel.

Figure 2.4 - Street section at South Dakota Avenue at Galloway looking north



#### **Fase of Movement**

The ease of movement, often associated with pedestrian circulation, is key component to the success of a community. Walkable communities contribute to the health of residents, as well as foster social interaction, which reduces crime. Communities with an excellent system of sidewalks and crosswalks that are clearly delineated and separated from vehicular traffic contribute to walkable communities. Currently, the majority of streetscape is inhospitable to pedestrians and there is a lack of a continuous access to Metro. The area around the existing intersection is awkward to negotiate. Presently, the sidewalks follow the curve of the northbound ramps and do not provide immediate, direct access to the intersection. Since pedestrians tend to travel in the most direct paths, they are forced to do so here without the benefit or safety of a sidewalk (see Figure 2.5).

Figure 2.5- Unsafe or inadequate pedestrian paths













Fort Totten walking path

With the adjacent Fort Totten Metro and the proposed and ongoing development, the study area demonstrates opportunities to incorporate principles of Transit Oriented Development (TOD). Successful TOD reduces reliance on vehicular transit. A key component to its success is accessibility. If the path of travel to and from the Metro is not hospitable to walking is discontinuous, it undermines the benefits of an adjacent Metro.

#### Wayfinding Nodes

Wayfinding refers to the ways in which people establish a sense of orientation within their physical environments. Wayfinding nodes help people navigate efficient paths of movement. Neighborhoods that are distinct and well defined create a sense of orientation and territoriality. A strong sense of territoriality usually equates with strong feelings of belonging, civic ownership, and pride, which contribute to a strong community identity. The more a sense of character is established, the easier it is to differentiate strangers from friendly faces and deviant behavior from a normal routine. A sense of ownership often reduces the likelihood of vandalism and increases the upkeep and maintenance of property.

Cultural landmarks and other things commonly found in neighborhoods like community facilities, art displays, iconic or distinct buildings, or popular commercial or institutional establishments often provide residents with a sense of place and orientation. There are numerous public assets and community facilities in the study area that include four schools, a branch library, and churches (see Figure 2.6). These places are commonly known and easily located. While a popular gathering spot with a colorful sign might have no historic or architectural significance, the public perception of it as a cultural and visual anchor make it an important wavfinding node. These places, while not necessarily destinations, are commonly known and easily located. They are often incorporated when giving directions.

Boundaries of neighborhoods and communities can be informal or formal, natural or man made. For example, a natural feature such as river, stream, park, or topographical grade change could mark the informal edge of a neighborhood or district, when in reality a man-made feature such as a major street, rail tracks, or bridge is the formal boundary. A real boundary is grounded in the public perception of where the line of division is established.

#### Figure 2.6 - Community landmarks WHAT IS TRANSIT **ORIENTED DEVELOPMENT?**

Transit Oriented Development de-

scribes the initiative to create walkable

communities with high density mixed-

use development centered around pub-

lic transit systems (Metrobus, Metrorail,

crosstown connector stops and street-

cars, etc.). In theory, TOD will reduce

dependency on cars and parking.







A. Lamond Riggs Library



E. Mamie D. Lee School

In the study area, the elevated CSX/Metrorail tracks at Riggs Road between 1st Place and 3rd Street NE (see Figure 2.7 and location on Figure 2.6) is one notable

boundary; although, the perception of the neighborhood around the intersection is not defined or limited by this feature.

Frequently, as in this study area, boundaries such as rail tracks are accompanied by a buffer of industrial land uses that can conflict with adjacent land uses, particularly when the tracks cross residential areas.

Figure 2.7 CSX / Metro tracks at Riggs Road



# LAND USE and ZONING

The community sees itself as a predominately residential neighborhood with a mix of single family homes (attached and semi-detached residential units), condominiums, and multi-family apartment buildings. There are four schools within the secondary study area and a few retail establishments that provide basic goods and services.

However, a land use map (see Figure 2.8) shows existing land uses as varied, consisting of a mix of commercial, low to medium density residential, industrial, institutional, public and parks or green space. In the half-mile radius study area, the land use and visual character changes significantly. In general, the area immediately surrounding the intersection is populated with low-rise commercial and retail establishments that front Riggs Road and South Dakota Avenue. The areas behind the commercial zones, north of Chillum Place NE, east of South Dakota Avenue, and west of 13th Street NW are primarily residential, with a mix of single family units and high density multi-family apartment complexes. One of the most prominent characteristics in the study area is the patchwork of land uses, characterized more by inconsistency than consistency. In a small area, industrial, public, commercial, and low to high density residential coexist with little or no buffers.

#### Existing Zoning

The land located west of South Dakota Avenue NE is currently zoned C-M-1 for low bulk commercial and light manufacturing uses. East of South Dakota Ave NE, the land is zoned C-2-A for low density mixed-used, which include office, retail, and residential uses. South of Riggs Road NE, the land is zoned C-3-A, which supports major office, retail, and residential mixedused. The land surrounding the outer portions of the study area west of South Dakota Ave NE and the outer portion east of South Dakota Ave NE is zoned to support single-family detached and semi-detached residential uses. It is important to note that the existing height and scale of buildings around the intersection is lower than the zoning allowance.

The Fort Totten Overlay District, highlighted in the adjacent map, augments buffering and landscaping requirements between residential and industrial uses. Design review is required for buildings taller than 65 feet, and limits buildings in the CR zone to 80 feet, including roof structures. Additional regulations may be applicable as governed by the District's Inclusionary Zoning (IZ) law, which requires 8 percent to 10 percent affordable units depending the type of construction. IZ regulations permit a 20 percent increase in FAR and some flexibility with building height and lot occupancy depending on the zone district. For additional information on IZ refer to Chapter 26 of the Districts zoning regulations.

Figure 2.8 - Land Use and Zoning Map with Fort Totten Overlay



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#### RESIDENTIAL

The majority of real estate in the study area is in existing residential structures. While multi-family units greatly outweigh single family units on a citywide scale, in the study area the opposite is true: there are three times as many single-family units than muti-family units and home ownership rates are 80 percent higher that citywide rates.

# Figure 2.9- Single Family Residential Typologies







13th Street NE and Riggs Road

Semi detatched units at 8th Street Semi detatched units at 3rd Street

#### Figure 2.10- Multi Family Apartments





Multi Family units at 2nd Street NE

Riggs Plaza Apartments at 4th Street North Capitol Street Apartments

# **COMMERCIAL OFFICE**

There is minimal office space in the primary study area with only one office building currently occupied by a local labor union. There are several other buildings in the area that may include some office space but are more likely to be classified as flex or industrial space.

Figure 2.11-Commercial Office and Flex space buildings



Local Union 657 at 1st Place and Riggs Road



Flex building on Riggs Road

# **COMMERCIAL RETAIL**

There is a small commercial retail zone to the north of the intersection. The Tiger Mart site is a single story retail strip mall that fronts the southbound lane of Riggs Road from Chillum Place to the intersection. There is another strip of commercial development on the adjacent side of Riggs Road, at the South Dakota northbound ramp. To the northwest of the intersection is a zone of both small scale commercial development.

Figure 2.12- Retail Typologies in the study area





Chain Retail- Riggs Road and South Dakota





Storefront Retail at the South Dakota ramp

Freestanding Retail at 3rd Street and Riggs

#### INDUSTRIAL

There are two industrial zones in the study area that run parallel to the CSX/ Metro tracks located to the north and south of Riggs Road.

Figure 2.13- Industrial zones in the study area



#### Complementary and Conflicting Land Uses

The most successful instances of abutting land uses occur when there is a reciprocal benefit between users. Residential and small scale commercial/retail land uses often harmoniously coexist, providing convenient access to everyday resources within local neighborhoods. These establishments are most successful when they are located within walking distance of patrons and thus do not create excess traffic, congestion, or noise associated with their use.

Through good land use planning, an appropriate balance of mixeduses locates activities in such a way to foster constructive interaction. For example, residential areas should not have heavy industrial uses immediately adjacent because the noise and fumes associated with production or distribution could be disruptive. Conversely, residential areas within walkable communities should incorporate local

serving commercial retail establishments that provide basic goods and services and options for dining out. A proper balance of land uses reduces the need to drive outside the community to obtain basic necessities. Figure 2.14 shows examples of some disjointed land uses that occur around the intersection.

It is important to have an appropriate or suitable buffer between these land uses such as landscaping or an environmental feature that visually separates the public and private land uses.

#### *Leftover and Underutilized Spaces*

Like many neighborhoods with Metro access, rail tracks, and a major intersection, the study area has many leftover spaces beneath or around the infrastructure that are not well utilized. These sites include residual spaces too narrow for development, vacant parcels, and abandoned commercial establishments (see Figure 2.15). These areas are often immediately adjacent to stable neighborhoods. These empty spaces provide the opportunity to infill with parks or new development.

#### Figure 2.14 - Complementary and Conflicting Land Uses





Conflicting land uses -residential abutted to industrial land uses at 3rd Street

Conflicting land uses - residential across the alley from industrial land uses at 2nd Street



Conflicting land uses - Apartments next to an auto body shop at Nicholson Street and 2nd Street NE



Complementary land uses - Exxon gas station located adjacent to a single family home at Kennedy Street NE.



Complementary land uses - apartment dwellings adjacent to local serving retail

# **KEY FINDINGS**

Complementary land uses - Tiger Mart retail adjacent to a residential

- The majority of real estate in the study area is residential. Conversely, there is a lack of commercial office land use.
- The existing height and scale of buildings around the intersection is lower than the zoning allowance.
- Vacant and underutilized parcels provide the opportunity to infill with redevelopment.

Figure 2.15- Leftover and Underutilized spaces



Towing lot between at Riggs overpass



Open space at the South Dakota ramp



Empty lot at the South Dakota ramp



# **COMMUNITY SAFETY**

Community safety involves addressing causes of crime and reducing opportunities for it to occur. It relies on a successful partnership between residents, business owners, local law enforcement, schools, and local government to develop strategies that promote and enhance community policing, pedestrian safety, community identity, and maintenance of property.

#### Community Policing

The term community policing refers to local law enforcement working in partnership with the community to reduce and deter crime problems. Police presence is a key factor to crime reduction. In the same way that police radar surveillance reduces vehicular speeding, passive (stationary surveillance) and active (patrol) presence in both public and private areas have a statistically proven effect on crime reduction.

In Fall 2006, the District installed closed circuit tv cameras (CCTV) in areas of the city to monitor crime. There is currently one camera in the study area at 6th Street and Riggs Road NE.

In recent years, increased police presence at several places in the project area, such as the Metro, footpaths behind the Mamie Lee school and west Metro parking lots, Tiger Mart, and liquor stores has increased the perception of safety in the project area. Police surveillance and patrol of several vacant or isolated places has also reduced the volume of loitering and crime. Figure 2.17 show two examples of these isolated areas with limited visibility from the street. In addition, the Fort Totten Metro and surrounding footpaths, due



to their relative seclusion and transient use, are vulnerable to crimes such as assaults and illegal dumping. In recent years, due to an increased DC and Park police presence and the clearing of some pockets of heavy tree cover, there has been a significant decline in crime.

#### Figure 2.17- Low visibility areas



Behind the Tiger Mart





Behind the Lamond Riggs library North side of 1st Place NE

#### Pedestrian Safety

Despite an incomplete and occasionally non-accessible network of sidewalks (see Figure 2.18), the project area does have well defined crosswalks, particularly immediately around the neighborhood's schools and community facilities. While streetscape improvements are necessary to improve the character of the area, the key factor in improving pedestrian safety is reducing the speed of vehicles.



Figure 2.18 - Non accessible sidewalk on Riggs Rd

The intersection realignment will alleviate congestion and heavy traffic volumes during peak hours in the morning and evening rush hour, and it will reduce the speed of vehicles coming northbound and southbound from Riggs Road, thereby improving the accident rates and overall safety of the area round the intersection. DDOT cites safety as the main catalyst for the planning and implementation of the intersection redesign.

#### Community Identity

Neighborhoods that lack strong community identity do not encourage civic ownership or pride. Generally, neighborhoods in the study area have a strong and positive community identity. The volume of long time residents and high rate of owner occupied housing contributes to its family-centric character.

#### Maintenance

In certain neighborhoods, an overall image of vacant and abandoned properties, dilapidated storefronts, and unkempt public assets contributes to a general feeling of neglect. The more well-maintained an area is, the less tolerance for disorder exists. Despite several vacant properties and numerous industrial areas, the study area is exceptionally well maintained. It is populated with a high number of owner occupied single family homes. The quality of the housing stock is good and the exterior structures and landscaping are well maintained.

# **KEY FINDINGS**

- Generally the properties in the study area are well maintained and convey a high degree of community identity and civic ownership.
- There is an opportunity to improve the walkability of the study area by enhancing the network of pedestrian footpaths.

# PARKS AND OPEN SPACE

Parks and open spaces are invaluable assets for communities. In addition to making the neighborhoods desirable and aesthetically attractive, parks contribute to community health by encouraging recreation and exercise. Parks also provide places for social interaction. Safe parks are a much better alternative to playing in the streets or gathering in parking lots. Parks also contribute to the environmental health of a community by reducing stormwater runoff and providing a habitat for biodiversity.

While the study area has an ample amount of open space (figure 2.19 shows the parks in the study area), the access and maintenance of these resources needs improvement. An inventory of parks and open spaces in the project area shows that there are currently two large formal parks, Fort Totten and Fort Slocum, owed by National Park Service (NPS), one small community garden park on the Food and Friends property (see Figure 2.20), and two underutilized parcels of open space at the intersection between the South Dakota Avenue ramps, fronting Food and Friends and the site of the former Dakotas Apartments. The neighborhood's existing parks and open space areas provide a visually pleasing refuge in which community residents have grown to like. Although many of these de facto pocket parks, such as the Triangle parks properties, are poorly lit, inaccessible to pedestrians, and underutilized, community residents lament the idea of replacing these areas with new development. In Section 3.0, this Plan provides a framework in which new green and open space areas can be targeted to enhance proposed development parcels and assist in creating safe, accessible and aesthetically improved destinations for all.

The Metropolitan Branch Trail (MBT) is proposed within the study area, across from the Fort Totten west opportunity site. The proposed eight mile multi-use trail runs from Silver Spring in Maryland to Union Station in the District and includes a segment that will connect the MBT at Fort Totten to the Anacostia Tributaries Trail System in West Hyattsville, Maryland (See Figure 2.19), and a connection to the National Mall. At the Fort Totten Metro Station, the trail would follow contours above Metro's green line tunnel, to meet the Ameri-

Figure 2.19 - Parks and open spaces In the project area



cans with Disabilities Act, (ADA) standards. This alternative provides the most direct and ADA accessible route between John McCormack Road and Riggs Road. The addition of the MBT will enhance safe and accessible pedestrian and bicycle connections in the study area.

In addition to the MBT, a major city-wide parks and recreational planning effort currently underway is the Capital Space Initiative. DC Parks and Recreation, along with the National Capital Planning Commission and the National Park Service (NPS) are collaborating to promote, protect, enhance, and grow the District's current parks and open space system.

A special focus of the initiative is the Fort Circle Parks System, which includes Fort Slocum and Fort Totten, in addition to other federally owned open spaces around Civil War-era forts. The results of Capital Space will provide recommendations for park improvements and opportunities for partnerships between the District and NPS to ensure successful implementation.

The Fort Circle parks are used by some local residents for passive recreational use, but there is little to no parking. The entrances are not clearly marked (see Figure 2.21) and there is inconsistent police patrolling. As a result, the parks are not well utilized.

Figure 2.20 -Small park at the Food and Friends



Figure 2.21 - Entrance to Fort Totten Park behind residences at Kennedy Street and 1st Place NE



# **KEY FINDINGS**

- While the study area has an ample amount of open space, the access and maintenance of these resources needs improvement
- There is a strong opportunity to make the network of green space both safe and accessible

# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING

For this Area Development Plan, Economic Research Associates (ERA) and Retail Compass (RC) conducted a market analysis of the study area. The initial analysis, completed in early 2007 and supplemented in early 2008, provides a conservative assessment of the development opportunity in the neighborhood over the long-term. Since completing the analysis, the market has significantly changed in the District, with the pace of residential sales slowing and prices declining slightly. However, these short-term market changes do not significantly alter the long-term projections in the market analysis.

The market analysis is designed to be a long-term plan with "average annual" assessments of supportable residential development. It is impossible to take into account the timing and severity of the real estate cycle but over the long-term the market will continue to average a certain level of sustained development and growth. The timing and severity of the market declines will only alter the timelines described in the report by delaying some of the short-term projections (1-5 years) while the analysis assumes that medium and long-term projections will continue to be supportable. While the full market analysis can be found in the Appendix, key findings in demographics (population, income, and households), real estate market conditions, retail market conditions, and demand potential are summarized in this section. The primary real estate market review analysis includes demand potential for residential, office and other uses and uses the same geographical boundaries (primary and secondary study area) as shown in Figure 1.1.

# DEMOGRAPHICS

Demographics refers to characteristics of a population such as age and income. Agencies like the US Census Bureau and Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (MWCOG) collect demographic information and provide data to the public to track economic trends. The economic and retail consultants used such data to produce a snapshot of the current conditions in the study area and project future trends.

#### Population

The population decline experienced by the District between 1970 and 2000 is consistent to the decline in the study area. In 2006, the population was 1,332 people in the primary study area, and 5,490 in the secondary study area. For reference, the population within a one mile radius around the intersection is 24,077 and the District's population was 572,059. In terms of the composition of the population, there has been a large decrease in the percentage of residents between age group 20-34 while there has been a large increase in the percentage of residents between age group 75-84. A more detailed analysis of population is provided in the Appendix.

## Households

The changes in the number of households are smaller than the changes in population. In the short term, the number of households is expected to remain constant or slightly grow. The fact that population is decreasing at a faster rate than households are decreasing suggests that household size is decreasing (See Figure 2.22). In 2006, there were 696 households in the primary study area and 2,342 in the secondary study area. For reference, there were 9,955 in the one mile radius and 248,338 in the entire District. A more detailed analysis of households and income is provided in the Appendix.

#### Income

In 2006, the median household income in the primary study area was \$38,536. In the secondary study area, the median income was \$42,959. For reference, the number of households within a one mile radius is, 9,955 and in the District, 248,338. The median income in the District is \$40,134. Median household income is expected to rise for all the geographic



Figure 2.23: Median Household Income, 1990-2011



areas. Median household income in the study area however is not forecasted to increase as quickly as the median household income in the District, which is expected to increase by \$26,851 between 1990 and 2011.

# **DEMOGRAPHICS KEY FINDINGS**

- In 2006, the population was 1,332 people in the primary study area, and 5,490 in the secondary study area
- In 2006, there were 696 households in the primary study area with a median income of \$38,359 and 2,342 households in the secondary study area with a median income of \$42,959.
- While population has steadily declined in the entire study area and throughout the District in the past 30 years, recent upward trends in population suggest opportunities for development and growth in the study area.
- Resident population could increase by over 3,000 during the next 15 years.
- The entire study area experienced an increase in the number of households in larger income brackets between 2000 and 2006.

# **REAL ESTATE MARKET CONDITIONS**

Real Estate refers to land and anything attached to it, such as buildings or structures. It is affected primarily by local factors such as the condition of the immediate area where the property is located. Real estate market conditions encompass residential and commercial property including industrial and office land uses.

#### Residential

The majority of the real estate in the study area is existing residential structures. The residential inventory consists of a mix of single-family and multi-family structures with large sections of the study area containing a mix of semi-detached and detached single-family residences of varying qualities.

Though multi-family units outnumber single-family units in the District, this is not the case in the study area (See Table 2.1). The number of single-family units greatly exceeds the number of multi-family units. This is consistent with the character of the housing stock and the tradition of the neighborhood as a family-centric, single-family home neighborhood.

Table 2.2 illustrates the housing status for the study area and the District. In the study area, home ownership rates are roughly ten percent lower in the primary study area than the rates in the secondary study area. These rates are fairly consistent between 1990 and 2006. Vacancy rates however have increased, with rates increasing between 1990 and 2006 by 1.6 percent in the primary study area and

2.6 percent in the secondary study area. Single-family sales in the neighborhood have generally been stable between 1999 and 2003, and increased greatly in 2004, where sales increased to 144 from 79 in the previous year. The median square foot sale value has steadily increased from 1999-2006. In 2001 and 2002, the growth in median sales value of single-family homes slowed with annual increases of 5 percent and 7 percent, respectively compared to annual increases of 19 percent in 2000 and 17 percent in 2003. The highest annual increases were seen in 2004 and 2005, where the median sales price increased by 32 percent and 27 percent, respectively.

Table 2.1: Housing unit type, 1990-2000

	1990	2000							
Primary Study Area									
Single family units	466	478							
Multi family units	251	255							
Secondary Study Are	Secondary Study Area								
Single family units	1,785	1,825							
Multi family units	649	613							
Washington, DC	Washington, DC								
Single family units	105,293	108,999							
Multi family units	169,719	165,359							
Sources LIS Conque ESD	I Ducincos Ano	Luct EDA 2006							

Source: US Census, ESRI Business Analyst ERA 2006

#### Industrial

Two industrial clusters, one on South Dakota Avenue just north of Riggs Road and one at Kennedy Street, NE and 3rd Street, NE (see Figure 2.24) are also located in the primary study area. The industrial uses are closely aligned with the train tracks to the north of Riggs Road and contain a mix of industrial uses. In addition, a cluster of industrial/flex facilities off 3rd Street to the west of the Metro train tracks includes several older buildings that are currently occupied by local union offices. An additional industrial cluster exists on the fringe of the study area to the south of the Metro station and includes a concrete/stone plant and other business.

Table 2.2: Housing status,	1990-2006
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	1990	2000	2006				
Primary Study Area							
Owner Occupied	59	58	58				
	per-	per-	per-				
	cent	cent	cent				
Rental	38	39	38				
	per-	per-	per-				
	cent	cent	cent				
Vacant	3 per-	4 per-	5 per-				
	cent	cent	cent				
Secondary Study Are	Secondary Study Area						
Owner Occupied	68	67	68				
	per-	per-	per-				
	cent	cent	cent				

Source: US Census, ESRI Business Analyst , ERA 2006

#### **RESIDENTIAL MARKET KEY FINDINGS**

- There are three times as many single-family units than multi-family units in the study area—consistent with its tradition as a family-centric, single-family neighborhood
- Homeownership rates in the study area are 80 percent higher than rates District-wide
- Since 1999, housing prices have increased substantially due to strong market demand generated by job and population growth across the District
- Housing obsolescence and an aging population may be contributing to a slight increase in housing vacancy rates in the study area since 1990

#### Figure 2.24- Industrial zones in the study area



#### Office

A visual tour of the study area indicates minimal office space in the primary study area. CoStar Property Research tracks only one office building in the market, which is currently occupied by a local labor union. There are several other buildings in the area that may include office space, but are more likely to be classified as flex or industrial space. The quality of the facilities in the area is generally poor with most facilities likely classified as C space (see Table 2.3), which indicates older stock, with few renovations. Within a one mile radius of the intersection, 14 existing office buildings are dotted along some of the major transportation arteries that lead into the downtown area of the District.

The single office building within the secondary study area, which is currently being used for local labor union office space, is 10,996 square feet. The one mile study area contains a total of 347,216 square feet of office space. Vacancy rates in the one mile study area decreased between 2000 and 2003; however in 2004 vacancy rates increased. Vacancies went from 26 percent in 2000 to 5 percent in 2003. In 2004, however, vacancy rates increased to 11 percent. Average direct rents have followed a similar pattern as vacancy rates, with rents increasing from \$13.02 in 2000 to \$21.00 in 2003. In 2006, however rents dropped to \$16.35.

#### Table 2.3 - Class of space grades

CLASS OF SPACE	DESCRIPTION
Class A	Space that meets the requirement for a Class A rating typically has the fol- lowing attributes: prominently situated among in-line establishments, floor-to-ceiling clear height of 14 feet or higher, storefront width of 20 feet or more, well-maintained, clearly visible from primary roadways, construct- ed with quality materials, properly lit exterior and display spaces, and clear pedestrian and vehicular access and parking.
Class B	Space that meets the requirements for a Class B rating typically has the following attributes: well-situated among in-line establishments, floor-to ceiling clear height of approximately 12 feet or higher, storefront width of 15 feet or more, well-maintained, and diminished representation of any factors listed for Class A space.
Class C	Space that meets the requirements for a Class C rating typically has the following attributes: located among in-line establishments, floor-to-ceiling clear heights of less than 12 feet, storefront width of less than 15 feet, and diminished representation of any factors listed for Class A or B space.
Build to Suit (BTS)	Space that is listed as BTS has been constructed for a specific tenant in such a manner that conversion to another use or tenant will be difficult or impractical.

# **OFFICE AND INDUSTRIAL MARKET KEY FINDINGS**

- Existing demand for office space is 71,000 square feet, a need that is not currently met by the local market
- Based on new household growth, there will be a demand for 12,500 square feet of office from 2007 to 2011
- Office supply is virtually non-existent in the area and redevelopment of the intersection could lead to significant growth potential for office uses serving the local resident population with needed office services closer to home
- DDOT's realignment of the intersection is likely to enhance marketability for new professional office space to serve local residents
- Office demand will be driven by household growth to support small-scale services such as insurance, medical, real estate brokers, etc.
- Overall building quality is generally defined as "Class C" space, indicating older buildings at lower rental rates, and potential candidate sites for redevelopment

#### Retail

Existing retail space in the study area is largely confined to parcels immediately adjacent to the Intersection. Dominated by Tiger Mart-anchored Riggs Road Center, additional retail offerings include three pad sites, several isolated establishments, and a collection of storefronts north of the Dakota Apartments. A large percentage of retail spaces appear to be vacant pending redevelopment.

- Retail potential for the study area is impacted by nearby, existing retail centers. These destinations currently draw expenditures from households within the study area. Riggs Road and South Dakota Avenue's ability to support new retail development is contingent upon redirecting spending to new establishments and centers.
- Less than half a mile from the study area, Riggs Plaza is a 120,000 square foot, grocery-anchored neighborhood center. In addition to the goods and services offerings at this location, a bowling alley provides evening and weekend activity for the eastern end of the center.

» Impact on the study area's retail potential: Significant. Riggs Plaza's Giant Food store satisfies a considerable amount of local demand for grocery needs. Additionally, as an established shopping center, Riggs Plaza is a central part of existing shopping patterns in the community.

- Approximately 750,000 square feet in area, Prince George's Plaza is a super-regional shopping center anchored by Macy's and JCPenney. With over 100 stores, this large collection of retailers is less than three miles from the project area.
  - » Impact on the study area's retail potential: Significant. Super-regional retail centers draw customers from long distances. The ability to capture expenditures from a large trade area is critical to establish and maintain their viability. The neighborhood surrounding the study area is located within Prince George's Plaza's primary trade area. For this reason, retailers currently located at the super-regional center will hesitate to open a second store so near. Additionally, retailers seeking new locations will first opt for sites at the established Prince George's Plaza. These market conditions will have the greatest impact on the General Merchandise, Apparel, Furnishings and Other (GAFO) retail categories (see Retail Categories in Figure 2.25).
- Located to the north of the study area, Takoma Center and Takoma Park Shopping Center are grocery-anchored shopping centers.

» Impact on the study area's retail potential: Moderate. These neighborhood centers impact the northern boundary of the study area's primary trade area, further limiting Riggs Road and South Dakota Avenue's potential to attract Neighborhood Goods and Services (NGS) spending.

#### Figure 2.25 - Retail Categories

# **NEIGHBORHOOD GOODS and SERVICES**



#### **FOOD and BEVERAGE**



This category includes basic goods and services establishments that depend upon the patronage of local residents and workers. Examples of these types of tenants include grocery stores, drugstores, florists, bakeries, specialty food stores, delicatessens, butchers, dry cleaners, tailors, Laundromats, hair salons, nail salons, day spas, printers, pet salons, machine repair shops, shoe repair and shine shops, hardware stores, gyms, and similar.

This category includes establishments that serve food and/or alcohol consumed outside the home. This category is otherwise known as "Dining Out". Tenant types in this category include sit-down restaurants, cafes, bars, coffee shops, sandwich shops, ice cream shops, "quickbite" establishments, fast-food restaurants, and similar.

# GENERAL MERCHANDISE, APPAREL, FURNISHING, and OTHER (GAFO)



This category includes establishments such as clothing stores, furniture stores, bookstores, jewelry stores, stationery stores, gift boutiques, pet stores, sporting goods stores, home goods stores, craft stores, music stores, antique shops, camera stores, electronics stores, auto parts stores, and similar.

# **RETAIL MARKET KEY FINDINGS**

- Existing retail space in the study area is largely confined to parcels immediately adjacent to the Intersection.
- Retail potential for the study area is impacted by nearby, existing retail centers; the ability to support new retail development is contingent upon redirecting spending to new establishments and centers.
- Planned, proposed and future development will absorb portions of the retail demand

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# PLANNED AND ONGOING DEVELOPMENT

Due to a combination of positive community assets, a strong residential character, proximity to Metro, and increasing housing prices elsewhere in the District, the surrounding neighborhoods have immense desirability, and many developers have plans to construct mixed-use projects in the study area. These development projects support the recommended land use changes in the 2006 Comprehensive Plan. The policies in the Comprehensive Plan encourage new development in many areas around the intersection and encourage mixed-use opportunities centered around a new Neighborhood Commercial Center. The anchor for the new development is the DDOT realignment of the intersection at Riggs Road and South Dakota Avenue, which is likely to enhance marketability for new professional office space to serve local residents.

# \* Note 4 (See Appendix) A. INTERSECTION REALIGNMENT

DDOT is implementing a full redesign of the Riggs Road and South Dakota Avenue intersection to improve the overall safety of the area and transform the existing scale of the area into an urban commercial corridor. The plan for the intersection redesign is shown in Figure 2.26.

#### Safety

DDOT cites safety as the primary reason for the realignment. The new configuration will reduce the speed of vehicles coming northbound and southbound onto South Dakota Avenue, which will consequently reduce the accident rates and alleviate congestion and heavy traffic volumes during peak hours in the morning and evening rush hour.



# **INTERSECTION REALIGNMENT** (continued)

In addition, the new plans will include improvements for pedestrian safety, such as an accessible network of sidewalks and new landscaping, street furniture, and signage.

# Scale and Character

The realignment also provides an opportunity to create an urban corridor with street facing mixed-use opportunities. As described in the Urban Design existing conditions analysis, the current scale at the intersection makes the street seems excessively wide is caters more to vehicles than pedestrians. In addition to pedestrian enhancements, the new development building heights and setbacks will provide natural traffic calming measures for the study area around the intersection. To support this new mixed-use development, the plans provide for metered street parking along Riggs Road, north of South Dakota Av-

Figure 2.27 - DDOT realignment for

the Riggs Road and South

Dakota Avenue

intersection

enue, next to the new retail development.

# LOWE ENTERPRISES

The Tiger Mart site was acquired by the developer Lowe Enterprises in 2006. The existing Tiger Mart and Dakotas Apartments will be demolished and a new mixed-use development known as 'The Dakotas', will replace it. Current development plans call for multiple structures across Riggs Road and will result in 835 new mixed-income condo units and apartments and 105,000 square feet of retail including a grocery store and restaurant. A certain percentage will be reserved for affordable housing. The new development will provide parking for approximately 640 cars. A structured facil-

ity is proposed as part of the development on the former Tiger Mart site, which will accommodate 550 of the spaces.

Lowe Enterprises has negotiated the purchase of the triangle parcel to the east

of the intersection, fronting the Dakotas Apartments and the crescent site retail. When it is transferred to Lowe Enterprises for development, approximately 25 percent of the bulk of the Dakotas development will be built on this parcel.

# CLARK REALTY CAPITAL

Clark Realty broke ground in March 2007 for the development of Fort Totten Station, a 308-unit luxury apartment community adjacent to the Metro station. Construction will be phased. Phase 1 construction includes 128 apartment rental units and 153 associated parking spaces. Phase 2 includes 135 additional apartment rental units and 162 associated parking spaces. There is approximately 8,000 square feet of retail proposed with this development.

# **RIGGS PLAZA APARTMENTS**

The Cafritz Company currently owns the property and plans to demolish the existing units and construct additional residential units. The total proposed planned unit development includes 826 multifamily units, over 280,000 square feet of retail development, 215,000 square feet of arts and cultural uses and approximately 2,282 parking spaces.





# Table 2.4 - Summary of proposed build out in the study area

DEVELOPER	RESIDEN	TIAL	RETAIL	PARKING
	Dakotas -	171 multi family	N/A	90 spaces
Lowe Enterprises	Tiger Mart-	420 multi family	85,000 sf	550 spaces
	Triangle -	235 multi family	20,000 sf	N/A
	TOTAL	826 units	105,000 sf	640 spaces
Clark Realty Capital	Phase 1 -	128 condo units		153 spaces
"Fort Totten Station Apartments"	Phase 2 -	135 condo units		162 spaces
Apartments	TOTAL	263 condo units	8,000 sf	315 space
Riggs Plaza Apts	Phase 1 -	426 apt units	87,000 sf	602 spaces
Cafritz Foundation	Phase 2 -	400 apt units	203,000 sf	1,680 spaces
	TOTAL	826 apt units	287,000 sf	2,282 spaces
	TOTAL	1,915 new units	400,000 sf	3,237 spaces

INFORMATION OBTAINED BY OP IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE

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3.0 REDEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN

# REDEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN

This section provides a framework for redevelopment focused on several parcels around the intersection that are currently underutilized or have the potential to catalyze revitalization in the entire study area. Targeted redevelopment of these sites will enhance the housing and commercial (office and retail) opportunities and improve the scale, character, and walkability of the study area. The redevelopment framework is guided by several overarching principles and identifies proposed actions for achieving the overall vision for both short-term and long-term growth in the study area.

#### **GUIDING PRINCIPLES**

These principles are based on the outcomes of the public involvement process, existing conditions analysis, market analysis (which informs the type, density, and scale of development) and District priorities:

- Establish a dynamic neighborhood center at Riggs Road and South Dakota Avenue that enhances community character and reactivates the street
- Attract development that serves all generations
- Connect, activate, and create new open spaces
- Promote safe access and circulation throughout the neighborhood

# OPPORTUNITY SITE SELECTION METHODOLOGY

Each opportunity site was evaluated independently and in concurrence with the remainder of the study area to identify appropriate potential uses for redevelopment. Currently, the area is largely underdeveloped with scattered open spaces, older structures, and businesses. As a result, there are nu-

#### What Is An Opportunity Site?

An opportunity site is a site identified by the project team as suitable for redevelopment. Many factors determine the selection including proximity to intersections or other developed parcels, other commercial activity, public transportation, undeveloped or underutilized parcels allowing consolidation for larger developments, major thoroughfare routes, parking, and current neighborhood conditions and demand.

merous sites for potential redevelopment based on two basic criteria: the condition of the facilities and its land value.

Tables 3.1- 3.6 summarizes the development opportunities in the study area. Existing onsite and surrounding land uses were analyzed along with existing and projected trends for population, housing, offices, and retail, and a proposed land use for each of the opportunity sites was developed. Each opportunity site combines numerous parcels to form a larger lot for redevelopment purposes. Detailed information in terms of ownership, zoning, size, and address is available upon request for each of the parcels; however, for ease of discussion, the information has been combined in the table according to individual opportunity site boundaries. There are challenges to selecting redevelopment opportunity sites and to identifying their consequent potential uses. Selecting specific uses and determining expected development on particular sites at present is premature and would consist mainly of uneducated guesses without providing any valuable metric to guide development. Instead, this framework provides general guidelines that include a timeline for redevelopment, priority/opportunity sites for redevelopment, and proposed broad redevelopment uses for the opportunity sites.

The Plan also provides guidance on how each opportunity site relates to the Comprehensive Plan's Land Use designation categories. Land Use designations illustrated in the Comprehensive Plan's Future Land Use Map provide guidance on how the District is expected to change during the next two decades. It highlights the places where much of the city's future growth and change is expected to occur and sets the stage for how development anticipated in this planning process should either remain the same or change, based on the Plan's guiding principles and development goals. Although this plan does not recommend any zoning changes, it does either support the current land use designation per the Comprehensive Plan or recommends a change to a more appropriate designation. The following are land use designation definitions that pertain to the study area:

*Moderate Density Commercial and Residential uses*: Typically defines commercial uses that provide a broad range of goods and services that are predominatly uses such as drug and grocery stores, as well as branches of department stores. Residential moderate uses are generally low to moderate density uses, such as row houses or garden apartments. The Zones that are consistent with this designation includes (R-3, R-4, R-5-A, and R-5-B, and C-2-A, C-2-B and C-3-A)

*Medium Density Commercial and Residential uses:* This mix of uses defines residential development as medium density housing. This housing type generally includes multiple unit housing and mid-rise apartment buildings. Commercial uses in this category generally offer a large concentration and variety of goods and services. Zoning categories range from R-5-B, R-5-C, C-2-B, C-3-C, C-3-A, and C-3-B.

*Production, Distribution and Repair:* This land use category is used to define areas characterized by manufacturing, warehousing, wholesale and distribution centers, and other similar types of uses that require substantial buffering. The corresponding Zone districts are generally CM-1, CM-2, CM-3 and M, although other districts may apply.

This small area plan recommends land use designation changes for three opportunity sites. For these opportunity sites, changes to the underlying zoning will occur through the Zoning Map amendment process. A property owner or developer may propose a Zoning Map amendment, which is reviewed and approved by the District's Zoning Commission. Public review and comment are essential to this discretionary approval process. For all other opportunity sites where no land use designation is proposed, the existing zoning still applies.

If additional flexibility within a zoning category is needed for large sites, a developer may also apply for a Planned Unit Development (PUD). PUDs are also reviewed and approved by the Zoning Commission. PUDs may include requests to increased building heights and/or density provided that the project offers commendable public benefits (i.e. public space improvements and/or affordable housing). A PUD may be coupled with a Zoning Map amendment application. In both cases, the recommendations of this small area plan are critical to the Zoning Commission and public review process.

# 🖌 Note 1, 2, 3 (See Appendix)

# RIGGS ROAD and SOUTH DAKOTA AVE AREA DEVELOPMENT PLAN OPPORTUNITY SITES

- 1. KFC/Taco Bell
- 2. Riggs Road North Industrial Site
- 3. Riggs Plaza Apartments/ Cafritz and Food and Friends/ DC Government Triangle
- 4. Riggs Road South Industrial Park
- 5. Fort Totten East Industrial Site
- 6. Fort Totten West

# Figure 3.1 - Opportunity sites in the study area



# **KFC/TACO BELL**

The KFC/Taco Bell is located at the northwest corner of the intersection. As a reference, Figure 3.3 shows the site as it was in 1952.

The opportunity site includes one large two-story building that contains several individual businesses including a child care center, beauty shop, liquor store, and a sandwich shop. In addition, the site includes a small vacant lot on the west used for towed cars and a combined KFC/Taco Bell establishment on the east with an associated parking lot at the back. There is vacant commercial space on the second floor of the existing large commercial building and vacant undeveloped land behind. While the commercial building is slightly dilapidated and in fair condition the KFC/Taco Bell is in good condition.

# RECOMMENDATIONS

Development Mix

This opportunity site presents a longer-term redevelopment opportunity because of the existing businesses on the site. Additionally, the site is small and fairly segregated with the Metrorail line restricting development to the west and is significantly different from Figure 3.2 - Location Map of the KFC/ Taco Bell Opportunity Site



Figure 3.3 - Riggs Road and South Dakota Avenue May 14, 1952. Photo courtesy of DDOT



existing industrial parcels to the north. While frontage to Riggs Road is an advantage, the site will only see long-term spill over retail development from the Tiger Mart site. Over the long-term, with a reconfigured intersection, this site may provide an opportunity for pedestrian-scale, street-facing retail uses.

Lack of large empty parcels to the north of the opportunity site limit the possibility of planning for transitional land uses.

#### Urban Design

Currently, there are incongruous land uses on the site, scattered buildings, and overgrown undeveloped vacant patches of land. To the north the site abuts the industrial parcels with no formal transition space or buffer between the sites. While there are existing sidewalks along the southern and eastern edge of the site, they are punctured at numerous places to allow for vehicle entry/exit points.

#### • Development Scale

The existing KFC/Taco Bell retail establishment is the only building that fronts the intersection. While future development should follow a similar setback, the relationship to the adjacent parcel should be strengthened. Currently, the KFC/Taco Bell and C.H.I.L.D. facility to the north are distinct and separate entities; their scale, massing, and articulation are completely dissimilar. The goal for future development is to create a visually strong corner with an aesthetically unified massing and street facing retail around the intersection. The height of development at the intersection should not exceed 65 feet by right or maximum 90 feet through a Planned Unit Development, a discretionary approval by the District's Zoning Commission.

#### • Pedestrian Friendly Scale/ Connectivity to Metro

The proposed development of a commercial corridor marked with four strong corners of mixed-uses will provide community amenities that are transit accessible, furthering the goal of creating a transit-oriented development (TOD) destination. In order to ensure the success of this TOD, sidewalks around the opportunity site will need to tie into the pedestrian circulation of the future Lowe Enterprises development (on the former Tiger Mart site) and go on further to connect to the Metro. Adequate signage and lighting will be essential to improve the existing pedestrian experience. There will be short-term challenges with connectivity because the western crosswalk (connecting Food and Friends to KFC) will not be available to pedestrian traffic. However, additional measures to mitigate this inconvenience will be addressed by DDOT and OP in future implementation activities subsequent to this planning process.

#### Access Management

It is likely that new development will have to accommodate ingress and egress off of 3rd Street NE, rather than the current point of access of Riggs Road. To enhance desirability of development, a rear alley may also have to be designed to accommodate service access and loading.

#### Community Identity

Being a corner site at the intersection, the site has the potential to accommodate landmark elements, such as public art or other aesthetic improvements, to truly create a sense of place and assist with reestablishing the intersection as the heart of the neighborhood. In addition, these physical amenities can provide visual linkages to pedestrians and vehicular traffic approaching the intersection or going towards the Metro station.

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Table 3.1 summarizes the development opportunities for this site in the study area within the context of a redevelopment framework timeline. A map with detailed square and lot numbers is located in the Appendix.

Table 3.1 - KFC/Taco Bell Opportunity Site

LOCATION		OWNER		PARCEL SIZE	CURRENT ZONING	CURRENT LAND USE	COMP PLAN FUTURE LAND USE
A. KFC/TB - 220 Riggs Rd.		Riggs Investmen	it Inc.				
B. C.H.I.L.D. Facility - 210 Riggs Road I	NE	George Gouzoui	ls	47,221 sf or 1.08 acres	C-M-1	Commercial/Garage or Unimproved land	Production, Distribution, and Repair
C. Tow Lot -210 Riggs Road NE		Parvin Moradi					
PROPOSED LAND USE and DEVELOPMENT SCALE	PRC	POSED USE	URBAN DESIGN GUIDELINES				
Change - Plan supports a land use designation change from PDR to a medium density, mixed-use land use designation and corresponding de- velopment scale. This change would mirror the proposed development scale and accommodate mixed- uses as consistent with the adjacent developable parcels.	with s retail	use development street-oriented and housing or ffice above	call • The frie • Ma egr • Cre • The	ly consistent in sc e streetscape elen indly environmen intain the continu ress to the parcel. eate a landmark el e height of develo	ale and character with the nents should be appropria t north toward 1st Place N uity of development fronti lement at this parcel that c opment at the intersection	adjacent corners. te in scale to the adjacent developr E, a key path of connectivity to the ng the intersection and utilize 3rd S can simultaneously orient pedestria	treet NE as the sole point of ingress/

# Figure 3.4 - Existing Conditions images at the KFC and Taco Bell Opportunity Site



Towing lot at the Metro overpass



Disconnect between the KFC/Taco Bell and C.H.I.L.D. parcels

# **RIGGS ROAD NORTH INDUSTRIAL PARK**

This industrial opportunity site is bordered by the Metro rail tracks on the west and 3rd Street NE on the east. The site contains several large industrial buildings, as well as ample parking and loading space associated with the industrial use. Majority of these buildings are in fair to good condition and many of these buildings have shared car and truck parking spaces. The buildings back to the train tracks and cover almost the entire site. The site's proximity to transit provide for attractive opportunities to accomodate green collar jobs in the future.

Opportunity Site

Figure 3.5 - Location Map of the Riggs Road North

# RECOMMENDATIONS

Development Mix

The Riggs Road North opportunity site was further analyzed after the Plan's public comment period and recommended to support a land use designation change from PDR to Moderate Density mixed-use. This site's unique location and proximity to future mixed-use development makes it optimal to support the District's emerging green economy.

A recent demand analysis study conducted by OP and the Washington Economic Partnership found that the District has significant potential to create and support about 170,000 green collar jobs over the next 10 years. Incubating new companies at this site over the next few years can provide catalytic economic revitalization benefits to this otherwise underutilized site. This Plan supports a mid-term transition to uses supporting the green industry, commercial and office.

#### Urban Design

A poorly maintained industrial area can be an eyesore for the area undergoing positive transition. While the industrial uses on the opportunity site are likely to stay in the long term, urban design improvements and landscape elements can be integrated to provide a more suitable buffer to the residential areas to the south and east.

• Development Scale

Proposed zoning allows development height of 50 feet, and 65 feet with a

PUD discretionary approval by the District's Zoning Commission. Development should be consistent with the adjacent KFC/Taco Bell development, despite the higher density allowed by that site. The site could work well as a green collar mixed-use industrial site, similar to the Fort Totten East opportunity site in the near term. Future development should be compatible to adjacent land uses, provide adequate setbacks, and sufficient buffers, including thick vegetation and other amenities capable of absorbing sound from adjacent properties. Future building height should be concentrated towards the Metrorail tracks and step down towards the intersection, enhancing pedestrian activity.

#### Access Management and Connectivity

Current vehicular circulation patterns within and around the site are haphazard and include a mix of large trucks and smaller cars. Proposed new redevelopment around the site will add vehicular and pedestrian traffic onto the roads surrounding the opportunity site. As a result, clearly defined entry/exit points and well designed vehicular circulation will need to be incorporated on this site.

#### Pedestrian Safety

Structured pedestrian circulation patterns around the site are virtually non existent. The pedestrian experience around the industrial site is unpleasant due to lack of adequate lighting and street trees and long, horizontal blank facades. Currently there are sidewalks and footpaths along the eastern edge of the site, but they are punctured at numerous places to accommodate entry/exit points to the site. The pedestrian circulation will tie into the neighboring retail center's circulation pattern. Paving and street furniture can be used to transition the pedestrian experience from retail uses near the intersection to residential uses towards the periphery. In addition, adequate pedestrian crossing points and visual linkages will need to be added to connect the site to areas across Riggs Road NE and the Metro station. Future development should emphasize well defined and well illuminated pedestrian connections to the Metro and the South Dakota/Riggs Road intersection.

Figure 3.6 - Aerial View of the Riggs Road North Opportunity Site





Table 3.2 summarizes the development opportunities for this site within the context of a redevelopment framework timeline. A map with detailed square and lot numbers is located in the Appendix.

Table 3.2 - Riggs Road North Industrial Park Opportunity Site

LOCATION	OWNER		OWNER PARCE		CURRENT ZONING	CURRENT LAND USE	COMP PLAN FUTURE LAND USE		
A. 5648, 5642, 5646 3rd St. NE B. 5510 3rd St NE C. 2nd St NE	May Rossett Aaronson Trustee BP Dakota LLC WMATA		BP Dakota LLC		· ·	74 sf or acres	C-M-1 Low bulk commerical and light manufacturing	Commercial/Garage or Unimproved land	Production, Distribution, and Repair
PROPOSED LAND USE and PROPOSED USE DEVELOPMENT SCALE				URBAN DESIGN GUIDELINES					
Moderate density mixed-use development. This change would be compatible with proposed de- velopment scale on adjacent parcels and accom- modate a mix of uses to include those consistent with the emerging green collar lobs Economy		Residential to mixed-use. Commercial area with po long term retail and/or resi development		<ul> <li>Prov tial I</li> <li>Creatinte</li> <li>Ensution</li> <li>to the</li> </ul>	land uses. ate well defined and well illumir rsection. ure that future development pro he intersection and adjacent are	the commerical or industrial nated pedestrian walking pat ovides an appropriate transit eas. not exceed 50 feet by right c	land uses and the adjacent residen- ths to connect to the Metro and the ion in scale from the Metro overpass or a maximum of 65 feet through a		

Figure 3.7 - Existing Conditions at the Riggs Road North Opportunity Site from 3rd Street NE and Chillum Place NE



Figure 3.8 - Existing Conditions at the Riggs Road North Opportunity Site from 3rd Street NE and Chillum Place NE



#### **RIGGS PLAZA APARTMENTS, FOOD and FRIENDS, and TRIANGLE** SITE

This opportunity site is located on the southwest intersection of South Dakota Avenue and Riggs Road. The site follows South Dakota Avenue to the south and includes fifteen three-story apartment buildings owned by South Dakota Trustees and the Cafritz Foundation. Therse parcels significantly setback the site from South Dakota Avenue NE and Hamilton Street NF.

# RECOMMENDATIONS

Development Mix

The Riggs Plaza Apartments /Cafritz Foundation development,

Figure 3.9 - Location Map of the Riggs Plaza Area



while recently scaled back, presents a strong opportunity for the area to add significant numbers of residents that will bring vibrancy to the neighborhood. Proposed development plans for the site include adding over 800 units of multi-family housing, including senior housing, and over 280,000 square feet of retail uses, including a full-service grocery store. There are significant opportunities for public amenities, including a proposed library. The provision of green and open space opportunities should also be considered within the development framework of any proposal. The development of workforce housing near the Metro location, with a small amount of small-scale retail, will increase activity in the neighborhood and spur development near the Fort Totten Metro. The proposed residential and retail development on the opportunity site is complementary to the residential clusters across South Dakota Avenue NE, but the opportunity site's proximity to the Fort Totten Metro provides long term opportunities for transit-oriented development for currently vacant parcels surrounding the site. Development on the opportunity site will benefit from the extension of 3rd Street NE to the south. In the long term, the opportunity site will be predominantly residential surrounded by commercial, small office and retail uses.

# Note 6 (See Appendix)

The Food and Friends is located north of the site. While it buffers the opportunity site from the busy Riggs Road thoroughfare, it also acts as a transitional site between the retail uses around the intersection and the predominantly residential uses to the south. This site can provide an important anchor for future residential development and a landmark to direct pedestrian and vehicular traffic to the opportunity site. This site, given the existing supply in residential and retail development, should be considered a long-term redevelopment opportunity that could potentially serve as an attractive mixed-use location for retail facing Riggs Road and

residential on the site's south side in connection with other residential development areas. In future development, this site may be assembled with the parcels in the Fort Totten East Industrial Site, to create a larger site for a coordinated, mixed-use development. Both sites will be long-term development options and would provide good linkages between Riggs Road and other planned and current residential complexes closer to the Metro station.

The triangle parcel at the southwest corner of the intersection at Riggs Road and South Dakota is currently undeveloped. In the short term, this parcel could be transferred and converted into a an active, multi-functional open space. Throughout the public outreach process, numerous residents stated their desire for more open space or parkland in the project area. This centrally located parcel could provide an intermediate public asset, while the development for the remainder of the parcel is resolved. Landscape elements should mitigate the steep slope by making a plaza or park that is fully accessible. The development in the Riggs Plaza Apartment site can be phased to accommodate street level commercial and retail opportunities at the southwest corner of the intersection. Development of a strong retail corner could dramatically reshape the neighborhood in the short-term

#### Urban Design

#### Development Scale

Currently, the intersection is defined by low buildings with wide setbacks. By fronting the street corners with taller buildings, a more appropriate scale could be achieved, similar to other urban retail commercial corridors in the District. The Visioning Section 5.0 of this document presents the proposed scale and character of a strong retail oriented intersection. In the short term, if the triangle parcel is converted to a public green space, the landscape design will have to mitigate the steep slope of the parcel (in excess of 25 percent in some places) to make the park accessible to residents. The height of development at the intersection should not exceed 65 feet by right or maximum 90 feet through a PUD, a discretionary approval by the District's Zoning Commission. Development south of the intersection along South Dakota should complement the scale of adjacent residential neighborhoods and step back in height as appropriate per the regulations of the appropriate Zone. See page 14 for additional guidance on the Fort Totten Overlay Zone.

#### • Pedestrian Friendly Scale/ Connectivity to Metro

Presently, both vehicular and pedestrian access to the Metro is poorly defined with abruptly ending roads and informal dirt footpaths cutting through lots. Both the Cafritz Foundation and WMATA have a longer term interest in improving the area and should partner to provide streetscape enhancements. Some space, either on the opportunity site or south of it, can be reserved to continue the abrupt ending of Ingraham and Jefferson Streets up to the Metro. In addition, entrance/exit points to the proposed residential development and the Metro stop should be enhanced through landscaping elements like tree lined streets, signage, and street furniture.

The pedestrian sidewalks along prominent streets can be wider with different paving patterns than other residential sidewalks with clearly defined well lit circulation leading up to the Metro station. Table 3.3 summarizes the development opportunities for this site in the study area within the context of a redevelopment framework timeline. An enlarged map with detailed square and lot numbers can be found in the Appendix.

Table 3.3 - Riggs Plaza Apartments and DC Government Triangle Site

LOCATION	OWNER	PARCEL SIZE	CURRENT ZONING	CURRENT LAND USE	COMP PLAN- FUTURE LAND USE	PROPOSED LAND USE and DEVELOPMENT SCALE	PROPOSED USE
A. 5216-5234 4th Street NE	South Dakotas Trustee, Inc.	207,152 sf or	R-5-A Low density	Residential,		No Change. This Plan supports current land use	Residential
B. 310 and 320 Kennedy St NE	Cafritz Foundation	4.75 acres	apartments Multi-family Medium Den- de sity, Mixed-use mi		Multi-family Medium Den- sity, Mixed-use and use designation and development		to mixed-use Mixed-use/ Retail
C. 219 Riggs Road NE	Food and Friends	2.73 acres	C3A/Fort Totten Overlay	en Light Industrial		scale as supported by the Comprehensive Plan	
D. Triangle parcel 219 Riggs Rd	DC Government	.96 acres	C3A/Fort Totten Overlay	Open Space	Production, Distribution, and Repair	Change. This Plan supports a land use designation change from PDR to a medium density, mixed-use land use designation and corresponding develop- ment scale. This change would mirror the proposed development scale and accommodate mixed-uses as consistent with the adjacent developable parcels.	Multi-func- tional open space

Figure 3.10 - Existing Conditions at the Riggs Plaza Apartments and DC Government Triangle Site



Food and Friends facility from South Dakota looking west



Riggs Plaza Apartments from South Dakota



South Dakota Avenue looking north



Riggs Plaza Apartments from 4th Street NE

# **URBAN DESIGN GUIDELINES**

- Reinforce the four corners of the intersection with street-activated retail uses.
- Encourage aesthetically consistent development that is in scale and character with the adjacent corners; storefronts should use compatible fenestration, colors, and signage to create a sense of place.
- Promote compatible streetscape elements around the intersection (street lamps, furniture, sidewalks) that are appropriate in scale to the adjacent development and reinforce a pedestrian-friendly environment from the intersection to the Metro.
- Extend the scale of development, articulated building facades, and streetscape elements at the intersection to the south, along South Dakota Avenue, to encourage walkability to and from the Metro.
- Support the creation of walkable blocks along South Dakota Avenue of less than 250 feet. New development should also maintain the existing public street network. In order to achieve walkable blocks and enhance connectivity to the Metro, new development should pursue opportunities to expand the grid and create new streets.
- Capitalize on the close proximity to the Metro by pursuing reduced parking counts, shared parking opportunities, and participating in a parking district pilot.
- The height of development at the intersection should not exceed 65 feet by right or maximum 90 feet through a PUD. See page 14 for FT Overlay guidance.
- Development south of the intersection along South Dakota should complement the scale of adjacent residential neighborhoods and step back in height as appropriate per the regulations of the appropriate Zone.

# **RIGGS ROAD SOUTH INDUSTRIAL PARK**

This opportunity site is located south of Riggs Road NE with the Metrorail tracks running along its east boundary and 1st Street NE running through the site. The site contains an MCI WorldCom property, local union offices and meeting hall, a church, and a vacant parcel that was formerly a gas station. Vacant spaces in between most buildings are covered with small parking lots and three communication towers. The vacant parcel is ideally located from a development point of view with frontage on Riggs Road NE and is across the street from the church.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

#### Development Mix

This opportunity site has multiple development options ranging from mixed-use residential and retail type use to office and light industrial use with transit oriented development potential. The site's proximity to the Metro stop could provide an attractive residential development option, however current and near-term residential development projects could pose a strong competition.

Despite the site's proximity to the Metro station and frontage on Riggs Road NE, this site has certain redevelopment challenges and thus a longer timeline for change. This site's parcels have numerous owners and are either underutilized, vacant, or currently occupied, thus making it difficult to consolidate. Additionally, the railroad tracks separate the site from the other development areas in the corridor thus blocking spillover development near the intersection.

Given the timeline for redevelopment, several recommendations can serve the short to mid-term timeframe. In the short term, industrial streetscape standards can be developed for facade improvements, as this parcel fronts Riggs Road and is highly visible in the study area. Secondly, as the study area transitions and attracts new residents to the community, Fort Totten Metro will see increased use and additional demand for parking.

#### Urban Design

This opportunity site is located at the edge of the Riggs Road retail corridor, and a significant obstacle in its redevelopment is the separation from the other opportunity sites by the Metro tracks. The overall goal for this opportunity site is to enhance the public realm through multi-modal improvements, including adequate sidewalks, articulated building facades, and pedestrian-oriented street amenities.

Development Scale

Medium density mixed-use development is encouraged along 1st Place NE. Here the height of development should not exceed 65 feet by right or maximum 90 feet through a PUD, a discretionary approval by the District's Zoning Commission.

#### Access Management and Pedestrian Safety

A direct access route connecting Riggs Road NE to the Metro Rail station presently passes through this site. This junction lacks appropriate signage and the access road passes through a large undeveloped area scattered with industrial parcels. Future development will need to improve the existing traffic and pedestrian access to the Metro station. Urban design elements can be used to highlight entrance to the Station and improve the public realm with wide paved sidewalks, appropriate lighting, signage and street furniture.

# Figure 3.12 - Aerial View of the Riggs Road South Opportunity Site





Table 3.4 summarizes the development opportunities in the study area within the context of a redevelopment framework timeline. A map with detailed square and lot numbers is located in the Appendix.

# Table 3.4 -Riggs Road South Industrial Park Opportunity Site

LOCATION	OWNER	PARCEL SIZE	CURRENT ZONING	CURRENT LAND USE	COMP PLAN FUTURE LAND USE		
115 Riggs Rd NE	Dominion Church		C3A/Fort Totten				
5335 1st Place NE	Dominion Church		Overlay				
5321 1st Place NE	Communications Workers of America Local 2336	232,395 sf or 5.33 acres	C-M-1	Commercial/Garage or Unimproved land	Med Density, Mixed-use		
5201 1st Place NE	Bricklayer's Masons Laborer Union 74		Low bulk commerical and light				
120-140 Ingram St NE	MCI Telecommunications		manufacturing				
PROPOSED LAND USE and DEVELOPMENT SCALE		PROPOSED USE		URBAN DESIGN GUIDELINES			
No Change. The Plan supports the current land use designa- tion that is consistent with a medium density, mixed-use land use designation and development scale as supported by the Comprehensive Plan.		Residential or Commercial mixed-use	<ul> <li>node (including k</li> <li>Establish visual ca active ground flo</li> <li>Make 1st Place N prove pedestrian</li> <li>The height of dev through a PUD, a</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>active ground floor uses, public art, and public spaces along 1st Place NE.</li> <li>Make 1st Place NE into a better connection thoroughfare to Metro and encourage ar prove pedestrian connectivity.</li> </ul>			

# Figure 3.13 - Existing Conditions at the Riggs Road South Opportunity Site



Intersection at Riggs Road and 1st Place NE looking north

1st Place NE looking west

# FORT TOTTEN EAST INDUS-TRIAL SITE

This opportunity site sits adjacent to the Metro tracks and can be accessed from Riggs Road NE and Kennedy Street NE. It is located adjacent to the Riggs Plaza Apartments site and houses three large industrial buildings, all in poor condition. Additionally, the site contains large amounts of scattered parking and loading spaces associated with industrial uses.

# RECOMMENDATIONS

Development Mix

Due to its location and current uses, the opportunity site has a very long term development potential. Mar-

ket analysis suggests a mixed-use type (predominantly residential) development potential for this site, which in turn will complement the proposed residential development on the neighboring Cafritz Foundation site. Despite its proximity to Metro there are limited short and medium term redevelopment opportunities, since the site is surrounded by other potential residential/mixed-use development sites. Additionally, since this area is currently an occupied industrial site with no direct frontage onto Riggs Road NE and South Dakota Avenue NE, it will likely take longer to create market demand for redevelopment on the site.

In the long-term this area can be developed into a residential/office core due to its proximity to the Metro. A mixed-use development could possibly incorporate present industrial land uses to some extent with potential to create "green" offices or industrial space to support businesses that provide green collar jobs. In addition to incorporating principles of green infrastructure and sustainable design, green industrial parks produce local economic gains by maintaining and producing industrial jobs in proximity to transit opportunities like the Metro.

The Food and Friends is located to the north of the site. While it buffers the opportunity site from the busy Riggs Road thoroughfare, it also acts as a transitional site between the retail uses around the intersection and the predominantly residential uses to the south. The grocery store site can provide an important anchor for future residential development and a landmark to direct pedestrian and vehicular traffic to the opportunity site.

# Urban Design

Urban design improvements will be required to create a hierarchy of private, semipublic, and public spaces with well defined circulation patterns separating the residential and office traffic.

# • Development Scale

Future development scale and character should be compatible with the neighborhood. If the site is developed for industrial uses, setbacks with visual barriers, sound absorption buffers and thick vegetation should be incorporated to mitigate the resultant noise and vibration. The height of development at this site should not exceed 65 feet by right or maximum 90 feet through a PUD, a discretionary approval by the District's Zoning Commission. See page 14 for guidance on the Fort Totten Overlay Zone.

# Access Management and Connectivity

The current shape of the site provides an opportunity to improve 3rd Street NE into a direct access point onto Riggs Road. This Plan recommends supporting pedestrian and bicycle connections along the western portion of the site linking to the Fort Totten Metro center and Riggs Road. The Food and Friends site property owners should be included in future development decisions for this site. This can provide an additional buffer for the residential development and also opportunities to extend Metro bus routes, currently running along Riggs Road, up to the Metro station.

# • Pedestrian Safety

Pedestrian safety should be ensured by planning access routes through residential areas, providing well defined wide sidewalks along well frequented vehicular roads, providing adequate lighting and signage, and by maintaining clear sight lines. Kennedy Street, 3rd Street, 4th Street and any other access routes proposed in new development should be safe, well lit, aesthetically pleasing and functionally accessible.

Figure 3.15 - Aerial View of the Fort Totten East Opportunity Site



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Figure 3.14 - Location Map of the Fort Totten East

Table 3.5 summarizes the development opportunities for this site in the study area within the context of a redevelopment framework timeline. An enlarged map with detailed square and lot numbers can be found in the Appendix.

#### WHAT IS A GREEN COLLAR JOB?

Green collar jobs are career-track employment opportunities in emerging environmental industries as well as conventional businesses and trades, created by a shift to more sustainable practices, materials, and performance. It includes both lower and higher skilled employment opportunities that minimize the carbon footprint of all necessary inputs and directly results in the restoration of the environment, the generation of clean energy and improved energy efficiency, the creation of high performing buildings, and the conservation of natural resources.

#### Table 3.5 - Fort Totten East Industrial Opportunity Site

LOCATION	OWNER		PARCEL SIZE	CURRENT ZONING	CURRENT LAND USE	COMP PLAN FUTURE LAND USE	
A. 5450-5462 3rd Street NE	Morris and Gwendolyn Cafrtiz Founda- tion		180,208 sf or 2.5 acres	C3A /Fort Totten	Commercial/Garage or Unim- proved land	Med Density, Mixed-Use	
B. 5455 3rd St NE			2.5 deres	Overlay	proved land		
PROPOSED LAND USE and DEVELOPMENT SCALE	PROPOSED USE	URBAN DESIGN GUIDELINES					
No Change. This Plan supports the current land use designation that is consistent with a medium density, mixed-use land use designation and develop- ment scale as supported by the Comprehensive Plan.	Residential to mixed-use	<ul> <li>Ensure proposed development scale and character is compatible with the neighborhood.</li> <li>Target industrial or ground floor commercial/office with residential-live/work units.</li> <li>Promote green collar development uses.</li> <li>Provide adequate buffers between the commercial or industrial land uses and the adjacent residential land uses.</li> <li>Create a well defined and well illuminated pedestrian path to the Metro.</li> <li>Kennedy Street, 3rd Street, 4th Street and any other access routes proposed in new development should be safe, well lit, aesthetically pleasing and functionally accessible designs.</li> <li>The height of development at this site should not exceed 65 feet by right or maximum 90 feet through a PUD, a discretionary approval by the District's Zoning Commission. See page 14 for guidance on the FT Overaly Zone.</li> </ul>					

Figure 3.16 - Panorama of the Fort Totten East Opportunity Site at 3rd Street NE



# FORT TOTTEN WEST

The Fort Totten West site is currently a large parking lot for the Fort Totten Metro Station. It is directly adjacent to the station and is located close to the Riggs Road South Industrial Park site.

The Metropolitan Branch Trail (MBT) is proposed to run across from the opportunity site. The trail is a proposed 8-mile multi-use trail that runs from Silver Spring in Maryland to Union Station in the District of Columbia. It also includes a segment that will connect the MBT at Fort Totten to the Anacostia Tributaries Trail System in West Hyattsville, Maryland, and a connection to the National Mall. The MBT will be an important transportation route providing

Figure 3.17 - Location Map of Fort Totten West

direct access to seven of Metro's Red Line stations and connecting to the Washington area's trail network at the Capital Crescent Trail and the East Coast Greenway. At the Fort Totten Metro Station, the trail would follow contours above Metro's Green line tunnel, to meet ADA standards. This alternative provides the most direct and ADA accessible route between John McCormack Road and Riggs Road.

#### Development Mix

This site is owned by WMATA and the market analysis suggests a residential redevelopment opportunity at this location, based on its proximity to the metro and direct access to the Fort Totten Park. The site will compete for the residential market with other development projects in the neighborhood; however, the site's primary location close to the metro and the area's relatively low cost advantage within the District make this a possible short to medium-term development opportunity.

Currently this opportunity site accommodates the only large parking lot available for the Fort Totten Metro stop. Proximity to the Maryland border and convenient access to two rail lines make Fort Totten a popular commuter station. The future growth projected for this area will also increase usage of the station; however, proposed improvements will ideally make non-vehicular access to the station more safe and convenient. Redeveloping this underutilized site is in keeping with the transit-oriented development policy of the District and the guiding principles of this Plan. As the owner of the site, WMATA may elect to replace the parking at the site through underground or wrapped parking garages. This Plan encourages WMATA and neighboring property owners to pursue a parking district strategy, where parking may be shared among uses and at different times of the day.

The current configuration of the Kiss and Ride area gives the perception that the station is designed to accommodate commuters arriving by car, rather than by foot or bike. Lack of pathways and poor lighting contribute to pedestrian safety concerns. While this area is not identified as a development opportunity site in the Plan, the Comprehensive Plan future land use map designates the site as medium density mixed-use. WMATA is encouraged to examine this site in its station access study and identify opportunities to enhance the sense of place, safety and accessibility of the site and broader station area.

# Urban Design

Development Scale

Height of development should not exceed 65 feet by right or maximum 80 feet through a Planned Unit Development, a discretionary approval by the District's Zoning Commission. See page 14 for additional guidance on the Fort Totten Overlay Zone.

#### Access Management and Connectivity

In any scenario, structured parking or residential development, the biggest challenge that this opportunity site faces is maintaining linkages to the east side of

#### Figure 3.18 - Aerial of the Fort Totten West Parking lot



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the Metrorail lines. Visual linkages are completely missing and the only direct physical access is through the Metro bus pick-up/drop-off area located within the Metro station. Indirect connectivity is through 1st Place NE and Riggs Road NE. In the absence of linkages, urban design and public realm options will need to be explored to maintain connectivity and context. Materials, signage, landscaping and landmark elements can be used to create a visual connection to redevelopment elsewhere in the project area.

Table 3.6 summarizes the development opportunities for this site within the context of a redevelopment framework timeline. A map with detailed square and lot numbers is located in the Appendix.

Table 3.6 - Fort Totten West Opportunity Site

LOCATION	OWNER		PARCEL SIZE	CURRENT ZONING	CURRENT LAND USE	COMP PLAN FUTURE LAND USE
550 Galloway St NE	WMATA		147,621 sf or 3.38 acres	CR /Fort Totten Overlay	Commercial/ Parking Lot	Med Density, Mixed-Use
PROPOSED LAND USE and DEVELOPMENT SCALE	PROPOSED USE			URBAN	I DESIGN GUIDELINES	
No Change. Plan sup- ports current land use that is consistent with medium density, mixed-use land use designation and develop- ment scale as supported by the Comprehensive Plan.	Station Access Study	<ul> <li>Establish a streetscape concept that integrates multiple modes of transportation into one node (including bus, pedestrian, bicyc and vehicles).</li> <li>Encourage the development of structured parking with street activated retail opportunities on the ground floor.</li> <li>Include direct and clearly marked connections from Riggs to Galloway; other connections through private development project should support a renewed and integrated connectivity for all.</li> <li>The height of development should not exceed 65 feet by right or maximum 80 feet through a PUD, a discretionary approval by t District's Zoning Commission. See page 14 for additional guidance on the FT Overlay Zone.</li> </ul>				

# Figure 3.19 - Fort Totten Parking lot





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