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City Planning Releases 25,000 City Planning Commission Reports, 1938-Present

The Department of City Planning has released 25,000 City Planning Commission reports dating back to 1938. Since 2003, the Department has been posting Commission reports online for land use applications as part of the Bloomberg Administration’s commitment to transparency in government. Now, Commission reports for the past 74 years are available in one place -- just visit nyc.gov/planning and click on the “Commission Reports” link on the left side of the page. Because the format of City Planning Commission reports has changed over time, users should read the “How to Search” guide to learn the best way to locate documents for specific years.

Releasing decades of City Planning Commission reports is part of City Planning’s project to catalogue the significant archive of planning documents published by the Department. Keep checking DCP’s website as more historic documents are digitized and posted online and available to the public.

City Planning is committed to making zoning and other important land use information readily accessible to the public. Last year, City Planning launched ZoLa, a unique interactive map that is a one-stop-shop for zoning and land use information, and released the new edition of the Zoning Handbook, which has empowered communities by helping them understand zoning and making them better advocates for their neighborhood.

Digitizing and releasing these documents was made possible through a Local Government Records Management Improvement Fund (LGRMIF) grant, administered by the New York State Archives via the NYC Department of Records and Information Services. Technical and professional help was provided by the content management firm, CASO, Inc., using assistance from Fedcap, under a contract with the New York State Industries for the Disabled (NYSID).

Department of City Planning
The Department of City Planning (DCP) promotes strategic growth, transit-oriented development, and sustainable communities in the City, in part by initiating comprehensive, consensus-based planning and zoning changes for individual neighborhoods and business districts, as well as establishing policies and zoning regulations applicable citywide. It supports the City Planning Commission and each year reviews more than 500 land use applications for actions such as zoning changes and disposition of City property. The Department assists both government agencies and the public by providing policy analysis and technical assistance relating to housing, transportation, community facilities, demography, waterfront and public space.