

ALABAMA AVENUE
WASHINGTON, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA



Illustrative Plan

Client: D.C. Department of Housing and Community Development

Award: Excellence Award for Urban Design, Government of the District of Columbia 1989

Intent

As the primary public corridor in Southeast Washington, Alabama Avenue serves one of the largest residential communities in Washington, D.C. In response to the positive results of streetscape development throughout the DC metropolitan area, DCDHCD authorized a streetscape revitalization & urban design guidelines study for this substantial but consistently under-recognized residential area. Accordingly, LaPierre was selected to prepare the Renaissance Corridor Study which inventories and evaluates the physical resources of the corridor as related to public space, existing housing resources, and opportunities for renovations and new residential development. Private and publicly financed development opportunities were linked to essential streetscape improvement projects as well as options for recreational and retail-related open spaces. The plan includes guidelines and standards for cost effective streetscape and landscape improvements which are coordinated with existing DCDOT standards and construction details. In addition, the study provided specific site plan recommendations for targeted development sites, addressing various residential unit configurations, neighborhood networks, and methods for providing severely needed commercial development and convenience retail shops and services. Several of the targeted sites have since been developed in accordance with these guidelines and plans. The project received the District of Columbia's Design Excellence Award for Urban Design.