CCI TIMELINE 2005–2010: MAJOR MILESTONES

- CCI Launched.
- First CCI Survey Administered.
- CCI Steering Committee Appointed.
- CCI Charter Developed.
- Strategy Resource Teams (SRTs) and Division Action Resource Teams (DARTs) Activated.
- Principles of Cultural Competence Developed.
- CCI Baseline Training Implemented for All Employees.
- CCI Action Plan Formulated.
- CCI Diversity Newsletter Published.
- Introduction of Monthly CANDLE Events.
- CCI Awards Program Initiated.
- CCI Logo Introduced.
- Diversity Recruitment and Retention Strategies Developed.
- First CCI Annual Summer Cookout.
- First CCI Bus Tours.
- First CCI Bowling Social.
- First CCI Annual Report Published.
- First CCI Open House.
- Evolution of SRTs to Goal Teams.
- “We Care” Fund Established.
- CCI Principles Incorporated into Performance Evaluations for Managers.
- CCI Online Phone Directory Established.
- CCI Steering Committee Leadership Rotation Instituted.
- First Annual Green Week held.
- First Asian Pacific Heritage Month Celebration.
- Community Outreach Food Drives Begin.
- Telework Review Committee Launched.
- Activation of The CCI Meeting Protocols.
- CCI Principles Incorporated into Performance Evaluations for All Employees.
- Planning Department Speaker Series Launched.
- CCI Retreat Held to Brainstorm the Way Forward for the Next Phase of CCI.

In addition, the Performance Recognition Award recipients from the past year were honored. This included Planning Department Director Fern Piret’s announcement of the first recipient of the Director’s Award: Marc Abresch!

Community Planning DART
Building upon the successes of the previous year, the Community Planning DART continued in its efforts to nurture minds, bodies and spirits through the establishment of a lending library, a healthy eating initiative, and philanthropic efforts. This team also sponsored a “Lunch and Learn” session featuring colleague Bill Washburn’s presentation on “Railvolutions.” Strategies under development for later this year include increasing communication between divisions, including a volunteer component to the “We Care” program, instituting office etiquette guidelines, and organizing a seasonal fundraiser.

IMD DART
In July 2009, the IMD DART team conducted “Listening Sessions” with staff to gather feedback on technology needs as a follow up to Statement 13 (Technology) on the Second CCI Departmental Survey. Through these sessions, the team hoped to educate staff about their current processes and also make improvements where possible. Responses gathered from these sessions were analyzed and shared with Dale Hutchison, IMD Division Chief.

The IMD DART also organized the “Popcorn and a Movie” event featuring “The Soloist.” Twenty-three people participated in the event and the DART team raised $100 for the Winter Festival. A follow-up discussion of the movie was the theme of the January 2010 CANDLE session.

Nationally Recognized Annual Events
Black History Month in February
In celebration of this year’s National Black History Month theme, “The History of Black Economic Development,” the Department’s program featured a presentation by students from the Prince George’s Community College’s Principles of Acting II class. Under the direction of interim Theatre Program Director Ms. Gina Alvaredo, the student actors delivered an emotional performance based loosely on concepts and scenes from the well-known theatrical production, “A Raisin in the Sun,” the Langston Hughes poem “Let America Be America Again,” and a prayer by Reverend Joseph E. Lowery entitled, “Reverend Lowery Inauguration Benediction.” The program opened with a spirited drum call by Nkosi Akinlana. Chairman Sam Parker of the Prince George’s County Planning Board welcomed Department staff with a statement on the history of black economic self-empowerment and its relationship to the theme of Black History Month. In addition, the Black History Month committee gave a PowerPoint presentation entitled “Looking Back,” which highlighted previous Planning Department Black History Month programs from 1996 to the present. A culturally-themed lunch followed the program.