



Executive Director's Recommendation

Commission Meeting: May 3, 2012

PROJECT Perimeter Security and Site Improvements Albert V. Bryan United States Courthouse 401 Courthouse Square Alexandria, Virginia	NCPC FILE NUMBER 3048
	NCPC MAP FILE NUMBER 2503.00(38.40)43552
SUBMITTED BY United States General Services Administration	APPLICANT'S REQUEST Preliminary and final approval of site development plans
REVIEW AUTHORITY Advisory per 40 U.S.C. § 8722(b)(1)	PROPOSED ACTION Approve as requested
	ACTION ITEM TYPE Staff Presentation

PROJECT SUMMARY

The General Services Administration (GSA) is proposing permanent perimeter security at the Albert V. Bryan United States Courthouse which is located in the Carlyle District of Alexandria, Virginia. When originally constructed in the mid-1990s, physical perimeter security elements were not necessary and therefore not included in the original design. Following the decision to locate the trials of suspected terrorists to this courthouse however, there was a need to install a perimeter security solution on the three public faces of the Courthouse. Temporary measures were installed in 2002 and the permanent perimeter security solution now being proposed will maintain the safety of the employees and improve the public realm in the area surrounding the Courthouse. GSA is proposing the installation of permanent physical security elements at the Courthouse that includes bollards, reinforced garden walls, and retractable bollards. Also included in this proposal is an expansion of the sidewalk area along the Jamieson Avenue side of the building and a new sidewalk area along the Courthouse Square South side of the building.

KEY INFORMATION

- Perimeter security project partially within building property line
 - Consistency with NCPC's *National Capital Urban Design and Security Plan*
-

RECOMMENDATION

The Commission:

Approves the preliminary and final site development plans for site improvements and perimeter security at the Albert V. Bryan United States Courthouse in Alexandria, VA.

Commends GSA, the U.S. Marshals Service, and U.S District Court for working with the Carlyle Community Council and the City of Alexandria in developing a design that is consistent with NCPC's *National Capital Urban Design and Security Plan Objectives and Policies*, is well integrated into the urban fabric, improves the alignment of local streets, and reopens an existing street to the public while providing an appropriate level of security for the Courthouse employees.

PROJECT REVIEW TIMELINE

Previous actions	December 1991 – Approval of preliminary and final site and building plans.
Remaining actions (anticipated)	None.

Prepared by Carlton E. Hart
4/26/12

Table of Contents

I. Project Description	4
Site.....	4
Background.....	7
Proposal.....	7
II. Project Analysis/Conformance	12
Executive Summary	12
Analysis.....	12
Comprehensive Plan for the National Capital	13
National Capital Urban Design and Security Plan Objectives and Policies	13
Relevant Federal Facility Master Plan	14
National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).....	15
National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA)	15
III. Consultation	15
Coordination with local agencies	15
IV. Appendix.....	15

Figures and Maps

Figure 1: Carlyle District and Bryan U.S. Courthouse location.....	4
Figure 2: Albert V. Bryan U.S. Courthouse Site.....	5
Figure 3: Site Context	6
Figure 4: Perimeter Security Plan.....	8
Figure 5: Jamieson Avenue Illustrative Perspective (looking southwest).....	9
Figure 6: Courthouse Square Illustrative Perspective (looking south towards Main Entry)	10
Figure 7: Elizabeth Lane Site Plan Detail	11
Figure 8: Jamieson Avenue – existing condition and proposed design.....	12
Figure 9: Plan Detail - Courthouse Square South.....	14

I. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Site

The Albert V. Bryan U.S. Courthouse (“the Courthouse”) was constructed on land donated to the federal government in the early 1990s by Norfolk Southern. The Carlyle District itself is a privately owned 82-acre mixed-use development in Alexandria, Virginia. It is located between Old Town Alexandria and the Eisenhower Valley, adjacent to the King Street Metro Station area. The exact physical boundaries of the Carlyle District are Duke Street on the north, Holland Lane on the east, Elizabeth Lane and Andrews Lane on the west, Eisenhower Avenue to the south, and a section south of Eisenhower Avenue and east of Hooffs Run to the extension of John Carlyle Street to the east and Savoy Street to the south.

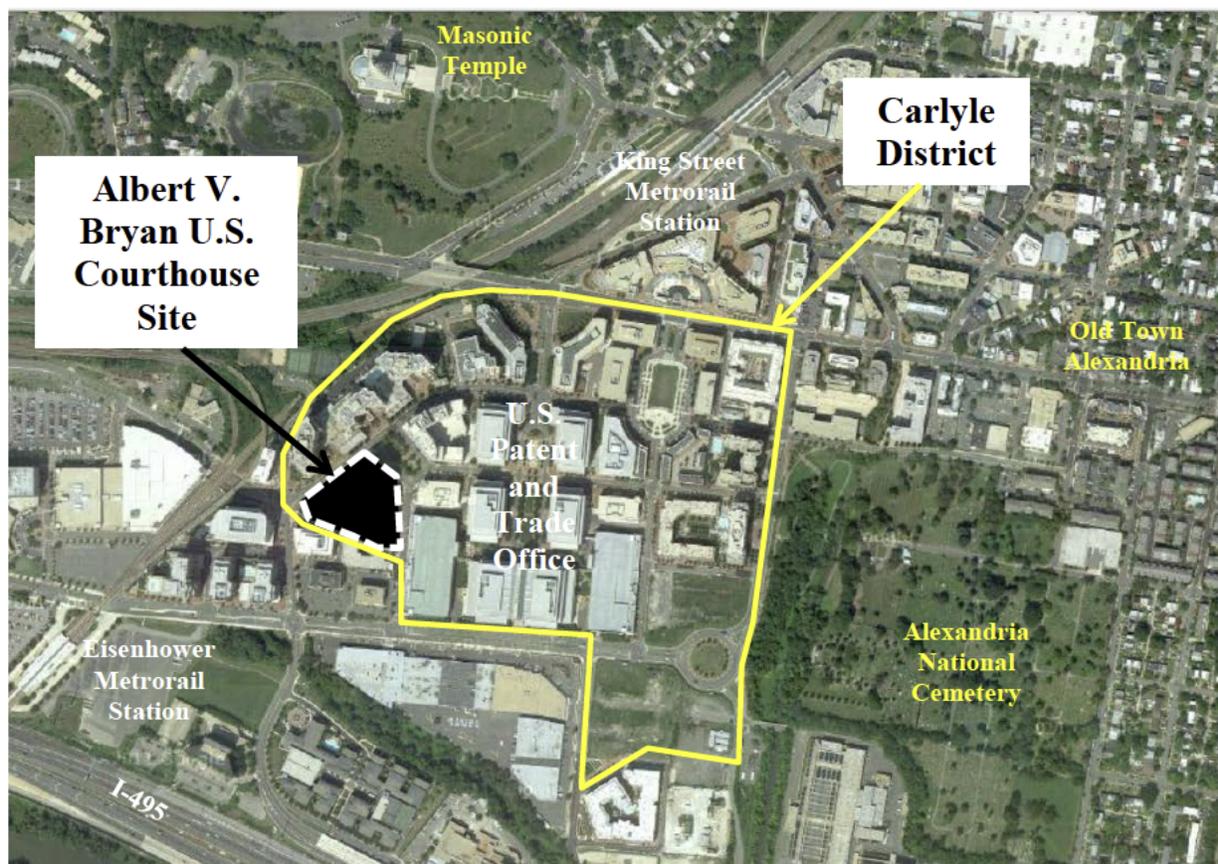


Figure 1: Carlyle District and Bryan U.S. Courthouse location

The General Services Administration (GSA) states that because all land in the Carlyle District is privately owned, the City of Alexandria does not manage community amenities such as roadways, sidewalks, and parks as it does in other parts of the city. Instead, oversight of the amenities is conducted by a non-governmental management organization known as the Carlyle Community Council (CCC). The CCC is a “nonstock corporation” established in accordance with the Virginia Nonstock Corporation Act. It is comprised of 19 commercial and residential

property owners who represent 30 parcels in Carlyle. A seven-person Board of Directors governs the CCC. Board members are elected by the CCC membership, and votes are weighted according to the amount of land each member owns within the Carlyle District. While the federal government owns the land the Courthouse building is located on, GSA is not a member of the CCC.

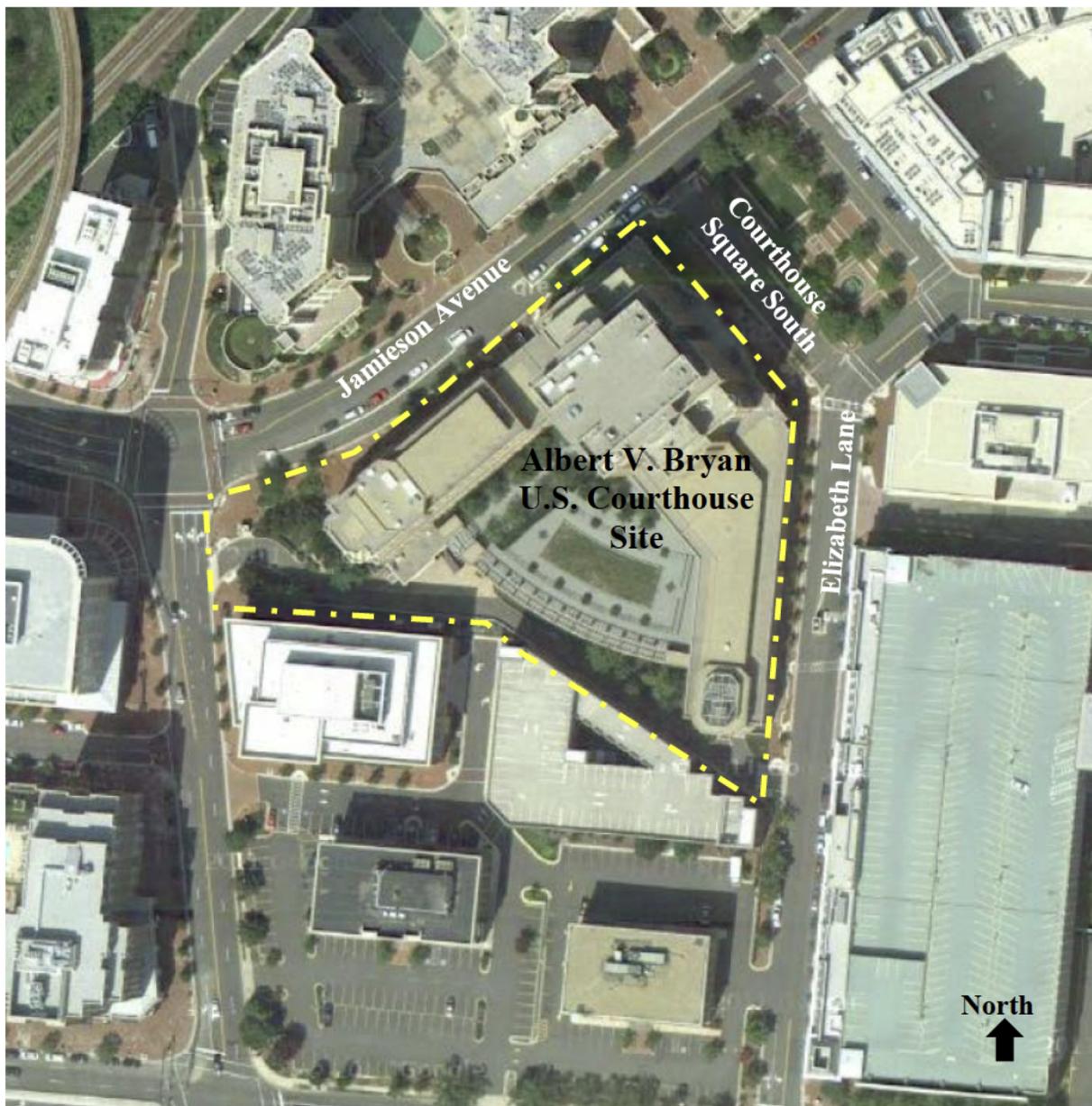


Figure 2: Albert V. Bryan U.S. Courthouse Site

The Courthouse sits on an urban lot that fronts Jamieson Avenue on the northwest, Courthouse Square South on the northeast, and Elizabeth Lane on the east. The southern side of the building

abuts a private alley, adjacent to a parking garage and office building. The Carlyle Towers, a condominium complex, is across Jamieson Avenue; the Westin Alexandria Hotel and Courthouse Square Park are across Courthouse Square South; and an office building and parking garage are across Elizabeth Lane. A few blocks to the east is the home of the United States Patent and Trade Office (PTO), which moved from Arlington in the past decade.

GSA owns the land immediately surrounding the Courthouse, while the sidewalk and roadways are under the jurisdiction of the CCC. Existing temporary perimeter security measures—including Jersey barriers, steel plate barriers, and planter barriers—are located on CCC property along the three public faces of the building. These security elements affect the visual environment and pedestrian and vehicular circulation. GSA and the USMS plan to install permanent perimeter security measures at the Courthouse, allowing for the removal of all temporary security elements.

Along both the Jamieson Avenue and Elizabeth Lane side of the Courthouse are temporary barriers which extend the length of the building. On Elizabeth Lane, the temporary barriers are along the curb. On Jamieson Avenue, however, the temporary barriers occupy what was once the outside eastbound travel lane. In addition, law enforcement vehicle parking along the street-side of the barriers occupy an additional travel lane. The portion of Jamieson Avenue adjacent to the Courthouse was originally designed as a four-lane roadway (the road narrows east of the Courthouse); today it is just two lanes, one eastbound and one westbound.



Figure 3: Site Context

Courthouse Square South is a one-way two-lane southbound street that was closed to vehicular traffic when the existing perimeter security elements were installed.

Background

The preliminary and final site and building plans for the Albert V. Bryan United States Courthouse project were approved by the Commission in December 1991. Construction of this federally owned and managed building took place between 1992 and 1995. It was among the first major structures built in the Carlyle District. Today, the Courthouse is occupied by the U.S. Courts, the U.S. Marshals Service (USMS), and the U.S. Attorney's Office.

At the time of its construction, the need to establish a physical standoff area around the perimeter of the Courthouse did not exist. This changed, following the September 2001 attacks, when the Courthouse was selected as the primary location to try suspected terrorists.

In 2002, the U.S. Courts issued a judicial mandate for GSA and the USMS to immediately establish a secure perimeter around the Albert V. Bryan Courthouse through the "temporary" installation of security elements that included moveable barriers, steel plate barriers, planter barriers, and guard booths. While this effort protected the Courthouse, it impacted the visual and physical environment of the surrounding neighborhood. As a temporary solution it provided necessary security while a permanent solution was developed.

In 2005, the USMS approached GSA to design a permanent solution to replace the existing temporary security elements. For the next six years, GSA and the USMS worked to overcome significant and complex jurisdictional challenges in conjunction with City of Alexandria officials and residents of the Carlyle Towers condominium complex.

This situation was further complicated, in 2010, when GSA found out that the CCC owned vehicular right-of-ways in the Carlyle District. Since 2010, the CCC has worked with GSA together to develop a plan for perimeter security that would provide an appropriate amount of protection for the employees in the Courthouse while limiting the use of public space.

Proposal

GSA is proposing the installation of permanent physical security elements at the Courthouse that include bollards, reinforced garden walls, and retractable bollards. Also included in this proposal is an expansion of the sidewalk along the Jamieson Avenue side of the building and a new sidewalk along Courthouse Square South side of the building. This project will also include the relocation of a parking area for official vehicles from Jamieson Avenue to Elizabeth Lane.

Overall, the proposal seeks to balance pedestrian movements, preserve existing mature trees, reduce impervious coverage, while continuing to protect building occupants. The following is a description of the GSA proposal along Jamieson Avenue, Courthouse Square South, and Elizabeth Lane.

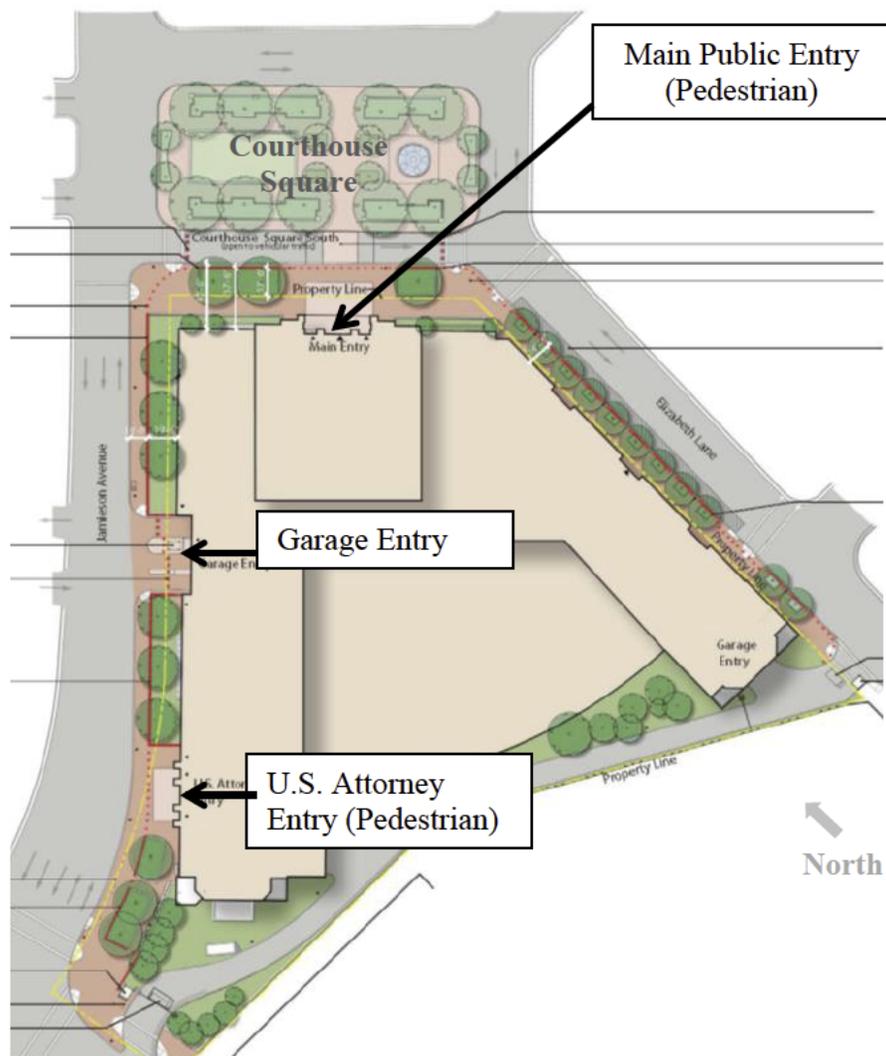


Figure 4: Perimeter Security Plan

Jamieson Avenue

Along with the installation of the proposed permanent security elements along Jamieson Avenue, GSA is proposing the removal of the existing temporary security barriers as well as the elimination of the official vehicle parking area along the street. GSA will remove the existing sidewalk paving and install a 19 foot 6 inch wide planted area adjacent to the building. In addition, a 10 foot wide sidewalk running the length of the building will be installed with a new curb replacing an existing lane of Jamieson Avenue at the approximate location of the existing temporary security barriers. These elements will be mostly outside the property line, but along a newly established building yard. Transportation improvements include removing the existing official vehicle parking lane which will become the eastbound travel lane. The current eastbound and westbound travel lanes will both become westbound lanes. In addition, the outside

westbound travel lane will accommodate off-peak street parking, as agreed to by the USMS and the City of Alexandria.



Figure 5: Jamieson Avenue Illustrative Perspective (looking southwest)

Existing street trees along Jamieson Avenue, east of the U.S. Attorney's entrance will be retained and incorporated into the proposed planting area, which will be surrounded by low vegetation. A hardened 36-inch high garden fence feature will frame the planted area. The sidewalk will remain free of any security elements. The garden fence panels will complement the detailing of exterior railings found at the front and sides of the building and their dark color will visually recede into the landscape.

Retractable bollards will be installed at the entrances of the underground parking garage and sally port, midway down Jamieson Avenue. Fixed bollards will be installed in front of the U.S. Attorney's Office entrance to allow for necessary pedestrian access. All bollards will be 36 inches in height, match the color of the garden fence, and maintain a 4 foot clearance.

Courthouse Square South

The main entrance of the Courthouse faces the street referred to as Courthouse Square South. On this side of the building, the curb will be extended which will require incorporating part of the street, narrowing Courthouse Square South from 30 feet to approximately 20 feet. This will allow the Courthouse to achieve the necessary setback and permit the reopening of Courthouse Square South to one-way southbound traffic, satisfying goals of both GSA and the CCC. Without this sidewalk widening, GSA states that this street would need to remain closed.

New planting areas will be installed that flank this entrance and include three new trees and low vegetation. The planted areas along Courthouse Square South will feature a hardened garden fence, identical to that proposed along the Jamieson Avenue side of the building. The fence will be set back from the curb line approximately 3 feet. A row of bollards, each maintaining a 4 foot clearance, will be in line with the hardened garden fence and will bridge the two planted areas to accommodate necessary pedestrian movements. GSA is also proposing an elevated mid-block crosswalk as a traffic calming measure and to acknowledge and reinforce the pedestrian connection between the Courthouse and Courthouse Square Park.



Figure 6: Courthouse Square Illustrative Perspective (looking south towards Main Entry)

At the corner of Jamieson Avenue and Courthouse Square South, GSA is proposing a row of bollards aligned in an arc that will connect the easternmost post of the Jamieson Avenue garden fence with the Courthouse Square South garden fence. This alignment is designed to allow pedestrian movement around this corner of the building while adequately protecting the Courthouse. Pedestrians traveling east and west on Jamieson Avenue are not required to cross the line of bollards. Likewise, pedestrians traveling between Courthouse Square Park and the west side of Jamieson Avenue will not encounter these bollards. Only those walking toward the Courthouse entrance or following the accessible route will pass through this arc of bollards.

At the corner of Elizabeth Lane and Courthouse Square South, the GSA is proposing a row of bollards aligned with the Courthouse Square South garden fence, extending south from the garden fence. This row will round the corner and continue south on Elizabeth Lane.

GSA is also proposing the installation of two rows of retractable bollards across Courthouse Square South, the road between the Courthouse and Courthouse Square. One row of retractable bollards, consisting of five bollards, will be installed in the existing street at each end of Courthouse Square South, just inside the outermost crosswalks that connect Courthouse Square Park to the Courthouse block. During times of heightened security, the USMS may need to temporarily close Courthouse Square South to vehicular traffic. The City of Alexandria and the Carlyle Community Council agreed to allow these retractable bollards to be installed in the street to avoid any further use of the existing temporary vehicle barriers currently in place.

Elizabeth Lane

GSA states that the 11 separate segments of garden fence will extend the length of the building in public space along Elizabeth Lane at the edge of the sidewalk, since the building is on the property line. The design of this fencing will be similar to the hardened garden fences installed along Jamieson Avenue and Courthouse Square South and will be approximately 14 feet 6 inches from the building face and outside the property line. Bollards will be used at the northernmost and southernmost ends of the block, with an additional span just south of the center designed to accommodate a mid-block crossing and a fire hydrant.

The garden fence elements along Elizabeth Lane will be reinforced with a cable-stay system that will minimize the foundation requirements and impact to the adjacent street trees. Each segment of garden fence will frame the street side of a tree planting area. Because existing street trees along Elizabeth Lane are small and not as healthy as trees elsewhere in the Carlyle District, the tree planting areas will be expanded and replanted with new, healthy trees and groundcover. These tree planting areas will also be connected using a continuous tree trench of structural soils to promote tree health.

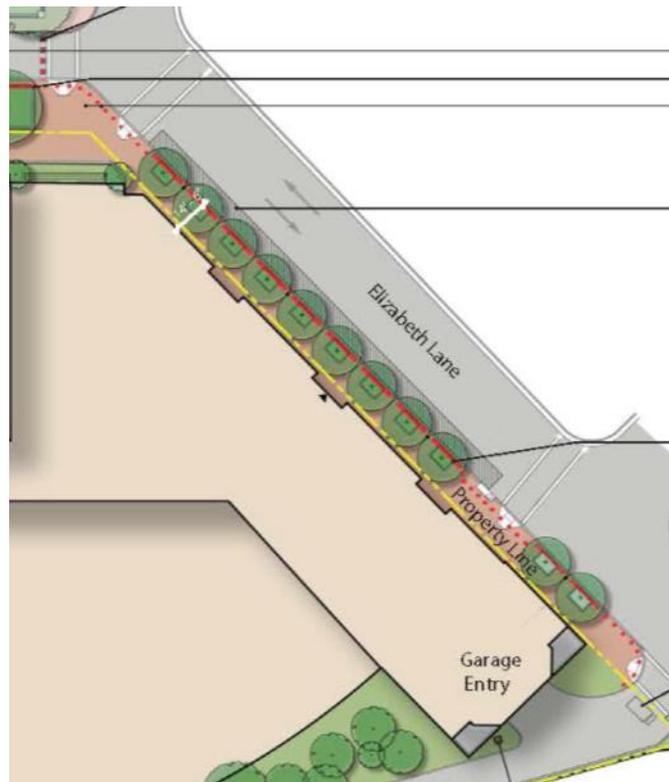


Figure 7: Elizabeth Lane Site Plan Detail

Once the permanent perimeter security infrastructure is installed on Jamieson Avenue, street parking for official vehicles will be shifted from Jamieson to Elizabeth Lane. Elizabeth Street is currently wide enough to allow street parking so the vehicles will not affect the roadway alignment or the width of the sidewalk area. GSA states that the official law enforcement vehicles will provide additional standoff distance for this side of the building without the need to narrow the street.

II. PROJECT ANALYSIS/CONFORMANCE

Executive Summary

GSA states the need for perimeter security at the Albert V. Bryan United States Courthouse is a result of locating terrorism trials here following the events of September 11, 2001. GSA has worked with all of the parties involved to develop a perimeter security response that balances building security and public realm impacts. This proposal has had its own unique challenges and staff is very supportive of the proposed design as it utilizes a common sense approach by understanding and addressing the impacts on traffic, pedestrians and the public realm while providing the appropriate level of security in an urban setting. Therefore staff recommends that the Commission **approve the preliminary and final site development plans for perimeter security and site improvements at the Albert V. Bryan United States Courthouse in Alexandria, VA and also commend GSA, the U.S. Marshals Service, and U.S District Court for working with the Carlyle Community Council and the City of Alexandria in developing a design that is consistent with NCPC's *National Capital Urban Design and Security Plan Objectives and Policies*, is well integrated into the urban fabric, improves the alignment of local streets, and reopens an existing street to the public while providing an appropriate level of security for the Courthouse employees.**

Analysis

Staff has analyzed this project and identified the replacement of the temporary perimeter security measures, which impacted publicly-accessible space around the Courthouse, with a permanent solution while providing needed security as an important issue. The placement of these temporary security elements caused the closure of several streets and reduced the ability for pedestrians to walk through of this recently developed part of Alexandria.

This design for security measures is important because it will provide the necessary security for the building while improving the urban fabric by allowing for the closed streets to be reopened and improving the sidewalks for pedestrians. This is important given that Jamieson Avenue is a main connection for vehicles and pedestrians traveling from office buildings like the U.S. Patent and Trade Office to the east to the Eisenhower development and other points to the west.



Figure 8: Jamieson Avenue – existing condition and proposed design

Figure 8 shows how these security elements will be incorporated into the Jamieson Avenue streetscape with the removal of the temporary barriers and relocation of the official vehicle parking area. The design includes expansion of the sidewalk which will enhance the existing sidewalk which is closer to the Courthouse itself. Relocating the law enforcement parking area, which will now be located along Elizabeth Lane, provides better vehicular flow for all users of the road. This is important given that Jamieson Avenue is one of the main routes for through the Carlyle District.

In addition, Courthouse Square South road will be reopened to vehicular traffic as part of this design with only temporary closures during times of heightened security. This also provides greater vehicular circulation in this area of the Carlyle District.

Comprehensive Plan for the National Capital

The proposed perimeter security is consistent with the Federal Workplace policies pertaining to the design and location of physical building security. Security has been incorporated into the design of the building and perimeter security elements have been located within the building yard where possible. The security elements that will be located in public space have been designed to be consistent with local streetscape standards and located so as not to restrict pedestrian mobility.

National Capital Urban Design and Security Plan Objectives and Policies

Overall, the project is consistent with the National Capital Urban Design and Security Plan Objectives and Policies. Adopted by the Commission in May 2005, these objectives and policies address planning and design issues associated with risk management strategies that impact the public realm, primarily physical perimeter security for explosives delivered by bomb-laden vehicles. They are intended to balance the need for perimeter security with the need to protect the openness and accessibility of public space.

The proposed perimeter security is consistent with these objectives, and with policies pertaining specifically to the location and design of security elements. NCPC's policy states that for existing buildings in urban areas, perimeter security barriers should be located within the building yard when the size of the yard is greater than or equal to 20 feet. The placement of barriers within public space is generally discouraged, and should only be considered if the width of the building yard is less than 20 feet. For this project, GSA is proposing to locate perimeter outside the building yard for most of the perimeter of the building. This is because there are only a few points where the building is at the property line or the building yard is less than 20 feet.

While locating the perimeter security measures inside the building yard is important, staff understands that each site has its own unique circumstances. In this case, the "public areas" around this building are actually under the control of the Carlyle Community Council (CCC) and not the City of Alexandria. GSA has worked with the CCC to develop a plan that allows the building to maintain its necessary protection while not unduly impacting the public's use of and access to the sidewalks around the Courthouse. In addition, Carlyle District will gain a visually appealing streetscape in an area that currently does not have one.

Along Jamieson Avenue, the property line varies but for most of the length of the building the building face is less than 20 feet. GSA proposes to install a secure garden wall, new landscaped areas and bollards 19 feet 6 inches from the building face with a 10 foot sidewalk closest to the street. This sidewalk area would be increased by approximately 10 feet from the existing condition.

At Courthouse Square South, GSA proposes to increase the sidewalk area along the entire length of the street by narrowing the street and only allowing one-way traffic. The street would be narrowed from 30 feet to 20 feet. The additional pedestrian space would be added to the sidewalk in front of the main entrance and new landscaped tree planting areas would be incorporated into the design on either side of the main entrance. The perimeter security measures will be 40 feet and 6 inches from the building face. The building yard is less than 20 feet from the building face and GSA is proposing to provide a stand-off from the main entrance by allowing this newly opened street to be periodically closed off during times of heightened security. Two rows of retractable bollards will allow the street to be closed as needed.

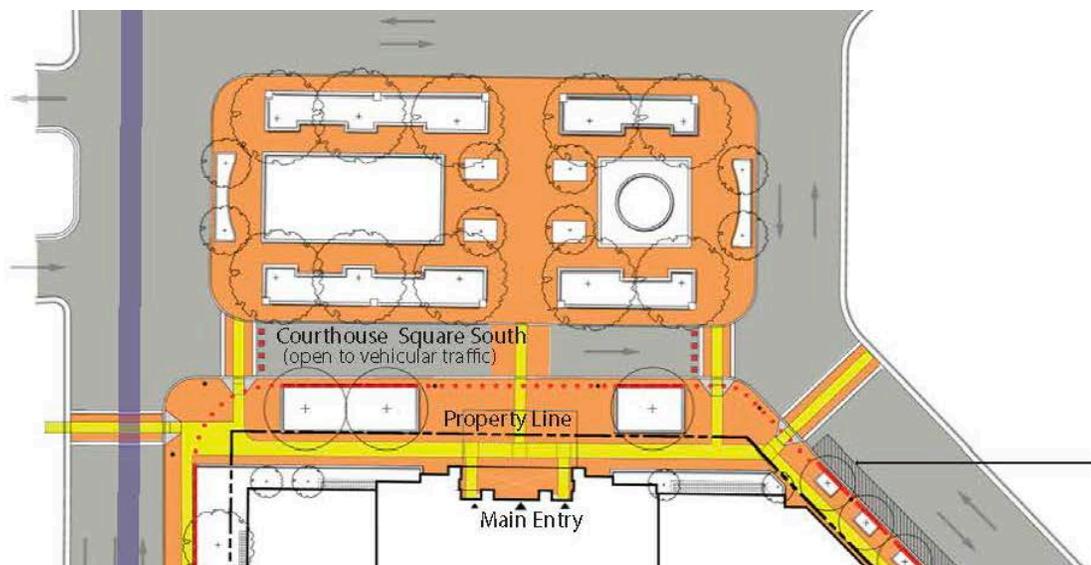


Figure 9: Plan Detail - Courthouse Square South

Along Elizabeth Lane there is no building yard, as the building is on the property line, so the perimeter security (a cable-stay garden wall) is located 14 feet 6 inches from the building face, which is 3 feet from the curb in public space. An additional level of protection along this street is achieved by relocating the official vehicle parking area to this street. The garden wall will be located.

Relevant Federal Facility Master Plan

This project is not on a federal campus so the Commission does not have an approved master plan. However, GSA states that the proposal is fully compliant with the *Carlyle District Master Plan* and the *Carlyle Streetscape Design Guidelines* as documented at the March 15, 2012

meeting of the Carlyle Design Review Board. Both the *Plan* and the *Guidelines* have been approved by the City of Alexandria and staff has received letters of support for the project from the Mayor of the City of Alexandria and the Carlyle Design Review Board. Copies of the letters of support are included in the Appendix.

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act, GSA prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA) for this project. The EA evaluated two alternatives: a no action alternative and an action alternative. The EA analyzed impacts to land use, public space, visual resources, vegetation, stormwater, transportation and noise. Since only minor impacts were identified and public comments received during the EA process were addressed accordingly, GSA issued a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) on February 22, 2012. As this project is located in the environs and not in the District of Columbia, the Commission does not have an independent responsibility under the National Environmental Policy Act.

National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA)

GSA determined that the project will have no effect on any historic resources, and in a letter dated December 11, 2011, the Virginia Department of Historic Resources and the City of Alexandria both concurred with GSA's determination. As this project is located in the environs and not in the District of Columbia, the Commission does not have an independent responsibility under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

III. CONSULTATION

Coordination with local agencies

As part of the planning process led by the U.S. General Services Administration (GSA), project stakeholders including: GSA; the U.S. Marshals Service (USMS); the U.S. Courts; the City of Alexandria; the Carlyle Community Council (CCC); the Carlyle Design Review Board; and the public collectively developed a design solution that responds to the interests of the federal government and the local community. NCPC's policy is to refer projects to local jurisdictions and state agencies for their comments, however since GSA worked diligently with all parties involved and letters were submitted by each agency in support of this project it was not referred out. Staff appreciates GSA's efforts in coordinating with local and state agencies on this project.

IV. APPENDIX

Letters of support:

- City of Alexandria
- Carlyle Community Council
- Carlyle Design Review Board
- U.S. District Court
- U.S. Marshal Service

APPENDIX – Letters of support



William D. Euille
Mayor

City of Alexandria, Virginia
301 King Street, Suite 2300
Alexandria, Virginia 22314



City Hall: (703) 746-4500
Home: (703) 836-2680
Fax: (703) 838-6433
william.euille@alexandriava.gov

March 26, 2012

Mr. Carlton E. Hart
National Capital Planning Commission
401 9th Street, NW, Suite 500
Washington, D.C. 20004

Re: NCPC Submission for Perimeter Security Improvement Project
Albert V. Bryan U.S. Courthouse, 401 Courthouse Square, Alexandria, VA 22314

Dear Mr. Hart:

Over the last several years, City staff, including the Department of Planning and Zoning, the Department of Transportation and Environmental Services, and the Fire Department, has been working closely with the U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) to develop an appropriate solution for the security enhancements planned for the Albert V. Bryan U.S. Courthouse in Alexandria. The Courthouse is located within Carlyle, which is a mixed-use neighborhood near two Metrorail stations and is home to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. There is a great deal of pedestrian activity throughout the neighborhood and maintaining a pleasant environment for the residents, workers and visitors is a primary goal for any enhancements at the Courthouse.

Since this project is being undertaken by a Federal agency, it is not required to be approved through the City's regulatory process. However, GSA has had extensive meetings with City staff to discuss the design and has kept the City apprised of the process moving forward. In an effort to provide information to the community, GSA presented its proposal to the City's Carlyle Design Review Board on March 15, 2012, which was attended by several members of the public. In general, there was great support for the project and encouragement to GSA to move forward with the improvements as quickly as possible. In addition, GSA has been working with the Carlyle Community Council (the property owner's association that governs Carlyle and owns the common space) to ensure that the proposal meets their needs as well.

The City wishes to express its support for the design and appreciation of the level of cooperation we have experienced from GSA. From our perspective, this project is advancing in the right direction. I understand that GSA will continue working with the City on the remaining phases of the project, including the development of construction documents, the City's review and

"Home Town of George Washington and Robert E. Lee"

Mr. Carlton E. Hart
National Capital Planning Commission
March 26, 2012
Page 2

approval of construction documents per our Code review process, and on through construction.
As such, we do not see a need for NCPC to refer this project back to the City for review.

We look forward to the successful and timely completion of this project and thank you for
soliciting our comments.

Sincerely,



William D. Euille
Mayor

cc: Rashad M. Young, City Manager
Mark Jinks, Deputy City Manager
Faroll Hamer, Director, Planning and Zoning
Richard Baier, Director, Transportation and Environmental Services
Adam Thiel, Fire Chief



March 22, 2012

Mr. Carlton E. Hart
National Capital Planning Commission (NCPC)
401 9th Street, NW, Suite 500
Washington, DC 20004

Re: Albert V. Bryan Courthouse Perimeter Security Project
Alexandria Virginia

Dear Mr. Hart:

On behalf of the Carlyle Community Council (CCC), please let this letter reflect our concurrence and support of the proposed Albert V. Bryan Courthouse Perimeter Security Project design, as presented by the General Services Administration (GSA).

CCC is the governing body of the Carlyle District, a privately owned and managed development area in Alexandria, Virginia. We own and are responsible for the maintenance of all common areas in Carlyle including the East and West Crescent Parks, Courthouse Square and John Carlyle Square Park. The Bryan Courthouse is located in the Carlyle District on land donated to the federal government in the early 1990s.

In the past year, a team of Carlyle representatives have worked with GSA to develop a practical and appealing perimeter security design for the Bryan Courthouse that will mark an end to the longstanding wall of Jersey barriers that surround the building today. We are all very pleased with the outcome of this joint design effort and look forward to its installation in the coming months.

I invite you to contact me directly should have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Philip D. Weber".

Philip D. Weber
President, Carlyle Community Council

1940 Duke St., Ste. 200
Alexandria, VA 22314

703.684.4424
carlylecouncil@comcast.net



www.alexandriava.gov

301 King Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

Phone (703) 746-4666
Fax (703) 838-6393

March 27, 2012

Mr. Carlton E. Hart
National Capital Planning Commission (NCPC)
401 9th Street, NW, Suite 500
Washington, DC 20004

Re: NCPC Submission for Perimeter Security Improvement Project
Albert V. Bryan U.S. Courthouse
401 Courthouse Square
Alexandria, VA 22314

Dear Mr. Hart:

At the March 15th meeting of the Carlyle Design Review Board (DRB), the General Services Administration (GSA) provided an overview of the proposed security improvements at the federal courthouse in Carlyle. Overall, the DRB is very supportive of the proposal and we commend the GSA on developing an attractive plan that fits the Carlyle neighborhood while maintaining security for the Courthouse. In particular, we are especially pleased to see that Courthouse Square South will be reopened to vehicular traffic. This street segment was part of the original street network approved by the Carlyle plan and reinstating the street will improve both vehicular and pedestrian circulation in the area.

Per the original Carlyle Special Use Permit approved in 1990, the Carlyle DRB reviews new or revised designs for development occurring in Carlyle. However, as a federal project, DRB approval is not required. We appreciate that the GSA provided the overview and requested our feedback on the proposed improvements.

We hope the National Capital Planning Commission will recommend approval of the proposed improvements and we look forward to seeing the plan implemented.

Sincerely,

Carlyle Design Review Board (Alvin Boone, Faroll
Hamer, Roger Lewis, and Lee Quill)

cc: Gwen Wright, Planning and Zoning
Peter Rizzo, GSA

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA
ALEXANDRIA DIVISION

CHAMBERS OF
THOMAS RAWLES JONES, JR.
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

401 COURTHOUSE SQUARE
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22314-5799
TELEPHONE: (703) 299-2122

March 23, 2012

Mr. Carlton E. Hart
National Capital Planning Commission
401 9th Street, NW, Suite 500
Washington, DC 20004

Re: Albert V. Bryan U.S. Courthouse
Perimeter Security Improvement Project

Dear Mr. Hart,

On behalf of the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia, I write to express the Court's approval for the Albert V. Bryan U.S. Courthouse perimeter security design as submitted to the National Capital Planning Commission (NCPC) for approval at the May 3, 2012 Commission meeting.

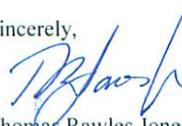
The Bryan Courthouse is an icon in the Carlyle District of Alexandria. It was the first of many commercial and residential buildings constructed here, and today it sits at the heart of what has become an active and lively community.

As both a Magistrate Judge at the Bryan Courthouse and a patron of nearby businesses, I am keenly aware of how this building relates to its surroundings, and how the existing temporary perimeter security infrastructure detracts from an otherwise attractive and functional streetscape. Therefore, I have appreciated the chance to work closely with the U.S. General Services Administration as they executed a deliberative and participative process to create the best possible design solution for all stakeholders.

To the greatest extent possible, the final design limits the number of physical obstructions for pedestrians and the often harsh visual impact of perimeter security elements. To reduce the number of bollards and increase the distance between vertical security elements, we incorporated garden fencing on all three public sides of the courthouse. We also revised our hardened security line to reopen Courthouse Square South to vehicular traffic, and we reached an agreement with the City of Alexandria to restore public parking on Jamieson Avenue after business hours. These are just a few of the many useful changes that will take shape in the coming months.

Thank you for your assistance in leading this project through the NCPC approval process.

Sincerely,



Thomas Rawles Jones, Jr.
United States Magistrate Judge



U.S. Department of Justice

United States Marshals Service

Eastern District of Virginia

March 14, 2012

Mr. Carlton E. Hart
National Capital Planning Commission
401 9th Street, NW, Suite 500
Washington, DC 20004

Re: Albert V. Bryan U.S. Courthouse Perimeter Security Improvement Project

Mr. Hart:

On behalf of the U.S. Marshals Service, Eastern District of Virginia, I am writing to convey my full support for the Albert V. Bryan U.S. Courthouse perimeter security improvement design package that is scheduled for review by the National Capital Planning Commission on May 3, 2012. We at the Marshals Service are pleased with the design and believe it will meet our permanent physical security needs for the Courthouse and its occupants.

The US Marshals Service has taken great care, and worked very closely with the U.S. General Services Administration, the City of Alexandria, and the local community to achieve a design that responds to our security requirements, and respects the context of the Carlyle District neighborhood in Alexandria, Virginia.

Creating this design was no simple task; it required intense consultation with security, engineering, planning, and design professionals, City officials, and community members. In the end, however, we believe that all parties walked away with a better understanding of each other's interests and how, sometimes through compromise, an effective physical security design can jointly accommodate aesthetic sensibilities, pedestrian access considerations, vehicle circulation improvements, and budgetary constraints.

I look forward to meeting you at the May 3, 2012 Commission meeting and welcome you to contact me beforehand should have any questions or concerns. I can be reached by phone at (703) 837-5524.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John O. Bolen".

John O. Bolen
Chief Deputy
U.S. Marshals Service
Eastern District of Virginia