

**FORT LESLEY J. McNAIR
PHYSICAL FITNESS CENTER**

4th and P Streets, SW, Washington, DC

Delegated Action of the Executive Director

March 30, 2006

Pursuant to delegations of authority adopted by the Commission on October 3, 1996, I favorably comment on the revised concept site and building plans for a new Physical Fitness Center, at Fort Lesley J. McNair, as depicted on NCPC Map File No. 24.50(38.00)-41986.

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The Department of the Army has submitted a revised concept site and building design for a new Physical Fitness Center (PFC) at Fort McNair in southwest Washington, DC. The proposed 36,000 gross square-foot building would maintain the established building line of the nearby Lincoln and Marshall Halls located along 5th Avenue within Fort McNair. The submitted site continues to remain as located in accordance with the Commission approved Subarea Master Plan. However, within the area the building has been shifted east after Army consultation with the District of Columbia Historic Preservation Office (DC SHPO). Additional measures about the historic post wall at the west, along the existing front parking area, are necessary. The Army is in the process of securing a review of the design with the DC SHPO and a completed Memorandum of Agreement is required with the final design when it is provided to NCPC.

The building's revised concept maintains handicapped access through the main entrance without the need for ramps or lifts. The structure's design provides for the use of red-brown brick façades, punched window openings and extruded aluminum storefront entrance components. Windows would be provided in the north end of the gymnasium. The program for the PFC establishes activities such as racquetball, weight training, cardiovascular training, saunas, and non-sports activities.

The project design as submitted achieves the following:

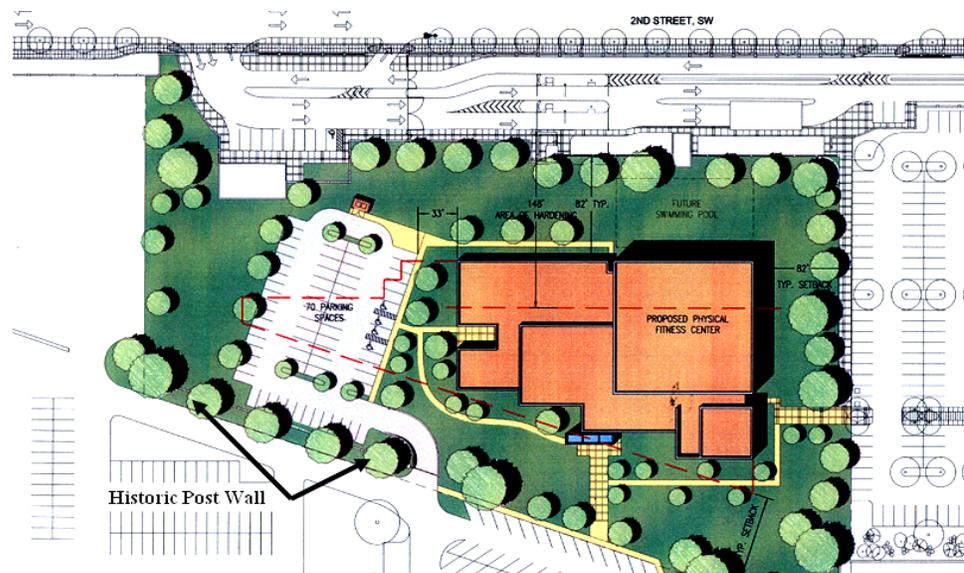
- It maintains and strengthens the building line established by Lincoln and Marshall Halls.
- It provides for future space to accommodate an exterior pool, thereby allowing for the removal of the existing swimming pool that the Commission has previously recommended be removed.

- The façade materials and relate well to the existing vocabulary at Fort McNair of primarily brick. The entrance façade creates a well-defined and subtle but doorway, which features an open overhead trellis.
- Recessed brick patterning of the gymnasium exterior walls provides interest and scale break-up of the reinforced and hardened east building perimeter. The historic post wall is incorporated into the site design at the northwest site boundary.

The Coordinating Committee reviewed this item at its meeting on July 16, 2003, and forwarded the proposal to the Commission with the statement that the project has been coordinated with all agencies participating. The general site location remains the same for the project, only the building design, at this time, has been revised through input from the DC SHPO.

The project is consistent with the Commission approved Subarea master plan, is less than 50,000 square feet in building space area, and would have no adverse impact on land uses or environmental resources of the site.

Patricia E. Gallagher, AICP
Executive Director



REVISED CONCEPT SITE PLAN



