

COMMISSION ACTION

Corrected 6/5/06

NCPC File No. 6666



LAFAYETTE BUILDING
BUILDING MODERNIZATION & PERIMETER SECURITY
811 Vermont Avenue, NW
Washington, DC

Submitted by the General Services Administration

May 4, 2006

Commission Action Requested by Applicant

Approval of the (preliminary) building plans for building modernization; and review and comment on the (concept) design for perimeter security; pursuant to 40 U.S.C. § 8722 (b)(1) and (d).

Commission Action

The Commission:

Approves preliminary building plans for modernization of the Lafayette Building at 811 Vermont Avenue, NW, as shown in NCPC Map File No. 21.00(38.40)42025.

Recommends that GSA use the Decision Support Tool developed by GSA's Office of the Chief Architect to develop the Design Basis Tactics and Level of Protection as recommended in the Interagency Security Committee (ISC) Security Design Criteria for New Federal Office Buildings and Major Modernization Projects.

Recommends that in further development of the design for perimeter security, GSA:

- Develop a variety of hardened streetscape elements along Vermont Avenue as proposed for this area in the National Capital Urban Design and Security Plan, and coordinate the design for both sides of Vermont Avenue between Lafayette and McPherson Squares.
- Preserve the building's historic retail uses along 15th Street, and coordinate with retail tenants and the Downtown Business Improvement District to ensure that adjacent security elements do not impede the area's commerce and vitality.
- Coordinate with the adjacent property owner to develop design strategies for providing perimeter security at the public alley from 15th Street.
- Provide an alternative design of the security element, more traditionally towards the curb line.
- Coordinate with the District Department of Transportation the integration of parking meters into the bollard line.

Advises the applicant that the perimeter security portion of the project as proposed does not meet any of the Commission's criteria for categorical exclusion under the National Environmental Policy Act, in which case an environmental assessment may be required to accompany the preliminary submission.

Deborah B. Young
Secretary to the National Capital Planning Commission