

# STAFF RECOMMENDATION

NCPC File No. 6694

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## DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER MEMORIAL

Approval of Site and Design Principles

Bounded by Independence Avenue, 4<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Streets, SW,  
and the Department of Education Headquarters  
Washington, DC

Submitted by the National Park Service

August 31, 2006

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### Abstract

The National Park Service, on behalf of the Dwight D. Eisenhower Memorial Commission, has submitted a request for approval of a site and design guidelines for the Dwight D. Eisenhower Memorial. The proposed site, identified as Site #3 in NCPC's Memorials and Museums Master Plan, occupies approximately four acres of federally owned land immediately south of Independence Avenue, SW between 4<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Streets, SW. The Eisenhower Memorial is authorized by Public Laws 106-79 and 107-117, and by Public Law 109-220, which authorizes its location within Area I.

### Commission Action Requested by Applicant

Approval of site selection and design guidelines pursuant to Public Laws 106-79, 107-117, 109-220, and the Commemorative Works Act (40 U.S.C. 8905).

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### Executive Director's Recommendation

The Commission:

**Approves** the site for the Dwight D. Eisenhower Memorial in the area bounded by Independence Avenue, 4<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Streets, SW and the Department of Education Building, as shown on NCPC Map File No. 1.71(73.10)42093, provided that the applicant design the Memorial using the Section 106 consultation process to meet, to the Commission's satisfaction, the following design principles:

Design Principles:

1. Preserve reciprocal views to and from the U.S. Capitol along Maryland Avenue, SW.
2. Enhance the nature of the site as one in a sequence of public spaces embellishing the Maryland Avenue vista.
3. Create a unified memorial site that integrates the disparate parcels into a meaningful and functional public gathering place that also unifies the surrounding precinct.
4. Reflect L'Enfant Plan principles by shaping the Memorial site as a separate and distinct public space that complements the Department of Education Headquarters and other surrounding buildings.
5. Respect and complement the architecture of the surrounding precinct.
6. Respect the building lines of the surrounding rights-of-way and the alignment of trees along Maryland Avenue.
7. Incorporate significant green space into the design of the memorial.

**Does not adopt** the applicant's draft design guidelines as submitted, and notes that additional or more detailed design guidelines may be developed and be incorporated in a Section 106 Memorandum of Agreement as consultation continues.

**Finds** that potential effects to the historic Maryland Avenue right-of-way and associated views and vistas merit special attention, and therefore underscores the requirement that the applicant obtain prior to and during design development the views of the District of Columbia Historic Preservation Officer (DC SHPO) and consulting parties through the Section 106 consultation process.

**Notes** that the Executive Director has issued a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the site selection subject to the development and implementation of appropriate mitigation through adherence to the Design Principles and the Section 106 consultation process.

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## PROJECT DESCRIPTION

### Executive Summary

The applicant has submitted a request for approval of site selection and design guidelines for the Dwight D. Eisenhower Memorial, pursuant to Public Laws 106-79, 107-117, 109-220, and the Commemorative Works Act (40 U.S.C. 8905). Public Law 109-220 authorizes its location within Area I.

Staff recommends that the Commission approve the site bounded by Independence Avenue, 4<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Streets, SW and the Department of Education Building, provided that the applicant design the Memorial using the Section 106 consultation process to meet, to the Commission's

satisfaction, the Design Principles above that replace the draft design guidelines submitted by the applicant.

### Background

Public Law 106-79 created the Eisenhower Memorial Commission (EMC) to consider and formulate plans for a permanent memorial to Dwight D. Eisenhower on October 25, 1999. Public Law 107-117 amended Public Law 106-79 by providing authority to establish a memorial in compliance with the Commemorative Works Act (CWA) in October 1999. The National Capital Memorial [Advisory] Commission (then NCMC) voted unanimously to recommend location within Area I at its April 25, 2002 meeting.

The Eisenhower Memorial Commission (EMC), in conjunction with the NPS, identified 26 potential sites within the environs of the Nation's Capital, beginning with 24 of them between 2001 and 2002, which were located both within Area I and Area II, but eliminated Sites 9 through 24 from consideration as being outside Area I. The Reserve established in the 2003 Commemorative Works Clarification Act eliminated sites 3 through 8, within the Reserve. The EMC studied two of the original sites in greater detail, (Maryland Avenue and Freedom Plaza), along with two additional sites, the Auditors Building and the proposed United Institute for Peace (USIP) site. By 2005, only the Maryland Avenue and Freedom Plaza Sites remained under consideration. The Freedom Plaza site was eliminated due in part to the lack of direct correlation between Eisenhower and adjacent federal agencies.

The EMC recommended its preferred site (Maryland and Independence Avenues) at its June 2005 meeting as part of a Site Evaluation Report. The EMC further documented its findings in a Site Selection Report, dated November 8, 2005 for the National Capital Memorial Advisory Commission, followed by the Secretary of the Interior recommending to Congress that the Memorial be located in Area I on February 2, 2006. Public Law 109-220, passed in May 2006, authorized construction of the Memorial in Area I.

The EMC documented its findings in a Site Selection Report, dated November 8, 2005. In May 2006, Congress enacted Public Law 109-220 to authorize the Eisenhower Memorial within Area I, designated for memorials "of preeminent historical and lasting significance to the Nation." The preferred Maryland Avenue site is designated as Prime Candidate Site #3 in NCPC's Memorials and Museums (2M) Master Plan.

The NPS completed an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the site selection phase of the Memorial on June 16, 2006 and circulated the EA for 30 days for public comment. NCPC was a cooperating agency in the development of the EA. In the EA, the Park Service considered two alternatives: the one submitted for approval, and a no action alternative.

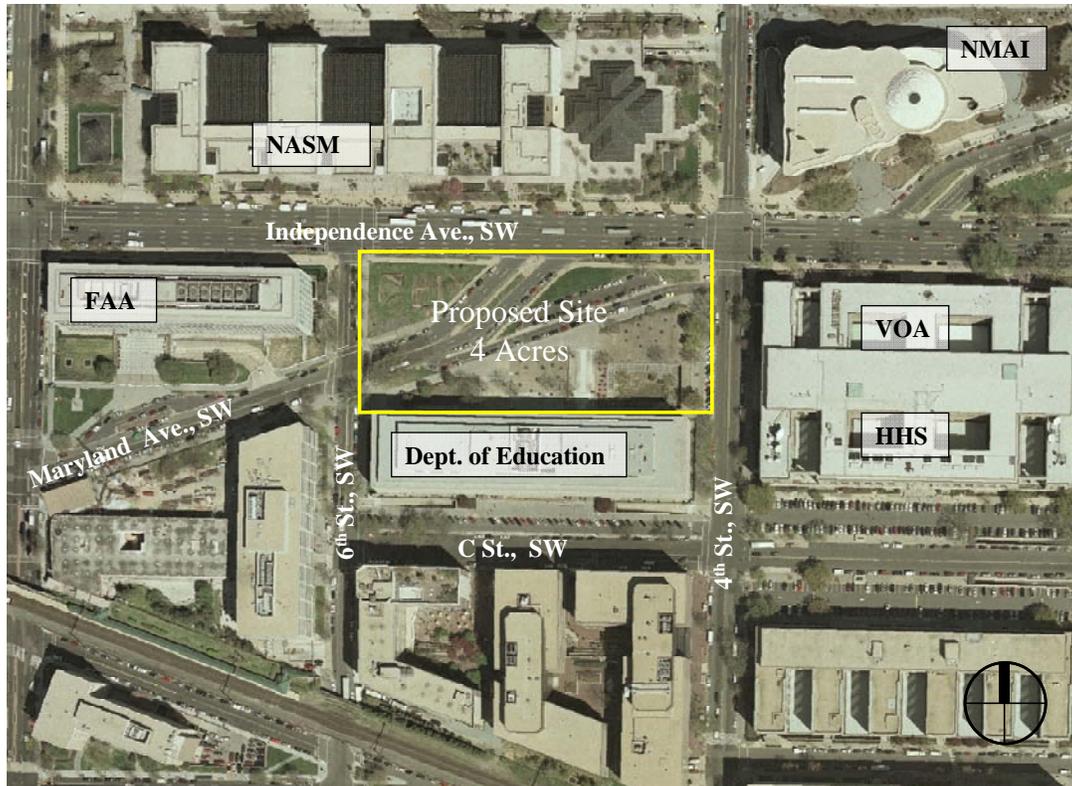
## Site Description

The proposed Memorial site consists of approximately four acres located south of the National Air and Space Museum (NASM). The site is bounded by Independence Avenue on the north, 4<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Streets SW on the east and west, and the U.S. Department of Education Headquarters on the south. It is bisected by Maryland Avenue, SW. The site was designated as Prime Candidate #3 in NCPC's Memorials and Museums Master Plan. Three government agencies share administrative jurisdiction over the site, which is entirely federally owned. The National Park Service administers an approximately half-acre area in the northwest corner of the site known as U.S. Reservation 5, used as a community garden and exercise course. The District of Columbia Department of Transportation (DDOT) administers approximately two acres within the Maryland Avenue right-of-way. GSA administers approximately 1.5 acres along the south side of Maryland Avenue in Square 492, for use as the forecourt of the Department of Education headquarters building. GSA and DDOT would transfer jurisdiction over their portions of the proposed site to the NPS to form a single parcel.

## Site History

The importance of the right-of-way to the historic plan of Washington, and the enhancement of the right-of-way along Maryland Avenue through these blocks, is an acknowledged goal of the applicant's proposal. The Commission's *Legacy Plan* envisioned a Maryland Avenue that was (the current constraints and barriers along the avenue notwithstanding) as connected and open and possible, providing reciprocal vistas to and from the US Capitol along the avenue's right-of-way. The Commission's Memorials and Museums Plan envisioned this site as a prime site for a future commemorative work, recognizing the significance of this site near the Capitol and the Mall and also the importance of enhancing now-disparate parcels with a coherent design that would reflect the principles of the L'Enfant and McMillan Plans.

In the L'Enfant Plan, Maryland Avenue linked Reservation 5 and the Capitol, crossing B Street (now Independence Avenue) at a 45-degree angle at 4<sup>th</sup> Street. The McMillan Plan proposed the re-establishment of the Maryland Avenue and B Street alignments according to the L'Enfant Plan. When the McMillan Plan was implemented in the twentieth century, B Street was widened to be more prominent and was renamed Independence Avenue. Maryland Avenue traffic was then diverted mid-block to avoid its entering the intersection of Independence Avenue and 4<sup>th</sup> Street, SW.



**Proposed Site at Maryland and Independence Avenues, SW**

## PROPOSAL

### Applicant's Proposal

Once GSA and DDOT transfer jurisdiction over their portions of the proposed site to the NPS, the applicant proposes to unify the parcels on either side of Maryland Avenue, as well as its right-of-way, into a single site that would result in a public space for use as this Presidential Memorial. The segment of Maryland Avenue within the site, including its spur, would be permanently closed to vehicles. Eastbound traffic would be diverted north on 6<sup>th</sup> Street to Independence Avenue (rather than being diverted north in the next block) and would continue eastbound on Independence Avenue. Sixty-nine metered and permitted parking spaces within the site would be eliminated.

The applicant proposed 11 detailed design guidelines to accompany the site selection. NCPC staff does not recommend Commission adoption of these guidelines, but has instead developed seven more comprehensive Design Principles to address the overall precinct and guide the project through the Section 106 consultation as the Memorial design is developed. For the Commission's information, the NPS's proposed draft design guidelines are listed below.

### National Park Service Proposed Draft Design Guidelines

1. The principle features of the Memorial will be located within an approximate three-acre developed area that respects the existing building setbacks on Independence Avenue, 4th and 6th Streets.
2. The parcels on either side of Maryland Avenue as well as its right-of-way may be unified into a single site that results in a landscaped public plaza with the characteristics of the triangles, circles and squares of the L'Enfant and McMillan Plans.
3. The Memorial will be designed so that the views to the U.S. Capitol within the vista of the Maryland Avenue right-of-way will be preserved. No structures will be constructed within that vista.
4. Memorial elements such as statuary or a central artwork placed in the Maryland Avenue right-of-way will have an average height of no more than 10 feet.
5. New trees may be introduced along the edges of the Maryland Avenue right-of-way to frame the view of the U.S. Capitol.
6. The design of the Memorial will not include features that encourage parked or standing vehicles within the Maryland Avenue vista of the U.S. Capitol.
7. Any outdoor feature within the Memorial site to provide year-round protection from the elements for visitors to the Memorial will not be enclosed so as to create seasonally conditioned space.
8. The Memorial will include accessible pedestrian circulation for visitors and employees of the Department of Education Building.
9. The National Park Service visitor facility will be approximately 2,500 square feet in area and will not contain a separate service entrance or loading dock.
10. Memorial lighting scheme will respect the dominant lighting scheme of the U.S. Capitol.
11. The ground plane of the Memorial site will not be raised to a height greater than an average of three feet above existing grade although the plaza can be constructed at more than one elevation.

## PROJECT ANALYSIS

### Executive Summary

The proposed site is designated as a Prime Candidate site in NCPC's Memorials and Museums Master Plan. The preferred location also holds significance for the EMC due to specific thematic relationships between Eisenhower's legacy and the federal entities and museums that surround the proposed site, including the Department of Education, the Department of Health and Human Services, the Department of Transportation and the Federal Aviation Administration, the Voice of America, and the National Air and Space Museum. The Park Service also submitted 11 draft design guidelines.

Staff recommends approval of the site, but not the Park Service's draft design guidelines. Instead, staff recommends approval of the seven Design Principles developed through consultation with the requirement that consultation continue prior to and during design development.

## Site

The applicant has selected a site designated as a Prime Memorial Candidate Site (#3) in the Memorials and Museums Master Plan. With appropriate design guidance, the Memorial design will reinforce axial vistas along Maryland Avenue to and from the Capitol. Locating a memorial on the site will also improve the potential for Reservation 113 (#19 in the Memorials and Museums Master Plan) to become a future memorial site.

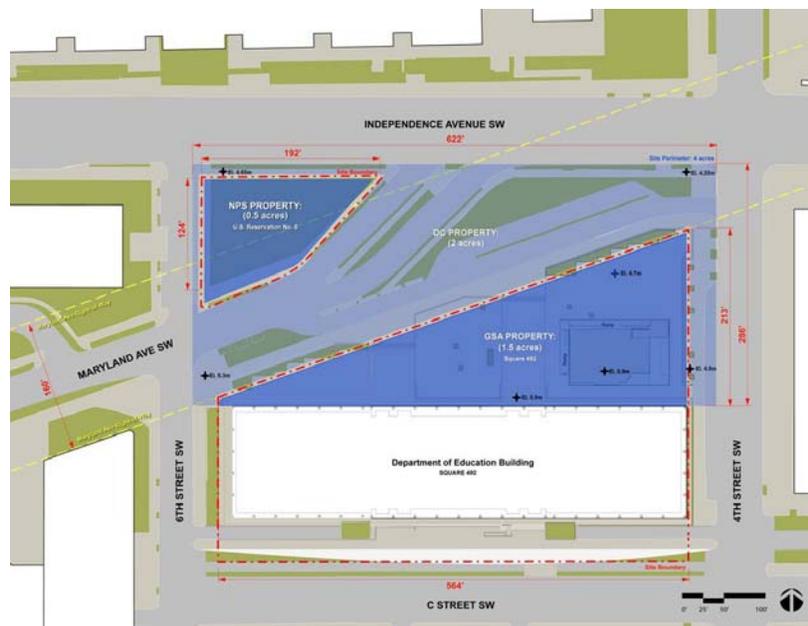
The Commission's 1997 *Legacy Plan* envisioned the length of Maryland Avenue restored as a boulevard with monumental vistas. In 2001, NCPC's Memorials and Museums Master Plan (2M), refined the *Legacy* vision by creating two memorial sites along the Avenue, the proposed site and Reservation 113 at the intersection of Maryland and Virginia Avenues at 8<sup>th</sup> Street, SW.

The 2M Plan states:

“Memorial development should take advantage of the site’s location on [Maryland and Independence Avenues], as well as the direct axial vista to the Capitol....Depending on specific location and configuration, Memorial development could displace some current uses. Renovation and redesign of the existing plaza would complement adjoining federal government and visitor uses.”

“Any future memorial should incorporate existing reciprocal vistas along Maryland Avenue. The mass and scale should not obstruct or obscure the primary axial relationships along the Avenue.”

“The design of any future memorial should allow for public gatherings while providing adequate space for commemorative reflection.”



**Maryland Avenue Right-of-Way and View Corridor**

### Design Principles Developed by Staff through Consultation

Staff supports approving the proposed site provided that the applicant design the Memorial using the Section 106 consultation process to meet, to the Commission's satisfaction, the following Design Principles in lieu of the draft design guidelines submitted by NPS:

#### Design Principles:

1. Preserve reciprocal views to and from the U.S. Capitol along Maryland Avenue, SW.
2. Enhance the nature of the site as one in a sequence of public spaces embellishing the Maryland Avenue vista.
3. Create a unified memorial site that integrates the disparate parcels into a meaningful and functional public gathering place that also unifies the surrounding precinct.
4. Reflect L'Enfant Plan principles by shaping the Memorial site as a separate and distinct public space that complements the Department of Education Headquarters and other surrounding buildings.
5. Respect and complement the architecture of the surrounding precinct.
6. Respect the building lines of the surrounding rights-of-way and the alignment of trees along Maryland Avenue.
7. Incorporate significant green space into the design of the memorial.

To ensure that both federal agencies meet their respective Section 106 responsibilities at this first stage of the project—action on a proposed memorial site--NPS and NCPC hosted a consultation meeting on August 29, 2006. The purpose of the meeting was to consult with and hear the views of consulting parties and interested citizens on the values, attributes, and historic character of the proposed memorial site. NCPC staff developed Design Principles (in place of NPS's draft more detailed design guidelines) for discussion and response at the meeting. Staff determined that these Design Principles are more comprehensive in addressing the Memorial both within its immediate precinct and within the L'Enfant Plan. Furthermore, staff concluded that the Section 106 consultation process provides for the development of more detailed guidelines as necessary, and that such guidelines can be incorporated into a Memorandum of Agreement.

The DC SHPO supported staff's approach and suggested revisions, which have been incorporated into the Design Principles. The revised Design Principles also reflect comments from the National Park Service and consulting parties. Correspondence between NPS and DC SHPO is attached to this report.



**View along Maryland Avenue Looking Towards the Capitol**



**View along Maryland Avenue Bisecting Site Looking Towards the Capitol**

Discussions at the August 29, 2006 meeting included whether unification of the parcels into a rectangle but preserving the viewsheds was the best approach or whether the cartway should be reinstated for use by vehicles, whether the viewshed should extend beyond Reservation 113 to include the entire length of Maryland Avenue, and whether the use of the Design Principles would be specific enough to mitigate any potential adverse effects. Staff concludes that the current Design Principles address these points, with the exception of restoring a functioning cartway.

As emphasized by the DC SHPO, it is worth noting that this location on Maryland Avenue SW is much altered over time, and thus lacks a consistent historical identity. It appears on the earliest L'Enfant Plan maps as an open triangular space, but was configured as a diagonal avenue during much of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. With the McMillan introduction of Independence Avenue, it again became a triangular open space, but all four buildings defining the space are rectilinear, reflecting the primacy of Independence Avenue in the McMillan Plan and in the city plan today.

The DC SHPO has further responded by noting that the periodic punctuation of the avenues with public spaces seems the more fundamental historic feature as opposed to the configuration of the space as a diagonal roadway with triangles or as a central square. It is the shaping of view corridors and public spaces framed by building sites that is the essence of the L'Enfant and McMillan Plans, rather than the functional roadway configurations (that have sometimes been changeable over time as subdivisions of the public space).

## CONFORMANCE

### Commemorative Works Act (CWA)

This project is being developed and reviewed under the Commemorative Works Act (40 USC § 8901 et seq.). The procedure that staff and Commission are using is fully consistent with that Act.

### National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

The Commission's Environmental and Historic Preservation Policies and Procedures, adopted by the Commission in April 2004 after consultation with the President's Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ), require an environmental document (Environmental Assessment or Environmental Impact Statement) at the site selection stage and subsequent stages for all Commemorative Works. The National Park Service has submitted an EA to meet this requirement.

The National Park Service completed an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the site selection phase of the President Dwight D. Eisenhower Memorial on June 16, 2006 and circulated the EA for 30 days for public comment. NCPC was a cooperating agency in the development of the EA. The Park Service received six comments on the EA. In the EA, the Park Service considers two

alternatives: the alternative it has submitted for approval, and a no action alternative. While NCPC staff may have found it preferable to consider fully additional alternative sites, given the circumstances of the EA, including the fact that Congress has enacted a second law related to this Memorial that permits its location in Area I, the analysis is adequate as presented in the context of the EA addressing the reasons for their elimination.

The EA has provided effective information to guide the staff in its review and development of recommendations for this Memorial location action. NCPC staff, in its independent review of the EA has found few potential environmental impacts that may be significant. The proposed design principles in concert with the required National Historic Preservation Act, Section 106, Memorandum of Agreement will address potential impacts that fall into the category of visual impacts, especially to views protected as historic views and affects to historical and cultural components of the environment regarding the nature of the closure of a portion of a L'Enfant street.

Traffic effects. With regard to traffic effects, overall, the proposed removal of the current alignment of Maryland Avenue within the site is not, by itself, anticipated to have any major adverse impact on existing vehicular volumes and traffic patterns (Earth Tech, 2005). In addition, conversion of the Maryland Avenue and Independence Avenue intersection would have a positive impact on traffic safety at the intersection. Using the Year 2013 No-Build and Build traffic volumes, the site intersections were analyzed for level of service (LOS) using the HCM module of the SYNCHRO traffic simulation program and existing District of Columbia Department of Transportation traffic signal timings.

Under the Year 2013 No-Build condition, the resulting LOS is similar to existing conditions, with slightly more delay, consistent with normal traffic growth. All site intersections for this condition would operate at an LOS C (acceptable) or better, except for the unsignalized intersection of Independence Avenue and Maryland Avenue, with some approach movements operating at LOS D (acceptable), as identified for existing conditions in the Transportation Impact Study of 2006.

Under the Year 2013 site development condition, which includes memorial generated trips, the resulting LOS is similar to the Year 2013 No-Build condition with all site intersections operating at LOS C or better (although some individual intersection approach movements would operate at LOS D). In addition, the existing Maryland Avenue, SW and Independence Avenue intersection configuration, which would operate at LOS D, would be eliminated under the Build condition. The Park Service has received comment from the District of Columbia Department of Transportation dated June 9, 2006, indicating support of the concept of closure of Maryland Avenue within the site. The Department also further noted it will result in a loss of existing metered parking and that the loss revenue from the parking is a concern that needs to be further discussed with the District's Department of Transportation. No significant impact results from the physical alteration of traffic lanes as identified in the EA.

Accommodation of Visitors. The site is located within an area well served by public transit including Metrorail and Metrobus, commuter and national rail lines, and tourist oriented shuttle buses including the Tourmobile and the DC Circulator. Based on a transportation study, the

applicant anticipates that visitation to the Memorial would come primarily from the visitors already in the area for the National Air and Space Museum (NASM) and the National Museum of the American Indian (NMAI) across Independence Avenue to the north and northeast. Therefore, the applicant forecasts that ridership on the transit systems in proximity to the site would not measurably increase over the long term, and that the parking supply to remain after the road closure will adequately meet demands of the Memorial.

Impact on Existing Recreation Facilities and Infrastructure. An open, landscaped memorial would replace the existing uses on the site, including the roadway infrastructure, Department of Education entry plaza, approximately 24 community garden plots, an exercise course, and potentially the below-grade courtyards. A relocation site is needed for these facilities. The gardens and exercise course, which requires an up to date permit, may be displaced. The applicant acknowledges that displacement of the community gardens and the exercise course from the site would disrupt users, but views the resulting green open and commemorative space as offsetting mitigation.

NCPC's Executive Director has determined that the Memorial could be sited upon the submitted site with no significant impacts provided that the applicant completes mitigation measures required in the Executive Director's finding of no significant impact. These mitigation measures are developed as design principles for approval by the Commission.

#### Proposed Site

The applicant's proposed site location accommodates the purpose and need of the project with minimal impacts on the environment, together with the design principles serving to mitigate any potential adverse impacts. NCPC staff has found that the selection of the submitted site for the project would result in minor to moderate, but adverse, impacts unless the applicant undertakes specific mitigation measures outlined in the executive director's finding of no significant impact and reflected in the design principles outlined as part of the executive director's recommendations. NCPC staff has assessed the environmental analysis in the EA for the submitted site location and the public comments on the EA, which have helped to inform staff recommendations.

#### No Action Alternative

As required by the National Environmental Policy Act, the applicant's environmental assessment for the Memorial to President Dwight D. Eisenhower site location included a no action alternative. The environmental assessment states that the no action alternative would not satisfy the purpose and need of the applicant's proposed project location and mission purpose, and NCPC accepts this analysis.

#### National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA)

The National Park Service (NPS) is serving as the lead federal agency for the Section 106 review. NPS scheduled a public scoping meeting on February 16, 2006 and a comment meeting on the EA on June 29, 2006. The EA was available for public comment from June 16 to July 17, 2006.

On August 9, 2006, NPS formally initiated consultation with the District of Columbia State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), stating that it had determined that “the unification of the three parcels into a single landscaped public plaza as a site of the Memorial would have no adverse effect to the National Register qualities of the L’Enfant/McMillan Plan and that the proposed design guidelines will mitigate any potential adverse effects of the design.” NPS enclosed a copy of its draft design guidelines (developed with the memorial sponsors) in the August 9 letter to the SHPO.

NPS’s letter to the SHPO also notes that two organizations--the National Coalition to Save Our Mall and the Committee of 100 on the Federal City--have asked that they be identified as consulting parties, and suggests that a Memorandum of Agreement be developed “that provides for consultation in order to continue to avoid adverse effects during the design development of the Memorial.”

The Commission, which also has Section 106 responsibilities, notes that for commemorative works Section 106 review does not have to be completed at the time the Commission acts on a proposed site selection. In fact, under the Commission’s procedures, a “determination of effect” by the applicant does not yet have to be made or agreed upon. However, the early groundwork for the process should be completed by the applicant, including submitting documentation demonstrating that it has identified consulting parties to the extent possible, establishing in consultation with the SHPO a public participation plan for the commemorative works approval process, and identifying (in consultation with the SHPO, other consulting parties, the Commission, etc) the historic properties that might be affected by the project.

To ensure that both federal agencies meet their respective Section 106 responsibilities at this first stage of the project—action on a proposed memorial site--NPS and NCPC hosted a consultation meeting on August 29, 2006. The purpose of the meeting was to consult with and hear the views of many of the consulting parties and interested citizens on the values, attributes, and historic character of the proposed memorial site. NCPC staff developed draft design principles (in place of NPS’s more detailed, submitted draft guidelines) for discussion and response at the meeting, both to introduce them conceptually to consulting parties and in order to facilitate discussion on the character of the site, particularly although not solely as it related to the Plan of Washington, DC.

The proposed site surrounds two blocks of the right-of-way of Maryland Avenue, SW. The 160-foot right-of-way was established in the L’Enfant Plan. Adjacent areas were modified as the National Mall was altered and Independence Avenue envisioned a more prominent avenue in the 20<sup>th</sup> century as a result of the McMillan Plan. Mid-century modifications to the intersection of Maryland Avenue and Independence Avenue occurred at this site with the advent of greater and faster traffic. The current street configuration is a partial deviation from the original right-of-way. Further, the Department of Education building was built in the Modern style without reflecting earlier tenets of building to the right-of-way line of avenues that reinforced the L’Enfant Plan.

The DC SHPO's letter of August 31, 2006 to the National Park Service suggests that a Memorandum of Agreement that incorporates more detailed design guidelines and indicates a procedure for review of the memorial design would be an appropriate vehicle to address the effects of the project on historic features.

### Comprehensive Plan for the National Capital

The proposal and recommended process for consultation and design development are consistent with the Comprehensive Plan. The following policies apply:

#### Parks and Open Space Element

- Maintain small urban parks primarily as historic parks and designed landscapes with fountains, monuments, memorials, tree cover, and other features of civic art (Policy #2, Page 109).
- Site memorials in monumental designed landscape parks in compliance with the *Memorials and Museums Master Plan* (Policy #3, Page 109).

#### Preservation and Historic Features Element

- Express the dignity befitting the image of the federal government in the national capital. Federal development should adhere to the high aesthetic standards already established by the planning and design legacy of the nation's capital. (Policy #1, Page 161).
- Plan carefully for appropriate uses and compatible design in and near the monumental core to reinforce and enhance its special role in the image of the nation's capital. (Policy #2, Page 161).
- Protect and enhance the vistas and views, both natural and designed, that are an integral part of the national capital's image. (Policy #5, Page 161).
- Develop the monumental core in accordance with the principles of the *Legacy Plan* and the policies of the *Memorials and Museums Master Plan*. The National Mall's historic open space and monumental character should be respected and preserved for the benefit of future generations. (Policy #1, Page 166).
- Promote continuity in the historic design framework of the nation's capital by protecting and enhancing the elements, views, and principles of the L'Enfant Plan. (Policy #2, Page 166).
- Provide and maintain street trees to help frame axial views and reinforce the historic green character of the nation's capital. (Policy #14, Page 166).
- Restore historic streets and reservations that have been inappropriately disrupted or closed to their original right-of-way or configuration at the earliest opportunity. (Policy #15, Page 166).

### GSA's Third and C Street, SW Master Plan

This master plan is under development to improve the urban streetscape and perimeter security, as well as to strengthen pedestrian circulation along C Street between 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Streets, and within the precinct of the Memorial site.

### National Capital Framework Plan

The National Capital Framework Plan, launched in May 2006, is a multi-agency federal effort, led by the National Capital Planning Commission (NCPC) along with the U.S. Commission of Fine Arts, to prepare a plan for the areas surrounding the National Mall. The Framework Plan seeks to move symbolic Washington beyond the National Mall and to improve the Mall's neighboring areas through improved streetscapes, enhanced visitor, worker and resident services, and better connections among national attractions, and by offering attractive locations for commemoration by establishing desirable new destination sites in area surrounding the National Mall.

## CONSULTATION

### Coordinating Committee

Without objection, the Committee forwarded the proposed site selection and design guidelines to the Commission with the statement that the project had been coordinated with all agencies represented.

### Commission of Fine Arts

The Commission of Fine Arts (CFA) will review the site selection proposal at its September 21, 2006 Commission Meeting. CFA staff participated in the August 29, 2006 consultation meeting.