

PRESS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release

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NCPC to Review Plans for a PUD at the Former Randall Junior High School that Includes Space for the Corcoran College of Art and Design

Commission also to receive information presentation on flooding east of the Anacostia River

Washington, DC – The National Capital Planning Commission (NCPC) today will review plans referred by the Zoning Commission of the District of Columbia for a consolidated Planned Unit Development (PUD) and related map amendment in Southwest Washington, D.C. The project site is the former Randall Junior High School, located at 65 I Street, SW. The 500,000 square foot project includes plans for the Corcoran College of Art and Design as well as residential units. The Commission will review the project for impacts to the federal interest.

The 2.66-acre site is located between H and I Streets Southwest, one block west of South Capitol Street and adjacent to Randall Park. The District of Columbia sold the former Randall Junior High School site to the Corcoran Gallery of Art in 2006 in order to redevelop it for an art college and residential use.

As proposed, the Corcoran College of Art and Design will be approximately 100,000 square feet and will occupy the front of the building on I Street. The residential units, which occupy nearly 400,000 square feet of the building, will be accessible from two doors, on the southeast and northwest corners of the building. The number of residential units has not been finalized, but 20 percent of them will be affordable housing. An underground parking garage is also included for approximately 400 vehicles.

The proposed design includes several penthouses that range in size from 16 to 18 feet tall, which house mechanical systems for the building. The project will be constructed through a combination of demolition, new construction, and renovation of the historic school building.

The Commission today will conclude its meeting with an information presentation on flooding and stormwater risks east of the Anacostia River. Areas around the Anacostia River have an increased susceptibility to flooding due to its low-lying topography and the likelihood of future development.

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NCPC's flood report expands upon a draft report released in February 2007 that outlined flood risks to the monumental core, provided recommendations for reducing long-term flood risks, and the role of local and federal government in these issues. Today's presentation also will include a review of FEMA's recently proposed floodplain map modifications and their potential impacts on the downtown core.

This month's agenda also includes two consent calendar items (no presentations given): preliminary and final building plans for the excavation and foundation construction for the main building on the campus of the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency at Fort Belvoir, VA; and closure of public alleys in Square 566 bounded by 2nd and 3rd Streets in Northwest, Washington, DC. Information about actions taken at today's Commission meeting can be accessed on www.ncpc.gov.

The National Capital Planning Commission is the federal government's central planning agency in the District of Columbia and surrounding counties in Maryland and Virginia. The Commission provides overall planning guidance for federal land and buildings in the region. It also reviews the design of federal projects and memorials, oversees long-range planning for future development, and monitors capital investment by federal agencies.

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