



## MEDIA RELEASE

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### **National Capital Planning Commission Approves Final Building Plans for U.S. Museum of the Army**

*Site Development Plans for the Albert V. Bryan Courthouse in Alexandria Also Approved*

**Washington, DC** – At its monthly meeting today the National Capital Planning Commission (NCPC) approved final building plans for the United States Museum of the Army located on the North Post of Fort Belvoir. Submitted by the Department of the Army, the approximately 187,000 square-foot museum will be constructed on a portion of the Fort Belvoir Golf Course which will be reconfigured in order to retain 36 holes of golf. The museum is expected to open in 2015.

The Museum's final site plan will be submitted to NCPC for review concurrently with the Army's plans to reconfigure the golf course.

In the first item on the agenda the Commission approved preliminary and final site development plans for perimeter security at the Albert V. Bryan United States Courthouse in Alexandria, Virginia. Submitted by the U.S. General Services Administration (GSA), the project will replace the temporary security barriers currently surrounding the federal courthouse with permanent security elements designed to complement the building and the surrounding streetscape. GSA's proposal includes additional landscaped areas, improved sidewalks and vehicular circulation, and permanent security elements such as garden walls and bollards.

In approving the plans, the Commission commended GSA, the U.S. Marshals Service, and the U.S. District Court for working with the Carlyle Community Council and the City of Alexandria in developing a design that is 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.

"The courthouse solution is yet another model for perimeter security to which the Commission can point," said NCPC Chairman L. Preston Bryant Jr. "The project successfully balances public access with federal security needs while contributing to the urban fabric of Alexandria's Carlyle neighborhood."

The Commission also heard an information presentation on the status of the SW Ecodistrict Initiative. Led by NCPC, in coordination with the District of Columbia Office of Planning (DCOP) and other local and federal agencies, the initiative seeks to create a high performance sustainability showcase along the 10th Street and Maryland Avenue corridors in Southwest Washington. No actions are taken on information presentations. The draft SW Ecodistrict Plan is anticipated to be released for public review at the July 12, 2012 Commission meeting.

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This month's agenda also included three consent calendar items (no presentations given):

- Installation of Sprint Communication Antennas and Rooftop Equipment on Building 220 at the Washington Navy Yard;
- Wounded Warrior Transition Lodge at the Naval Support Activity-Bethesda, 8901 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, Maryland;
- District of Columbia Capital Improvement Plan – Fiscal Years 2013-2018

In addition, the Executive Director [approved eight projects](#) under the Commission's delegated authorities. The staff recommendations and project materials are available on [NCPC's website](#).

*The National Capital Planning Commission is the federal government's central planning agency in the District of Columbia and surrounding counties of Maryland and Virginia. The Commission provides overall 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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