Program & Vision for MLK Library
Commemoration of Dr. King

Martin Luther King Jr. was born on January 15, 1929, in Atlanta, Georgia. Both a Baptist minister and civil-rights activist, Dr. King had a important impact on race relations in the United States, beginning in the mid-1950s. Among many efforts, King headed the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC).

SCLC’s advocacy of boycotts and other forms of non-violent protest played a pivotal role in ending the legal segregation of African-American citizens in the South and other areas of the nation, as well as the creation of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965. Dr. King received the Nobel Peace Prize in 1964, among several other honors.

Dr. King was assassinated in April 1968, and continues to be remembered as one of the most lauded African-American leaders in history, often referenced by his 1963 speech, “I Have a Dream.”

Dr. King ignited passion for social change and for civil discourse. MLK was the first memorial to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. dedicated in DC following his assassination.
Meeting Agenda

1. Introduction, Vision, and Program
2. Review Process Update
3. Historic Structure Report and NEPA Alternatives
4. Preferred Alternative
5. Criteria of Adverse Effects
6. Discussion
Comments Received at November Meeting

Preservation of Modernist architecture

General difficulties of preserving Modernist architecture

*Historic Structure Report* should be completed to guide rehabilitation

Additions

Appropriateness of large addition and mixed use element

General discussion of one-story addition designs

Commemoration

Need to strengthen commemorative and interpretive element

Adverse effects

Need to consider additional views in Area of Potential Effects

Use and urban context should factor into consideration of adverse effects
Historic Structure Report (HSR)

Objectives:

1. Define a preservation philosophy to support DCPL vision for MLK
2. Illustrate existing conditions and needed maintenance
3. Gather extensive documentation completed on MLK Library into a single source
4. Expand historic context of building
5. Present detailed treatment recommendations

Major HSR deliverables have been coordinated to coincide with Section 106 & HPRB Meetings
Revised NEPA Alternatives

A. No Action

B.1

B.2

B.3

B.4

C

Alternatives presented at November consulting parties meeting
Revised NEPA Alternatives

Alternative considered but dismissed

July 14, 2015
Revised NEPA Alternatives

A  No Action

B.1

B.2

B.3

Alternatives carried forward
Preferred Alternative

B.2 as Presented in November

B.3 as Presented in November

NEW B.2
Preferred Alternative

EXISTING CONDITIONS & GLAZING
AREAS OF DESIGN ENGAGEMENT
BLOCKING & STACKING
ROOF ADDITION & MASSING
AUDITORIUM
CORES
GREAT HALL
LANDSCAPE STREET LEVEL
Existing Conditions

Northeast site wall and ramp enclosure

Site wall detail

Granite paving damage

Roof penthouse and screen wall enclosure

Roof parapet failure

Existing Conditions
Existing Conditions - Glazing
EXISTING WINDOW CONDITION:

The existing facade is constructed of steel window frames with single glazing attached to a concrete slab edge and painted steel plate spandrel panel. The design of the facade and window panels are a direct expression of Miesian principles with large expanses of glass and a strong emphasis on verticality.

- Corroded steel window frames
- Cracked and damaged glass
- Applied tinting film
- Missing, broken, and damaged window treatments
- Missing and dislodged window seals
- Water damage at the ceiling, adjacent walls, and floors

Existing Conditions - Glazing
Preferred Alternative

EXISTING CONDITIONS & GLAZING
AREAS OF DESIGN ENGAGEMENT
BLOCKING & STACKING
ROOF ADDITION & MASSING
AUDITORIUM
CORES
GREAT HALL
LANDSCAPE STREET LEVEL
Areas of Design Engagement
Areas of Design Engagement - First Floor
Areas of Design Engagement - Fifth Floor
Preferred Alternative

EXISTING CONDITIONS & GLAZING
AREAS OF DESIGN ENGAGEMENT
BLOCKING & STACKING
ROOF ADDITION & MASSING
AUDITORIUM
CORES
GREAT HALL
LANDSCAPE STREET LEVEL
Blocking and Stacking
Blocking and Stacking
Blocking and Stacking
Blocking and Stacking
Preferred Alternative

EXISTING CONDITIONS & GLAZING AREAS OF DESIGN ENGAGEMENT
BLOCKING & STACKING
ROOF ADDITION & MASSING
AUDITORIUM
CORES
GREAT HALL
LANDSCAPE STREET LEVEL
Existing Condition - Roof
Proposed Fifth Floor Addition
Proposed Fifth Floor Addition

July 14, 2015
CURRENT SITUATION

G Street Elevation

PROPOSED SITUATION
Proposed Fifth Floor Addition
Massing - Visibility of Fifth Floor Addition
Massing - Visibility of Fifth Floor Addition
Massing - Visibility of Fifth Floor Addition
Massing - Visibility of Fifth Floor Addition
Massing - Visibility of Fifth Floor Addition
Preferred Alternative

EXISTING CONDITIONS & GLAZING
AREAS OF DESIGN ENGAGEMENT
BLOCKING & STACKING
ROOF ADDITION & MASSING
AUDITORIUM
CORES
GREAT HALL
LANDSCAPE STREET LEVEL
Proposed Auditorium
Proposed Auditorium
Preferred Alternative

EXISTING CONDITIONS & GLAZING
AREAS OF DESIGN ENGAGEMENT
BLOCKING & STACKING
ROOF ADDITION & MASSING
AUDITORIUM
CORES
GREAT HALL
LANDSCAPE STREET LEVEL
Analysis of Existing Cores
New Proposal for Cores
New Proposal for North Cores
New Proposal for South Cores
New Proposal for Public Cores
Vestibule: Existing Southwest Core
Vestibule: New Southwest Core
Brick Walls at Great Hall and Wings Remain
Existing Core Stairwell
New Public Core Interior Space
New Public Core - View from Outside Looking in
Existing Southwest Core at Main Entrance
New Southwest Public Core at Main Entrance
New Southwest Public Core at Main Entrance - Night View
Main Entrance - Night View
Preferred Alternative

EXISTING CONDITIONS & GLAZING
AREAS OF DESIGN ENGAGEMENT
BLOCKING & STACKING
ROOF ADDITION & MASSING
AUDITORIUM
CORES
GREAT HALL
LANDSCAPE STREET LEVEL
Existing Condition - View from Great Hall
Proposal - View from Great Hall
Proposal - View from Great Hall
Proposal - Informal Performance Space
Existing Condition - View from G Place
Proposal - View from G Place
Preferred Alternative

EXISTING CONDITIONS & GLAZING
AREAS OF DESIGN ENGAGEMENT
BLOCKING & STACKING
ROOF ADDITION & MASSING
AUDITORIUM
CORES
GREAT HALL
LANDSCAPE STREET LEVEL
area between First Congregational Church and MLK M Library
entrance skylights
entrance skylights
loading/unloading
café-patio
skylights
skylights
skylights
G STREET
G PLACE
July 14, 2015
Landscape Street Level
Existing Condition - 9th Street Elevation
Existing Condition - Northeast Parking Ramp
Proposal - Cafe Patio
Existing Condition - Church Plaza on G Street
Church Plaza on G Street
Animate Entrance Area on G Street

July 14, 2015
Criteria of Adverse Effect

An adverse effect is found when an undertaking may **directly or indirectly** alter any of the characteristics of a historic property that qualify it for inclusion in the National Register in a manner that would diminish the integrity of the property’s **location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, or association**.
Examples of Adverse Effects

1. Physical destruction or damage
2. Alterations that are inconsistent with the Secretary’s Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties, including restoration, rehabilitation, repair, maintenance, stabilization, hazardous material remediation, and provision of handicapped access
3. Removal of the property from its historic location
4. Change of the character of the property’s use or of contributing physical features within the property’s setting
5. Introduction of visual, atmospheric, or audible elements that diminish the property’s integrity of the property’s significant historic features
6. Neglect or deterioration (except in certain religious or cultural cases)
7. Transfer, lease, or sale of property out of Federal ownership or control without adequate preservation controls

36 CFR § 800(5)(a)(2)
Criteria of Adverse Effect

NCPC and DCPL anticipate adverse effects to MLK Library.

NCPC and DCPL do not anticipate any adverse effects to other historic properties in the Area of Potential Effects.
Potential Direct Effects

NCPC and DCPL have identified potential adverse effects to the following character-defining features of MLK Library:

1. Form and massing
2. Exterior glazing system
3. Plaza paving
4. Site walls and parking ramp enclosure
5. Core enclosures and masonry walls
6. First floor Central Lobby (Great Hall) and Reading Rooms
7. Upper-floor circulation, masonry walls, and reading rooms
8. Alterations to original furnishings and equipment
Discussion
Next Steps

Commission of Fine Arts
July 16

DC Historic Preservation Review Board
July 23

Next Consulting Parties Meeting
Early Fall
Next Steps

This presentation will be posted to the NCPC website at the following URL:

http://www.ncpc.gov/project/mlklibrary/

Consulting parties and the public may submit questions or comments on these materials by Tuesday, July 28. Comments and questions can be addressed to:

Jennifer Hirsch, Federal Preservation Officer, NCPC
jennifer.hirsch@ncpc.gov