Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library

Renovation Project

Environmental Assessment and Cultural Resources (Section 106) Consultation

Welcome
TONIGHT’S AGENDA

• Welcome/Introductions
• Purpose of Meeting
• National Environmental Policy Act Overview
• Section 106 Overview
• Concept Alternatives
• Next Steps and Timeline
• Open Discussion and Comments
PURPOSE OF TONIGHT’S MEETING

• The purpose of this meeting is to gather early public input on the scope of the study, potential alternatives, and areas of concern.
• This evening’s meeting is an “Open House,” during which you will be able to talk directly with members of the NCPC/DC Public Library project team.
• You are encouraged to provide your thoughts and ideas in writing or with a stenographer.
PURPOSE AND NEED FOR THE PROJECT

PURPOSE:
To rehabilitate and modernize the Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library to provide a world-class and sustainable central library

NEED:
• Deficient building systems do not meet current standards
• Meet the expectations of modern day library users and establish a truly 21st century central library for the District of Columbia
• Ensure long-term viability of library
**STUDY AREA/PROJECT LOCATION**

- The Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library is located at 901 G St. N.W., Washington, D.C.
- The project area is bounded by 9th & 10th streets.
The Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library designed by modernist architect Ludwig Mies van der Rohe was designated an historic landmark in 2007.

DC Public Library is exploring ways to renovate and modernize the building to meet the needs of D.C. residents.

Concept level designs have been developed and are presented tonight.

NCPC acting as the lead agency, in cooperation with DC Public Library, have initiated work on an Environmental Assessment (EA) and the Section 106 review to evaluate the impacts of these designs.
The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) established a national environmental policy and requires Federal agencies to consider the impacts of their proposed activities, programs, and projects on the environment.

Federal actions covered by NEPA include actions taken directly by the federal government as well as actions such as the Martin Luther King Jr. Library renovation that require federal approval.

NEPA requires the Federal government to disclose and consider the effects of major Federal actions on the human environment.

NEPA provides a means to comply with a multitude of Federal environmental laws and regulations.

NEPA is largely procedural.

Requires decision-makers to be informed.
NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT (NEPA)

- Initiate Project
- Public Scoping
- Purpose and Need
- Alternatives Development
- Historic Properties (Section 106) Evaluation
- Environmental Assessment
- Public Review
- Final EA and Finding of No Significant Impact (if appropriate)
POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES & IMPACT TOPICS

- Traffic and Transportation
- Scenic Resources/Viewsheds
- Historic Structures and Districts
- Hazardous Waste/Hazardous Materials
- Land Use (public space, building use, planning policies, socioeconomics)
- Storm water
- Utilities
- Energy
**National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA)**

**Regulations**

- Section 106 of the NHPA and its implementing regulations (36 C.F.R. Part 800) require federal agencies to consider the effects of their actions ("undertakings") on historic properties.

- Historic properties are any buildings, structures, objects, sites (including archaeological sites), and districts listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

**Section 106 Consultation**

- Consultation is the process of seeking, discussing, and considering the views of other "consulting parties," who are invited to participate in the process.

- Consulting Parties include the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), Indian tribes and Native Hawaiian organizations, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP), local elected representatives, other interested parties, and the public.

- The purpose of consultation is to identify historic properties, assess adverse effects, and resolve those adverse effects through avoidance, minimization, and mitigation strategies.
NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT

1. Define the Undertaking/Initiate Section 106
2. Identify Consulting Parties
3. Involve the Public
4. Define the Area of Potential Effect (APE)
5. Identify Cultural Resources within the APE
6. Assess Effects on Significant Resources
7. Apply Criteria of Adverse Effect
8. Continue Consultation
9. Draft an Agreement Document, if needed

We are here
DRAFT AREA OF POTENTIAL EFFECT (APE)
**MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. PUBLIC LIBRARY**

- Designed by celebrated Modernist architect Ludwig Mies van der Rohe.
- First memorial to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. in D.C. following his assassination.

**HISTORIC DESIGNATION**
- Designation included the building exterior, surrounding plaza, and the interior public spaces on the building’s first story.

**DESIGN GUIDELINES**

In 2012, the D.C. Historic Preservation Review Board adopted a set of Design Guidelines created by DCPL and the D.C. Historic Preservation Office to guide the future maintenance and stewardship of the library.
Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library
Washington, D.C.

A
NO ACTION - EXISTING LIBRARY

B
RENOVATION WITH 5TH FLOOR RECTILINEAR EVENT SPACE

C
RENOVATION WITH 5TH FLOOR CURVILINEAR EVENT SPACE

D
RENOVATION WITH 5TH FLOOR CURVILINEAR EVENT SPACE + 3 STORY ADDITION
Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library
Washington, D.C.
Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library
Washington, D.C.
Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library
Washington, D.C.
Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library
Washington, D.C.

bird's eye view from 9th & G Streets

Renovation with 5th floor event space + 3 story addition

Martinez+Johnson Architecture PC | mecanoo

MLK LIBRARY
**Schedule/Next Steps**

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<tr>
<th>Milestone</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Public Scoping Meeting</td>
<td>Tonight</td>
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<tr>
<td>End of Public Scoping Period</td>
<td>October 31, 2014</td>
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<tr>
<td>Begin Preparation of Environmental Assessment</td>
<td>Fall 2014</td>
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<tr>
<td>EA Public Comment Period</td>
<td>December 2014</td>
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<tr>
<td>Section 106 Consultation</td>
<td>Fall 2014-Spring 2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>Preparation of Decision Document</td>
<td>Spring 2015</td>
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OPPORTUNITIES FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Tonight:
Write your comments on the comment cards provided or provide them to the stenographer.

Submit comments electronically:
www.ncpc.gov or jennifer.hirsch@ncpc.gov

Submit written comments to:
National Capital Planning Commission
Attn: Jennifer Hirsch
401 9th Street, NW Suite 500
Washington, D.C. 20004
QUESTIONS