



## Delegated Action of the Executive Director

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<b>PROJECT</b> <b>Lighting Improvement Plan</b> Sherman Circle Intersection of Illinois Avenue and Kansas Avenue, NW Washington, D.C.	<b>NCPC FILE NUMBER</b> 7358
<b>SUBMITTED BY</b> United States Department of the Interior National Park Service	<b>NCPC MAP FILE NUMBER</b> 61.00(38.00)43541
	<b>ACTION TAKEN</b> Preliminary and final approval of site development plans
	<b>REVIEW AUTHORITY</b> Approval per 40 U.S.C. § 8722(b)(1) and (d)

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The National Park Service (NPS) proposes to install 21 new pedestrian lamps to illuminate the interior of Sherman Circle (Reservation 369), located at the intersection of eight different streets, including Kansas Avenue NW and Illinois Avenue NW. The new 15-foot, Washington Globe-style lamps will be strategically positioned to provide an average minimum night-time illumination that meets national standards set by the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) and Illuminating Engineering Society (IES). The park does not currently have dedicated lighting and existing street lamps along Sherman Circle do not provide adequate night-time lighting for visitors.

The lamp locations were selected to increase night-time safety; to minimize the project's impacts to existing mature vegetation; to avoid all existing underground utilities; and to minimize visual impacts on the historic setting. The lamps will be positioned as far away from the projected (across Sherman Circle) Kansas Avenue and Illinois Avenue centerlines to respect their viewsheds, and the lamp configuration will be symmetrical between the north and south, diagonal lawn panels to reinforce the park's symmetrical layout. These proposed locations were jointly developed by NPS, NCPC, District of Columbia Department of Transportation (DDOT), and the District of Columbia State Historic Preservation Officer (DC SHPO).

The new lights will contain LEDs (light emitting diodes) to minimize energy demand, and installed in the park through a DDOT pilot program to improve lighting efficiency throughout the city. The new lamps will require additional ancillary electrical infrastructure in the park consisting of conduits, wiring, junction boxes (7), one manhole, and concrete lamp-post footers. All disturbed areas will be fully restored following construction.

The NPS has completed its own NEPA review and concluded that the project is a categorical exclusion (CATEX), relying upon its CATEX C.19 which applies to "construction or rehabilitation in previously disturbed or developed areas, required to meet health or safety regulations, or to meet requirements for making facilities accessible to the handicapped". NCPC staff has reviewed the proposal in accordance with NCPC's Environmental and Historic

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Preservation Policies and Procedures, and has determined that the project qualifies as Categorical Exclusion C.2., which relates to the repair, replacement, and routine installation of site elements.

In accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, the NPS has concluded Section 106 consultation with a determination of “no adverse effect” on historic properties. The DC SHPO concurred with NPS’s determination on March 26, 2012, stating that this project will have “no adverse effect” on historic properties, conditioned on the implementation of the most recent lighting plan dated March 23, 2012, which was jointly agreed upon by NPS, DDOT, NCPC, and the DC SHPO. Staff concurs with this determination.

The Coordinating Committee reviewed the proposal at its April 11, 2012 meeting and forwarded it to the Commission with the statement that the proposal has been coordinated with all participating agencies. The participating agencies were NCPC; the National Park Service; the General Services Administration; the District of Columbia Office of Planning; the District Department of Transportation; the Department of Housing and Community Development; District of Columbia Fire and Emergency Medical Services; and the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority.

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Pursuant to delegations of authority adopted by the Commission on October 3, 1996 and 40 U.S.C. § 8722(b)(1) and (d), I approve the preliminary and final site development plans for the installation of new night-time lighting in Sherman Circle (Reservation 369) consisting of 21 Washington Globe lamps and ancillary electrical infrastructure, located at the intersection of Kansas Avenue and Illinois Avenue, NW.



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Marcel Acosta  
Executive Director

April 26, 2012

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