



Commission Action

July 13, 2017

PROJECT National World War I Memorial World War I Memorial Pershing Park Washington, DC	NCPC FILE NUMBER 7682
	NCPC MAP FILE NUMBER 1.23(73.10)44510
SUBMITTED BY United States Department of the Interior National Park Service	APPLICANT'S REQUEST Approval of comments on concept design
REVIEW AUTHORITY 40 U.S.C § 8905 and Public Law 113-291	ACTION TAKEN Approved comments on concept design

The Commission:

Finds the revised scheme retains more elements of the existing park as compared to the previous design.

Commemoration

Requests the applicant consider reducing the size of the commemorative wall to improve views across the park, and consider opportunities for better integrating the wall into the existing terracing and steps.

Supports improvements to the legibility of the Pershing Memorial walls; and requests additional information be provided describing the proposed enhancements.

Water Features

Finds that water features can help activate urban park spaces when designed appropriately.

Requests the applicant evaluate the visual and functional impacts of such features when they are both operational and empty of water.

Requests the applicant provide additional details regarding the proposed pool modifications, including the design of the proposed pedestrian path, to demonstrate the impacts of any changes on the character of the pool and the visitor experience.

Requests the applicant consider integrating a water feature into the commemorative wall, consistent with the location and orientation of the existing cascade fountain.

Visibility and Access

Finds the central sunken space surrounded by raised berms is a fundamental feature of the original Pershing Park design; and further

Finds the berms and limited entry points from the southern perimeter of the site create challenges for pedestrian access and visibility; and therefore

Requests the applicant provide alternatives to improve pedestrian access and visibility from the southern perimeter of the site, including widening existing paths and stairs or adding new entry points.

Recommends the applicant continue to evaluate opportunities to increase universal access throughout the site.

Supports retention of the northern terrace steps and planters as they help to provide a clear edge and transition from the Pennsylvania Avenue north corridor.

Park Programming

Requests a plan be prepared that identifies the proposed urban park spaces and potential programming or activities that can occur in those spaces.

<u>//Original Signed//</u>	<u>07/14/2017</u>
Julia A. Koster	Date
Secretary to the National Capital Planning Commission	