



## Delegated Action of the Executive Director

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<b>PROJECT</b> <b>McMillan Reservoir Backwash Equalization Pumping Station</b> 2500 1st Street, NW Washington, DC	<b>NCPC FILE NUMBER</b> 8042
	<b>NCPC MAP FILE NUMBER</b> 32.10(38.00)44874
<b>SUBMITTED BY</b> United States Department of Defense United States Army Corps of Engineers	<b>ACTION TAKEN</b> Approved preliminary site and building plans
	<b>REVIEW AUTHORITY</b> Approval Per 40 U.S.C. § 8722(b)(1) and (d)

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The United States Department of Defense, Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Washington Aqueduct Division, has submitted preliminary site and building plans for the construction of a new backwash equalization pumping station at the McMillan Park Reservoir. The project will be located on the eastern portion of the McMillan Park Reservoir Historic District, which was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 2013. The site is immediately to the south of the existing Filter Building, which was built in 1986, and to the north of McMillan Drive, NW. The site is located near the McMillan Filter Plan entrance along 1<sup>st</sup> Street, NW. The project would allow Washington Aqueduct (WA) to more efficiently and safely accomplish its mission of providing high quality drinking water in sufficient quantity while meeting regulatory requirements.

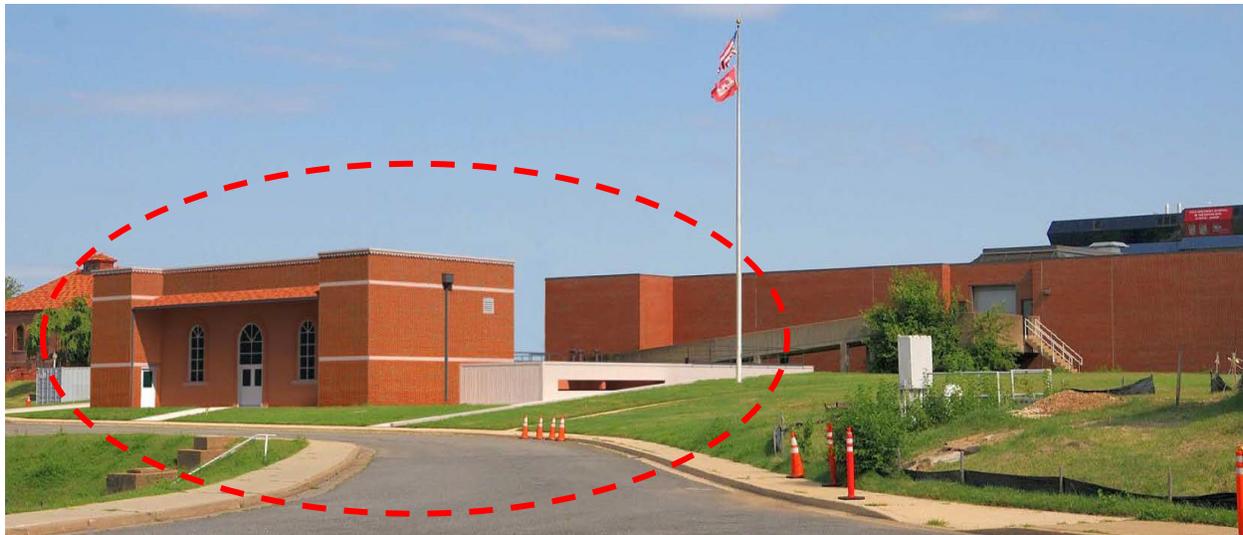
The purpose of the project is to provide a supplementary method for disposing filter backwash water from the daily cleaning of filters used in drinking water treatment. The project will improve the filter backwash water-handling facilities by disposing most of the filter backwash water directly to the sewer system and reducing the volume of solids discharged to the McMillan cove area by approximately 90 percent. Currently, the filter backwash water is discharged into a cove area of the McMillan Reservoir, where solids in the filter backwash water settle out of solution. The water returns to the main body of the reservoir and is recycled through the water treatment plant. The project will allow the WA to discharge most of the filter backwash water to a combined (sanitary and storm) sewer system during dry weather conditions for treatment at the Blue Plains Wastewater Treatment Plant. During wet weather conditions, the filter backwash water will continue to be recycled through the McMillan Reservoir.

The project entails constructing a new pumping station and underground treatment basin with associated site improvements on a previously disturbed site. The project location was selected due to its proximity to an existing combined sewer manhole, the existing Filter Building, and the associated filter backwash conveyance pipe to the McMillan Reservoir cove. The total project construction area is approximately 14,000 square feet. The project includes the following:

- A 3,340 gross-square-foot pumping station. The two-story building will house a flow meter and control room on the lower level, and an electrical and monorail room on the upper level.
- A 660,000-gallon equalization basin, approximately 7,500 square feet in area. The basin will be located mostly below grade on maintained lawn immediately south of the existing Filter Building.
- Minor paving and grading restoration.

In order to minimize visual impacts, the proposed basin will be largely below grade. The proposed architecture and materials will be compatible with the surrounding plant buildings. The proposed materials include brick, white aluminum windows and doors, horizontal stone banding and coping. The project will require removal of six existing pine trees and one existing flowering tree. The proposed landscape includes two American Holly and seven Yoshino Cherry trees to offset this removal. Construction is scheduled to be completed by the end of October 2020.

Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), USACE is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) to analyze the environmental impacts of the project. NCPC also has an independent responsibility to comply with NEPA due to its approval authority. NCPC will act as a cooperating agency on the EA. In compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act, USACE is conducting Section 106 consultation with the DC State Historic Preservation Office (DC SHPO). The Army initiated Section 106 on November 16, 2018 and circulated a draft cultural resources assessment.



*Figure 1 View looking west from the McMillan Filter Plant Entrance, near 1st Street, NW toward the proposed pumping station and basin*

The Coordinating Committee reviewed the proposal at its February 13, 2019 meeting. The participating agencies were NCPC; the State Historic Preservation Office; the District of Columbia Department of Transportation; the District Department of Energy and Environment; the District Office of Planning; the General Services Administration; the National Park Service; and the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority. Without objection, the Committee forwarded

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the proposed preliminary site and building plans to the Commission with the statement that the proposal has been coordinated with all participating agencies. The DC SHPO is coordinating conditioned upon completing the Section 106 review. Due to the project activities (construction for water utility and infrastructure), the District Department of Energy and Environment noted the project would require Soil Erosion and Sediment Control permits.

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Pursuant to delegations of authority adopted by the Commission on October 3, 1996 and per 40 U.S.C. § 8722(b)(1) and (d), I approve the preliminary site and building plans for the Backwash Equalization Pumping Station at the McMillan Reservoir.

// Original Signed //

March 1, 2019

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Marcel Acosta  
Executive Director

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Date