



Delegated Action of the Executive Director

PROJECT Internal Revenue Service Federal Building Flagpole Installation and Site Improvements 1111 Constitution Avenue, NW Washington, DC	NCPC FILE NUMBER 8229
SUBMITTED BY United States General Services Administration	NCPC MAP FILE NUMBER 1.23(00.00)45228
	ACTION TAKEN Approved preliminary and final site development plans
	REVIEW AUTHORITY Approval Per 40 U.S.C. § 8722(b)(1) and (d)

The United States General Services Administration (GSA), in collaboration with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), has submitted an application for preliminary and final site development plans to install two ground-mounted flagpoles at the IRS Headquarters primary entrance along Constitution Avenue, NW. The project also includes lighting and minor landscape improvements. The purpose of the project is to promote patriotism, enhance the streetscape, and frame the building's primary entrance. The new flagpoles would feature the United States flag to the left of the entrance (facing the building) and the Treasury flag to the right. The historic flagpole located approximately 140 feet to the east from the primary entrance near the corner of Constitution Avenue and 10th Street, NW, will continue to fly the American flag.

The proposed flagpoles will be located along the perimeter security line and frame the entry plaza. They will replace approximately two of the temporary perimeter security planters with hardened flagpoles. The project also entails pruning the existing Southern Magnolias located on the southwest and southeast corner of the site along Constitution Avenue to enhance views and pedestrian circulation. The pruning will improve security camera views, prevent the trees from touching the building limestone, and avoid the trees extending over the sidewalk. Overall, staff finds the proposal is appropriate for the setting and is consistent with the application of flagpoles at other federal buildings.

Pursuant to its responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), GSA has identified that the project qualifies for a CATEX, namely related to repair and alteration project not adversely affecting National Register of Historic Places listed properties. NCPC has an independent obligation to comply with NEPA and is applying its own CATEX consistent with §601.12 (a)(2) of the agency's environmental policies and procedures, finding the project meets the criteria for a CATEX #3 related to the installation or restoration of minor site building elements, including flagpoles. Before applying the Categorical Exclusion, staff determined that no extraordinary circumstances were applicable.

In addition, GSA reviewed the project with and received concurrence from the District of Columbia State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) for a no adverse effect determination October 15, 2020. NCPC concurs with the finding and has designated GSA lead federal agency for Section 106 purposes.



Figure 1 Proposed Flagpoles on Constitution Avenue, NW



Figure 2 Proposed Flagpole lighting on Constitution Avenue, NW

The Coordinating Committee reviewed the design at its November 12, 2020 meeting. Without objection, the Committee forwarded the proposed preliminary and final site development plans to the Commission with the statement that the proposal has been coordinated with all participating agencies. The participating

agencies were: NCPC; the District of Columbia Department of Transportation; the District of Columbia Office of Planning; the General Services Administration; the DC State Historic Preservation Office; the National Park Service 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 per 40 U.S.C. § 8722(b)(1) and (d), I approve the preliminary and final site development plans for the flagpole and site improvements at the IRS Federal Building at 1111 Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC.



Marcel Acosta
Executive Director

11/25/2020

Date