



Commission Action

December 3, 2020

PROJECT Surgery, Radiology, and Lab Medicine Building Addition National Institutes of Health Bethesda Campus 9000 Rockville Pike Bethesda, Maryland	NCPC FILE NUMBER 8235
SUBMITTED BY United States Department of Health and Human Services National Institutes of Health	NCPC MAP FILE NUMBER 3101.20(38.00)45241
REVIEW AUTHORITY Federal Projects in Environs per 40 U.S.C. § 8722(b)(1)	APPLICANT'S REQUEST Approval of preliminary and final site and building plans
	ACTION TAKEN Approved preliminary site and building plans with comments

The Commission:

Approves the preliminary building and site development plans for the new Surgery Radiology and Lab Medicine addition at the National Institutes of Health campus in Bethesda, Maryland.

Notes that the new Surgery, Radiology and Laboratory Medicine addition would enable continued use of the main Clinical Center Complex as a premier, world-class research facility through expansion of the facility's interior space.

Notes that NIH selected the new addition and its location based on the need to continue Clinical Center operations as efficiently as possible. The project was based on a multi-year study that considered eleven different development scenarios with various department relocations between one or more existing buildings on-campus.

Notes that the project is part of a recently approved amendment to the 2013 Master Plan (Project # MP02) that includes the new MLP-15 Garage and Utility Vault along the west side of Convent Drive.

Finds that while the Commission expressed support for the amendment's reduced development setbacks along Convent Drive and the proposed building heights, the preliminary plans for the project show a building massing that appears out of scale to the project site.

Recommends that NIH continue to refine the massing and design of the new addition to reduce its large visual presence on the site through strategies that may include depressing the addition further below-grade, implementing design strategies from adjacent existing Clinical Research Center that emphasize horizontality over height, or using additional trees and landscaping.

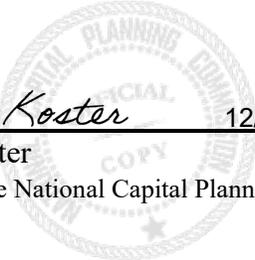
Requests final landscape plans that include an inventory of all existing trees to be removed (locations/species/condition) and specific locations/species information for all future tree plantings, both on and off-site.

Notes that the project needs to comply with NCPC's 2016 tree replacement policy (FE.G.2), which requires replacement to prevent a net tree loss to the project area.

Notes that NIH is not considering rooftop solar at this time because they have invested significantly in a campus-wide cogeneration system, which is enabling the campus to achieve multiple emission reductions and energy efficiency goals.

Requests a final lighting plan as part of the final project submission that complies with International Dark-Sky Association (IDSA) standards.

Requests updated project renderings as part of the final (60-70% design level) submission to NCPC.

The seal of the National Capital Planning Commission is circular with the text "NATIONAL CAPITAL PLANNING COMMISSION" around the perimeter. In the center, it says "OFFICIAL COPY" with a star below it.
Julia Koster 12/04/2020

Julia A. Koster
Secretary to the National Capital Planning Commission