Commission Action

September 3, 2026

PROJECT
White House Visitor Screening Facility
White House Grounds
472 15th Street, NW
Washington, DC

SUBMITTED BY
Executive Office of the President
Office of Administration

REVIEW AUTHORITY
Federal Projects in the District
per 40 U.S.C. § 8722(b)(1) and (d)

NCPC FILE NUMBER
8763

NCPC MAP FILE NUMBER
1.31(38.40)46258

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 site and building plans for the new White House Visitor Screening Facility, located at President's Park in northwest Washington, DC.

Supports the project goals to provide a permanent White House Visitor Screening Facility for the United States Secret Service that can support security screening needs for visitor tours, large-scale events, White House staff, and contractors.

Site Layout and Design

Notes that following additional agency discussions, further Section 106 consultation regarding alternatives, as well as further engineering, the entry pavilion was moved from the south side of Sherman Park to the west quadrant.

Supports the revised location for the entrance pavilion on the western quadrant of Sherman Park, as it helps minimize visual impacts and allows the park to function as a welcoming arrival space to the White House complex.

Notes the proposed plans for the new screening facility will require removal of trees and vegetation within Sherman Park to create the below-ground facility.

Notes that the applicant has provided information, as requested, regarding mature tree removal and replacement that meets NCPC's Tree Preservation and Replacement Policy; and

Requests the applicant provide, as part of the final submission, a landscape plan that identifies the proposed locations and species for all replacement trees and other plantings.

Building Design

Notes the applicant has continued to refine the architectural details of both the entrance and the exit pavilions, to reflect the setting adjacent to the classically designed Treasury Building and the White House grounds.

Recommends the applicant explore opportunities to refine the design details for both the entrance and exit pavilions to ensure they are architecturally compatible but deferential to the adjacent Treasury Building and the White House grounds.

Public Space and Perimeter Security

Notes that currently "no trespass" signs and layers of bike racks are being used to prevent pedestrian access to Sherman Park because the prior temporary fencing on the west side of Sherman Park has been removed due to the East Wing Modernization construction.

Notes the applicant intends, upon project completion, to remove all existing temporary security barriers, including the bike rack barriers, that currently line the northern perimeter of Sherman Park and the walkway along the south side of Alexander Hamilton Place at 15th Street, NW and no temporary barriers will block public accessible walkways in Sherman Park.

Coordination

Recommends the applicant continue to work with the District of Columbia State Historic Preservation Officer, the National Park Service, NCPC, and other consulting parties to resolve the potential impacts of the new screening facility on historic resources and execute a Memorandum of Agreement to codify agreed-upon mitigation measures.

9/4/2026

Meghan Hottel-Cox
Secretary to the National Capital Planning Commission