



Executive Director's Recommendation

Commission Meeting: May 7, 2026

PROJECT James J. Rowley Training Center Defense Training Facility 9200 Powder Mill Road Laurel, Maryland	NCPC FILE NUMBER 8635
	NCPC MAP FILE NUMBER 3214.10(00.00)46207
SUBMITTED BY United States Department of Homeland Security	APPLICANT'S REQUEST Approval of final site and building plans
REVIEW AUTHORITY Federal Projects in the Environs per 40 U.S.C. § 8722(b)(1)	PROPOSED ACTION Approve final site and building plans with comments
	ACTION ITEM TYPE Consent Calendar

PROJECT SUMMARY

The United States Secret Service (USSS) has submitted final site and building plans for the Defense Training Facility (DTF) at the James J. Rowley Federal Training Center (JJRFTC) located in Prince George's County for Commission approval. The Commission previously reviewed and approved the preliminary site and buildings in March 2025. The project is included in the master plan approved by the Commission in 2023. The proposed site is heavily wooded, and tree removal will be necessary for the project. Staff worked with the applicant to address the tree preservation and replacement with the project. The applicant is entering into an agreement with the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to utilize 69 acres of land in the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (BARC) for reforestation to meet the tree replacement requirements for this and future projects.

KEY INFORMATION

- The JJRFTC is a 439-acre, federally owned property in Prince George's County, Maryland, approximately 2.5 miles northeast of the Capital Beltway. It functions primarily as a training facility for new and existing USSS employees.
 - The Commission approved the James J. Rowley Federal Training Center master plan in 2023 which included the addition of the Defense Training Facility (DTF) and the preliminary site and building plans in March 2025.
 - The Defense Training Facility is a training site that requires complete site clearing including 39 acres of trees.
 - The applicant worked to comply with the NCPC Tree Preservation and Replacement Policy for the project.
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RECOMMENDATION

The Commission:

Approves the final site and building plans for the Defense Training Facility at the James J. Rowley Training Center located in Prince George's County, Maryland.

Notes the project was identified in the James J. Rowley Federal Training Center Master Plan which was approved by the Commission in September 2023.

Commends the applicant for their coordination with the U.S. Department of Agriculture Beltsville Agricultural Research Center on the tree replacement plan, pursuant to NCPC's tree replacement policies.

Notes that the proposed reforestation plan meets the NCPC Tree Preservation and Replacement Policy.

PROJECT REVIEW TIMELINE

Previous actions	September 2023 – Approval of JJRTC master plan March 2025 – Approval of Preliminary Site and Building Plans
Remaining actions (anticipated)	None

PROJECT ANALYSIS

Executive Summary

The United States Secret Service has submitted the final site and building plans for the Defense Training Facility at the James J. Rowley Federal Training Center. The project is included in the installation's approved master plan and previously received preliminary approval from the Commission in March 2025. As such staff recommends the **Commission approves the final site and building plans for the Defense Training Facility at the James J. Rowley Training Center located in Prince George's County, Maryland.** The applicant has provided new details regarding the tree replacement plan that includes reforestation of 69 acres of land at BARC as part of an agreement with USDA.

Analysis

As noted above, the DTF was included in the installation's approved master plan. The existing site is heavily wooded and was chosen due to the proximity to other training areas on the campus and to minimize visual impacts offsite. Due to the secure nature of the site and project, staff focused the review on the projects required tree removal and replacement plan and stormwater management. The proposed DTF project includes a new building and paved areas. The proposed

stormwater will be at the edges of the site so as not to interfere with the proposed training facility. The proposed project requires removal of approximately 90 percent of the trees on the site, or 39 acres of trees for grading and construction activities.

The applicant has worked to comply with the NCPC's tree preservation and replacement Policies for the project through an agreement with the USDA to reforest 69 acres of land at BARC, which will meet the 39 acres of replacement needed for this project and additional acreage for future projects at JJRFTC. Further, the applicant has submitted a reforestation plan for the 69 acres at BARC that includes details on types of tree species and planting densities, the soil stabilization and erosion control measures, the ongoing maintenance plan, and control of invasive species. The plan is consistent with NCPC's tree preservation and replacement policies. As such, staff recommends the **Commission commends the applicant for their coordination with the U.S. Department of Agriculture Beltsville Agricultural Research Center on the tree replacement plan, pursuant to NCPC's tree replacement policies.**

CONFORMANCE TO EXISTING PLANS, POLICIES AND RELATED GUIDANCE

Comprehensive Plan for the National Capital

The project is generally consistent with the Federal Elements of the Comprehensive Plan for the National Capital. In particular, staff considered policies related to the Federal Workplace and Federal Environment.

National Historic Preservation Act

NCPC does not have an independent National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) obligation for projects in environs.

National Environmental Policy Act

NCPC does not have an independent National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) obligation for projects in environs.

CONSULTATION

The applicant has consulted with or is currently in consultation with several federal and state agencies including the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) on the required stormwater management for the project. The applicant has also been coordinating with the USDA on an agreement for reforestation of 69 acres at the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center as part of their tree replacement program.

Prepared by Jamie Herr
04/15/2026

POWERPOINT (ATTACHED)

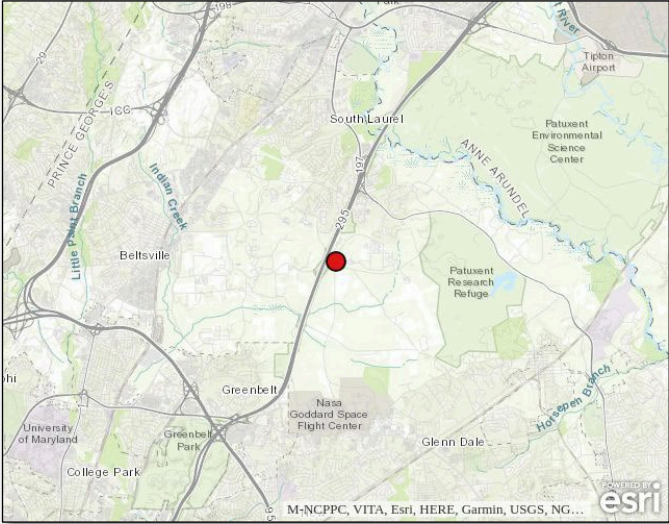
James J. Rowley Training Center Defense Training Facility

9200 Powder Mill Road, Laurel, Maryland

Approval of Final Site and Building Plans

United States Department of Homeland Security

Site Location



Location Map

Site Location

- The site is interior to the campus to reduce visibility outside the perimeter.
- The project was generally included in the 2023 master plan with limited details due to security protocols.
- The proposed project conforms to the master plan.



Final Site Plan

- The specific details of the site plan are FOUO
- The site is 43 acres of mostly forest and approximately 39 acres will be cleared
- Extensive regrading is required for the site elements and helipad



Stormwater Management Plan

The DTF improvements include approximately 12.7 acres of new impervious area, which results in a volumetric requirement of approximately 2.25 acre-feet of stormwater management storage to be provided to treat the water quality on-site by perimeter bioretention zones.

The applicant has coordinated with the Maryland Department of the Environment on the stormwater requirements.



Forest Stand Delineation

The existing site is 43 acres of mostly forest stands. The applicant completed a forest stand delineation in 2015 in anticipation of the DTF project. The site includes

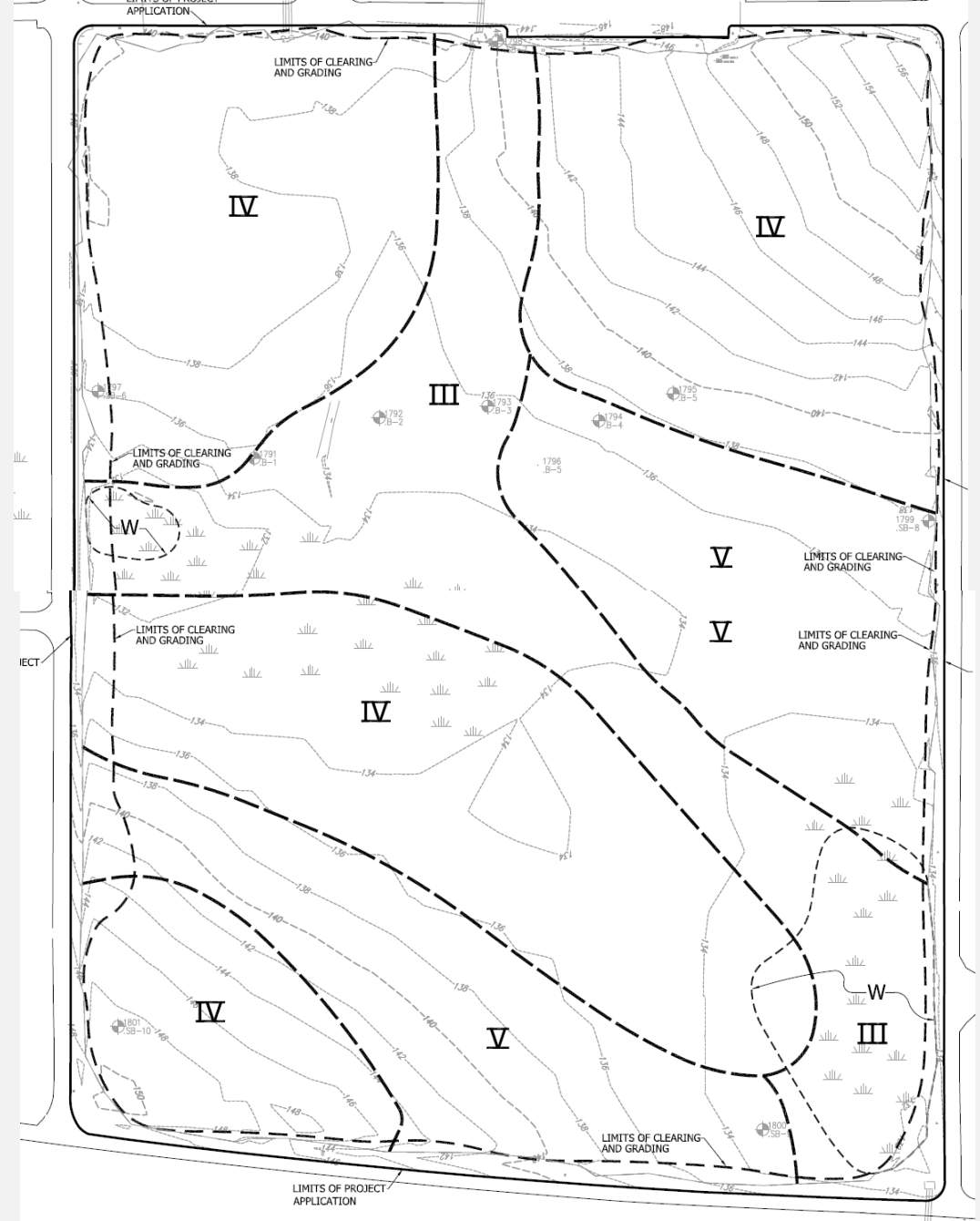
III is a Lowland Hardwood Forest 7.8 acres

IV is a Mature Pine/Hardwood Forest of 21.7 acres

V is a Mixed Hardwood Forest of 9.5 acres

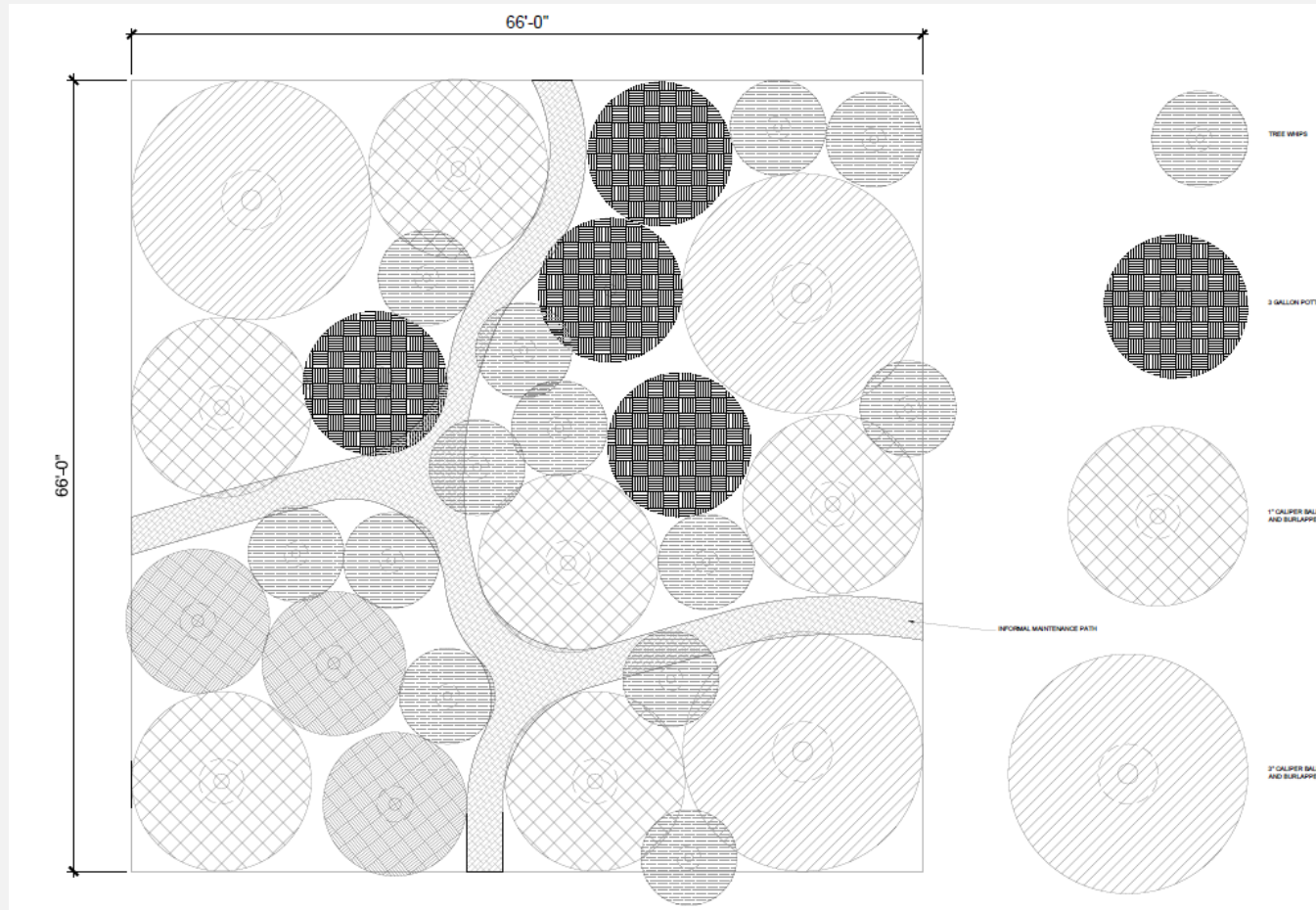
Per the submission, 90% of the trees on site will be removed to accommodate the site elements and grading. The NCPC Tree Preservation and Replacement Policy, the applicant must replace by acre on a one-to-one basis, or 39 acres of replacement.

The applicant has been working on an agreement with USDA to reserve an area of BARC for reforestation to meet the NCPC Tree Preservation and Replacement Policy.



Reforestation Plan

The applicant is entering into an agreement with USDA to reforest 69 acres with a mix of trees based on each reforestation site. The reforestation plan includes details about the planting plan and maintenance.



TREE TYPES				
#	SEASONALITY	HEIGHT	SIZE	SITE TOTAL
2	DECIDUOUS	CANOPY	3" CALIPER	100
1	EVERGREEN	CANOPY	3" CALIPER	50
2	DECIDUOUS	CANOPY	1" CALIPER	100
1	EVERGREEN	CANOPY	1" CALIPER	50
2	DECIDUOUS	UNDERSTORY	1" CALIPER	100
1	EVERGREEN	UNDERSTORY	1" CALIPER	50
2	DECIDUOUS	CANOPY	3" GALLONS	100
2	EVERGREEN	CANOPY	3" GALLONS	100
2	DECIDUOUS	UNDERSTORY	3" GALLONS	100
1	EVERGREEN	UNDERSTORY	3" GALLONS	50
4	DECIDUOUS	CANOPY	WHIPS	200
4	EVERGREEN	CANOPY	WHIPS	200
3	DECIDUOUS	UNDERSTORY	WHIPS	150
2	EVERGREEN	UNDERSTORY	WHIPS	100

LIST OF ACCEPTABLE SPECIES	
CANOPY TREES - 70%	
ACER RUBRUM	RED MAPLE
FAGUS GRANDIFLORA	BEECH
LIQUIDAMBAR STYRACIFLUA	SWEET GUM
MAGNOLIA VIRGINIANA	MAGNOLIA
NYSSA SYLVATICA	BLACK GUM
QUERCUS ALBA	WHITE OAK
QUERCUS FALCATE	SOUTHERN RED OAK
QUERCUS PHELLOS	WILLOW OAK
PINUS RIGIDA	PITCH PINE
PINUS TAEDA	LOBLOLLY PINE
PINUS VIRGINIANA	VIRGINIA PINE
UNDERSTORY TREES - 30%	
CARYA GLABRA	PIGNOT HICKORY
CASTANEA PUMILA	DWARF CHESTNUT
CERCIS CANADENSIS	EASTERN REDBUD
CORNUS FLORIDA	FLOWERING DOGWOOD
ILEX OPACA	AMERICAN HOLLY
QUERCUS MARILANDICA	BLACKJACK OAK
SASSAFRIFAS ALBIDUM	SASSAFRAS