

Naval Research Laboratory P-250 Biomolecular Science and Synthetic Biology Laboratory

Magazine Road, SW, Washington, DC

Approval of Preliminary Site and Building Plans

United States Department of War,
Department of the Navy

Project Summary

Commission Meeting Date: October 1, 2026

NCPC Review Authority: Public Law 93-166, Section 610(a)

Applicant Request: Approval of Preliminary Site and Building Plans

Session: Staff Presentation

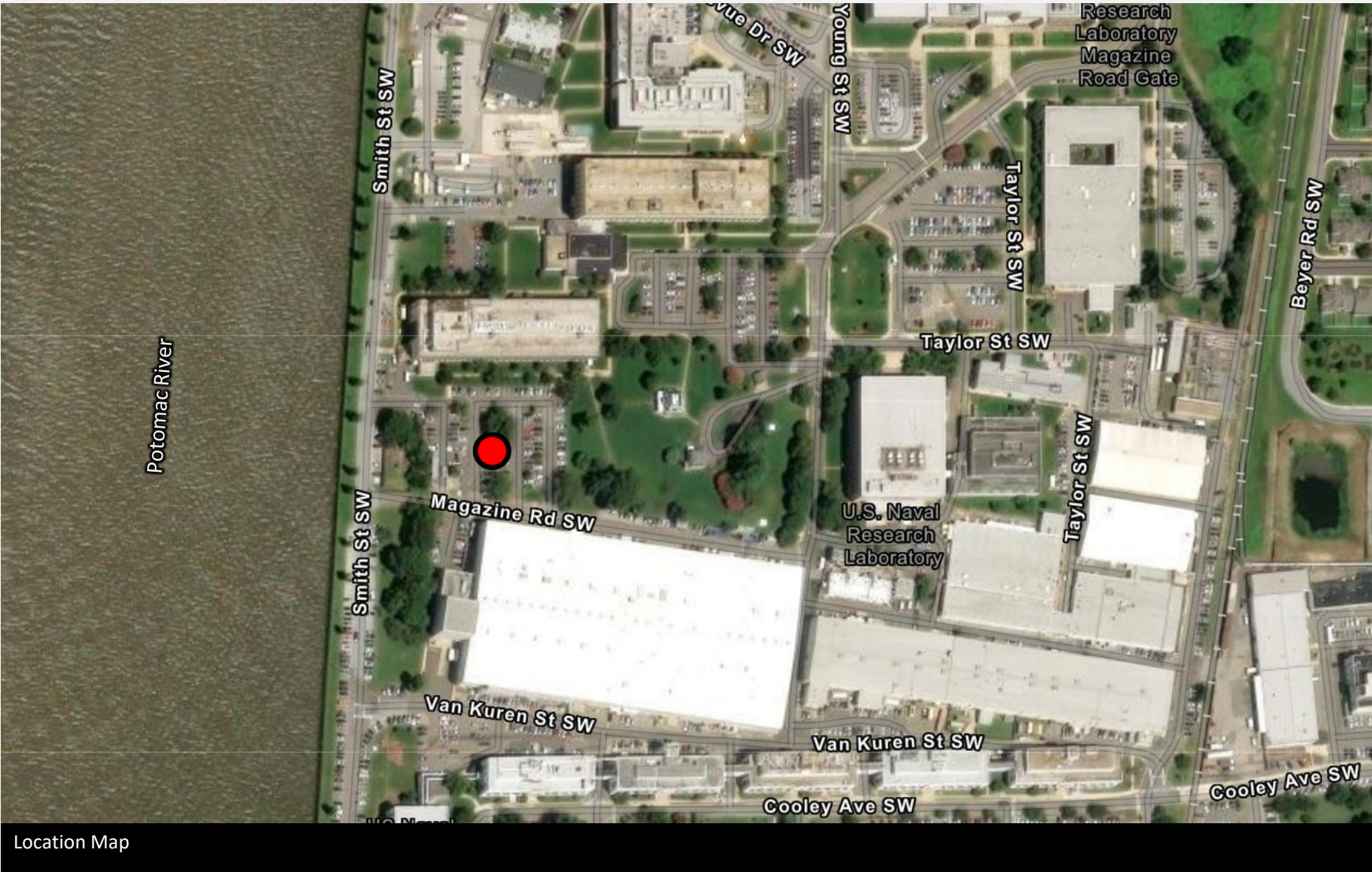
NCPC Review Officer: Laura Shipman

NCPC File Number: 8753

Project Summary:

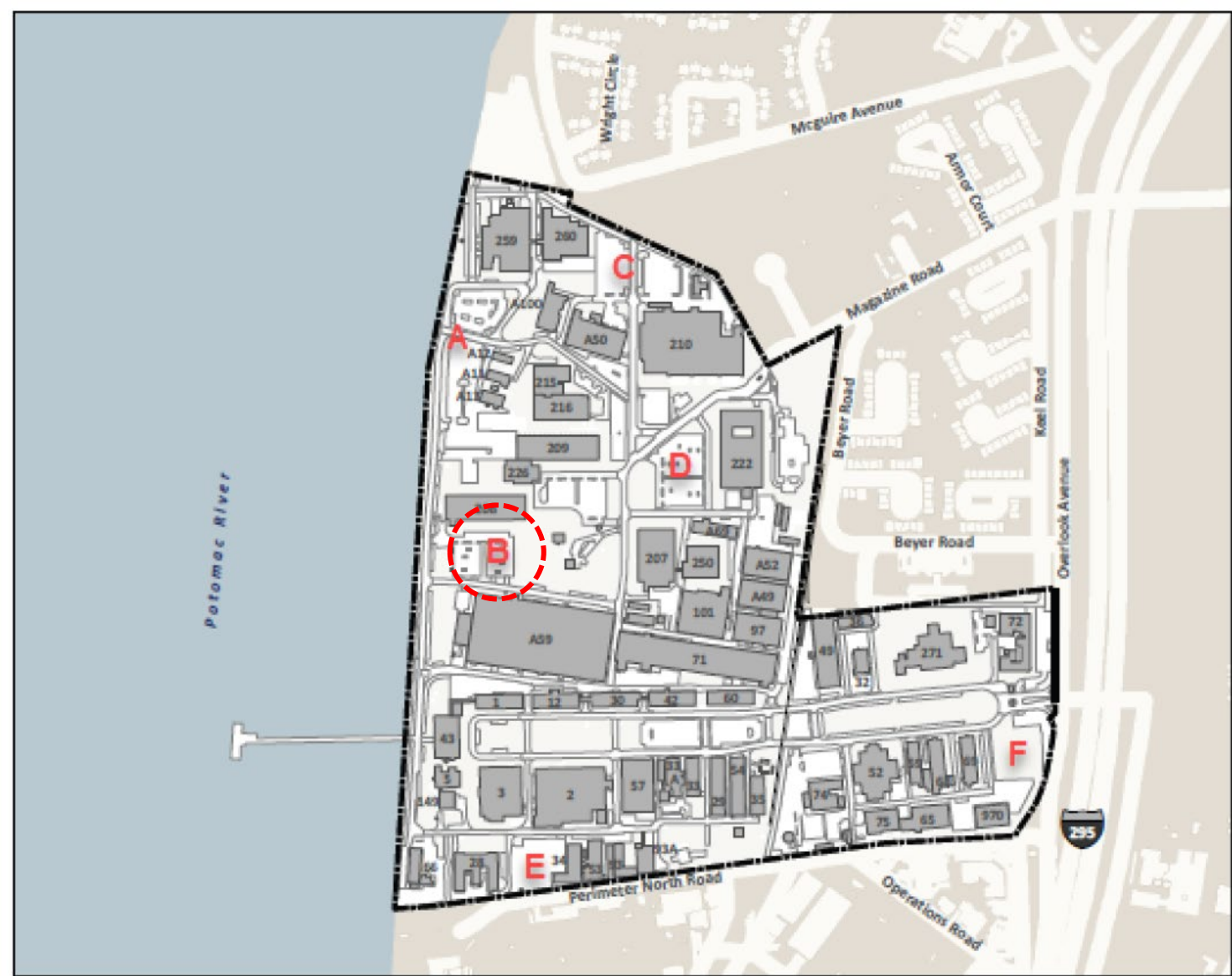
The United States Department of the Navy has submitted preliminary plans for a new biomolecular science and synthetic biology laboratory (P-250 Lab) on the Naval Research Laboratory (NRL) in Washington, DC. The newly constructed building will be located on the western side of the installation with a roadway, parking area, and green space separating the building from the Potomac River. The entirety of the laboratory building will be constructed on an existing parking lot area. The proposal includes an approximately 89,000-square-foot, four-story building with a laboratory, associated support and office areas, as well as a mechanical equipment penthouse. Each story will be 18'-0" for a total building height of 92.8 feet. Exterior materials for the P-250 Lab will be primarily reinforced concrete structure with a steel framed mechanical penthouse. The building envelope includes a light precast concrete panel system with curtain wall and storefront glazing systems and a dark matte metal panel screening system. The building's finish floor elevation is designed to sit above the DoD Regional Sea Level (DRSL) Design Flood Elevation (DFE). The project scope also includes replacement nearby of two 144-square-foot storage buildings (205 and 205).

Site Location



Location Map

Alternative Sites Considered



Previous Concept Plan Renderings – April 2026

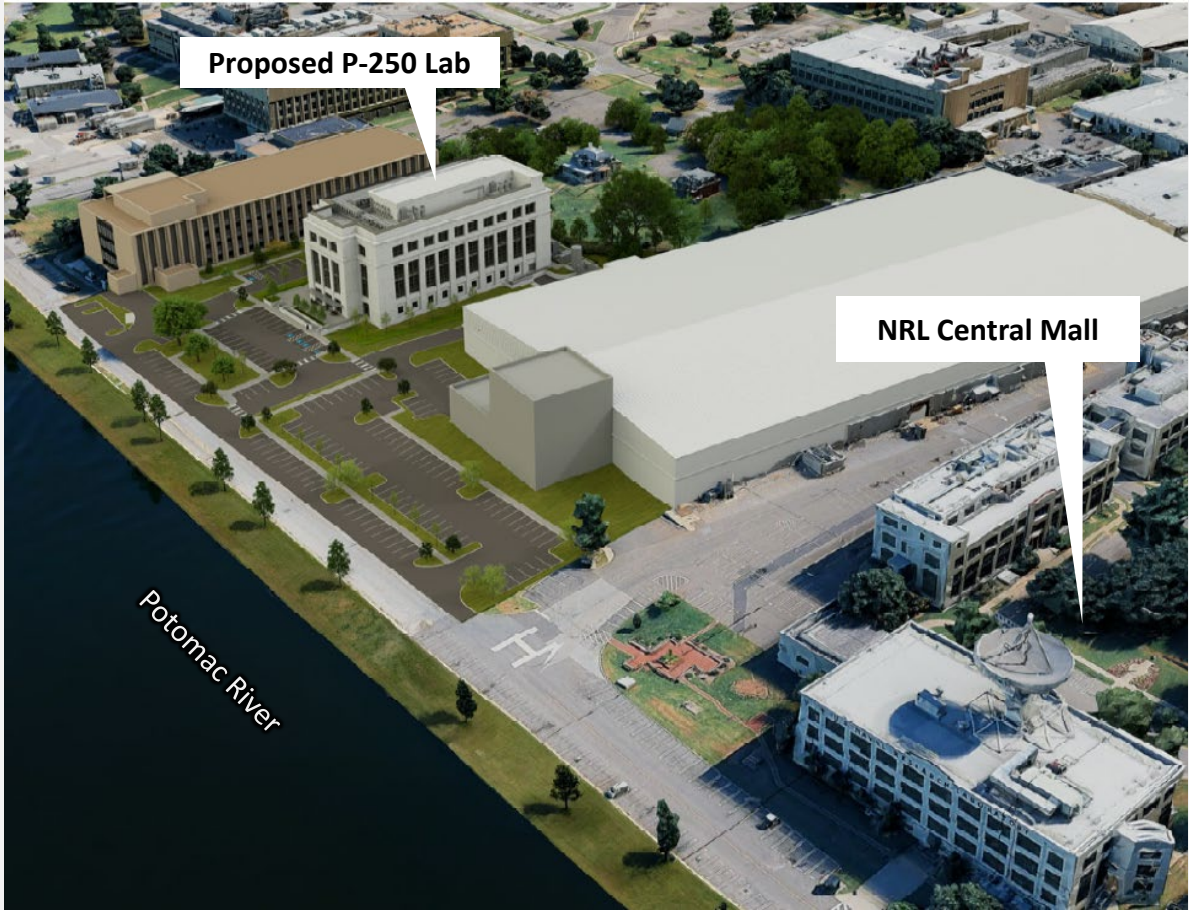


Northwest Perspective



Southwest Perspective

Site Context



Rendered View from Northwest



Rendered Views from the Potomac River



Rendered View from Southeast



Rendered View from Historic Green Space to the East



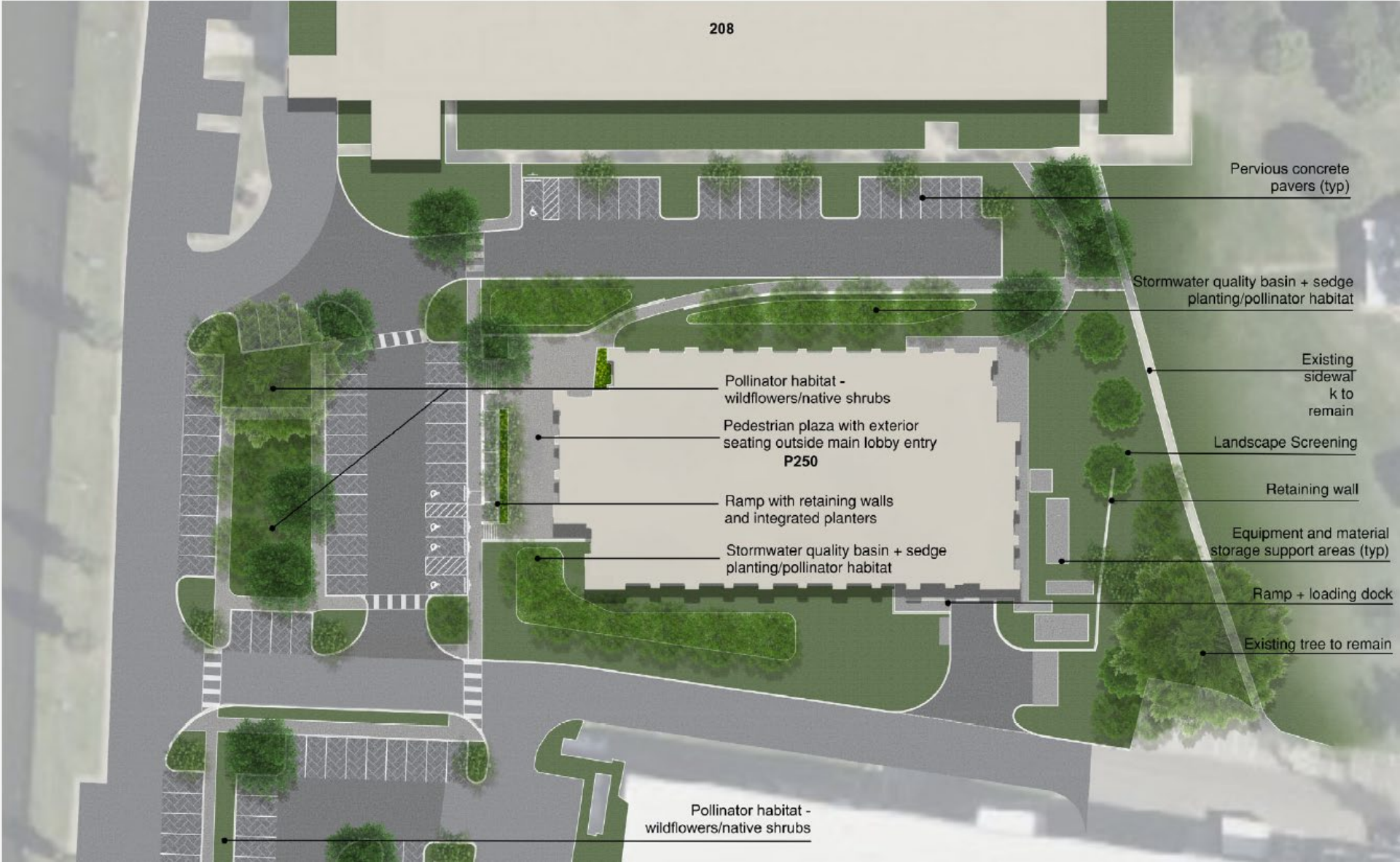
View of North Façade and Pathway



Aerial View of Main Entry and Plaza



Landscape Plan



Plant Palette



Crusador Cockspur Hawthorn



Wildfire Tupelo



Sweetbay Magnolia



Bald Cypress



American Holly



Overcup Oak



Claudia Wannamaker Magnolia



Swamp White Oak



Lowfast Bearberry Cotoneaster



Creek Sedge



Common Milkweed



Swamp Milkweed



Butterfly Milkweed



New England Aster



Wingstem



Culver's Root



Purple Love Grass



Purple Coneflower

Tree Replacement Locations on NRL

