Delegated Action of the Executive Director

PROJECT
Wilbur Wright Federal Building Antenna Modifications
600 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC

SUBMITTED BY
United States General Services Administration

NCPC FILE NUMBER
8202

NCPC MAP FILE NUMBER
1.71(38.30)46291

ACTION TAKEN
Approve preliminary and final building plans

REVIEW AUTHORITY
Approval
Per 40 U.S.C. § 8722(b)(1) and (d)

The United States General Services Administration (GSA) has submitted preliminary and final building plans for modifications to existing AT&T telecommunications equipment at the Wilbur Wright Federal Building located at 600 Independence Avenue, SW in Washington, DC. AT&T currently operates three antenna sectors on the Wright Building: Alpha on the northwest side of the building roof, Beta on the northeast, and Gamma on the south. The Alpha Sector currently includes five antennas, and the Beta and Gamma Sectors each include four antennas. The existing antennas include old technology that requires replacement to support AT&T's network. The proposed project will remove, relocate, and install antennas at each sector. In the Alpha Sector, AT&T will remove one existing antenna, install one new antenna, relocate one existing antenna within the sector, and retain three antennas. AT&T will also install additional remote radio head devices in the sector. In the Beta Sector, the project will remove all four existing antennas and install three new antennas. One of these antennas will be installed behind the other new antenna. The existing remote radio heads will remain. In the Gamma Sector, the project will remove all four antennas and install three new antennas. One of these antennas will be installed behind the other new antenna. The existing remote radio heads will remain.

There are no significant visual impacts anticipated with these installation modifications. The antennas will maintain the existing setback from the roof edge at a 1:1 ratio. In addition, the antennas will be painted light gray to match the building facade. The project will also comply with radio frequency (RF) Exposure Guidelines established by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) when the remediation recommended in the submitted maximum permissible exposure (MPE) report is implemented upon installation. As such, the proposed modifications are not inconsistent with the federal elements of the *Comprehensive Plan for the National Capital*.

GSA and NCPC each have independent responsibilities to comply with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). NCPC has designated GSA as the lead federal agency for Section 106 purposes. GSA determined that this undertaking would result in no adverse effects to historic resources and the District of Columbia State Historic Preservation Office (DC SHPO) concurred with GSA's finding on August 4, 2026.

GSA and NCPC also have independent responsibilities to comply with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The applicant submitted a conclusion that this action qualifies for a categorical exclusion based on GSA's environmental review standards. Staff finds that this project qualifies for a categorical exclusion under § 601.12 (a)(5) of the Commission's NEPA regulations: "Approval of the installation of communication antennae on federal buildings and co-location of communication antennae on federal property consistent with GSA Bulletin FMR D-242, Placement of Commercial Antennas on Federal Property." Staff determined no extraordinary circumstances were present prior to applying the categorical exclusion.

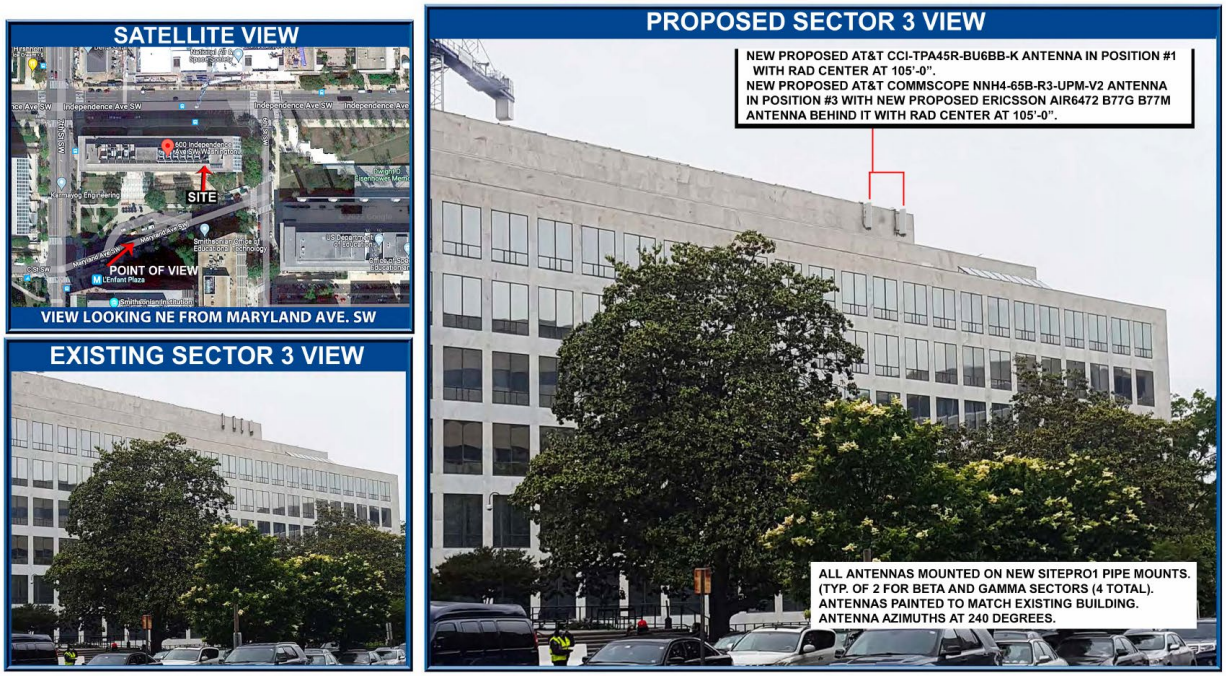


Figure 1: Existing and proposed views of Gamma Sector antennas on the south side of the Wilbur Wright Federal Building.

The Coordinating Committee reviewed the proposal at its October 14, 2026 meeting. The Committee forwarded the proposed preliminary and final building plans to the Commission with the statement that the proposal was coordinated with all participating agencies. The participating agencies included the National Park Service (NPS), the GSA, the U.S. Commission of Fine Arts, the District Department of Transportation, the District of Columbia Office of Planning, the DCSHPO, the District Department of Energy and Environment, and the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority.

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Pursuant to delegations of authority adopted by the Commission on March 6, 2025 and per 40 U.S.C. § 8722(b)(1) and (d), I approve the preliminary and final building plans for the building antenna array modification at the Wilbur Wright Federal Building located at 600 Independence Avenue, SW in Washington, DC for a period not to exceed five (5) years.

Diane Sullivan
Acting Executive Director

Date