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NCPC Updated on the Kennedy Center Expansion Project
Commission Approves Preliminary Plans for the Bureau of Engraving and
Printing Tour Bridge Modernization Project

Washington, DC - At its monthly meeting today the National Capital Planning Commission (NCPC) heard an update on the proposed Kennedy Center expansion. Commission members made comments, but no action was taken on this information presentation. At its December meeting NCPC approved preliminary site and building plans for the project except for a proposed riverfront pavilion. Commissioners asked the Kennedy Center to provide additional information regarding the impact of this pavilion on water traffic and Potomac River flooding.

Kennedy Center representatives stated that the river pavilion is an integral component of their expansion design and addressed concerns raised about impacts on boaters and river flooding. They also noted that they had met with members of the local boating community to better understand and address their concerns. It is anticipated that the Kennedy Center will submit the project for final review at NCPC's March 5 meeting.

Prior to that, the Commission approved preliminary site and building plans for modernization of the tour bridge at the U.S. Department of the Treasury's Bureau of Engraving and Printing main building with two changes. Submitted plans include the rehabilitation of the steel truss entrance bridge, construction of a new interior lobby, security processing, and exterior public spaces. The Commission asked the Department of the Treasury to modify the bridge glazing and mechanical system design to reduce negative impacts on the tour bridge's façade, and to remove a fence located along abandoned stairs leading from the bridge to a lower-level parking area.

The building is located near the National Mall between 14th and 15th Streets, NW. Built in 1914, it houses the Bureau's printing operations and hosts approximately 250,000 visitors annually. Modernization of the tour bridge will provide a modern, convenient visitor experience and new exterior spaces to improve queuing. Once completed, the renovated space will allow non-ticketholders to view the educational public exhibitions and film presentations in the visitor's gallery without a tour ticket.

This month's agenda also included one consent calendar item (there was no presentation given):

- Approval of comments to the Zoning Commission of the District of Columbia regarding a First Stage Planned Unit Development, Consolidated Planned Unit Development, and Related Map Amendment at Square 1025E, 1048S, and Reservations 129 and 299 (1333 M Street, SE) (ZC 13-12)

In addition, the Executive Director approved one item under authorities delegated by the Commission. Staff recommendations are available on [NCPC's website](http://ncpc.gov).

The National Capital Planning Commission is the federal government's central planning agency in the District of Columbia and surrounding counties of Maryland and Virginia. The Commission provides overall guidance for federal land and buildings in the region. It also reviews the design of federal projects and memorials, oversees long-range planning for future development, and monitors capital investment by federal agencies.

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