



## United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
National Mall & Memorial Parks  
900 Ohio Drive, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20024-2000



D20 (NAMA-RM)

February 18, 2011

The Honorable Mary M. Cheh  
Ward 3 Councilmember  
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Suite 108  
Washington, D.C. 20004

**RE: Scoping Process for the Kennedy Center/Potomac River Pedestrian Access Improvement  
Environmental Assessment, Washington, DC**

Dear Ms. Cheh:

The National Park Service (NPS) and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), in conjunction with the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) and the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts (the Kennedy Center) are proposing to provide pedestrian access between the Kennedy Center River Terrace and the Potomac Riverfront in Washington, DC; providing a direct link between the Kennedy Center and the Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway Trail, part of the Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway. Subsequently, the NPS and FHWA are initiating work on an Environmental Assessment (EA). The EA will analyze potential environmental impacts resulting from the implementation of the no action alternative along with action alternatives in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA, the Council on Environmental Quality's Regulations of Implementing NEPA (40 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] 1500-1508); NPS Director's Order #12: *Conservation Planning, Environmental Impacts Analysis and Decision-Making* (NPS, 2001); Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act; and FHWA Technical Advisory T6640.8a.

**Scoping**

The purpose of this letter is to formally invite you to be a part of the scoping process for this project. The joint lead agencies are focused on identifying important environmental and cultural issues, developing project alternatives, and identifying any concerns regarding the proposed project. We request your assistance in identifying any known environmental or cultural resources or any new, changing, or current environmental regulations that is under your agencies purview, which may be of concern to your agency.

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Greenhorne & O'Mara  
Attn: Alexis Morris  
810 Gleneagles Ct., Suite 106  
Baltimore, MD 21286.



NPS requests that mailed comments must be postmarked by **March 17, 2011** to receive consideration. Your input will allow us to comprehensively address all potential impacts as the process moves forward.

### **Purpose and Need for the Action**

The purpose of the proposed action is to improve pedestrian access between the Kennedy Center River Terrace and the Potomac Riverfront in Washington, DC. The action is needed because physical barriers and safety concerns currently discourage pedestrian traffic between these two resources.

Pedestrian access to the Kennedy Center is available only on the opposite (east) side of the building via the Entrance Plaza or the North Plaza. Furthermore, while visitors to the Kennedy Center are currently able to enjoy views of the Potomac River from the River Terrace, an unrealized potential exists to unite these two resources. Pedestrian access improvements would enhance the aesthetic connectivity of the Kennedy Center to the Potomac Riverfront, while providing a safe pedestrian access facility, fully separated from the Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway.

### **Project Background**

In October 2003 the FHWA; in cooperation with the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, the NPS, the National Capital Planning Commission (NCPC), the Commission of Fine Arts (CFA), and the District of Columbia Department of Transportation (DDOT); prepared *Kennedy Center Access Improvements Environmental Assessment and 4(f) Evaluation* (2003 EA). This document analyzed the potential environmental impacts of implementing two action alternatives and the No Action Alternative for improved access to the Kennedy Center. The action alternatives developed for the 2003 EA proposed solutions for managing pedestrian and bicycle circulation, including pedestrian access from the Kennedy Center River Terrace to the Potomac Riverfront and Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway Trail.

Since the completion of the 2003 EA, concept level designs for the proposed pedestrian access from the Kennedy Center River Terrace to the Potomac Riverfront have been developed, resulting in a change in impacts from those which were considered in the 2003 EA. These concept designs have prompted NPS and FHWA to evaluate the need for a jurisdictional transfer of lands to accommodate the proposed staircases and elevators.

### **Project Objectives**

1. Provide a direct pedestrian route between the Kennedy Center and the Potomac Riverfront.
2. Enhance the visitor experience by encouraging interaction with the Potomac Riverfront and promoting walk-ability in and around neighborhoods, including Georgetown and Foggy Bottom, and their amenities.
3. Minimize disruption to Kennedy Center and park visitors during construction.
4. Minimize user conflicts by reducing pedestrian and vehicle conflicts and providing a clearly defined throughway for bicyclists using the Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway Trail.
5. Preserve and minimize impacts to the integrity of the Kennedy Center, Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway, and other area resources.

### **Project Area**

The Kennedy Center is positioned east of Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway and west of Interstate 66, along the waterfront of the Potomac River, in Washington, DC. The Kennedy Center River Terrace overhangs the northbound lanes of the Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway. The Kennedy Center is bounded to



the north by F Street NW and to the south a parking area serves as a buffer between the Kennedy Center and Interstate 66/US Route 50 (the Theodore Roosevelt Memorial Bridge).

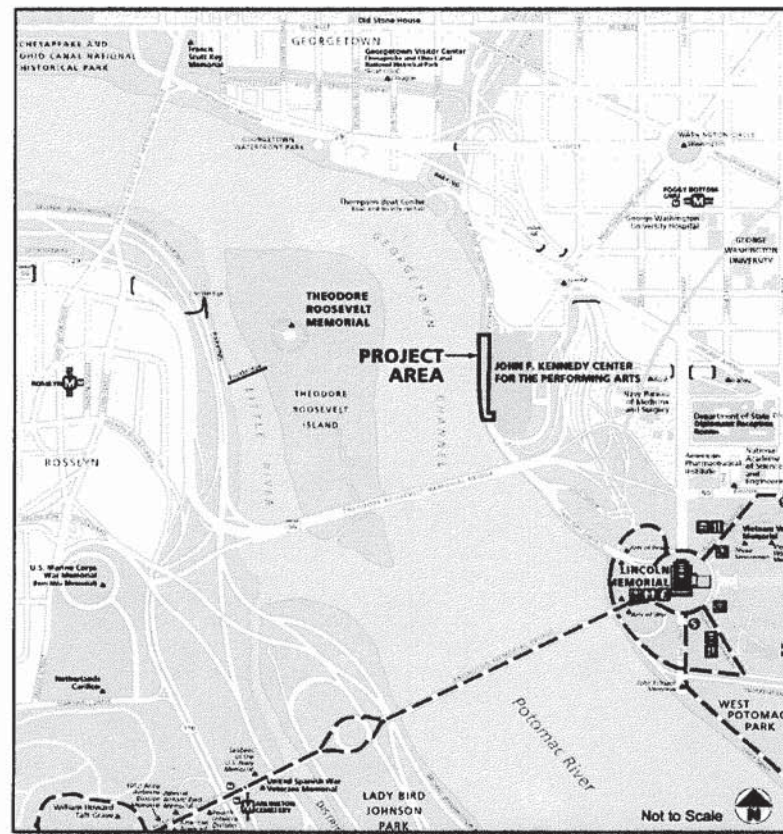
The project area is defined as the area between the existing Kennedy Center River Terrace and the Potomac River edge, running the length of the Kennedy Center Building. The proposed action, constructed directly adjacent to the Kennedy Center River Terrace, would cross over the Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway and tie into the existing Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway Trail. Some trail rehabilitation/resurfacing could occur in association with the proposed action.

### **Preliminary Resources and Impact Topics**

Initial internal discussions by the NPS and FHWA will consider a number of physical, biological, cultural, socioeconomic, and operational resources that could potentially be affected by the proposed Kennedy Center Potomac River Pedestrian Access Improvements. The following resources and impact topics were identified for evaluation in the EA:

- Floodplains
- Vegetation
- Scenic Resources/Viewshed Analysis
- Visitor Use and Experience
- Park Operations and Management
- Transportation
- Land Use

**Figure 1: Project Area Map**



Elements of this EA will include documentation of the purpose and need, identification of sensitive environmental resources; development of context sensitive alternatives; evaluation of impacts to cultural, natural, and socio-economic resources; agency and stakeholder coordination; effect to historic and archeological resources; and public involvement.

The NPS thanks you for your involvement and looks forward to integrating the data obtained during the scoping process into the project planning and EA. Once the EA is developed, it will be made available for public and agency review for a 30-day period. Should you have any questions regarding the meeting please contact:

Mr. Joel Gorder  
Regional Environmental Coordinator and Lands Liaison  
National Capital Region  
joel\_gorder@nps.gov or (202) 619-7405

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Michael A. Caldwell", followed by a long horizontal flourish.

Michael A. Caldwell  
Acting Superintendent  
National Mall and Memorial Parks

cc: Jack VanDop, FHWA





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### NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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900 Ohio Drive, S.W.  
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D20 (NAMA-RM)

February 18, 2011

Mr. Joseph DaVia  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Baltimore District (CENAB-OP-RT)  
10 South Howard Street  
Baltimore, Maryland 21203

**RE: Scoping Process for the Kennedy Center/Potomac River Pedestrian Access Improvement Environmental Assessment, Washington, DC**

Dear Mr. DaVia:

The National Park Service (NPS) and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), in conjunction with the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) and the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts (the Kennedy Center) are proposing to provide pedestrian access between the Kennedy Center River Terrace and the Potomac Riverfront in Washington, DC; providing a direct link between the Kennedy Center and the Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway Trail, part of the Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway. Subsequently, the NPS and FHWA are initiating work on an Environmental Assessment (EA). The EA will analyze potential environmental impacts resulting from the implementation of the no action alternative along with action alternatives in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA, the Council on Environmental Quality's Regulations of Implementing NEPA (40 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] 1500-1508); NPS Director's Order #12: *Conservation Planning, Environmental Impacts Analysis and Decision-Making* (NPS, 2001); Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act; and FHWA Technical Advisory T6640.8a.

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February 18, 2011

Mr. Leopoldo Miranda, Supervisor  
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service  
Chesapeake Bay Field Office  
177 Admiral Cochrane Drive  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

**RE: Scoping Process for the Kennedy Center/Potomac River Pedestrian Access Improvement Environmental Assessment, Washington, DC**

Dear Mr. Miranda:

The National Park Service (NPS) and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), in conjunction with the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) and the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts (the Kennedy Center) are proposing to provide pedestrian access between the Kennedy Center River Terrace and the Potomac Riverfront in Washington, DC; providing a direct link between the Kennedy Center and the Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway Trail, part of the Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway. Subsequently, the NPS and FHWA are initiating work on an Environmental Assessment (EA). The EA will analyze potential environmental impacts resulting from the implementation of the no action alternative along with action alternatives in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA, the Council on Environmental Quality's Regulations of Implementing NEPA (40 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] 1500-1508); NPS Director's Order #12: *Conservation Planning, Environmental Impacts Analysis and Decision-Making* (NPS, 2001); Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act; and FHWA Technical Advisory T6640.8a.

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February 18, 2011

Ms. Barbara Rudnick  
NEPA Team Leader  
U.S. EPA, Region 3  
1650 Arch Street  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103

**RE: Scoping Process for the Kennedy Center/Potomac River Pedestrian Access Improvement Environmental Assessment, Washington, DC**

Dear Ms. Rudnick:

The National Park Service (NPS) and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), in conjunction with the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) and the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts (the Kennedy Center) are proposing to provide pedestrian access between the Kennedy Center River Terrace and the Potomac Riverfront in Washington, DC; providing a direct link between the Kennedy Center and the Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway Trail, part of the Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway. Subsequently, the NPS and FHWA are initiating work on an Environmental Assessment (EA). The EA will analyze potential environmental impacts resulting from the implementation of the no action alternative along with action alternatives in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA, the Council on Environmental Quality's Regulations of Implementing NEPA (40 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] 1500-1508); NPS Director's Order #12: *Conservation Planning, Environmental Impacts Analysis and Decision-Making* (NPS, 2001); Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act; and FHWA Technical Advisory T6640.8a.

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D20 (NAMA-RM)

February 18, 2011

Mr. John Nichols  
National Marine Fisheries Service  
Chesapeake Bay Program Office  
410 Severn Ave, Suite 107A  
Annapolis, Maryland. 21403

**RE: Scoping Process for the Kennedy Center/Potomac River Pedestrian Access Improvement  
Environmental Assessment, Washington, DC**

Dear Mr. Nichols:

The National Park Service (NPS) and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), in conjunction with the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) and the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts (the Kennedy Center) are proposing to provide pedestrian access between the Kennedy Center River Terrace and the Potomac Riverfront in Washington, DC; providing a direct link between the Kennedy Center and the Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway Trail, part of the Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway. Subsequently, the NPS and FHWA are initiating work on an Environmental Assessment (EA). The EA will analyze potential environmental impacts resulting from the implementation of the no action alternative along with action alternatives in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA, the Council on Environmental Quality's Regulations of Implementing NEPA (40 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] 1500-1508); NPS Director's Order #12: *Conservation Planning, Environmental Impacts Analysis and Decision-Making* (NPS, 2001); Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act; and FHWA Technical Advisory T6640.8a.

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February 18, 2011

Mr. Tom Luebke  
Secretary  
Commission of Fine Arts  
401 F Street, N.W., Suite 312  
Washington, D.C. 20001

**RE: Scoping Process for the Kennedy Center/Potomac River Pedestrian Access Improvement Environmental Assessment, Washington, DC**

Dear Mr. Luebke:

The National Park Service (NPS) and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), in conjunction with the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) and the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts (the Kennedy Center) are proposing to provide pedestrian access between the Kennedy Center River Terrace and the Potomac Riverfront in Washington, DC; providing a direct link between the Kennedy Center and the Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway Trail, part of the Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway. Subsequently, the NPS and FHWA are initiating work on an Environmental Assessment (EA). The EA will analyze potential environmental impacts resulting from the implementation of the no action alternative along with action alternatives in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA, the Council on Environmental Quality's Regulations of Implementing NEPA (40 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] 1500-1508); NPS Director's Order #12: *Conservation Planning, Environmental Impacts Analysis and Decision-Making* (NPS, 2001); Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act; and FHWA Technical Advisory T6640.8a.

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February 18, 2011

Dr. Hamid Karimi, Project Manager  
Watershed Protection Division  
District Department of the Environment  
1200 First Street NE, 5th Floor  
Washington, D.C. 20002

**RE: Scoping Process for the Kennedy Center/Potomac River Pedestrian Access Improvement  
Environmental Assessment, Washington, DC**

Dear Mr. Karimi:

The National Park Service (NPS) and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), in conjunction with the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) and the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts (the Kennedy Center) are proposing to provide pedestrian access between the Kennedy Center River Terrace and the Potomac Riverfront in Washington, DC; providing a direct link between the Kennedy Center and the Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway Trail, part of the Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway. Subsequently, the NPS and FHWA are initiating work on an Environmental Assessment (EA). The EA will analyze potential environmental impacts resulting from the implementation of the no action alternative along with action alternatives in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA, the Council on Environmental Quality's Regulations of Implementing NEPA (40 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] 1500-1508); NPS Director's Order #12: *Conservation Planning, Environmental Impacts Analysis and Decision-Making* (NPS, 2001); Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act; and FHWA Technical Advisory T6640.8a.

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D20 (NAMA-RM)

February 18, 2011

Mr. Bryan King  
District Department of the Environment  
Fisheries and Wildlife Division  
51 N Street, N.E.  
Washington, D.C. 20002

**RE: Scoping Process for the Kennedy Center/Potomac River Pedestrian Access Improvement  
Environmental Assessment, Washington, DC**

Dear Mr. King:

The National Park Service (NPS) and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), in conjunction with the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) and the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts (the Kennedy Center) are proposing to provide pedestrian access between the Kennedy Center River Terrace and the Potomac Riverfront in Washington, DC; providing a direct link between the Kennedy Center and the Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway Trail, part of the Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway. Subsequently, the NPS and FHWA are initiating work on an Environmental Assessment (EA). The EA will analyze potential environmental impacts resulting from the implementation of the no action alternative along with action alternatives in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA, the Council on Environmental Quality's Regulations of Implementing NEPA (40 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] 1500-1508); NPS Director's Order #12: *Conservation Planning, Environmental Impacts Analysis and Decision-Making* (NPS, 2001); Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act; and FHWA Technical Advisory T6640.8a.

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D20 (NAMA-RM)

February 18, 2011

Mr. Ronaldo Nicholson, Chief Engineer  
DC Department of Transportation  
Infrastructure Project Management Administration  
64 New York Avenue, N.E.  
Washington, D.C. 20002

**RE: Scoping Process for the Kennedy Center/Potomac River Pedestrian Access Improvement  
Environmental Assessment, Washington, DC**

Dear Mr. Nicholson:

The National Park Service (NPS) and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), in conjunction with the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) and the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts (the Kennedy Center) are proposing to provide pedestrian access between the Kennedy Center River Terrace and the Potomac Riverfront in Washington, DC; providing a direct link between the Kennedy Center and the Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway Trail, part of the Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway. Subsequently, the NPS and FHWA are initiating work on an Environmental Assessment (EA). The EA will analyze potential environmental impacts resulting from the implementation of the no action alternative along with action alternatives in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA, the Council on Environmental Quality's Regulations of Implementing NEPA (40 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] 1500-1508); NPS Director's Order #12: *Conservation Planning, Environmental Impacts Analysis and Decision-Making* (NPS, 2001); Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act; and FHWA Technical Advisory T6640.8a.

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D20 (NAMA-RM)

February 18, 2011

Mr. Jesús Aguirre  
Director  
DC Department of Parks and Recreation  
3149 16<sup>th</sup> Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20010

**RE: Scoping Process for the Kennedy Center/Potomac River Pedestrian Access Improvement  
Environmental Assessment, Washington, DC**

Dear Mr. Aguirre:

The National Park Service (NPS) and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), in conjunction with the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) and the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts (the Kennedy Center) are proposing to provide pedestrian access between the Kennedy Center River Terrace and the Potomac Riverfront in Washington, DC; providing a direct link between the Kennedy Center and the Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway Trail, part of the Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway. Subsequently, the NPS and FHWA are initiating work on an Environmental Assessment (EA). The EA will analyze potential environmental impacts resulting from the implementation of the no action alternative along with action alternatives in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA, the Council on Environmental Quality's Regulations of Implementing NEPA (40 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] 1500-1508); NPS Director's Order #12: *Conservation Planning, Environmental Impacts Analysis and Decision-Making* (NPS, 2001); Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act; and FHWA Technical Advisory T6640.8a.

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February 18, 2011

Mr. Ron Kirby  
Director of Transportation Planning, MWCOG  
Suite 300  
777 North Capitol Street, N.E.  
Washington, D.C. 20002

**RE: Scoping Process for the Kennedy Center/Potomac River Pedestrian Access Improvement  
Environmental Assessment, Washington, DC**

Dear Mr. Kirby:

The National Park Service (NPS) and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), in conjunction with the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) and the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts (the Kennedy Center) are proposing to provide pedestrian access between the Kennedy Center River Terrace and the Potomac Riverfront in Washington, DC; providing a direct link between the Kennedy Center and the Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway Trail, part of the Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway. Subsequently, the NPS and FHWA are initiating work on an Environmental Assessment (EA). The EA will analyze potential environmental impacts resulting from the implementation of the no action alternative along with action alternatives in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA, the Council on Environmental Quality's Regulations of Implementing NEPA (40 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] 1500-1508); NPS Director's Order #12: *Conservation Planning, Environmental Impacts Analysis and Decision-Making* (NPS, 2001); Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act; and FHWA Technical Advisory T6640.8a.

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February 18, 2011

Mr. Marcel C. Acosta, Executive Director  
National Capital Planning Commission  
401 9<sup>th</sup> Street NW  
North Lobby, Suite 500  
Washington, D.C. 20004

**RE: Scoping Process for the Kennedy Center/Potomac River Pedestrian Access Improvement  
Environmental Assessment, Washington, DC**

Dear Mr. Acosta:

The National Park Service (NPS) and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), in conjunction with the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) and the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts (the Kennedy Center) are proposing to provide pedestrian access between the Kennedy Center River Terrace and the Potomac Riverfront in Washington, DC; providing a direct link between the Kennedy Center and the Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway Trail, part of the Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway. Subsequently, the NPS and FHWA are initiating work on an Environmental Assessment (EA). The EA will analyze potential environmental impacts resulting from the implementation of the no action alternative along with action alternatives in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA, the Council on Environmental Quality's Regulations of Implementing NEPA (40 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] 1500-1508); NPS Director's Order #12: *Conservation Planning, Environmental Impacts Analysis and Decision-Making* (NPS, 2001); Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act; and FHWA Technical Advisory T6640.8a.

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Greenhorne & O'Mara  
Attn: Alexis Morris  
810 Gleneagles Ct., Suite 106  
Baltimore, MD 21286.

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## United States Department of the Interior

### NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

National Mall & Memorial Parks  
900 Ohio Drive, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20024-2000



D20 (NAMA-RM)

February 18, 2011

Mr. David Levy  
National Capital Planning Commission  
401 9<sup>th</sup> Street N.W.  
North Lobby, Suite 500  
Washington, D.C. 20004

**RE: Scoping Process for the Kennedy Center/Potomac River Pedestrian Access Improvement  
Environmental Assessment, Washington, DC**

Dear Mr. Levy:

The National Park Service (NPS) and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), in conjunction with the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) and the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts (the Kennedy Center) are proposing to provide pedestrian access between the Kennedy Center River Terrace and the Potomac Riverfront in Washington, DC; providing a direct link between the Kennedy Center and the Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway Trail, part of the Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway. Subsequently, the NPS and FHWA are initiating work on an Environmental Assessment (EA). The EA will analyze potential environmental impacts resulting from the implementation of the no action alternative along with action alternatives in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA, the Council on Environmental Quality's Regulations of Implementing NEPA (40 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] 1500-1508); NPS Director's Order #12: *Conservation Planning, Environmental Impacts Analysis and Decision-Making* (NPS, 2001); Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act; and FHWA Technical Advisory T6640.8a.

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NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
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900 Ohio Drive, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20024-2000



D20 (NAMA-RM)

February 18, 2011

Mr. Bill Dowd  
National Capital Planning Commission  
401 9<sup>th</sup> Street N.W.  
North Lobby, Suite 500  
Washington, D.C. 20004

**RE: Scoping Process for the Kennedy Center/Potomac River Pedestrian Access Improvement Environmental Assessment, Washington, DC**

Dear Mr. Dowd:

The National Park Service (NPS) and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), in conjunction with the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) and the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts (the Kennedy Center) are proposing to provide pedestrian access between the Kennedy Center River Terrace and the Potomac Riverfront in Washington, DC; providing a direct link between the Kennedy Center and the Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway Trail, part of the Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway. Subsequently, the NPS and FHWA are initiating work on an Environmental Assessment (EA). The EA will analyze potential environmental impacts resulting from the implementation of the no action alternative along with action alternatives in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA, the Council on Environmental Quality's Regulations of Implementing NEPA (40 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] 1500-1508); NPS Director's Order #12: *Conservation Planning, Environmental Impacts Analysis and Decision-Making* (NPS, 2001); Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act; and FHWA Technical Advisory T6640.8a.

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D20 (NAMA-RM)

February 18, 2011

The Honorable Vincent Gray  
Mayor, District of Columbia  
Office of the Mayor  
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20005

**RE: Scoping Process for the Kennedy Center/Potomac River Pedestrian Access Improvement  
Environmental Assessment, Washington, DC**

Dear Mr. Gray:

The National Park Service (NPS) and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), in conjunction with the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) and the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts (the Kennedy Center) are proposing to provide pedestrian access between the Kennedy Center River Terrace and the Potomac Riverfront in Washington, DC; providing a direct link between the Kennedy Center and the Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway Trail, part of the Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway. Subsequently, the NPS and FHWA are initiating work on an Environmental Assessment (EA). The EA will analyze potential environmental impacts resulting from the implementation of the no action alternative along with action alternatives in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA, the Council on Environmental Quality's Regulations of Implementing NEPA (40 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] 1500-1508); NPS Director's Order #12: *Conservation Planning, Environmental Impacts Analysis and Decision-Making* (NPS, 2001); Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act; and FHWA Technical Advisory T6640.8a.

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## United States Department of the Interior

### NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

National Mall & Memorial Parks  
900 Ohio Drive, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20024-2000



D20 (NAMA-RM)

February 18, 2011

The Honorable Kwame R. Brown  
Chair, District of Columbia Council  
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Suite 504  
Washington, D.C. 20004

**RE: Scoping Process for the Kennedy Center/Potomac River Pedestrian Access Improvement  
Environmental Assessment, Washington, DC**

Dear Mr. Brown:

The National Park Service (NPS) and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), in conjunction with the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) and the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts (the Kennedy Center) are proposing to provide pedestrian access between the Kennedy Center River Terrace and the Potomac Riverfront in Washington, DC; providing a direct link between the Kennedy Center and the Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway Trail, part of the Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway. Subsequently, the NPS and FHWA are initiating work on an Environmental Assessment (EA). The EA will analyze potential environmental impacts resulting from the implementation of the no action alternative along with action alternatives in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA, the Council on Environmental Quality's Regulations of Implementing NEPA (40 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] 1500-1508); NPS Director's Order #12: *Conservation Planning, Environmental Impacts Analysis and Decision-Making* (NPS, 2001); Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act; and FHWA Technical Advisory T6640.8a.

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D20 (NAMA-RM)

February 18, 2011

The Honorable Jack Evans  
Ward 2 Councilmember  
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Suite 106  
Washington, D.C. 20004

**RE: Scoping Process for the Kennedy Center/Potomac River Pedestrian Access Improvement Environmental Assessment, Washington, DC**

Dear Mr. Evans:

The National Park Service (NPS) and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), in conjunction with the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) and the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts (the Kennedy Center) are proposing to provide pedestrian access between the Kennedy Center River Terrace and the Potomac Riverfront in Washington, DC; providing a direct link between the Kennedy Center and the Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway Trail, part of the Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway. Subsequently, the NPS and FHWA are initiating work on an Environmental Assessment (EA). The EA will analyze potential environmental impacts resulting from the implementation of the no action alternative along with action alternatives in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA, the Council on Environmental Quality's Regulations of Implementing NEPA (40 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] 1500-1508); NPS Director's Order #12: *Conservation Planning, Environmental Impacts Analysis and Decision-Making* (NPS, 2001); Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act; and FHWA Technical Advisory T6640.8a.

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