

## PROJECT MEETING MINUTES

PROJECT: EISENHOWER MEMORIAL 2009-002

MEETING: Section 106 Consultation Meeting  
Friday May 21, 2010 - 10:00pm-12:00pm (EST)

LOCATION: NPS Regional Headquarters - 1100 Ohio Drive, Washington, DC

| PRESENT: | Company Name and Attendees:  | Abbrev.        |
|----------|--|----------------|
|          | <b>Eisenhower Memorial Commission</b>  | <b>EMC</b>     |
|          | Carl Reddel  |                |
|          | <b>General Services Administration</b>   | <b>GSA</b>     |
|          | Alison Dresser   |                |
|          | <b>Gilbane Building Company</b>  | <b>GBCo</b>    |
|          | Carol Moore  |                |
|          | <b>National Park Service</b>   | <b>NPS</b>     |
|          | Glen DeMarr, Perry Wheelock, John Piltzecker, Steve Lorenzetti, Mark Isaksen, Gary Scott |                |
|          | <b>Gehry Partners LLP</b>  | <b>GP</b>      |
|          | John Bowers, Brian Zamora  |                |
|          | <b>AECOM</b>   | <b>AEC</b>     |
|          | Alan Harwood, Melissa Hatcher, Stephanie Dyer-Carroll, Claire Sale, Greg Borynowski      |                |
|          | <b>District of Columbia State Historic Preservation Office</b>                           | <b>DC SHPO</b> |
|          | Andrew Lewis   |                |

PURPOSE: Section 106 Consultation Meeting with Interested Parties

| ITEM NO. | ISSUES DISCUSSED | ACTION BY |
|----------|------------------|-----------|
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## 1 Introductions

|    |   |      |
|----|---|------|
| .1 | Steve Lorenzetti introduced the project and the NPS role in the project. He noted that the treatment of Maryland Avenue, SW is a prominent issue.   |      |
|    | Carl Reddel summarized the background of the project by stating that EMC looked at 26 alternative locations before settling on the current site of the proposed memorial. He described the importance of the Eisenhower Memorial and the relation of the site location to his accomplishments. He specifically addressed Eisenhower's role in the freedom of movement, including the development of NASA and the Interstate Highway System, which are represented by the National Air and Space Museum and the U.S. Department of Transportation offices nearby. The Voice of America Studios, located in the adjacent Cohen Building, are representative of his role in international affairs. The direct view of the Capitol is also important because he was also well respected in Congress by leaders in both parties. |      |
| .2 | Glen DeMarr said that the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) was at the U.S. Commission of Fine Arts (CFA) meeting on Thursday, May 20, 2010. At this time, DDOT has not expressed concerns with the project. He anticipates meeting with DDOT on June 1.   |      |
|    | Andrew Lewis asked if DDOT had expressed concern about traffic issues?  |      |
|    | Glen DeMarr answered no. The traffic study shows that 6th Street, SW can accommodate the traffic.   |      |
| .3 | Carl Reddel said that he had met with John McGrath of the Department of Education (DoEd), who had indicated that he might attend the meeting.   |      |
|    | Melissa Hatcher said that she had spoken with John McGrath, and said that he would attend the NCPC meeting and submit written comments as part of the NEPA scoping process.   |      |
|    | Action: Information only.   | None |

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| 2        | <b>Presentation Overview</b>  |             |
| .1       | <p>John Bowers explained the site characteristics and constraints. He also explained the current design concepts. <b>Concept 1</b> looks at retaining Maryland Avenue as a through roadway, but realigning it to its historic location. This would divide the site into two triangular pieces and limit the developable area. The memorial in Concept 1 would be centered around the site. There is a grove of mature trees that represent a quiet gathering place. It would be surrounded by a circle of colonnades. Lintels or blocks of stone would have quotes, reliefs, or other memorial elements. Water features would be integrated contextually with sculptures at the base of the blocks.</p> <p>Concept 1 would reduce traffic on Maryland Avenue, SW by narrowing the road.</p> |             |
| 1a       | <p>Andrew Lewis asked why the memorial is centered around a grove- is it to get away from traffic or because the cartway would cut through the site?</p> <p>John Bowers answered that because of the traffic issues, the memorial is more inwardly focused. The seating and geometry of the site will be different. Once the transition zone, which will be a 50-foot wide pedestrian mall, is excluded, the site is 3.25 acres. The transition zone represents a 50 foot property line developed for security purposes. Surface ground plane material will be brought in to unify the site.</p>  |             |
| 1b       | <p>Andrew Lewis asked what was the DoEd's reaction to this?</p> <p>John Bowers said that the DoEd's reaction seemed to be receptive. The LBJ Building has entrances on all four sides, although the north side is the formal entrance.</p> <p>Alan Harwood said that the north side is the ceremonial entrance, although staff drop-off is on C Street.</p>   |             |
| 1c       | <p>Andrew Lewis said that no determination of eligibility has been established yet for the LBJ Building, but the entrance is part of the evaluation. Changes to north entrance could constitute an adverse effect if it is a historic resource. This is an issue that should be worked out during the Section 106 process.</p>  |             |
| 1d       | <p>Andrew Lewis also asked whether the project would include a ranger station?</p> <p>Perry Wheelock and Steve Lorenzetti stated that the program includes a ranger contact station, book sales area, and restrooms. It is a smaller version of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial visitor contact station. Perry also stated that additional information about Eisenhower will be made available online as an E-memorial.</p>  |             |
| 1e       | <p>Andrew Lewis said that the primary issues are the views and vistas. A "cartway" implies a transportation-related function. The design should continue to reflect transportation-related significance of the cartway. Can the ground plane reflect the cartway to be true to the cartway without keeping traffic going through a memorial? He would like to see options of how Maryland Avenue, SW could be expressed.</p> <p>John Bowers answered that they had already received suggestions about ground plane materials. They will examine alternatives.</p>   |             |
| 1f       | <p>Glenn DeMarr asked how tall are the columns in Concept 1?</p> <p>John Bowers answered that they would be 60 feet tall, and 12 feet in diameter.</p>  |             |
|          | <i>Action: Information Only</i>   | <b>None</b> |
| .2       | <p>John Bowers described <b>Concept 2</b>. In general, the concept is similar to the Concept 1, except Maryland Avenue, SW would be closed to vehicular traffic. In this concept, the monument would bleed into the cartway. It would serve as a central gathering place and can look inward toward the grove. There would be amphitheater-style seating. The experience here would be less restrictive, as pathways would be moved out.</p> <p>The knoll would have a centralized canopy, which could accommodate 300 people. Without the road, the design can have a ceremonial space and can open up programming. The circulation space would be improved. The vista to the Capitol would remain.</p> <p>John Bowers said that he will do more research into the viewshed angles.</p>    |             |
| 2a       | <p>Gary Scott asked what is the iconography of the site?</p> <p>John Bowers said that the blank site needs definition and it should be in scale with the adjacent buildings. These would indicate that it is more than just a municipal park.</p>   |             |

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| 2b       | Gary Scott asked whether they will just be cylinders or if the columns will reflect classical orders?  |           |
|          | John Bowers answered that they are currently cylinders, but they will be examining options.  |           |
| 2c       | Andrew Lewis said that the scale of the columns jumped out at him. Thinking of L'Enfant, nothing was envisioned on this scale. He said that people had similar concerns about the FDR Memorial, and that it was scaled down. Similar to the LBJ Building, he will also want a determination of eligibility for the FAA building. The scale will affect all of these buildings. It could also affect the National Air and Space Museum, which is a contributor to the National Mall.<br><br>He said that he had also understood Eisenhower to be a modest man, and wondered if the scale of this concept was in scale.  |           |
|          | Carl Reddel commented that while Eisenhower was a modest man, his achievements were great.   |           |
|          | Perry Wheelock asked what is the size of the column in comparison to the mature tree canopy expected at the site?  |           |
|          | John Bowers said that they expect to install very large, mature trees. They will examine the potential tree canopy.  |           |
|          | Gary Scott expressed concern that they currently look like dowel sticks. They should look majestic, like those at the Arboretum.   |           |
|          | John Bowers responded that they were in the beginning phase of design, and will continue to explore options.   |           |
|          | Alan Harwood said that this is the end of the beginning phase. The concepts have not changed much since the initial Soft Launch meeting In February. Then the concepts went before the National Capital Memorial Advisory Commission and CFA. They will also go before National Capital Planning Commission on June 2. Then the design team will go back and work out these issues further and start to respond to the comments they have received.  |           |
| .3       | John Bowers introduced <b>Concept 3</b> . In this design, the circular column pattern is gone. Instead, the site is more linear. The columns would frame the site, and also the vista of the Capitol along the cartway. The program elements would be expanded.<br><br>The site is designed as a theater: the front would be the proscenium, with a backdrop (in this case, the tapestry) hanging in the back. The rear tapestry shows the monumental success of the man. The central grove and memorial features would provide more detail of his accomplishments. The Independence Avenue, SW tapestries would provide continuity of the building wall. The tapestries would be of metal materials, and they test for durability and visibility. Also, a variety of images will be considered. |           |
| 3a       | Andrew Lewis asked if one would be able to see images on both sides of the tapestry.   |           |
|          | John Bowers answered that yes, they will be able to be viewed on both sides of the tapestries. However, they will be about 15 feet off the ground.   |           |
| 3b       | Andrew Lewis raised concern about the tapestries obscuring the view of buildings (both to and from the buildings). This is particularly the case with the LBJ Building, which could be historic. He asked if the tapestry in front is designed to go the entire front of the site, because the columns seem a little disjointed.   |           |
|          | John Bowers answered no, the tapestry was not designed to go the entire width of the site in front. The columns are intended as a colonnade along Independence Avenue, SW, albeit with one column missing to enable a view to the Capitol. People will experience the feeling of a colonnade. It also creates a boundary at the site.  |           |
| 3c       | Andrew Lewis said that it seemed like a building. Does the pedestrian feel enclosed?   |           |
|          | John Bowers answered that it would feel more like an urban room.   |           |
| <b>3</b> | <b>Section 106 Discussion</b>  |           |
| .1       | Perry Wheelock asked for a synopsis of the public comments received to date.   |           |

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|          | <p>Stephanie Dyer-Carroll listed the following comments that had been received from the Scoping/Section 106 meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Indirect comments about the scale compared to Eisenhower's modesty.</li> <li>- The screen in front of LBJ Building relative to the views to and from LBJ Building.</li> <li>- Concern about relocation of community gardens and exercise area on NPS parcel.</li> <li>- Comments that favor Concept 1 because some people want Maryland Avenue, SW kept open as a roadway.</li> </ul>  |             |
| .2       | <p>Andrew Lewis said that he is in favor of keeping some relationship to Maryland Avenue, SW, which would avoid or minimize the effects to the L'Enfant Plan. One way to do this was to have an expression of the original cartway on the ground plan through materials, grade, etc.</p> <p>Glen DeMarr mentioned that CFA had commented on this, too.</p>   |             |
| .3       | <p>Andrew Lewis also commented that steps should be taken to ensure that the soils are appropriate for mature trees, and that appropriate trees are chosen.</p>  |             |
| .4       | <p>Gary Scott raised the question of iconography, with the LBJ Building in the rear, which would be partially covered by the Eisenhower Memorial in front. If the LBJ building is covered, the success of the project will depend on the quality of the artist.</p>  |             |
| .5       | <p>Alan Harwood outlined comments received at previous meetings:</p> <p>NCMAC:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Concern about transparency of the tapestry and the view to/from LBJ Building</li> <li>- Scale of columns and tapestry</li> <li>- Maryland Avenue, SW and if it should stay open</li> <li>- What is the memorial trying to convey and is the design consistent with the modesty of the man?</li> </ul> <p>CFA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Positive feedback about the scale</li> <li>- Resolution of ground plane is needed</li> <li>- Wanted to see the memory of Maryland Avenue, SW included in design</li> <li>- Question of road between LBJ Building and the site.</li> </ul>    |             |
| .6       | <p>Andrew Lewis asked about the 50 foot transition zone, raising concern about it feeling too enclosed.</p> <p>John Bowers said that it is approximately 70 feet between the face of the building and the columns. There are also some engineering concerns about the area, so they will be doing research.</p>  |             |
| .7       | <p>Andrew Lewis asked if the columns are supposed to be the same height as LBJ?</p> <p>John said that the columns will hint at the cornice lines of the other buildings, which are very similar in height.</p> <p>Stephanie Dyer-Carroll recapped that they had proposed in advance of the April public meeting to take into account the scale of the memorial elements.</p>   |             |
| .8       | <p>Perry said that they will need to develop visual simulations from primary, secondary, and tertiary Area of Potential Effect.</p>  |             |
| 8a       | <p>Andrew Lewis said that he has already addressed that they will need determination of eligibility of neighboring buildings, which was described earlier. The archaeology has already been addressed.</p> <p>Perry Wheelock stated that NPS has recommended Phase IA archeological study. If necessary, a Phase IB study will be undertaken.</p> <p>Stephanie Dyer-Carroll discussed the cartway had been narrowed from 60 feet to 50 feet between 1915 and 1928, according to Baist Real Estate Survey maps. The land transfer for Independence Avenue, SW occurred in 1941, and by 1945, it cut through the site. The LBJ Building was created in 1959, and the current roadway configuration has remained since that time.</p> |             |
|          | <p>Action: Information Only</p>  | <p>None</p> |

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**4 Next Steps**

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| .1 | Determination of eligibility will need to be completed for the LBJ Building and the FAA building, which is outside of the existing scope of work. |  |
| .2 | People will comment on the EA, but the team does not expect to have another Section 106 meeting until the design has developed further.           |  |

**This constitutes our understanding of the major items discussed and decisions reached during our meeting (s). If there are any questions or disagreements regarding these minutes, please contact our office within ten (10) working days.**

**PREPARED BY:** Claire Sale

**ISSUED:** June 1, 2010

**DISTRIBUTION:** Meeting Participants