



# KENNEDY CENTER EXPANSION CONNECTION PROJECT

## **Section 106 Consulting Parties Meeting #3**

February 23, 2016

9:00 am

# Kennedy Center Expansion Connection Project

Washington, DC

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## AGENDA

- Introductions
- Update on Section 106 Consultation and Project Overview
- Review of Alternatives
- Presentation of Effects Analysis
- Minimization and Mitigation Discussion
- Next Steps and Schedule

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## UPDATE ON S106 CONSULTATION

- The NCPC and NPS are acting as co-lead agencies in cooperation with the Kennedy Center to fulfill the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act for the proposed Kennedy Center Expansion Connection Project.
- In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the NCPC and NPS are preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) to identify alternatives and assess the potential impacts of the Kennedy Center Expansion Connection Project.
- Section 106 consultation was initiated with the DC Historic Preservation Office (DCHPO) on November 9, 2015, and with the Virginia State Historic Preservation Office (VASHPO) on February 17, 2016.
- A NEPA public scoping meeting and Section 106 Consulting Parties Meeting was held on September 29, 2015. A second Section 106 Consulting Parties meeting occurred on December 10, 2015, to present the proposed alternatives to the public and invite comment on the potential effects of the undertaking.
- The NPS's Planning, Environment, and Public Comment (PEPC) website is being used as a tool to disseminate information and collect public comment. A draft Assessment of Effects report has been prepared and will be posted to PEPC for public review.

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## PROJECT OVERVIEW

- The Kennedy Center is a congressionally designated national showcase for the performing arts and a living memorial to President Kennedy.
- The Kennedy Center is expanding its facilities through the construction of three land-based pavilions south of the existing building.
- Currently, there is no direct connection to the Kennedy Center grounds from the Rock Creek Paved Recreation Trail along the Potomac River waterfront.
- The proposed Kennedy Center Expansion Connection Project would provide a safe pedestrian and bicycle connection between the Kennedy Center and the Rock Creek Paved Recreation Trail while creating a waterfront link to and from the Kennedy Center, the National Mall and Memorial Parks, the riverfront, and the surrounding vicinity.



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## PROJECT GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

- The proposed project will allow the Kennedy Center to extend its outreach by drawing users of the Rock Creek Paved Recreation Trail onto the Kennedy Center grounds and by allowing Kennedy Center patrons to experience the Potomac River waterfront.
- The proposed project will provide all Rock Creek Paved Recreation Trail users, including visitors to D.C. exploring nearby monuments, bicycle commuters, and members of the public who use the multi-use trail for running, walking, or biking, the opportunity to access the Kennedy Center grounds and to explore and learn more about their programs.
- The proposed project will provide visitors to the National Mall with the ability to see all of the major presidential memorials by foot or bike, including the Kennedy Center – a living memorial to President John F. Kennedy.
- The proposed project will allow Kennedy Center patrons attending special events, educational seminars, rehearsals, or performances to engage with the river.





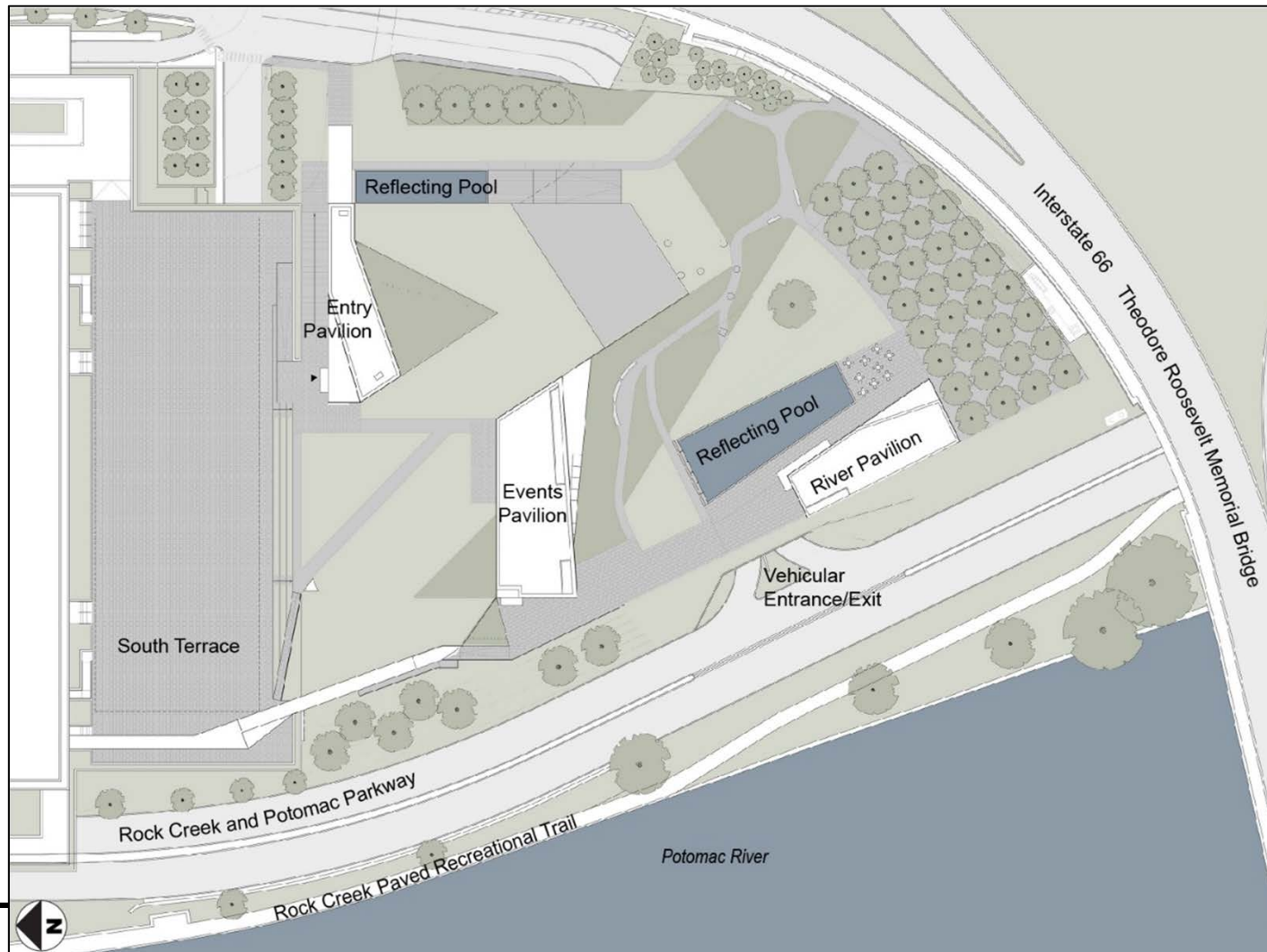
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## No Action Alternative



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## No Action Alternative



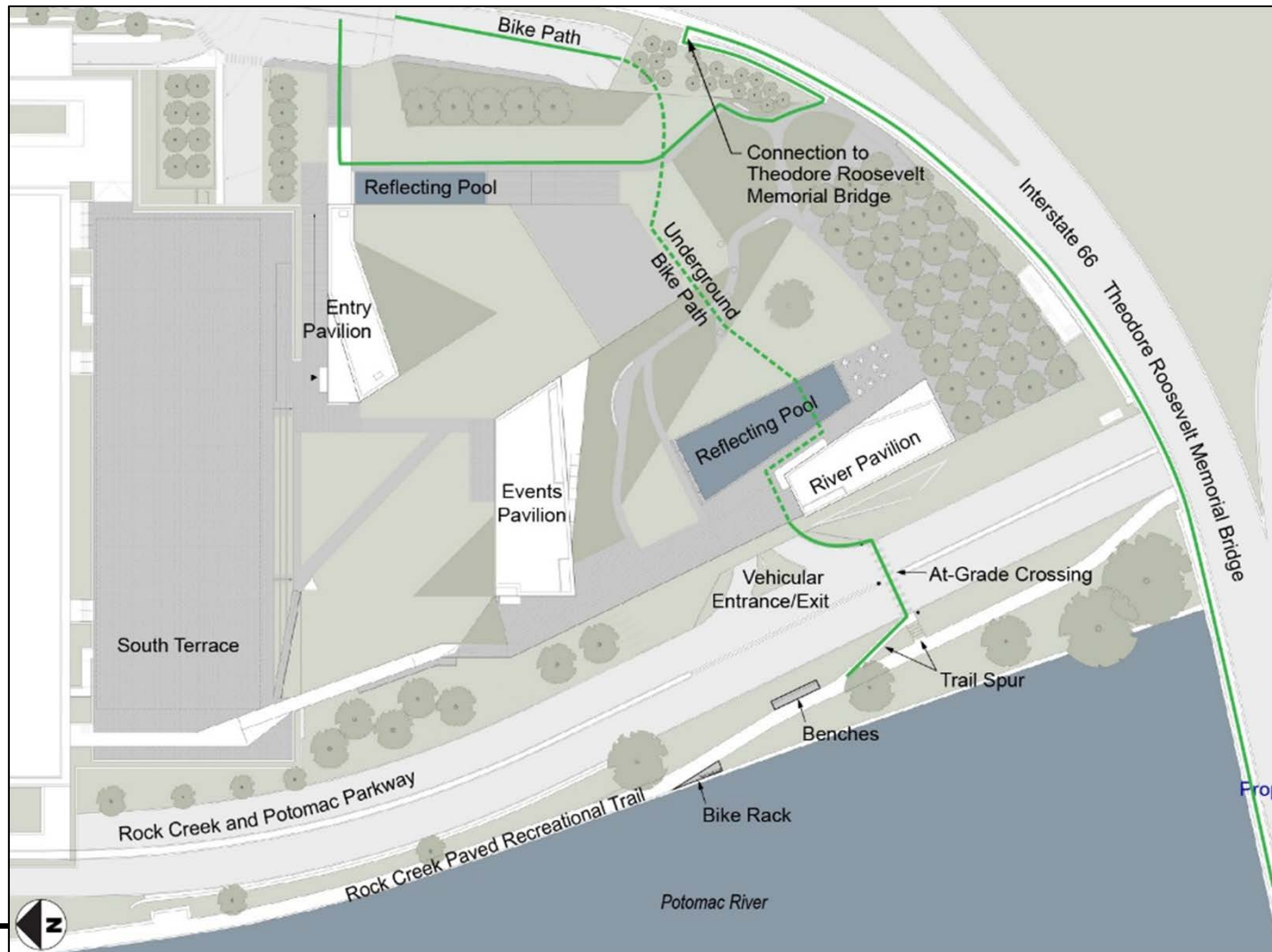
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## At-Grade Access Alternative





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## At-Grade Access Alternative



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## At-Grade Access Alternative



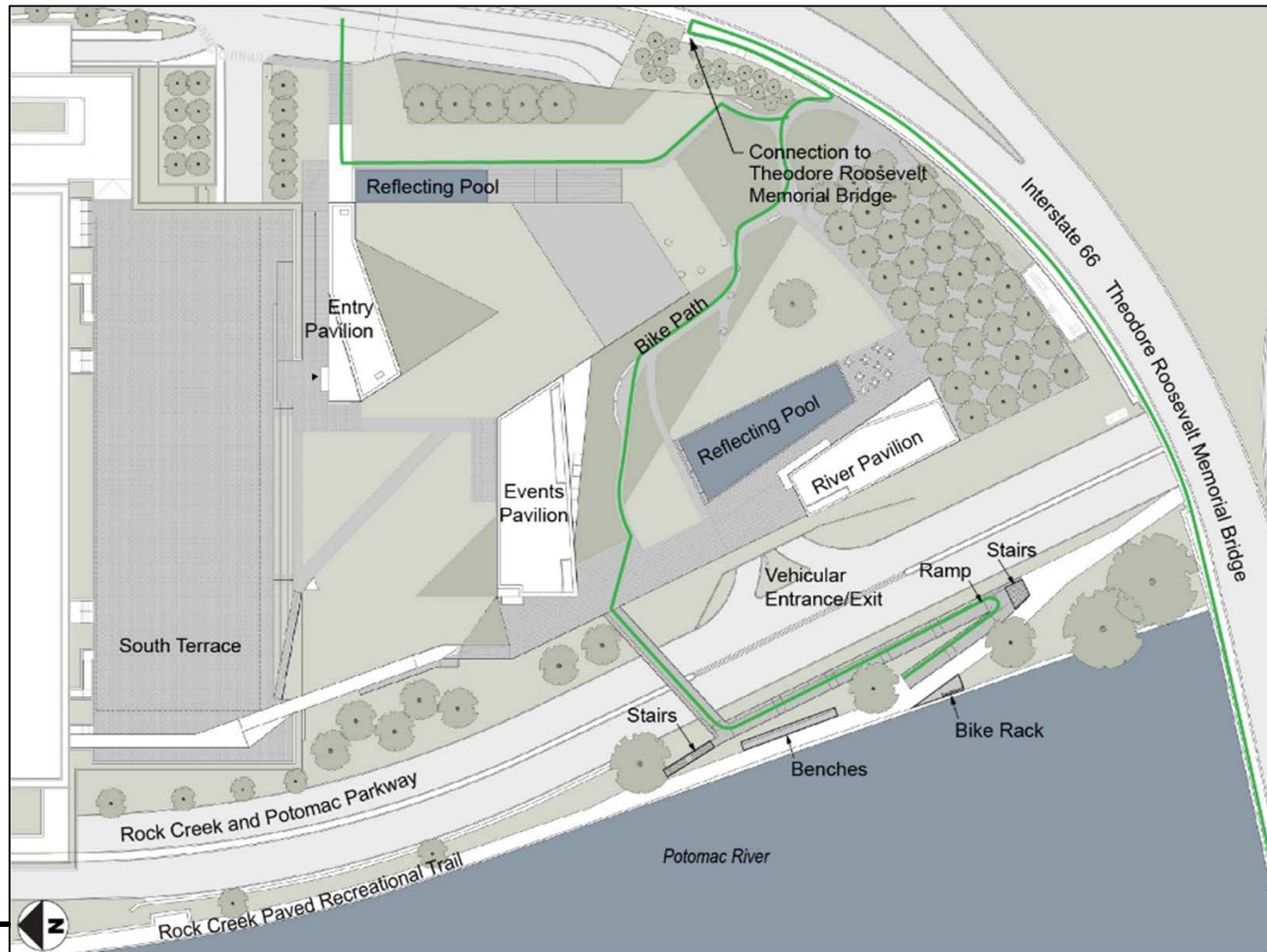
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## Bridge Access with Ramp and Stairs Alternative





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## Bridge Access with Ramp and Stairs Alternative



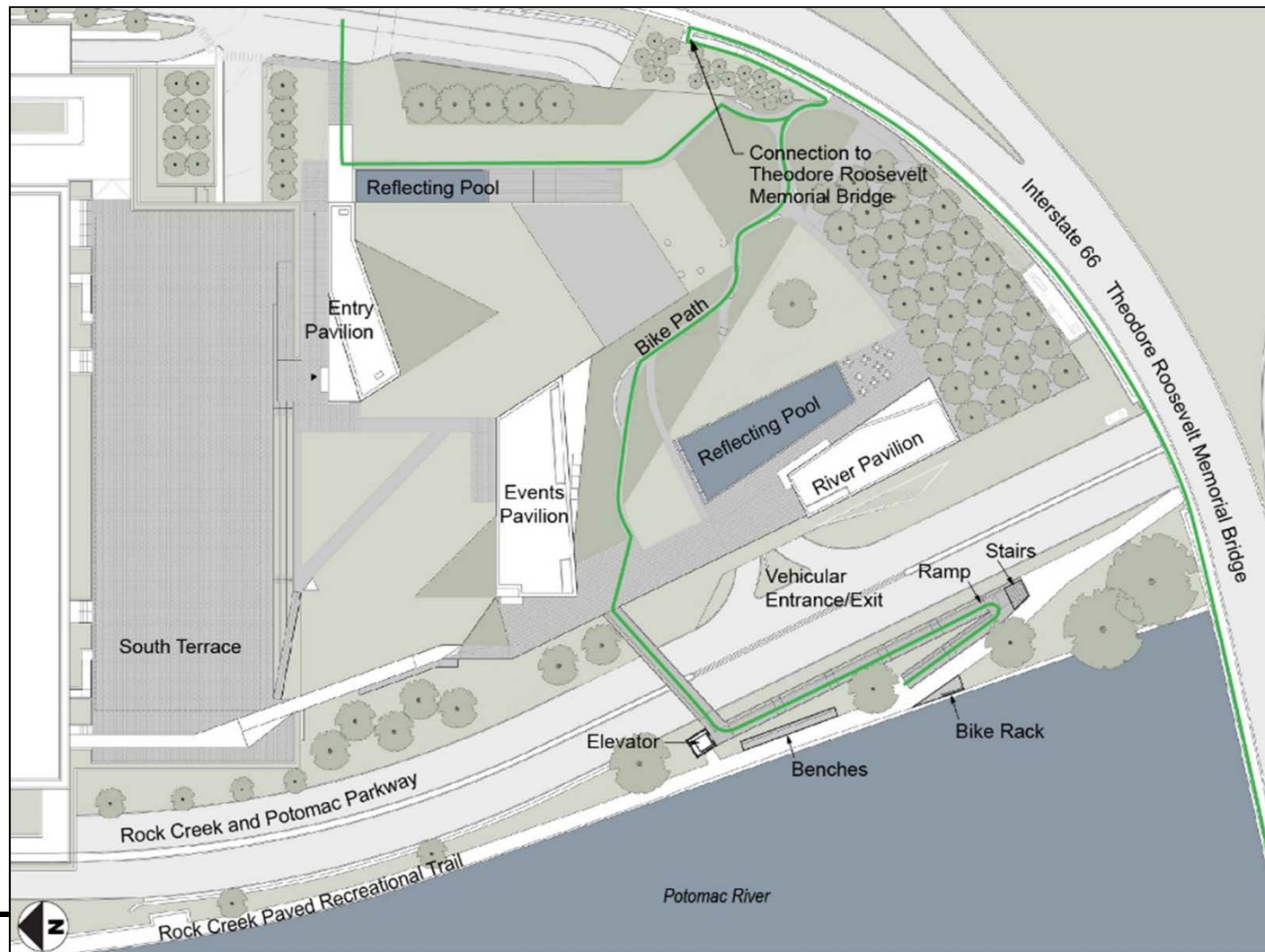
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## Bridge Access with Ramp and Elevator Alternative





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## Bridge Access with Ramp and Elevator Alternative



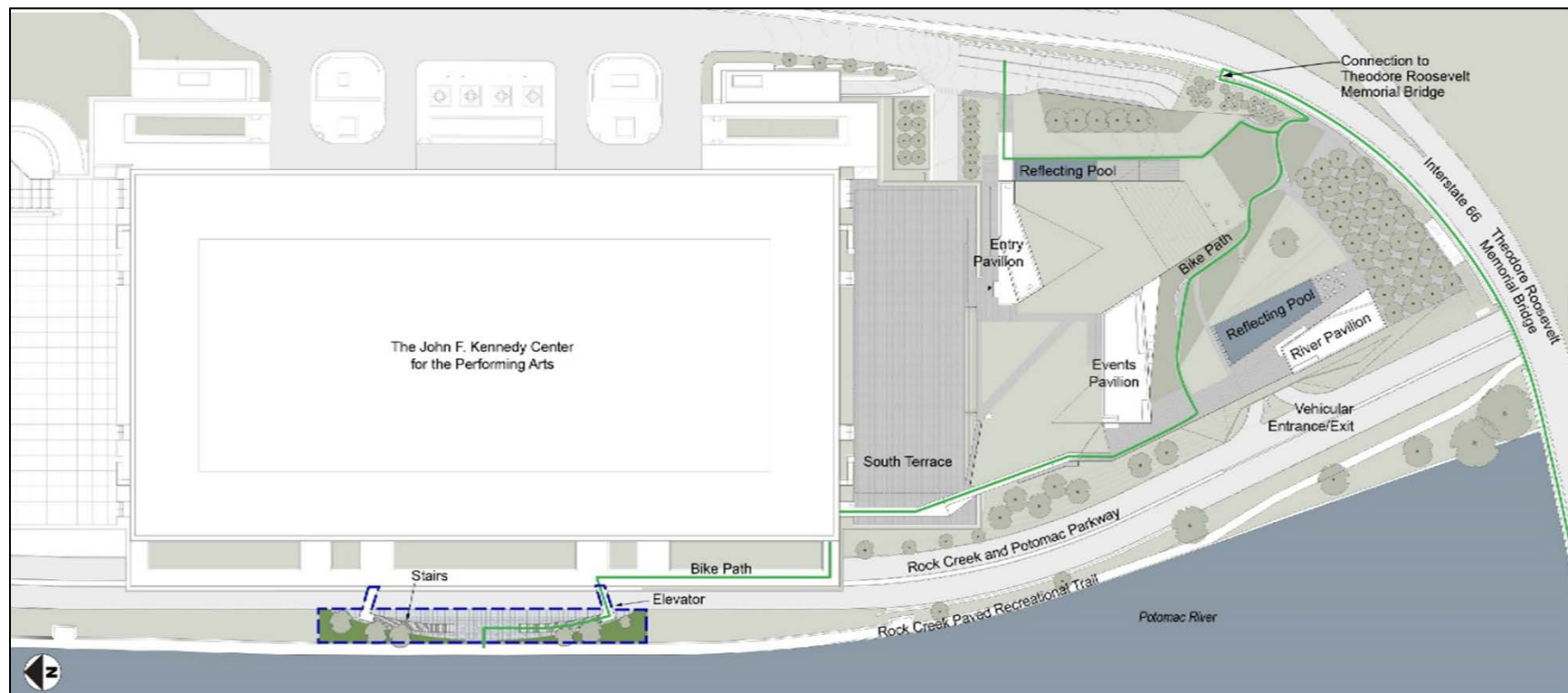
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## River Terrace Access Alternative



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## River Terrace Access Alternative





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## Area of Potential Effects (APE)

### BUILDINGS

- 1 Kennedy Center
- 2 Watergate Complex

### STRUCTURES

- 3 Arlington Memorial Bridge

### DISTRICTS

- 4 George Washington Memorial Parkway
- 5 Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway

 East & West Potomac Parks Historic District

 Georgetown Historic District

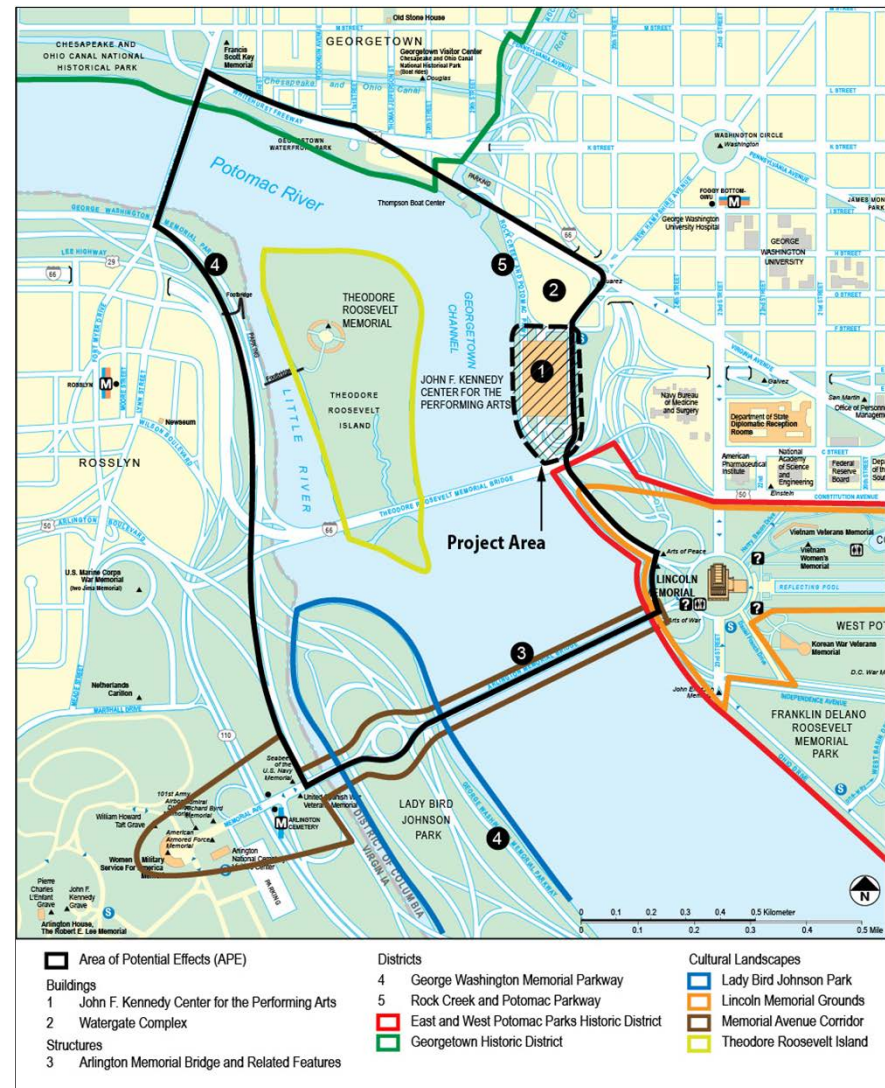
### CULTURAL LANDSCAPES

 Lady Bird Johnson Park

 Lincoln Memorial Grounds

 Memorial Avenue Corridor

 Theodore Roosevelt Island





## EFFECTS ANALYSIS

- The criteria of adverse effect were applied to assess the potential effects of the Kennedy Center Expansion Connection Project alternatives on the historic properties and cultural resources within the APE.
- The application of the criteria of adverse effects revealed the following:
  - The **No Action Alternative** would have no adverse effect on historic properties.
  - The **At-Grade Access Alternative** would have no adverse effect on historic properties.
  - The **Bridge Access with Ramp and Stairs Alternative** and the **Bridge Access with Ramp and Elevator Alternative** would have no adverse effect on the following resources: Arlington Memorial Bridge and related features, East and West Potomac Parks Historic District, George Washington Memorial Parkway, Georgetown Historic District, the Kennedy Center, Lady Bird Johnson Park, Lincoln Memorial grounds, Memorial Avenue corridor, Theodore Roosevelt Island, and the Watergate. *The alternatives would have an adverse effect on the Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway.*
  - The **River Terrace Access Alternative** would have no adverse effect on the following resources: Arlington Memorial Bridge and related features, East and West Potomac Parks Historic District, George Washington Memorial Parkway, Georgetown Historic District, Lady Bird Johnson Park, Lincoln Memorial grounds, Memorial Avenue corridor, Theodore Roosevelt Island, and the Watergate. *The alternative would have an adverse effect on the Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway and the Kennedy Center.*





## No Adverse Effect

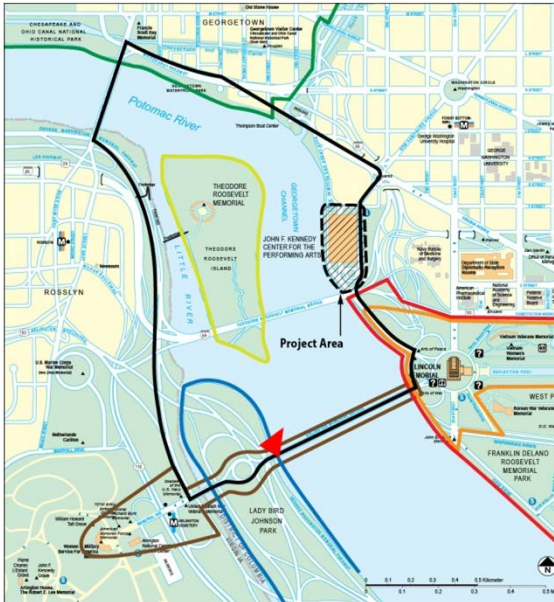
Due to sightlines and distances, the action alternatives would have no adverse effect on the following resources within the APE:

- Arlington Memorial Bridge and related features
- George Washington Memorial Parkway
- East and West Potomac Parks Historic District
- Georgetown Historic District
- Lady Bird Johnson Park
- Lincoln Memorial Grounds
- Memorial Avenue Corridor
- Theodore Roosevelt Bridge
- Watergate Complex

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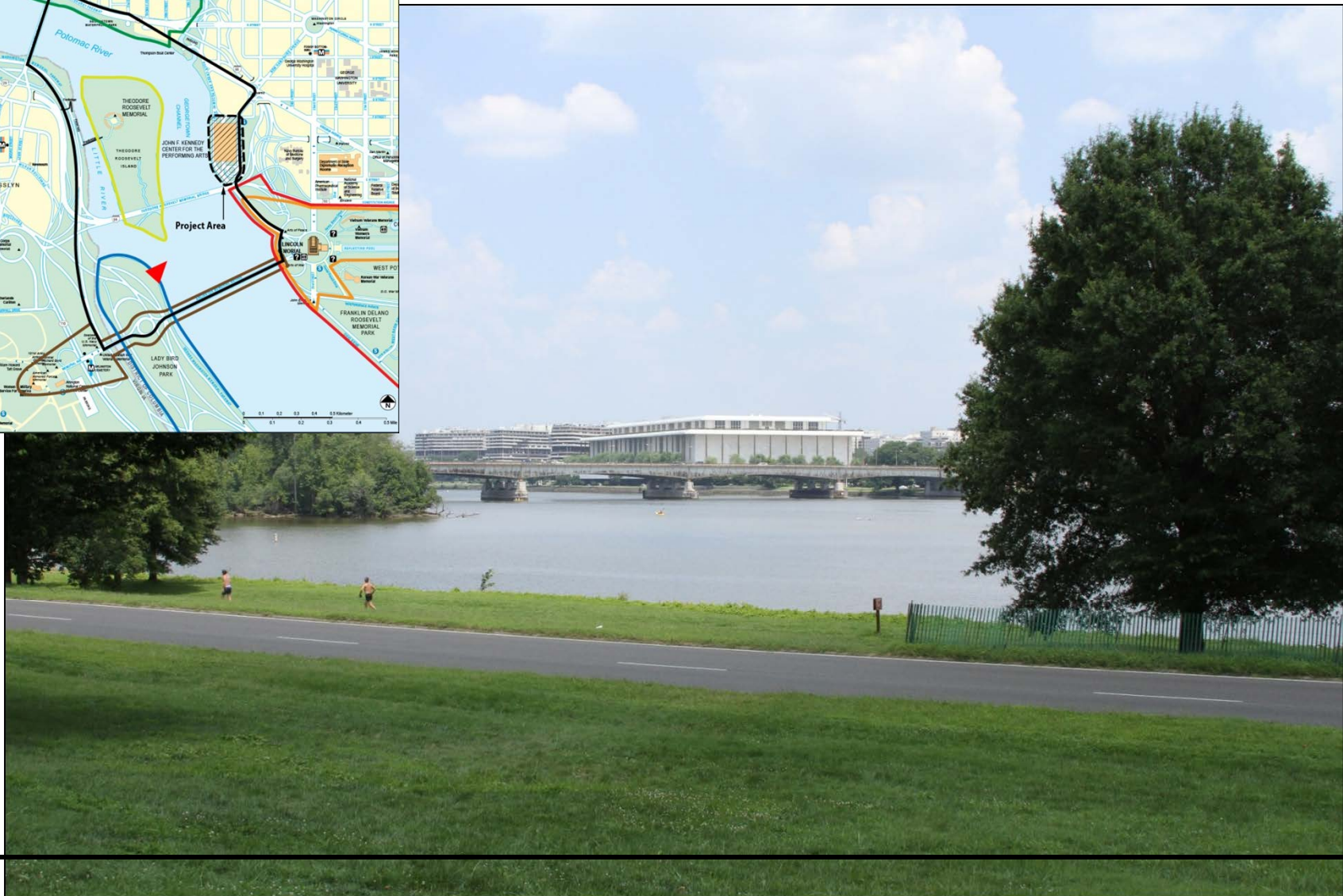
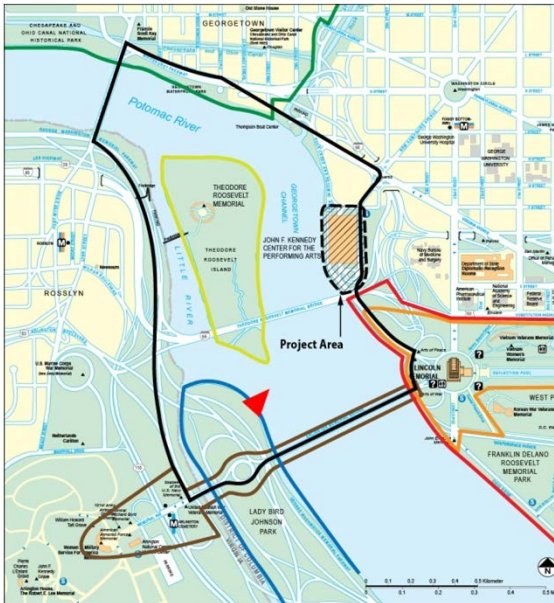
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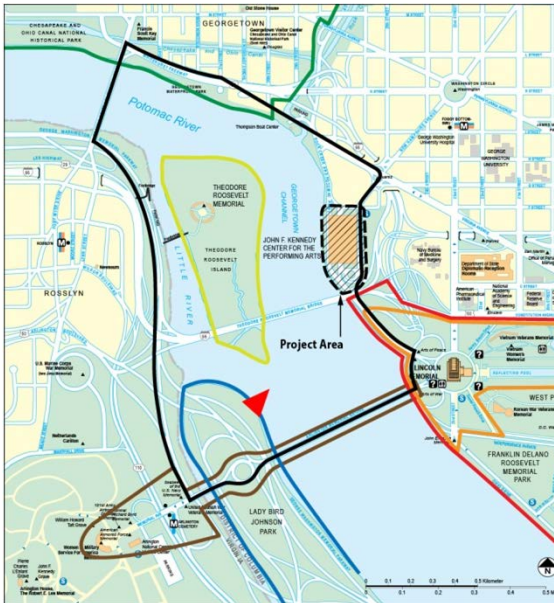




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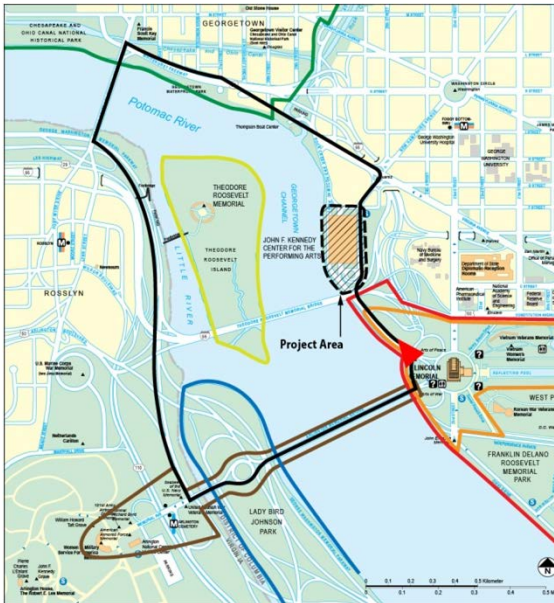




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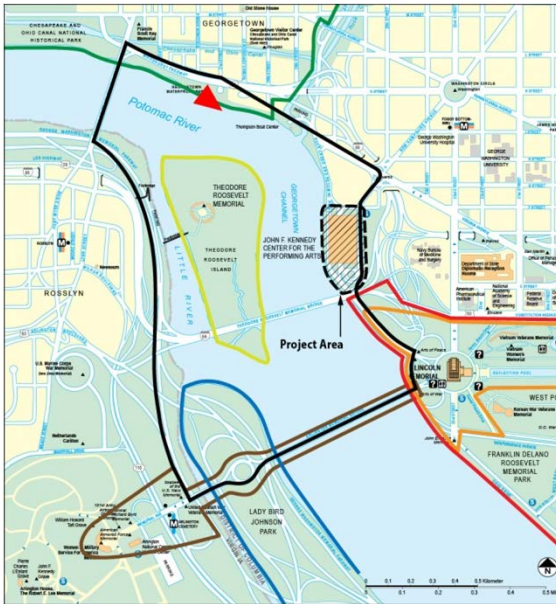




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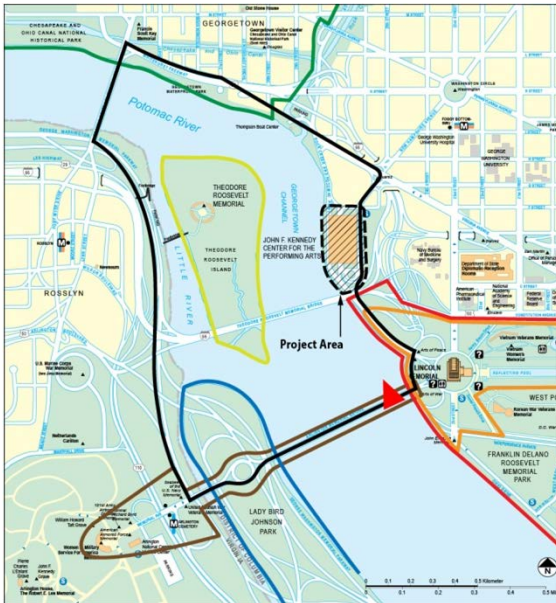
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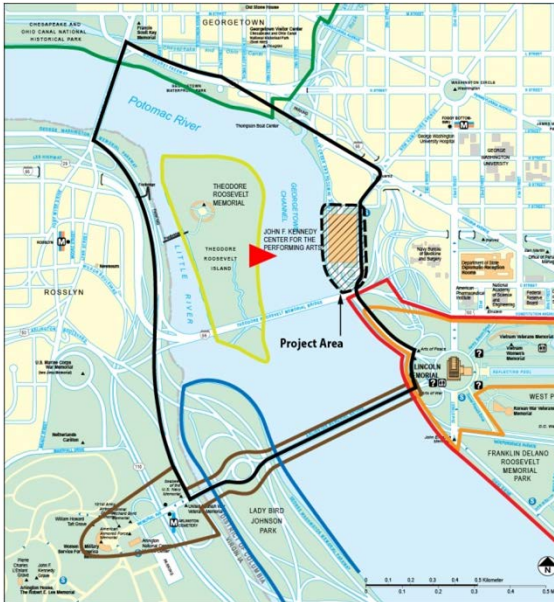




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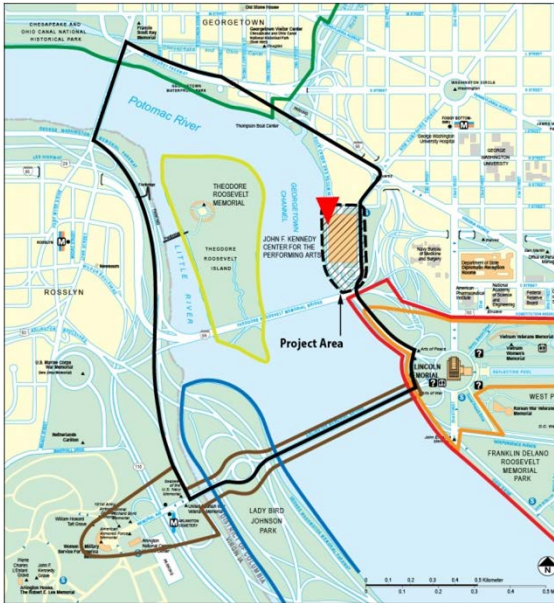




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## RCPP Character-Defining Features

The RCPP was listed in the D.C. Inventory of Historic Sites on November 8, 1964, and in the NRHP on May 4, 2005, under the multiple property listing “Parkways of the National Capital Region, 1913-1965.”

The RCPP features twenty-eight contributing resources, seven of which are located within the APE. These include:

- *The Arts of Peace*
- Millet Lamp posts
- Stone Seawalls
- Rock Creek
- Sycamore Allée
- Roadway
- Network of Trails

Significant views from the RCPP include:

- panoramic views of the Potomac River and Theodore Roosevelt Island





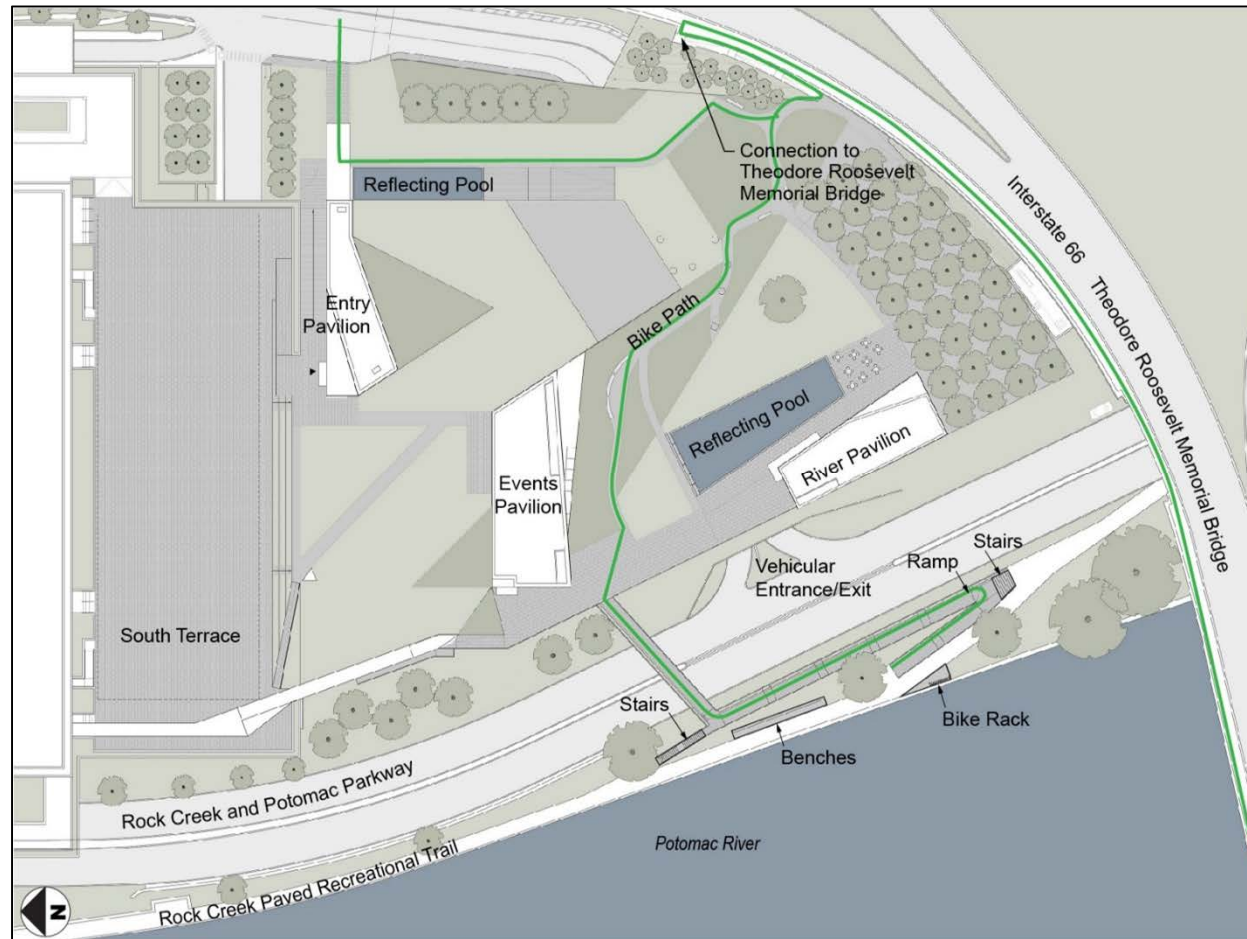
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## Bridge Access with Ramp and Stairs Alternative





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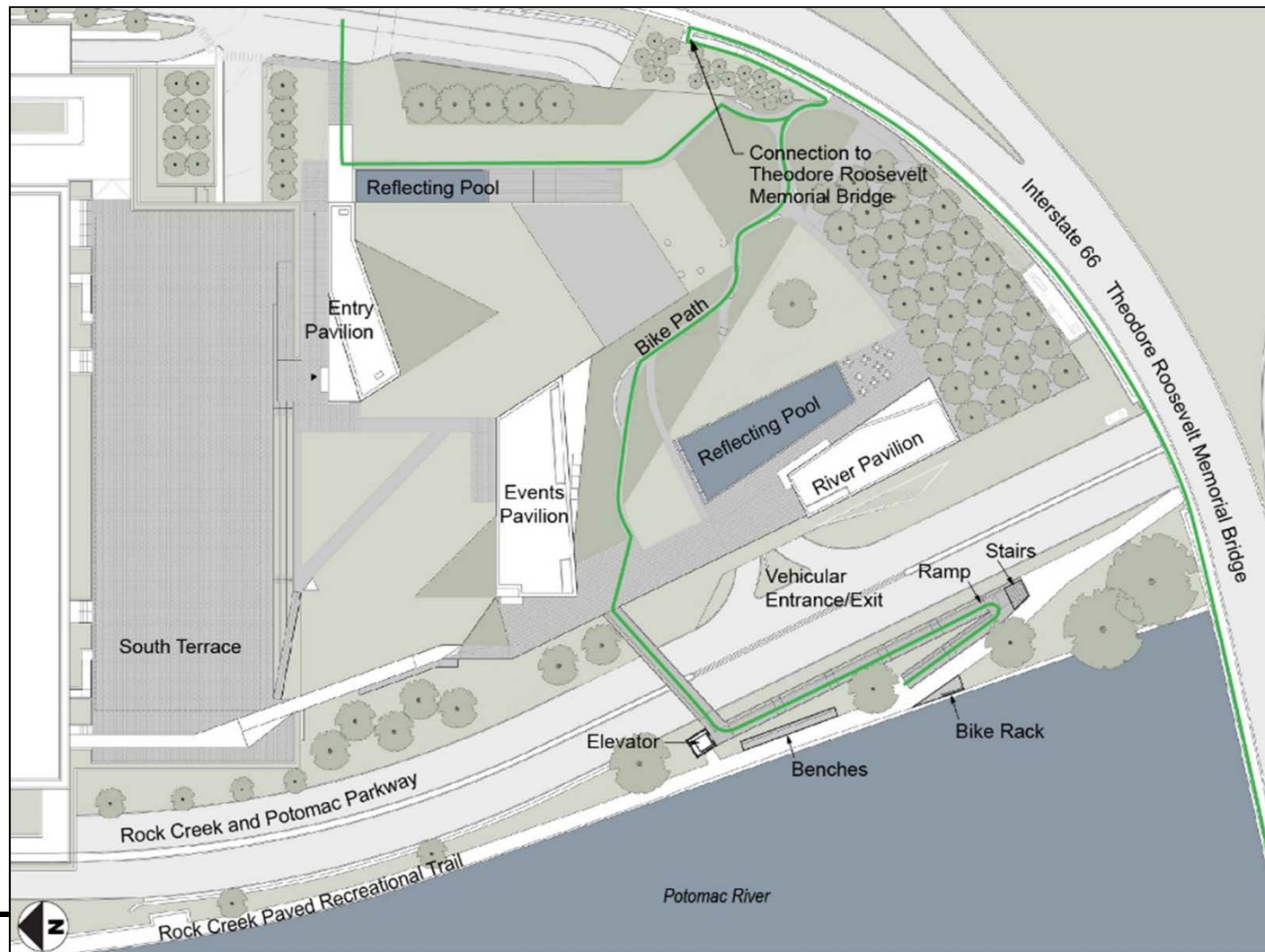
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## Bridge Access with Ramp and Elevator Alternative





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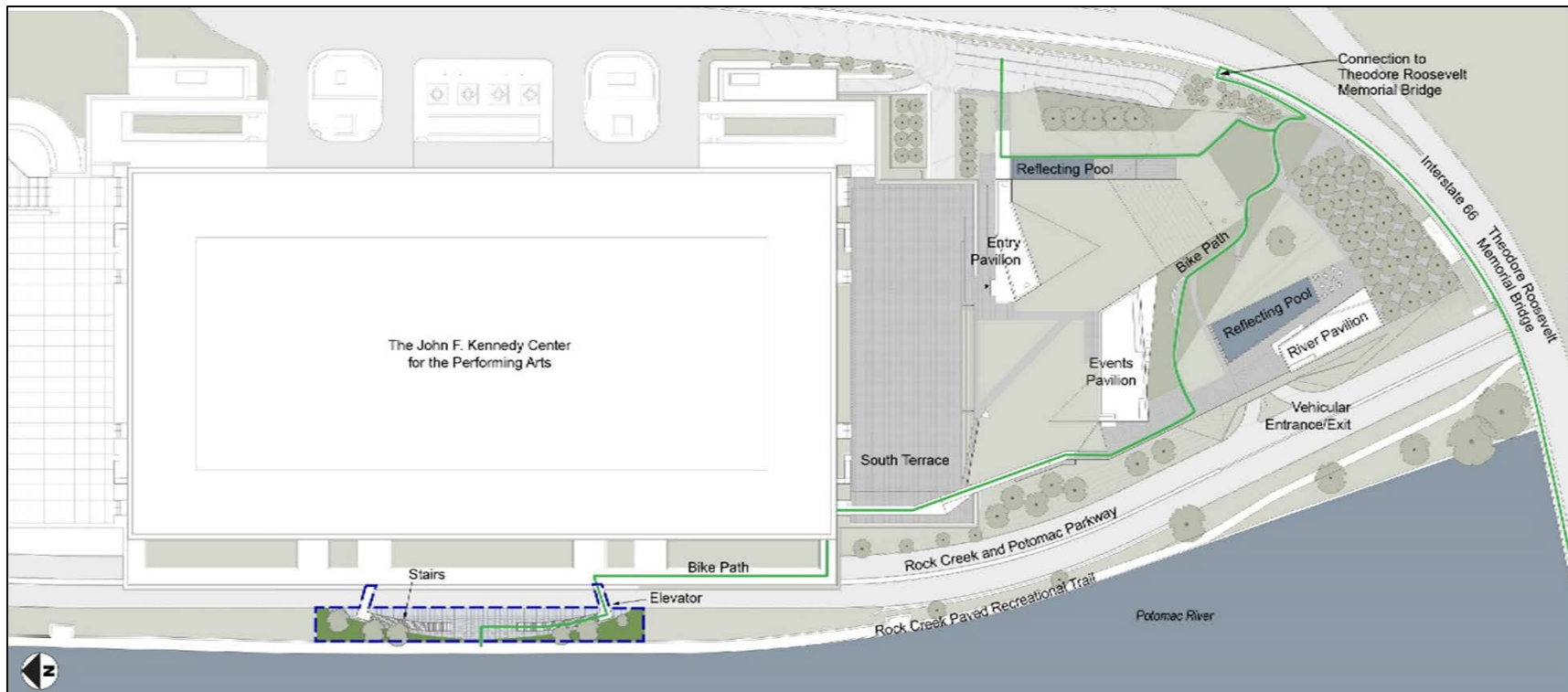
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## River Terrace Access Alternative



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## Kennedy Center Character-Defining Features

In 2012, the Kennedy Center was determined eligible for the National Register by the DCHPO under National Register Criteria B and C and under Criteria Consideration F (commemorative properties) and Criteria Consideration G (properties that have achieved significance within the last 50 years).

- bilateral symmetry
- long, low horizontality
- organized, hierarchical facades
- clear, geometric form
- thin-clad marble curtain walls
- the size and location of the plaza-level glass curtain walls
- roof overhangs, including marble-paneled fascia
- peripteral columns
- engraved quotations and bronze wall signage
- stage access doors and the vertical paired openings in the north, south, and center bays of the east façade







## Kennedy Center Character-Defining Features (cont.)

Contributing features of the terraces and Entrance Plaza include:

- the footprint and cantilevered structure of the West (River) Terrace
- the marble panels of the north, west, and south fascia of the West Terrace overhang
- the shape and location of the planting boxes and double row of willow trees of the West Terrace
- the shape and location of the water features of the West Terrace
- the size and location of the water features of the Entrance Plaza
- the Entrance Plaza public art



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## Kennedy Center Character-Defining Features (cont.)

Contributing views from the Kennedy Center include:

- the 360-degree panoramic view from the Roof Terrace
- views from the River Terrace of the Potomac River
- views from the River Terrace of Theodore Roosevelt Island
- views from the River Terrace of the Virginia shoreline



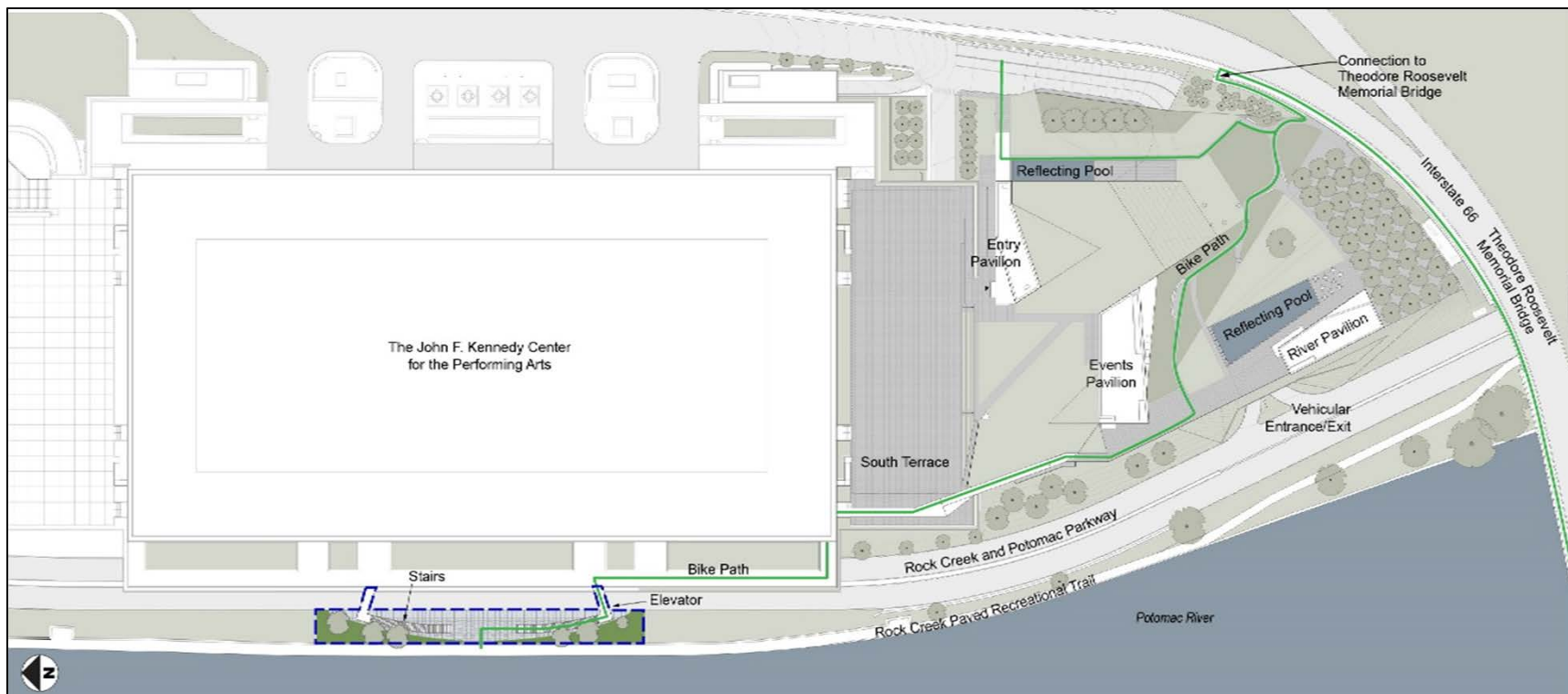
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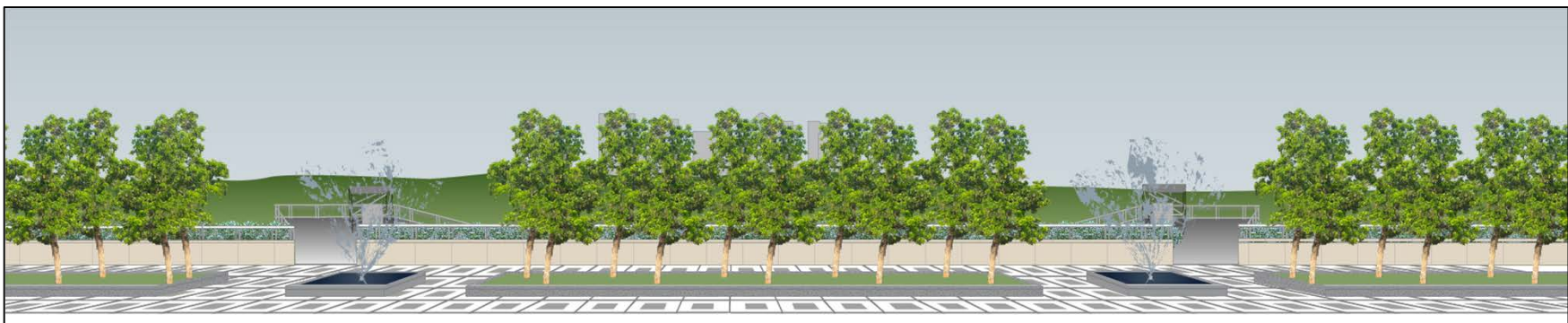
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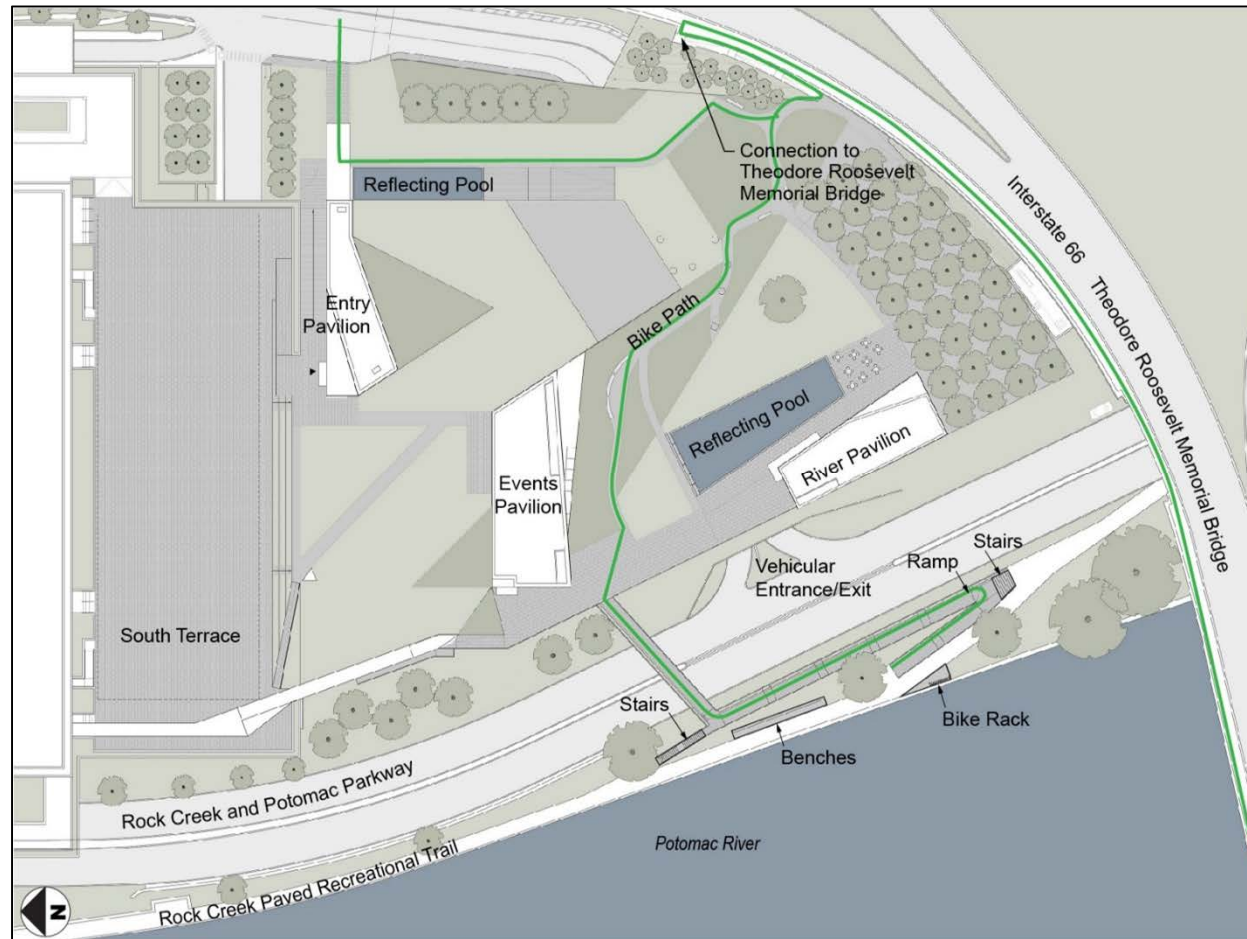
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## Bridge Access with Ramp and Stairs Alternative





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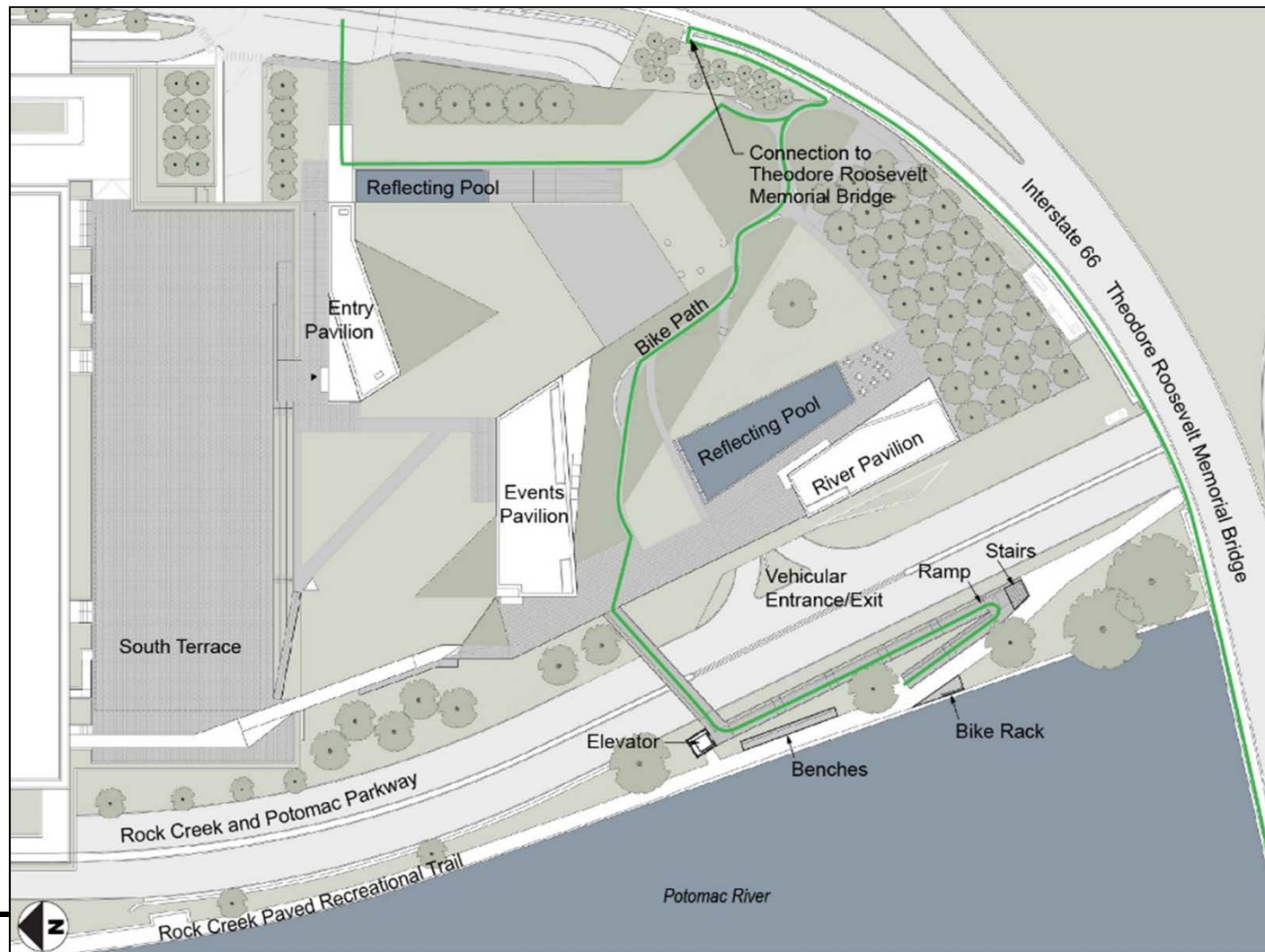
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## Bridge Access with Ramp and Elevator Alternative





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## Bridge Access with Ramp and Elevator Alternative





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## BRIEF REVIEW AND DISCUSSION OF EFFECTS ANALYSIS

	No Action Alternative	At-Grade Crossing Access Alternative	Bridge Access with Ramp and Stair Alternative	Bridge Access with Ramp and Elevator Alternative	River Terrace Access Alternative
<b>Resource</b>					
Arlington Memorial Bridge and related features	No adverse effect	No adverse effect	No adverse effect	No adverse effect	No adverse effect
East and West Potomac Parks Historic District	No adverse effect	No adverse effect	No adverse effect	No adverse effect	No adverse effect
George Washington Memorial Parkway	No adverse effect	No adverse effect	No adverse effect	No adverse effect	No adverse effect
Georgetown Historic District	No adverse effect	No adverse effect	No adverse effect	No adverse effect	No adverse effect
John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts	No adverse effect	No adverse effect	No adverse effect	No adverse effect	Adverse Effect -Views from the River Terrace would be interrupted - River Terrace perimeter wall and River Terrace footprint would be altered -Cantilevered quality of the River Terrace and overall horizontality of the building's original design would be diminished

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	No Action Alternative	At-Grade Crossing Access Alternative	Bridge Access with Ramp and Stair Alternative	Bridge Access with Ramp and Elevator Alternative	River Terrace Access Alternative
<b>Resource</b>					
<b>Lady Bird Johnson Park</b>	No adverse effect	No adverse effect	No adverse effect	No adverse effect	No adverse effect
<b>Lincoln Memorial grounds</b>	No adverse effect	No adverse effect	No adverse effect	No adverse effect	No adverse effect
<b>Memorial Avenue corridor</b>	No adverse effect	No adverse effect	No adverse effect	No adverse effect	No adverse effect
<b>Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway</b>	No adverse effect	No adverse effect	Adverse Effect - Views of the Potomac River and Theodore Roosevelt Island from sections of the Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway Roadway and Trail would be interrupted - Rerouting a section of the Rock Creek Paved Recreation Trail and adding three trail spurs would impact the Network of Trails	Adverse Effect - Views of the Potomac River and Theodore Roosevelt Island from sections of the Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway Roadway and Trail would be interrupted - Rerouting a section of the Rock Creek Paved Recreation Trail and adding three trail spurs would impact the Network of Trails	Adverse Effect - Views of the Potomac River and Theodore Roosevelt Island from sections of the Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway Roadway and Trail would be interrupted - Bridge and stair structures would increase tunnel effect along the Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway - Plaza at the base of the stair and elevator structures would impact the Network of Trails
<b>Theodore Roosevelt Island</b>	No adverse effect	No adverse effect	No adverse effect	No adverse effect	No adverse effect
<b>Watergate</b>	No adverse effect	No adverse effect	No adverse effect	No adverse effect	No adverse effect

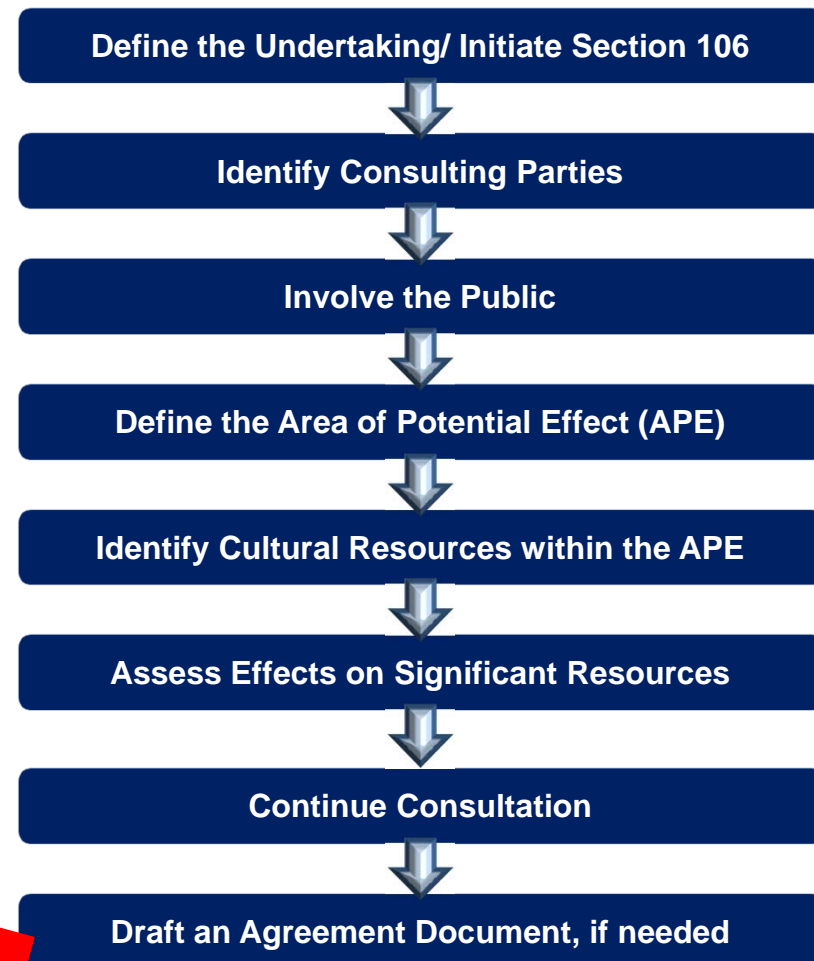
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## SECTION 106 OF THE NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT (NHPA)



WE ARE HERE



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## MINIMIZATION AND MITIGATION DISCUSSION





## QUESTIONS/COMMENTS AND NEXT STEPS

- Post the Section 106 Assessment of Effects report and presentation materials to NPS Planning, Environment and Public Comment (PEPC) site: <http://parkplanning.nps.gov/KennedyCenterConnection>.
- Collect public comments on the Section 106 Assessment of Effects report via PEPC. Comment period will extend until March 22, 2016.
- Prepare Section 106 Memorandum of Agreement.