



United States Department of the Interior



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

June 16, 2021

Subject: Public Meeting Notice for Federal Reserve Board (Martin) Building North and East Garages Waterproofing Project for Reservations 105 and 378

Dear Interested Party:

The National Park Service (NPS), in cooperation with the Federal Reserve Board (FRB), is seeking public comments on the potential design of the proposed repairs and upgrades to the North and East Garages, including security, safety, and accessibility enhancements. In accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, the NPS is conducting Section 106 consultation for the Federal Reserve (Martin) Building North and East Garage Waterproofing Project in Washington, DC.

The project site encompasses Edward J. Kelly Park (Reservation 105) and Reservation 378, located in the northwest quadrant of Washington, DC, and bounded by Virginia Avenue, 21st Street, C Street, and the Federal Reserve Board of Governors William McChesney Martin Building (Martin Building), which is currently undergoing an extensive renovation and addition through a separate project. Below grade on the project site and Reservation 378 are two parking garages, the North and East Garages, built as part of the Martin Building between 1971 and 1974. At the southeast corner of the site and Reservation 378 is a fountain and plaza dedicated to Robert Latham Owen, and at the northwest corner is Edward J. Kelly Park (Reservation 105). National Mall and Memorial Parks (NAMA) administers the project site and the Board maintains the park and fountain plaza through a Memorandum of Agreement. Additionally, the below-grade garages are governed by an Interagency Agreement between the Department of Interior and the Federal Reserve Board for operations and maintenance.

The purpose of the proposed project is to repair and provide critical maintenance, life-safety, building code, security, and accessibility upgrades to the below-grade North and East Garages and the fountain plaza at Robert Owen Park. Garage structures require replacement at the end of their usable life cycle, which is fifty years. The waterproofing and expansion joints at the roof of the below-grade garages have reached the end of their useful life and require replacement. Access to the top of the garage roofs necessitates the removal of landscape and hardscape features, including the soil, plantings, trees, paving, tennis courts, lights, and fountain. The project involves removing the existing waterproofing to evaluate the structural integrity of the roof and make necessary repairs, installation of a new waterproof system, and reinstalling, rebuilding, or replacing above-grade elements. A new entry kiosk serving the North Garage is proposed with upgraded security screening and accessible egress to the garage. The existing entry kiosk does not comply with current accessibility codes or the Board's security requirements.

In consultation with the DC Historic Preservation Office (DC SHPO), Reservations 105 and 378 have been determined eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Additionally, the reservations contribute to the National Register-eligible Northwest Rectangle Historic District, the Virginia Avenue NW Cultural Landscape, and the L'Enfant Plan of the City of Washington, which is listed in the National Register of Historic Places and the DC Inventory of Historic Sites.

The public is invited to provide feedback on the proposed project so that the NPS may appropriately consider and address concerns through the design development. A public meeting will be held from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, June 30, 2021, via webinar. To register and receive the meeting link, please contact Caridad de la Vega, cultural resource program manager, at caridad_de_la_vega@nps.gov. Further information on the public meeting is available at <https://parkplanning.nps.gov/MartinBuildingGarageandLandscape>. This meeting will serve as the initial public meeting for the Section 106 process of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended. The public is invited to comment on the Area of Potential Effect (APE), the identification of historic properties in the APE, and identify ways the design development could avoid and minimize the potential for adverse effects to historic properties in the vicinity of the project site.

Interested parties are encouraged to provide written comments in addition to, or in lieu of, providing comments at the public meeting. Interested parties may submit comments online via the project website at <https://parkplanning.nps.gov/MartinBuildingGarageandLandscapeComment> until July 14, 2021, or may mail comments at any time to the following address:

Jeffrey P. Reinbold
Superintendent
Attn: Federal Reserve (Martin) Building North and East Garage Waterproofing Project
National Mall and Memorial Parks
900 Ohio Dr. SW
Washington, DC 20024

Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Thank you for your participation in this process and we appreciate your feedback.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey P. Reinbold
Superintendent