U.S. Department of the Interior National Park Service



#### ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT & SECTION 106 FOR THE Washington Monument Visitor Security Screening



NOVEMBER 8, 2010



**Open House** 5:30 - 6:00pm Project Background 6:00 – 6:45pm **NEPA and Section 106 Process Proposed Actions Opportunities to Comment Open House** 6:45: 7:30pm



### Proposed Actions

The purpose of the proposed actions is to improve the security of the Monument in a manner that maintains and preserves the visitor experience and cultural landscape of the Monument grounds.

As the primary memorial to the nation's first president, the Monument is one of the most prominent icons in the nation and is toured by approximately one million visitors annually with many more visiting the surrounding grounds. Its popularity, combined with its status as an icon, makes it a potential target for terrorist attack. A permanent perimeter vehicular barrier system was completed with landscape improvements in 2006. The visitor screening facility that was also constructed at that time was temporary. Action is needed to complete the comprehensive security improvements.





#### Project Background







The project area is situated within the larger cultural landscape of the Monument grounds, which includes 106 acres bounded by Constitution Avenue to the north, Maine Avenue to the south, 14th Street on the east, and 17th Street on the west.





### Project Background



Visitors waiting to enter the Monument







## Project Background





Monument Lodge

#### LEGEND



Granite plaza and flagpole circle

Temporary visitor screening facility

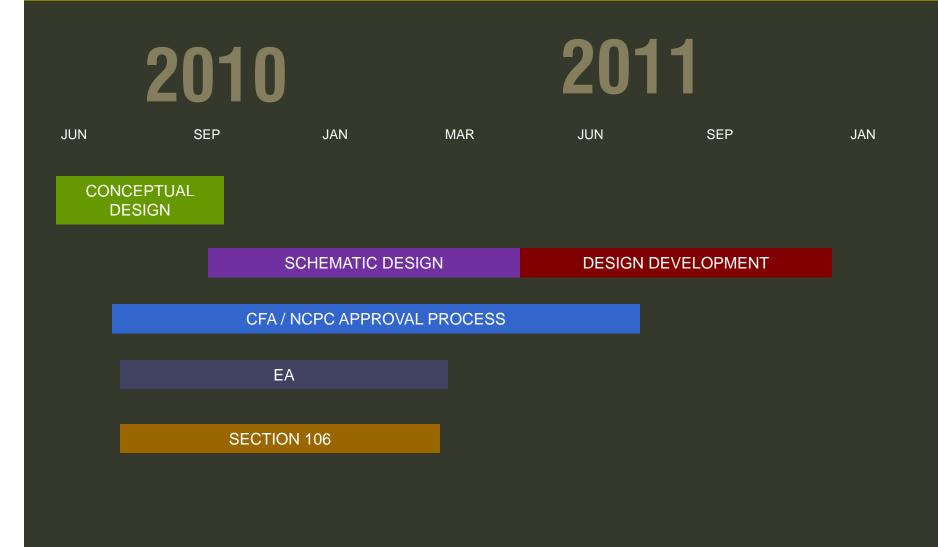


Permanent vehicular barrier





# Project Timeline







#### **Regulations and Procedures**

NEPA National Environmental Policy Act NHPA National Historic Preservation Act



#### NEPA

## Regulations

#### NEPA National Environmental Policy Act

The National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended

(42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.)

#### CEQ Council on Environmental Quality

"Regulations for Implementing the Procedural Provisions of NEPA" (40 CFR 1500-1508).

#### DO-12 Department of the Interior, Director's Order 12

Director's Order #12: Conservation Planning, Environmental Impact Analysis, and Decision-making

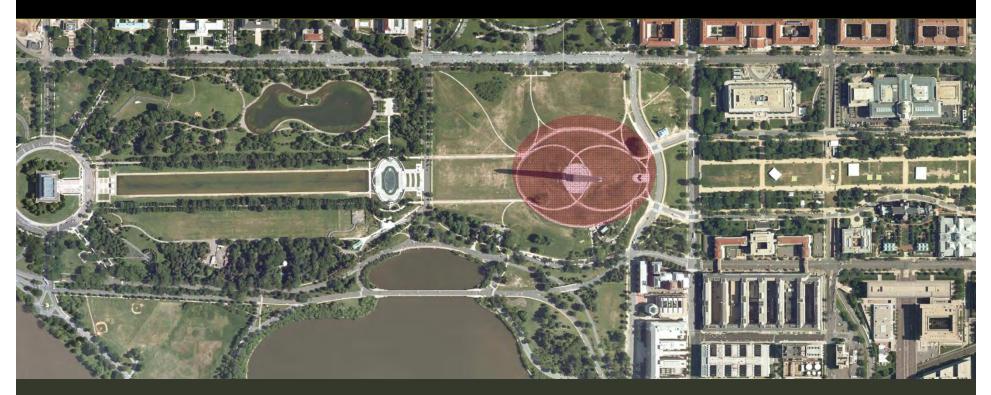
#### **EA Process**

- 1. Public Notification
- 2. Define Purpose & Need for the proposed action, determine project area, define framework within which reasonable alternatives can be developed, and develop preliminary alternatives
- **3. Data Collection** Begin resource inventory and analysis, determine resource topics affected by the proposed action, and initiate data collection/ research needed to carry impact analysis forward
- 4. Define Preliminary Alternatives
- 5. Internal and External Scoping to introduce project and identify issues
- 6. Public Scoping Meeting
- 7. Describe the **Affected Environment**, refine alternatives, and prepare impact analysis of affected resource topics
- 8. Prepare **draft Environmental Assessment (EA)** for Internal Agency Review, prepare Final EA for Public Comment
- 9. Release Final EA for 30-day Public Comment Period
- **10. Review** all public comments received on the EA and **respond** to comments
- 11. Prepare and finalize appropriate **Decision Document**





### Impact Topics



#### Visitor Use and Experience Soils Public Safety Visual Resources Park Management and Operations Cultural Resources



#### Section 106

# Regulations

#### NHPA National Historic Preservation Act

Section 106 regulations, 36 CFR Part 800

# Process

- 1. Define Undertaking / Initiate Sec 106
- 2. Identify Consulting Parties
- 3. Involve the Public
- 4. Define Area of Potential Effect (APE)
- 5. Identify Significant Cultural Resources in APE
- 6. Assess Effects on Significant Resources
- 7. Apply Criteria Of Adverse Effect
- 8. Continue Consultation
- 9. Draft Agreement Document, if needed





### Draft Area of Potential Effect







#### Section 106

#### NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICTS

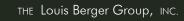




#### Section 106

#### CULTURAL LANDSCAPES







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