



## **TRANSFER OF NATIONAL PARK SERVICE PROPERTY TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT**

Thank you for attending this evening's meeting. This handout explains the proceedings and provides information about the environmental study.

### **TONIGHT'S FORMAT**

The National Park Service (NPS) is conducting an environmental study to analyze the proposed transfer of vacant NPS land to the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Transfer of this parcel to HUD will allow it to be packaged along with the abutting urban renewal land, for development of 50 townhomes with onsite parking. The purpose of this meeting is to provide you with a clear understanding of the proposed transfer, and solicit your input with regard to the study.

At 7:15 we will provide a brief presentation about this project. We encourage you to read the information provided, and to provide us with any ideas, suggestions, and/or comments you may have with regard to the environmental study. Communication is highly encouraged - we have developed an efficient method for transmitting your thoughts in the context of a public forum. To that end, detailed comment forms are located at the front table for your use. The forms may be completed tonight and placed in the provided boxes, or sent in later by mail or email.

### **ABOUT THE PROJECT**

The NPS proposes to transfer approximately 0.91 acres of vacant NPS land to the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). HUD proposes to package the transferred land with an abutting urban renewal parcel, for conveyance to the District of Columbia (D.C) and ultimately, to Fort Lincoln Eastern Avenue, LLC. The resulting parcel will be the site of a planned 50 townhome community with onsite parking, within Fort Lincoln New Town.

The Study Area is located approximately 1.3 miles southwest of the town of Bladensburg, Maryland and is bounded by Bladensburg Road to the northwest, Eastern Avenue to the northeast, and Fort Lincoln Drive NE to the southeast.

The site is a unit of Rock Creek Park, an administrative unit of the National Park Service. Rock Creek Park is approximately 1,754 acres, stretching south from the Maryland state line to the National Zoological Park.

### **ABOUT THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT**

An Environmental Assessment (EA) is prepared to determine whether a federal undertaking would significantly affect the environment. Fundamentally, an EA addresses questions about project impacts to the environment for the agency and its decision makers, as well as for the public and other interested parties. It presents a clear, well-reasoned answer as to whether an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is required. If the EA indicates that no significant impact is likely, then the agency can release a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) and carry on with the proposed action. If the EA indicates there is a potential for significant impact, then the agency will then cease the EA process and prepare a notice of intent to prepare an EIS.



EAs are public documents called for by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969. The law makes it national policy for every Federal agency to help protect the Nation's environmental resources. The law calls upon agencies to consider, before deciding on a project or program, the potential environmental effects of implementing the proposed project or program, and promote informed decision-making that incorporates the Nation's environmental protection goals.

### **THE PUBLIC ROLE IN EAS**

At the outset of developing an EA, the action agency (in this case, NPS), asks for public input about what should be included in the scope of the study. This is the purpose of tonight's "scoping meeting"—to solicit your feedback about what issues should be addressed in the EA.

Once a draft of the EA has been developed, we will make this document available to the public. We will ask interested parties for their comments on the draft, refine the EA as needed in response to comments received, and then publish the Final EA.

### **HOW TO PARTICIPATE IN THE EA PROCESS**

To submit comments or request a copy of the draft and final EA, you can:

- Fill out the comment form available here tonight, and leave it here with us.
- Email to: [comments@apexc.com](mailto:comments@apexc.com);
- Take the form with you upon exiting and mail it to the address below.  
Apex Companies; LLC  
ATTN: Eastern Avenue Project  
8854 Rixlew Lane  
Manassas, VA 20109
- Local residents can also drop-off the comment form at:  
Fort Lincoln Realty - Reception Desk - 3298 Fort Lincoln Drive, NE  
and  
Wesley House Apartments - Management Office - 3400 Commodore Joshua Barney Drive, NE.
- The NPS preferred method of receiving comments is on-line at:  
<http://parkplanning.nps.gov/ROCR>

**To be fully considered, comments should be sent or delivered (local residents) by  
December 3, 2012**

Thank you for your time and your interest.