Washington, DC Public Scoping – February 2011



# KENNEDY CENTER POTOMAC RIVER PEDESTRIAN ACCESS

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND
CULTURAL RESOURCES (SECTION 106)
EVALUATION

PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING

WELCOME



### TONIGHT'S MEETING

- The purpose of this meeting is to gather early public input on the scope of the study, potential alternatives, and areas of concern.
- This evening's meeting is an "Open House", during which you will be able to talk directly with members of the NPS/FHWS project team.
- You are encouraged to provide your thoughts and ideas in writing or with the court reporter.

WE THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION IN THIS PROCESS.



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#### OPPORTUNITIES FOR PUBLIC COMMENT



#### Tonight:

- Write your comments on the comment cards provided.
- Provide your oral testimony to a court reporter.

Submit comments electronically: <a href="http://parkplanning.nps.gov/NAMA">http://parkplanning.nps.gov/NAMA</a>

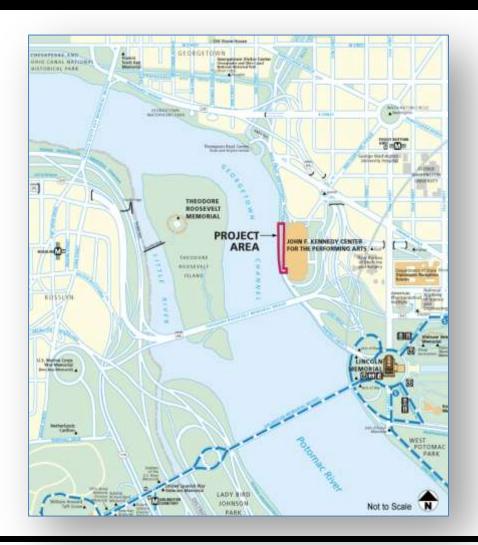
Written comments may be mailed:

Greenhorne & O'Mara Attn: Alexis Morris 810 Gleneagles Court, Suite 106 Baltimore, MD 21286



#### PROJECT LOCATION

- The Kennedy Center is located at 2700 F Street, NW Washington, DC 20566.
- The project area is defined as the area between the existing Kennedy Center River Terrace and the Potomac River edge, running the length of the Kennedy Center Building.





### PROJECT OVERVIEW

- The Kennedy Center Access Improvements Environmental Assessment and 4(f) Evaluation (2003 EA) analyzed the potential impacts of alternatives for improved pedestrian, vehicle, and bicycle circulation.
- Concept level designs have been developed for pedestrian access between the Kennedy Center River Terrace and the Potomac Riverfront and were presented to the US Commission of Fine Art (CFA) and National Capital Planning Commission (NCPC) for review.
- NPS and FHWA, in conjunction with DDOT and the Kennedy Center, have initiated work on an Environmental Assessment (EA) to evaluate the impacts of these designs.
- A jurisdictional transfer of NPS land would be required for the implementation of the proposed action.



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#### PURPOSE:

The purpose of this action is to improve pedestrian access between the Kennedy Center River Terrace and the Potomac Riverfront in Washington, DC.

#### NEED:

The action is needed because physical barriers and safety concerns currently discourage pedestrian traffic between these two resources.



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## **ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES AND IMPACT TOPICS:**

- Floodplains
- Vegetation
- Scenic
   Resources/Viewsheds
- Historic Structures
- Cultural Landscapes

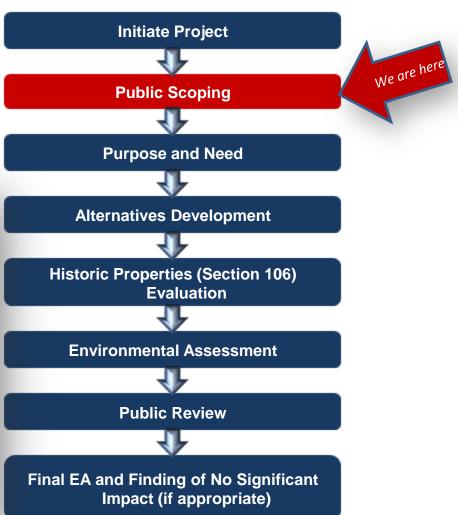
- Visitor Use and Experience
- Park Operations and Management
- Traffic and Transportation
- Land Use

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## NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT (NEPA) PROCESS





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# NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT (NHPA)



Let the project team know if you or your organization would like to sign-up as a Consulting Party for this project.

We thank you for your participation in this process.



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### POTOMAC RIVER PEDESTRIAN ACCESS

### **ALTERNATIVES**

#### No Action Alternative

This provides a basis for evaluating the impacts of the action alternatives.



#### **Conceptual Design Alternatives**

Multiple conceptual designs have been developed to provide Pedestrian Access to the Potomac River. These designs included the following:

Central Pair of Stairs with Elevators

Single Stair with Elevator

Central Ramp

Central 'Grand' Stair

## Kennedy Center Potomac River Pedestrian Access

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### CONCEPTUAL DESIGN ALTERNATIVES:

Central Pair of Stairs - As presented to CFA and NCPC in 2007



#### Central Ramp



#### Single Stair with Elevator



#### Central 'Grand' Stair







## SCHEDULE/NEXT STEPS:

Milestone	Date
Public Meeting	Tonight
End of Public Scoping Period	March 14, 2011
Begin Preparation of Environmental Assessment	March 2011
Environmental Assessment Available for Public Review	April 2011
EA Public Comment Period (30 days)	April/May 2011
Section 106 Consulting Parties Meeting	Spring 2011
Preparation of Decision Document	July 2011

