



IN REPLY REFER TO:

United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

National Mall & Memorial Parks

900 Ohio Drive, S.W.

Washington, D.C. 20024-2000

D66 (NCR-NAMA)

April 10, 2013

Subject: Release of the Thomas Jefferson Memorial Vehicle Security Barrier
Environmental Assessment

Dear Sir or Madam:

The National Park Service (NPS) announces the availability of the Environmental Assessment (EA) for public review and comment for the proposed Thomas Jefferson Memorial Vehicle Security Barrier. The project would provide a permanent vehicle security barrier to protect the Memorial and its visitors.

The EA analyzes the no action alternative along with three alternatives for construction of a vehicular barrier, each of which includes improvements to bus drop-off and loading, parking for visitors with disabilities, and a relocated concession kiosk. The difference between the action alternatives is the location of the vehicle security barrier. Under Alternative 1, the vehicle security barrier follows along East Basin Drive. Under Alternative 2, the barrier alignment meanders through the Memorial grounds to reinforce the landscape's informal quality. Alternative 3 is a simplified wall located in a concentric arc alignment around the center point of the Memorial.

Alternative 1 is the NPS Preferred Alternative, the implementation of which would result in beneficial impacts to soils, visitor use and experience, human health and safety, park operations and management, and traffic and transportation. Of all the alternatives, it has the least impact to the cultural landscape. The alternative selected in the EA will be further developed into preliminary and final designs which will be subject to additional review by the National Park Service, the District of Columbia State Historic Preservation Officer, the National Capital Planning Commission, and the Commission of Fine Arts.

The EA has been prepared in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended, and implementing regulations 40 CFR Parts 1500-1508, and NPS Director's Order #12 Handbook, Conservation Planning, Environmental Impact Analysis, and Decision making (DO-12). Compliance with NHPA Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 is occurring concurrent to this NEPA process.

A digital copy of the EA is available at: <http://parkplanning.nps.gov/NAMA>. To request a hard copy, please e-mail James Perry at James_Perry@nps.gov and provide your mailing address. To expedite your request, please note in the subject line "REQUEST FOR HARD COPY- Thomas Jefferson Memorial Vehicular Barrier Design EA."

Public review copies of the EA will also be available at the following locations:

Martin Luther King Library
901 G Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001

Southeast Branch Library
403 7th Street, SE
Washington, DC 20003

Southwest Branch Library
900 Wesley Place, SW
Washington, DC 20024

National Park Service - National Capital
Region
1100 Ohio Drive, SW
Washington, DC 20242

Note to Reviewers and Respondents:

If you wish to comment on the EA, you may submit your comments electronically or mail them directly. 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 request that your personal identifying information be withheld from public review, it cannot be guaranteed.

Comments on the Thomas Jefferson Memorial Vehicle Security Barrier EA may be submitted on-line (the NPS preferred method of receiving comments) by following the appropriate links at: www.parkplanning.nps.gov/jefferson_memorial_perimeter.

Comments can also be mailed directly to:

Terri Urbanowski
National Park Service - Denver Service Center
12795 West Alameda Parkway
Lakewood, CO 80288-2838

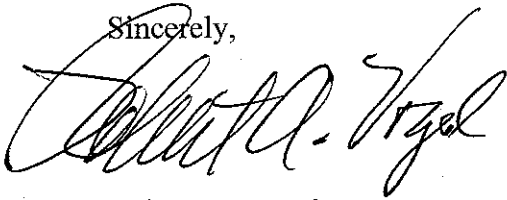
Comments on the EA will be accepted through May 11, 2013.

Section 106 Consultation:

The NPS has also provided an update to consulting parties via email and by posting to the project website (www.parkplanning.nps.gov/jefferson_memorial_perimeter). Consulting parties are invited to submit comments through May 11, 2013, via the methods described above.

Thank you for your interest and participation in this process. If you have any questions, please contact James Perry, Chief of Resource Management at the National Mall and Memorial Parks, at (202)-245-4711.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert A. Vogel". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Robert" being more prominent and the last name "Vogel" following in a similar style.

Robert A. Vogel
Superintendent
National Mall and Memorial Parks