

APPENDIX A: COORDINATION AND CONSULTATION



United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Chesapeake Bay Ecological Services Field Office
177 ADMIRAL COCHRANE DRIVE
ANNAPOLIS, MD 21401
PHONE: (410)573-4599 FAX: (410)266-9127

Consultation Code: 05E2CB00-2016-SLI-0244

November 23, 2015

Event Code: 05E2CB00-2016-E-00260

Project Name: Kennedy Center Connection Bridge

Subject: List of threatened and endangered species that may occur in your proposed project location, and/or may be affected by your proposed project

To Whom It May Concern:

The enclosed species list identifies threatened, endangered, proposed and candidate species, as well as proposed and final designated critical habitat, that may occur within the boundary of your proposed project and/or may be affected by your proposed project. The species list fulfills the requirements of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) under section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act (Act) of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

New information based on updated surveys, changes in the abundance and distribution of species, changed habitat conditions, or other factors could change this list. Please feel free to contact us if you need more current information or assistance regarding the potential impacts to federally proposed, listed, and candidate species and federally designated and proposed critical habitat. Please note that under 50 CFR 402.12(e) of the regulations implementing section 7 of the Act, the accuracy of this species list should be verified after 90 days. This verification can be completed formally or informally as desired. The Service recommends that verification be completed by visiting the ECOS-IPaC website at regular intervals during project planning and implementation for updates to species lists and information. An updated list may be requested through the ECOS-IPaC system by completing the same process used to receive the enclosed list.

The purpose of the Act is to provide a means whereby threatened and endangered species and the ecosystems upon which they depend may be conserved. Under sections 7(a)(1) and 7(a)(2) of the Act and its implementing regulations (50 CFR 402 *et seq.*), Federal agencies are required to utilize their authorities to carry out programs for the conservation of threatened and endangered species and to determine whether projects may affect threatened and endangered species and/or designated critical habitat.

A Biological Assessment is required for construction projects (or other undertakings having

similar physical impacts) that are major Federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment as defined in the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4332(2)(c)). For projects other than major construction activities, the Service suggests that a biological evaluation similar to a Biological Assessment be prepared to determine whether the project may affect listed or proposed species and/or designated or proposed critical habitat. Recommended contents of a Biological Assessment are described at 50 CFR 402.12.

If a Federal agency determines, based on the Biological Assessment or biological evaluation, that listed species and/or designated critical habitat may be affected by the proposed project, the agency is required to consult with the Service pursuant to 50 CFR 402. In addition, the Service recommends that candidate species, proposed species and proposed critical habitat be addressed within the consultation. More information on the regulations and procedures for section 7 consultation, including the role of permit or license applicants, can be found in the "Endangered Species Consultation Handbook" at:

<http://www.fws.gov/endangered/esa-library/pdf/TOC-GLOS.PDF>

Please be aware that bald and golden eagles are protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (16 U.S.C. 668 *et seq.*), and projects affecting these species may require development of an eagle conservation plan (http://www.fws.gov/windenergy/eagle_guidance.html). Additionally, wind energy projects should follow the wind energy guidelines (<http://www.fws.gov/windenergy/>) for minimizing impacts to migratory birds and bats.

Guidance for minimizing impacts to migratory birds for projects including communications towers (e.g., cellular, digital television, radio, and emergency broadcast) can be found at: <http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/CurrentBirdIssues/Hazards/towers/towers.htm>; <http://www.towerkill.com>; and <http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/CurrentBirdIssues/Hazards/towers/comtow.html>.

We appreciate your concern for threatened and endangered species. The Service encourages Federal agencies to include conservation of threatened and endangered species into their project planning to further the purposes of the Act. Please include the Consultation Tracking Number in the header of this letter with any request for consultation or correspondence about your project that you submit to our office.

Attachment



United States Department of Interior
Fish and Wildlife Service

Project name: Kennedy Center Connection Bridge

Preliminary Species list

Provided by:

Chesapeake Bay Ecological Services Field Office
177 ADMIRAL COCHRANE DRIVE
ANNAPOLIS, MD 21401
(410) 573-4599

Consultation Code: 05E2CB00-2016-SLI-0244

Event Code: 05E2CB00-2016-E-00260

Project Type: RECREATION CONSTRUCTION / MAINTENANCE

Project Name: Kennedy Center Connection Bridge

Project Description: The project area is bounded by Interstate 66/U.S. Route 50 to the south and east, the Potomac River to the west, and the existing Kennedy Center building to the north. The project consists of the construction of a pedestrian access bridge over Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway to provide pedestrian access to the Kennedy Center from the Potomac riverfront and Rock Creek Park Trail. No trees would be removed. No impacts to the Potomac River would occur.

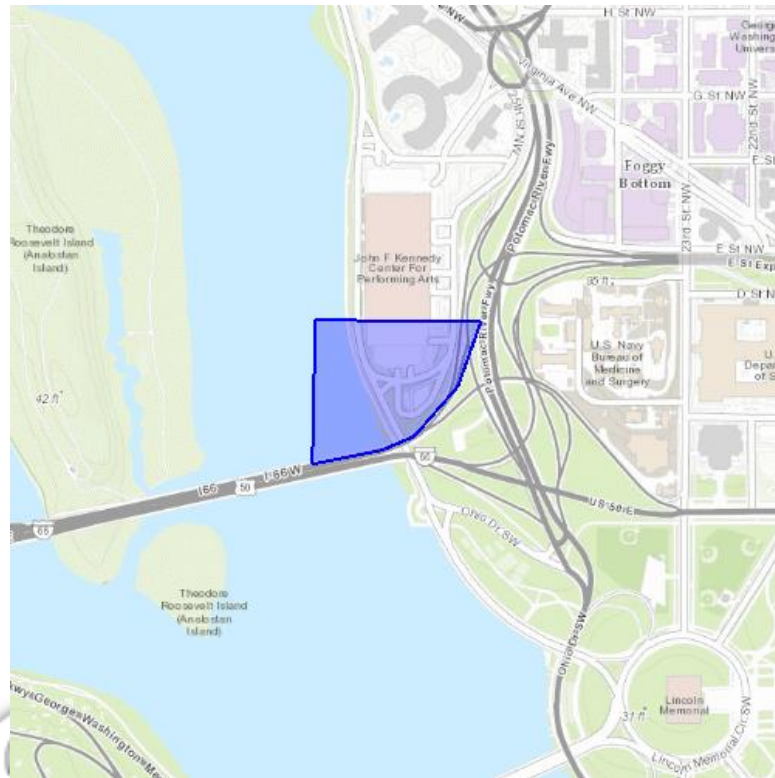
Please Note: The FWS office may have modified the Project Name and/or Project Description, so it may be different from what was submitted in your previous request. If the Consultation Code matches, the FWS considers this to be the same project. Contact the office in the 'Provided by' section of your previous Official Species list if you have any questions or concerns.



United States Department of Interior
Fish and Wildlife Service

Project name: Kennedy Center Connection Bridge

Project Location Map:



Project Coordinates: MULTIPOLYGON (((-77.0540714263916 38.89495337075358, -77.05727934837341 38.894961720989656, -77.05733835697174 38.892811502782585, -77.0559811592102 38.89303279037972, -77.05538034439087 38.8932332011935, -77.05452740192413 38.8939847367087, -77.0540714263916 38.89495337075358)))

Project Counties: District of Columbia, DC



United States Department of Interior
Fish and Wildlife Service

Project name: Kennedy Center Connection Bridge

Endangered Species Act Species List

There are a total of 1 threatened or endangered species on your species list. Species on this list should be considered in an effects analysis for your project and could include species that exist in another geographic area. For example, certain fish may appear on the species list because a project could affect downstream species. Critical habitats listed under the **Has Critical Habitat** column may or may not lie within your project area. See the **Critical habitats within your project area** section further below for critical habitat that lies within your project. Please contact the designated FWS office if you have questions.

Mammals	Status	Has Critical Habitat	Condition(s)
Northern long-eared Bat (<i>Myotis septentrionalis</i>)	Threatened		



United States Department of Interior
Fish and Wildlife Service

Project name: Kennedy Center Connection Bridge

Critical habitats that lie within your project area

There are no critical habitats within your project area.

Preliminary



Stantec Consulting Services Inc.
6110 Frost Place, Laurel MD 20707-2927

December 15, 2015

Hamid Karimi, PhD., Deputy Director
DC Department of Energy and Environment
1200 First Street, NE
Washington, DC 20037

Dear Dr. Karimi:

The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts (Kennedy Center), is proposing to provide a connection between the Kennedy Center and the Rock Creek Multi-Use Trail. The National Capital Planning commission (NCPC) and the National Park Service (NPS), acting as co-lead agencies in cooperation with the Kennedy Center, are initiating work on an Environmental Assessment (EA) to analyze the environmental impacts of a range of alternatives, in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA); the Council on Environmental Quality's Regulations of Implementing NEPA (40 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] 1500-1508), NPS Director's Order #12: *Conservation Planning, Environmental Impacts Analysis and Decision-Making* (NPS, 2001); and the National Capital Planning Act. Concurrently, on behalf of the agencies, Stantec Consulting Services Inc. makes this request to conduct informal consultation under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) to determine if the project may adversely affect listed species. The project involves a bridge or walkway over the Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway, which is under the jurisdiction of the NPS. NCPC will be reviewing the project under its authorities in the National Capital Planning Act.

The purpose of the proposed connection is to provide safe pedestrian and bicycle access to and from the Kennedy Center, the National Mall and Memorial Parks (NAMA), the Rock Creek Multi-Use Trail, the Potomac River waterfront, and surrounding vicinity. The project is needed because there is no direct connection to and from the Kennedy Center to the east, or southeastward towards the Rock Creek Multi-Use Trail, NAMA, and the Potomac River.

The proposed connection would be located along Rock Creek Multi-Use Trail north of Interstate 66. The alternatives being considered for the proposed connection include: a pedestrian bridge over Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway accessible by stairs and a ramp; a pedestrian bridge over the Parkway accessible by elevator and ramp; an at-grade pedestrian and bike crossing; and pedestrian access via a river pavilion along the western wall of the Kennedy Center. All alternatives include a bike path.

NEPA requires an early and open process for determining the scope of issues to be addressed and for identifying potential significant issues related to the proposed action. Issues describe problems or concerns associated with impacts from current environmental conditions and operations, as well as problems or concerns that may arise from the implementation of the proposed project.



December 15, 2015

Page 2 of 3

As part of the NEPA process, and in compliance with Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, coordination for potential effects on federally listed threatened and endangered species is being initiated. On behalf of NPS, NCPC, and the Kennedy Center, Stantec is requesting your office to provide a review of the project sites for the potential occurrence of any federally threatened, endangered, and proposed or candidate species or critical habitats.

If you require any additional information please contact me via phone at (301) 982-2874 or via email at Liz.Estes@stantec.com.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Elizabeth Estes', with a stylized, cursive script.

Elizabeth Edelen Estes
Associate, Environmental Planning
Stantec Consulting Services, Inc.

Attachment: Project Location Map



December 15, 2015

Page 3 of 3

Project Location Map:



Design with community in mind

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Department of Energy and Environment

March 11, 2016

Elizabeth Edelen Estes
Associate, Environmental Planning
Stantec Consulting Services, Inc.
6110 Frost Place
Laurel, MD 20707

Re: **Section 7 Consultation** - John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts Project

Dear Ms. Estes

The Department of Energy and Environment (Department) has reviewed Stantec Consulting Services, Inc.'s (Stantec) request for a consultation regarding section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act (Act) of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) in connection with the proposed John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts project. The response to this request is written below. Please be advised that this response is not an assessment of potential impacts.

Interagency Cooperation

Sec. 7.

(c) BIOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT.—(1) To facilitate compliance with the requirements of subsection (a)(2), each Federal agency shall, with respect to any agency action of such agency for which no contract for construction has been entered into and for which no construction has begun on the date of enactment of the Endangered Species Act Amendments of 1978, request of the Secretary information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of such proposed action. If the Secretary advises, based on the best scientific and commercial data available, that such species may be present, such agency shall conduct a biological assessment for the purpose of identifying any endangered species or threatened species which is likely to be affected by such action. Such assessment shall be completed within 180 days after the date on which initiated (or within such other period as is mutually agreed to by the Secretary and such agency, except that if a permit or license applicant is involved, the 180-day period may not be extended unless such agency provides the applicant, before the close of such period, with a written statement setting forth the estimated length of the proposed extension and the reasons therefor) and, before any contract for construction is entered into and before construction is begun with respect to such action. Such assessment may be undertaken as part of a Federal agency's compliance with the requirements of section 102 of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4332). (2) Any person who may wish to apply for an exemption under subsection (g) of this section for that action may conduct a biological assessment to identify any endangered species or threatened species which is likely to be affected by such action. Any such biological assessment must, however, be

conducted in cooperation with the Secretary and under the supervision of the appropriate Federal agency.

In accordance with the Act the Department finds the following species are known to occur in or may occur in the District of Columbia.

Scientific Name	Common Name	Status
<u>Acipenser brevirostrum</u>	Shortnose sturgeon	Endangered
<u>Acipenser oxyrinchus oxyrinchus</u>	Atlantic sturgeon	Endangered
<u>Alasmidonta heterodon</u>	Dwarf wedgemussel	Endangered
<u>Clemmys muhlenbergii</u>	Northern bog turtle	Threatened
<u>Myotis septentrionalis</u>	Northern long-eared bat	Threatened
<u>Stygobromus hayi</u>	Hay's Spring amphipod	Endangered
<u>Stygobromus kenki</u>	Kenk's amphipod	Candidate

Assessment

According to current observations, surveys, and data derived from the District's *Wildlife Action Plan*, the proposed project area does not harbor any listed species. As a result, the following actions are suggested.

- The Department and Stantec shall monitor the proposed and surrounding project areas regularly for the duration of the project.
- If either party identifies any changes regarding the presence of federally threatened or endangered species it shall notify the other immediately to determine further actions.
- This response does not characterize nor quantify the presence of more common species that may be federally protected (e.g. migratory birds).
- Unless otherwise permitted by law, all District of Columbia and federal laws pertaining to fish and wildlife shall remain in effect for the duration of the project.

Finally, this correspondence in no way circumvents or nullifies any other permits or processes that may be required in connection with this project. For more information please contact me by phone at (202) 997-9607 or via email at bryan.king@dc.gov.

Sincerely,



Bryan D. King
Associate Director



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

National Mall and Memorial Parks



November 9, 2015

Mr. David Maloney
State Historic Preservation Officer
District of Columbia, Office of Planning
1100 4th Street, SW, Suite E650
Washington, D.C. 20024

Re: Section 106 Consultation on the Kennedy Center Expansion Connection Project

Dear Mr. Maloney,

The National Capital Planning Commission (NCPC) and National Park Service (NPS), acting as co-lead agencies in cooperation with the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts (Kennedy Center), are writing to initiate consultation with the District of Columbia Historic Preservation Office (DC SHPO) on the Kennedy Center Expansion Connection Project in compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (54 U.S.C. 306108) and its implementing regulations (36 CFR Part 800.3).

The Kennedy Center, located on the Potomac River at the western edge of the District's monumental core, is a Congressionally designated national showcase for the performing arts and a living memorial to President Kennedy. It was determined eligible for the National Register of Historic Places on February 13, 2012, for its association with President Kennedy and as the work of master architect Edward Durell Stone. The center presents musical, dance, and theatrical performances, supports artists in the creation of new work, and serves the nation as a leader in arts and arts management education. Due to a critical shortage of dedicated facilities to serve its existing and expanding programs, the Kennedy Center is expanding its facilities south of the existing building through the construction of three land-based pavilions. NCPC approved the design for the land-based pavilions in July 2015.

Currently, there is no direct connection between the Kennedy Center and the Rock Creek Multi-Use Trail along the Potomac River waterfront. The purpose of the proposed project is to provide a safe pedestrian and bicycle connection that would create a public waterfront link and would improve access to and from the Kennedy Center, the National Mall and Memorial Parks (NAMA), the Rock Creek Multi-Use Trail, the Potomac River waterfront, and the surrounding vicinity. The project area partially falls within the Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway, which is under the jurisdiction of the National Park Service. NCPC will be reviewing the project under its authorities in the National Capital Planning Act, and an approval action by NCPC is considered an undertaking subject to Section 106.

There are four action alternatives currently under consideration for the Kennedy Center Expansion Connection. The Bridge Access with Stairs and Ramp alternative includes a bridge that would span the northbound and southbound lanes of Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway and would be accessed from the Rock Creek Multi-Use Trail by both a ramp and stairs. The Bridge Access with Elevator and Ramp alternative would substitute the stairs in the previous alternative with an elevator. The At-grade Crossing Access alternative proposes to connect the Kennedy Center Expansion Project and the Rock Creek Multi-Use Trail via an at-grade crossing that would traverse the northbound and southbound lanes of the Rock

Creek and Potomac Parkway. The River Terrace Access alternative would include a stair and elevator connection between the Kennedy Center's River Terrace and the Rock Creek Multi-Use Trail.

A graphic illustrating the project area and conceptual studies of the proposed Kennedy Center Expansion Connection alternatives are included in this package to provide preliminary information on the project. In addition, attached please find a preliminary list of consulting parties and a graphic illustration of the proposed Area of Potential Effects (APE). These items are intended as a basis of discussion and are subject to modification as part of the consultation process.

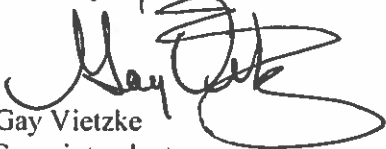
The proposed APE for this project includes the area from which the project site is readily visible, as well as resources that could be impacted due to changes in the character of the site. A preliminary list of historic resources within the APE includes the Kennedy Center itself, the Georgetown Historic District, the East and West Potomac Parks Historic District, the Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway, the Watergate Complex, the Lincoln Memorial Grounds, the Arlington Memorial Bridge and Related Features, the Memorial Avenue Corridor, Lady Bird Johnson Park, the George Washington Memorial Parkway, and Theodore Roosevelt Island. These sites have been extensively documented; therefore, additional survey requirements on potentially affected historic resources are not anticipated.

The NCPC and NPS in cooperation with the Kennedy Center are preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) to analyze potential impacts associated with the Kennedy Center Expansion Connection Project in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The NCPC and NPS plan to coordinate the Section 106 process with NEPA per the National Historic Preservation Act and its implementing regulations (36 CFR 800.8). A public scoping meeting was held on Tuesday, September 29, 2015, from 6:30 to 8:30 PM at the Kennedy Center. This public scoping meeting included an "open house" format and an introduction to the Section 106 consultation process.

At this early stage, we are unable to make a determination of effect. However, the Kennedy Center, NCPC, and NPS look forward to consulting with the DC SHPO and other consulting parties to evaluate the alternatives and identify ways to avoid, minimize, or mitigate potential adverse effects on the historic resources within the APE. No impact on archeology is anticipated due to the fact that Phase 1A archaeological investigations for the Kennedy Center Expansion Project (Kreisa and McDowell, 2014) determined that no known American Indian traditional cultural properties exist within the project area.

Thank you for your help. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Kathy Kruse, Vice President for Institutional Affairs, at kkruise@kennedy-center.org or by phone at (202) 416-8703.

Sincerely,



Gay Vietzke
Superintendent
National Mall and Memorial Parks

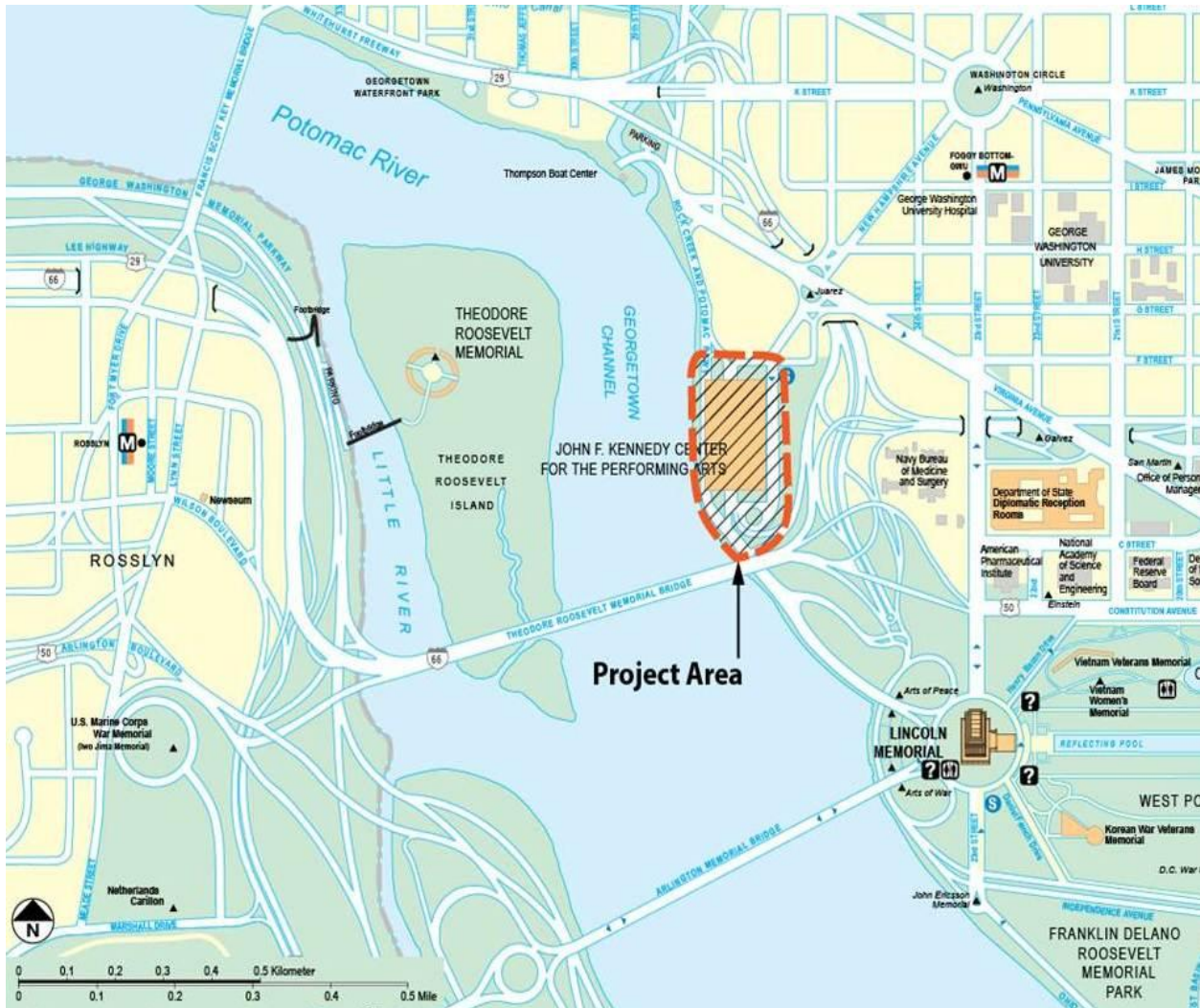


Marcel Acosta
Executive Director
National Capital Planning Commission

Enclosures

cc: Catherine Dewey, National Park Service
Mike Commisso, National Park Service
Joel Gorder, National Park Service
Jennifer Hirsch, National Capital Planning Commission
Judith Robinson, Robinson & Associates
Elizabeth Estes, Stantec Consulting Services

ATTACHMENT A: PROJECT AREA



ATTACHMENT B: CONCEPTUAL STUDIES

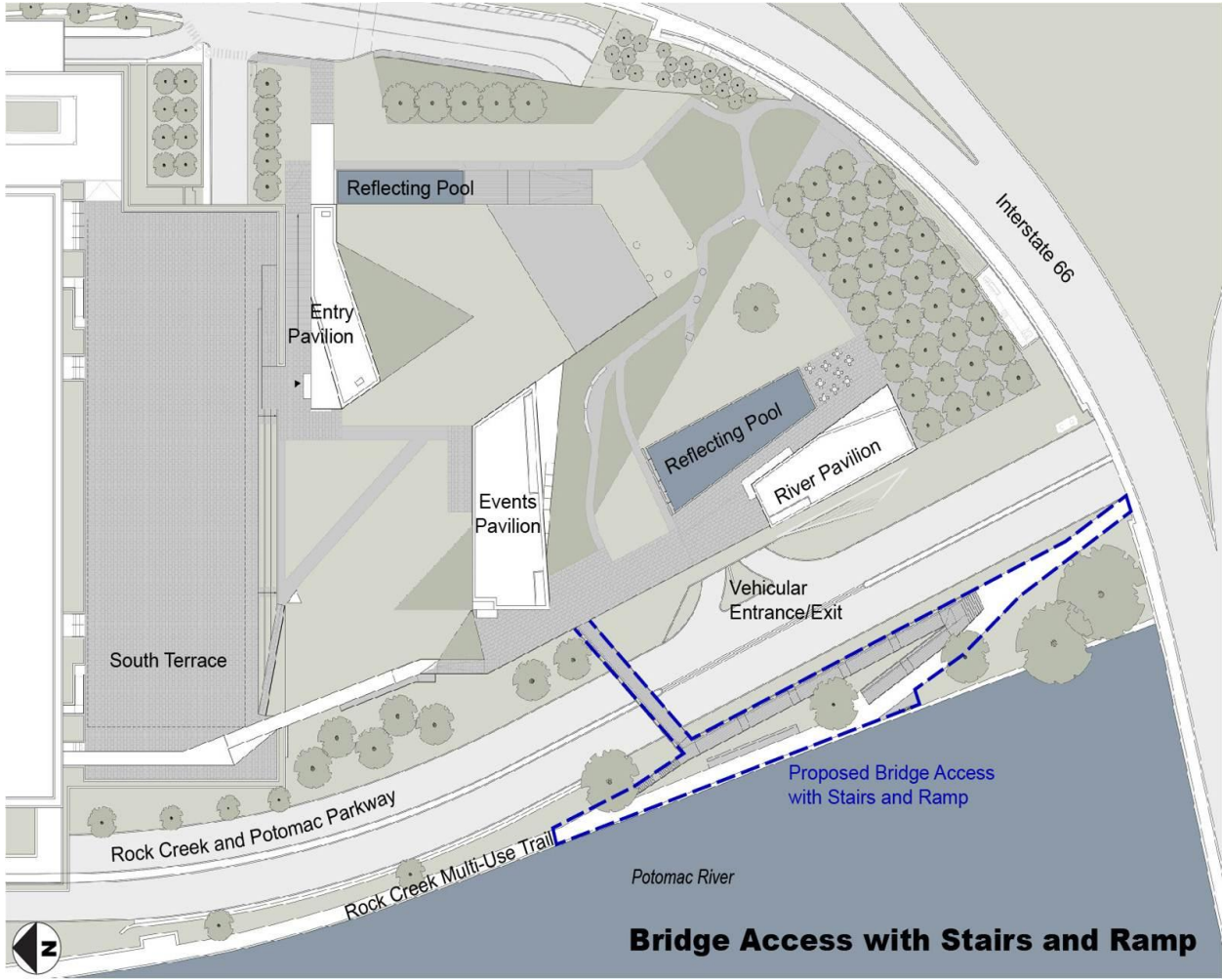


Figure 1: Bridge Access with Stairs and Ramp alternative.

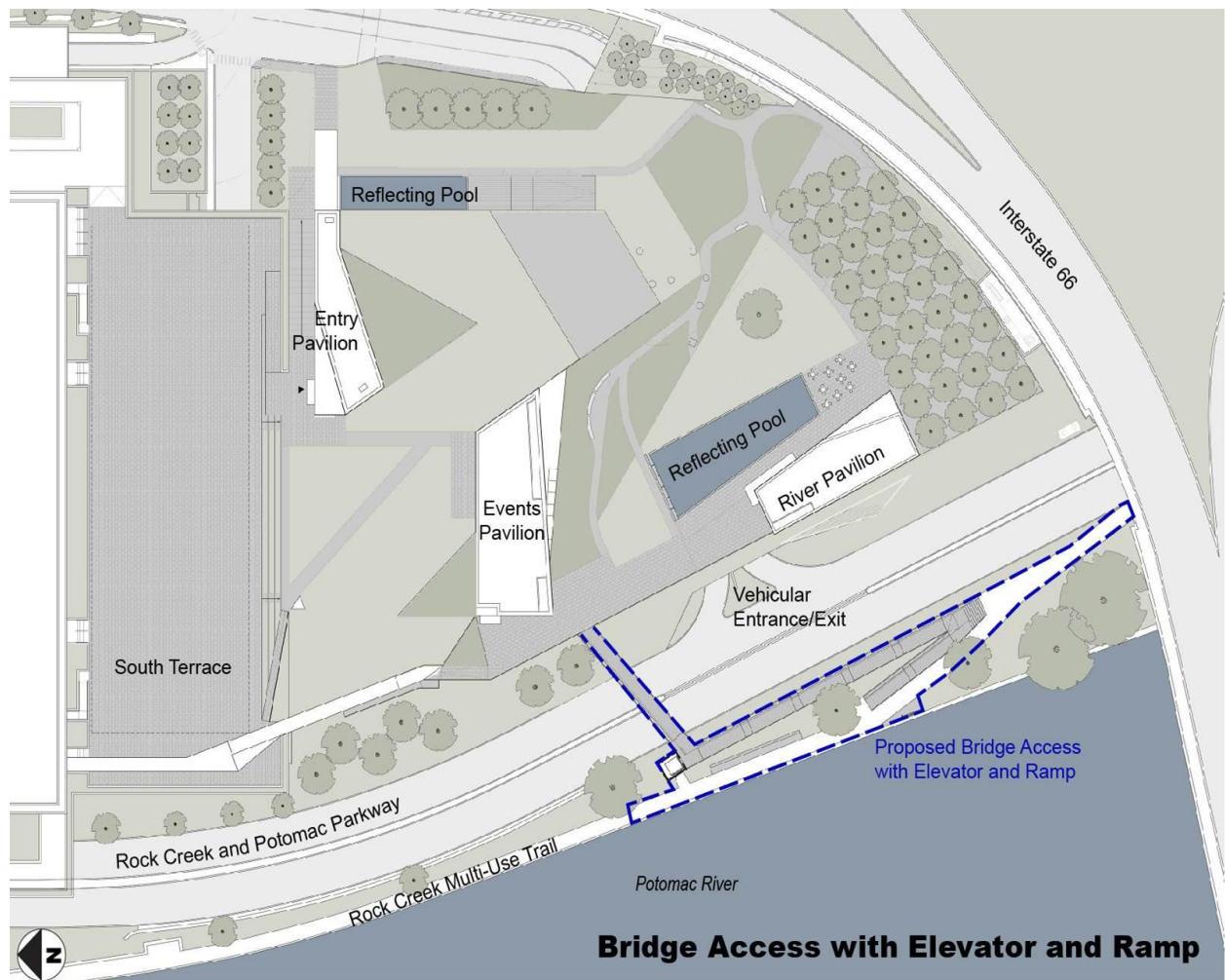


Figure 2: Bridge Access with Elevator and Ramp alternative.

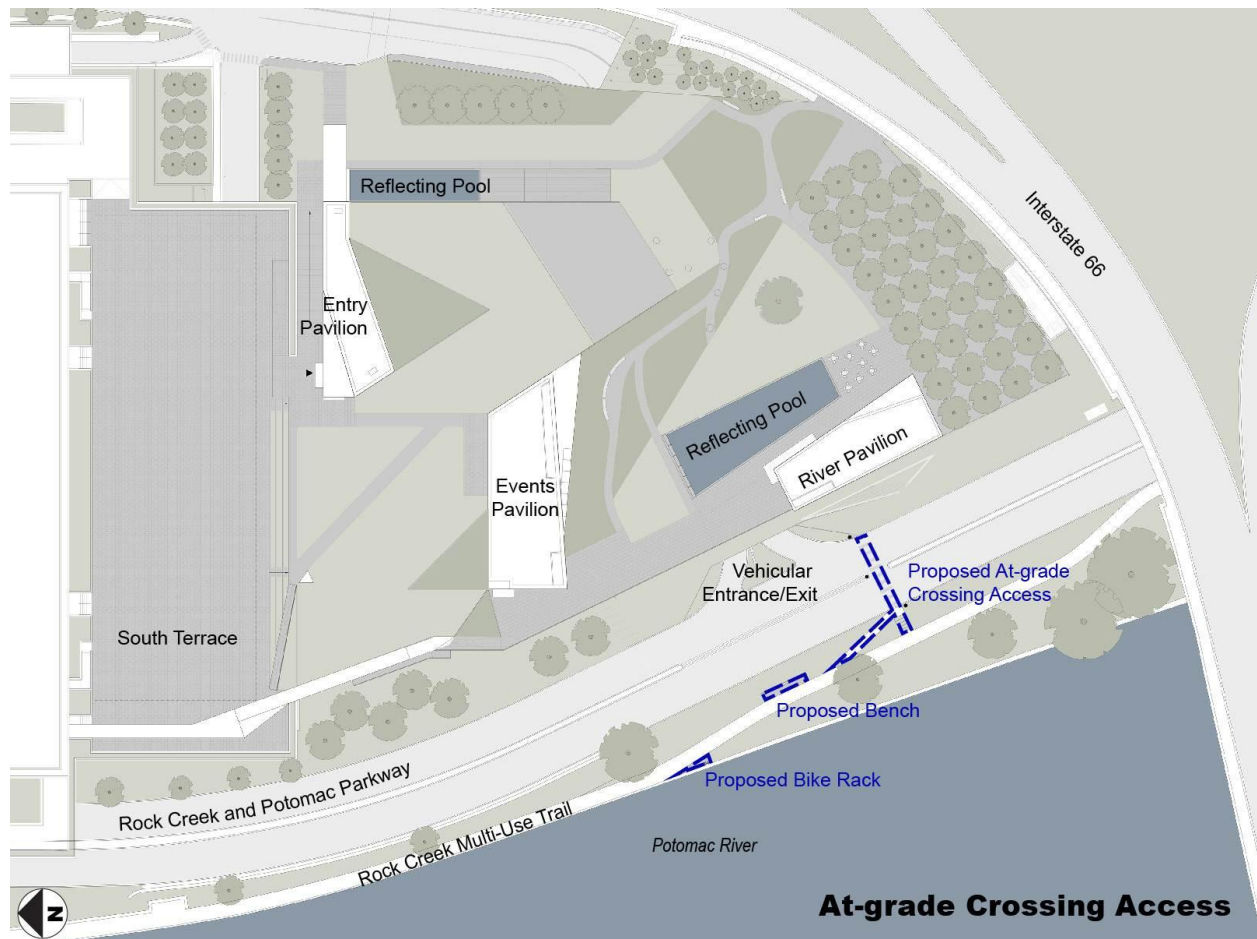


Figure 3: At-grade Crossing Access alternative.

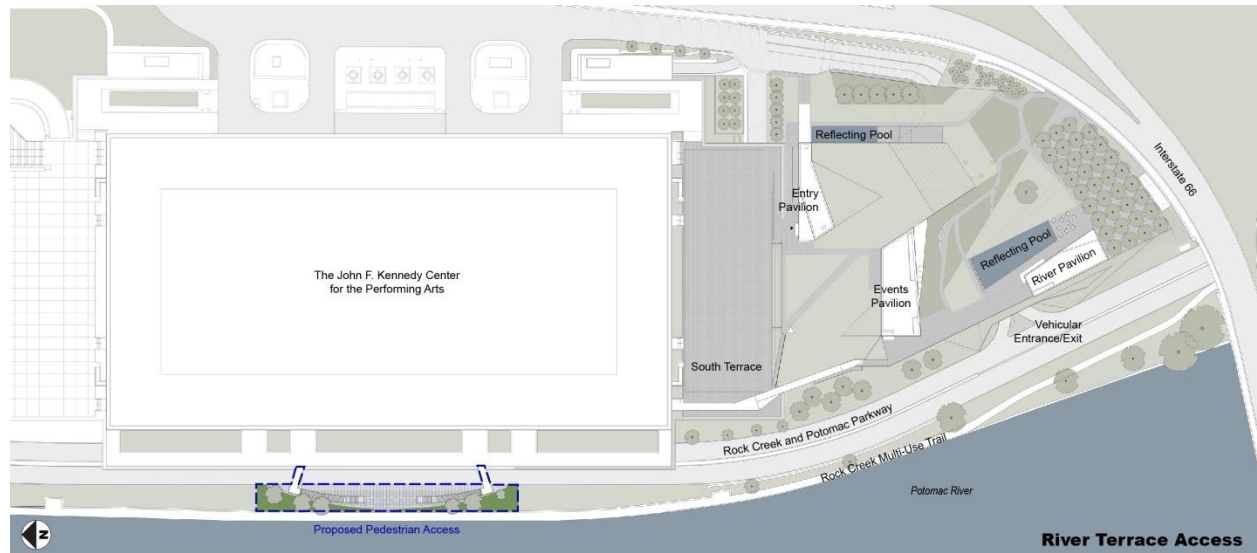


Figure 4: River Terrace Access alternative.

ATTACHMENT C: DRAFT CONSULTING PARTIES LIST

Advisory Neighborhood Commissions

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Commissioner 2A01
Chairperson
532 20th Street, NW, #312
Washington, DC 20006
2A01@anc.dc.gov

Ms. Rebecca Coder
Commissioner 2A02
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Washington, DC 20037
2A02@anc.dc.gov
rebeccacoder@mac.com

Ms. Florence Harmon
Commissioner, 2A06
Vice Chairperson
1099 22nd Street, NW, #1011
Washington, DC 20037
2A06@anc.dc.gov

Agencies and Neighborhood/Interest Groups

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Committee of 100 on the Federal City
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Don A. Hawkins, Member
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Carol Aten, Treasurer
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DC Historic Preservation Office (cont.)

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J. Peter Byrne, Mayor's Agent
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Guild of Professional Tour Guides of Washington, DC

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National Association for Olmsted Parks
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Piera M. Weiss, Director of Administration
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National Capital Planning Commission [Co-lead Agency]
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Jennifer Hirsch, Federal Preservation Officer
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National Mall Coalition
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Rockville, MD 20849

Judy Scott Feldman, Chair
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National Park Service, George Washington Memorial Parkway

Bradley Krueger
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Catherine Dewey, Chief of Resource Management
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National Recreation and Park Association
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Barbara Tulipane, President/CEO
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Architectural History and Historic Preservation Division
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Amy Ballard
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Washington, DC 20001

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Stephen Muse, Chairman, Old Georgetown Board
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Elliott Ferguson, President and CEO
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West End Citizens Association

Barbara Kahlow, Secretary-Treasurer
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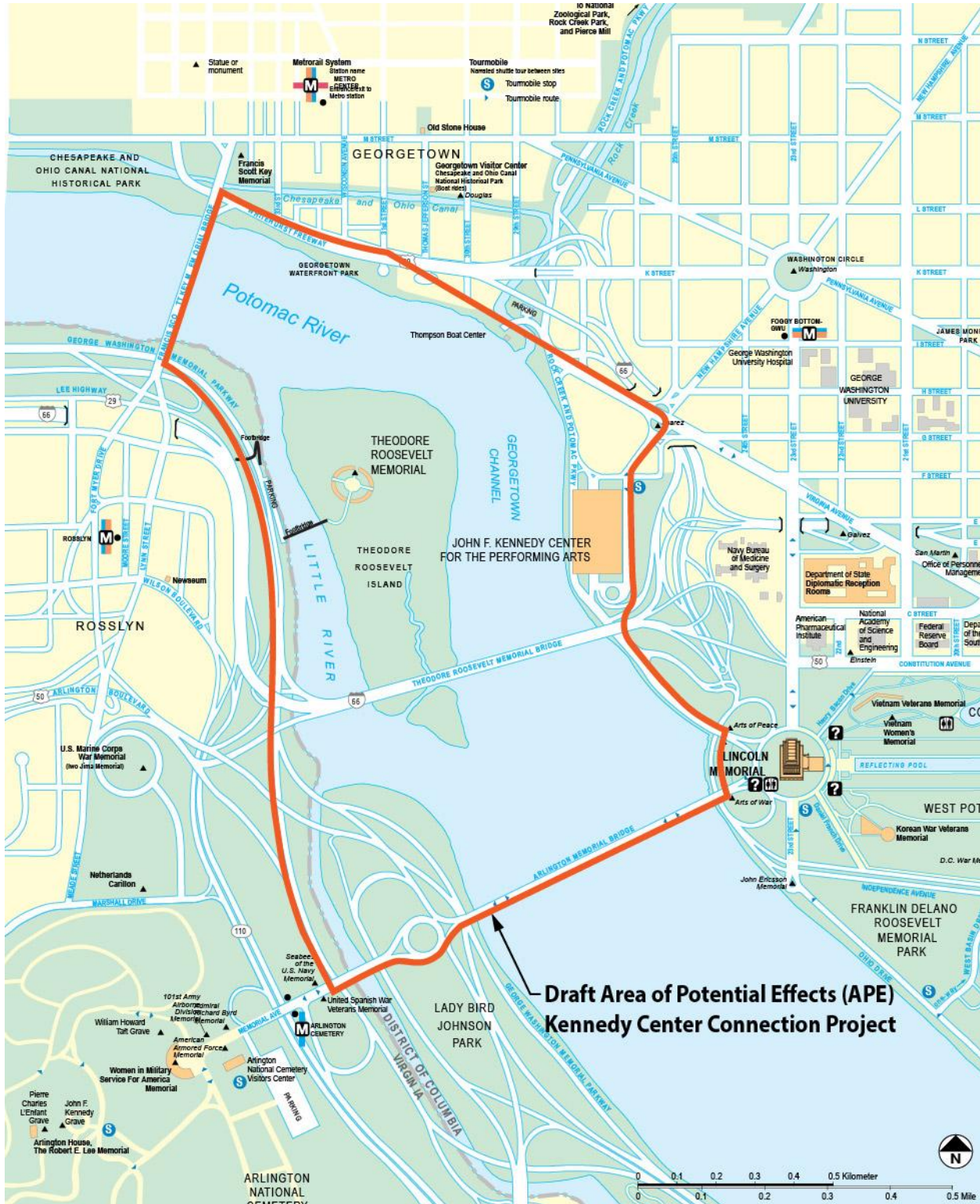
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ATTACHMENT D: DRAFT AREA OF POTENTIAL EFFECTS





National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

National Mall and Memorial Parks



February 17, 2016

Julie Langan
State Historic Preservation Officer
Virginia Department of Historic Resources
2801 Kensington Avenue
Richmond, VA 23221

Re: Section 106 Consultation on the Kennedy Center Expansion Connection Project

Dear Ms. Langan,

The National Capital Planning Commission (NCPC) and National Park Service (NPS), acting as co-lead agencies in cooperation with the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts (Kennedy Center), are writing to initiate consultation with the Virginia State Historic Preservation Office (VA SHPO) on the Kennedy Center Expansion Connection Project in compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (54 U.S.C. 306108) and its implementing regulations (36 CFR Part 800.3).

The Kennedy Center, located on the Potomac River at the western edge of the District's monumental core, is a Congressionally designated national showcase for the performing arts and a living memorial to President Kennedy. It was determined eligible for the National Register of Historic Places on February 13, 2012, for its association with President Kennedy and as the work of master architect Edward Durell Stone. The center presents musical, dance, and theatrical performances, supports artists in the creation of new work, and serves the nation as a leader in arts and arts management education. Due to a critical shortage of dedicated facilities to serve its existing and expanding programs, the Kennedy Center is expanding its facilities south of the existing building through the construction of three land-based pavilions. NCPC approved the design for the land-based pavilions in July 2015.

Currently, there is no direct connection between the Kennedy Center and the Rock Creek Multi-Use Trail along the Potomac River waterfront. The purpose of the proposed project is to provide a safe pedestrian and bicycle connection that would create a public waterfront link and would improve access to and from the Kennedy Center, the National Mall and Memorial Parks (NAMA), the Rock Creek Multi-Use Trail, the Potomac River waterfront, and the surrounding vicinity. The project area partially falls within the Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway, which is under the jurisdiction of the National Park Service. NCPC will be reviewing the project under its authorities in the National Capital Planning Act and an approval action by NCPC is considered an undertaking subject to Section 106.

There are four alternatives currently under consideration for the Kennedy Center Expansion Connection. The Bridge Access with Stairs and Ramp alternative includes a bridge that would span the northbound and southbound lanes of Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway and would be accessed from the Rock Creek Multi-Use Trail by both a ramp and stairs. The Bridge Access with Elevator and Ramp alternative would substitute the stairs in the previous alternative with an elevator. The At-grade Crossing Access alternative proposes to connect the Kennedy Center Expansion Project and the Rock Creek Multi-Use Trail via an at-grade crossing that would traverse the northbound and southbound lanes of the Rock Creek and Potomac

Parkway. The River Terrace Access alternative would include a stair and elevator connection between the Kennedy Center's River Terrace and the Rock Creek Multi-Use Trail.

A graphic illustrating the project area and conceptual studies of the proposed Kennedy Center Expansion Connection alternatives are included in this package to provide preliminary information on the project. In addition, attached please find a preliminary list of consulting parties and a graphic illustration of the proposed Area of Potential Effects (APE). These items are intended as a basis of discussion and are subject to modification as part of the consultation process.

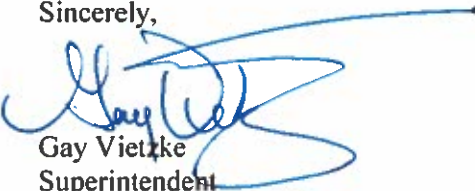
The proposed APE for this project includes the area from which the project site is readily visible, as well as resources that could be impacted due to changes in the character of the site. A preliminary list of historic resources within the APE includes the Kennedy Center itself, the Georgetown Historic District, the East and West Potomac Parks Historic District, Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway, the Watergate Complex, the Lincoln Memorial Grounds, the Arlington Memorial Bridge and Related Features, the Memorial Avenue Corridor, Lady Bird Johnson Park, the George Washington Memorial Parkway, and Theodore Roosevelt Island. These sites have been extensively documented; therefore, additional survey requirements on potentially affected historic resources are not anticipated.

The NCPC and NPS in cooperation with the Kennedy Center are preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) to analyze potential impacts associated with the Kennedy Center Expansion Connection Project in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The NCPC and NPS plan to coordinate the Section 106 process with NEPA per the National Historic Preservation Act and its implementing regulations (36 CFR 800.8). A public scoping meeting was held on Tuesday, September 29, 2015, from 6:30 to 8:30 at the Kennedy Center. This public scoping meeting included an "open house" format and an introduction to the Section 106 consultation process.


The Kennedy Center, NCPC, and NPS look forward to consulting with the VA SHPO and other consulting parties to evaluate the alternatives and identify ways to avoid, minimize, or mitigate potential adverse effects on the historic resources within the APE. No impact on archeology is anticipated due to the fact that Phase 1A archaeological investigations for the Kennedy Center Expansion Project (Kreisa and McDowell, 2014) determined that no known American Indian traditional cultural properties exist within the project area.

Thank you for your help. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Kathy Kruse, Vice President for Institutional Affairs, at kkruise@kennedy-center.org or by phone at (202) 416-8703.

Sincerely,



Gay Vietzke
Superintendent
National Mall and Memorial Parks

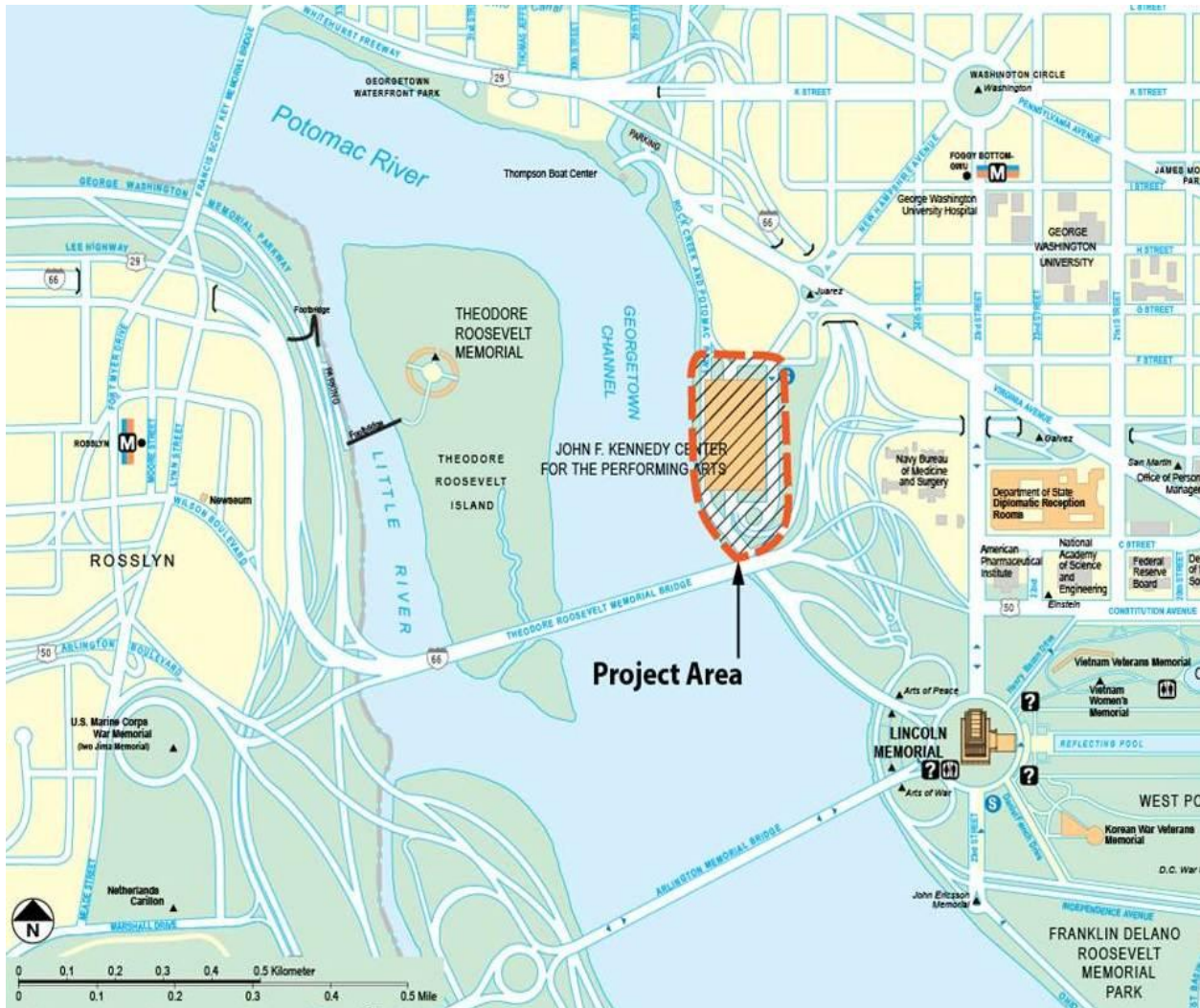


Marcel Acosta
Executive Director
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Enclosures

cc: Catherine Dewey, National Park Service
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Joel Gorder, National Park Service
Jennifer Hirsch, National Capital Planning Commission
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Elizabeth Estes, Stantec Consulting Services

ATTACHMENT A: PROJECT AREA



ATTACHMENT B: CONCEPTUAL STUDIES

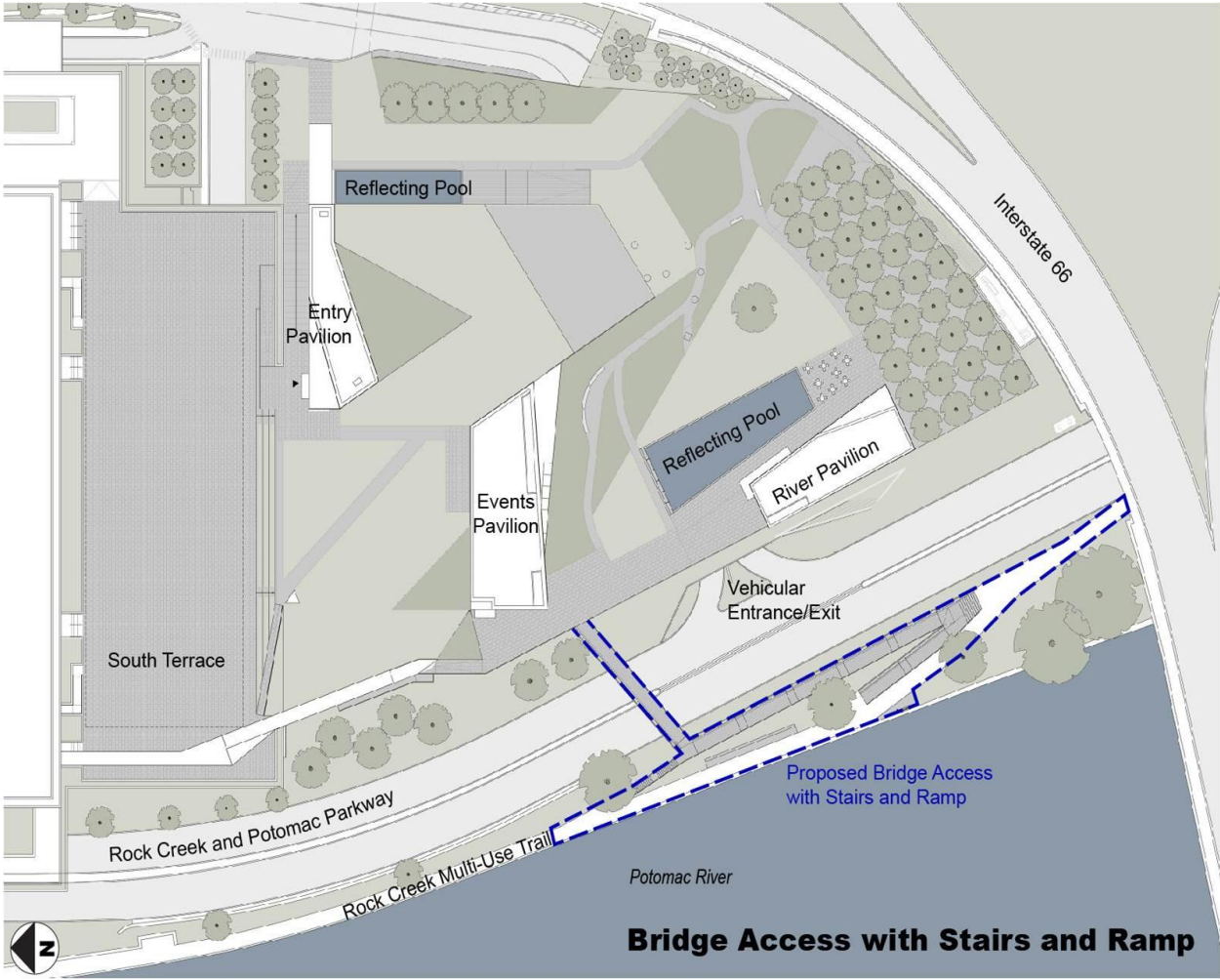


Figure 1: Bridge Access with Stairs and Ramp alternative.

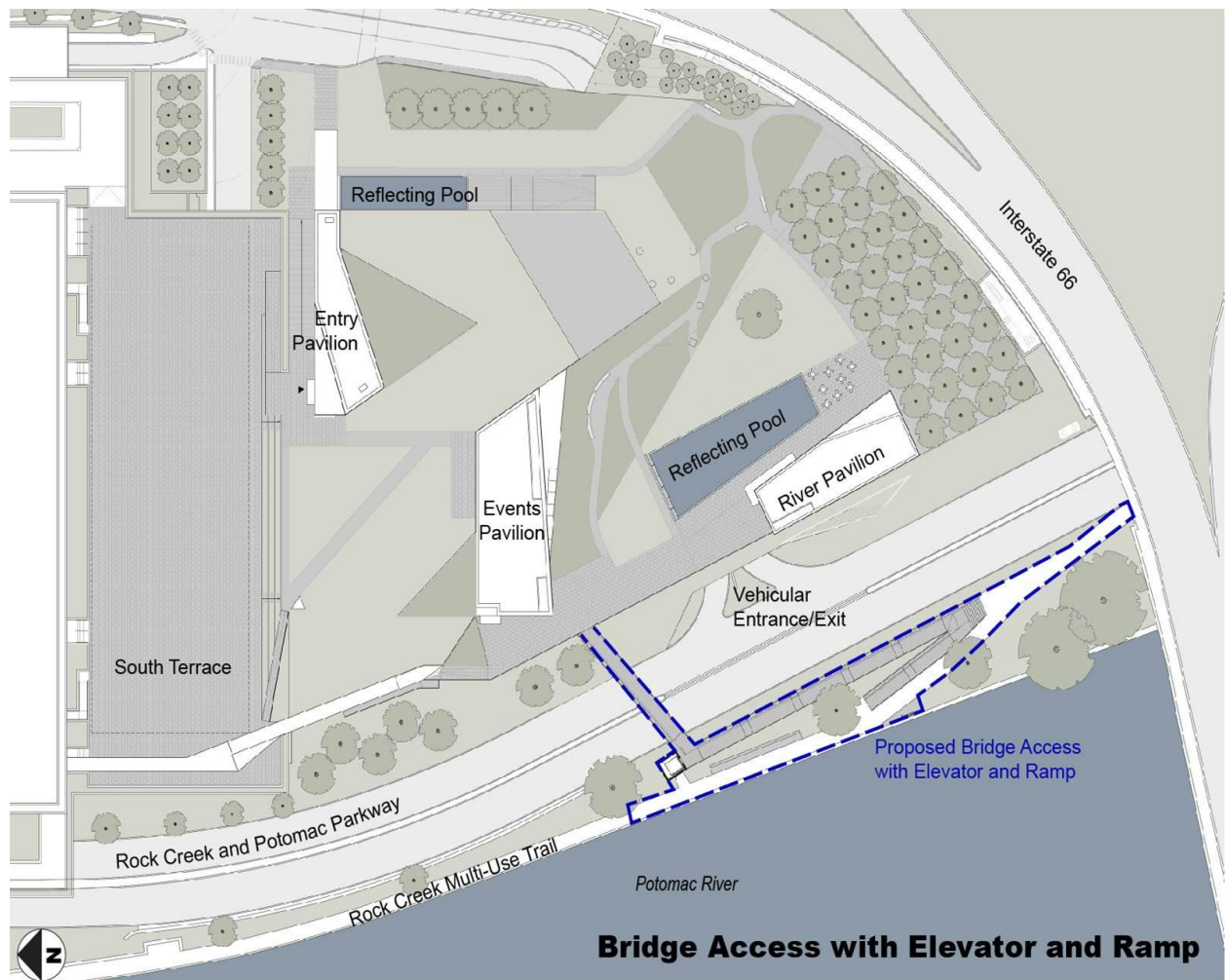


Figure 2: Bridge Access with Elevator and Ramp alternative.

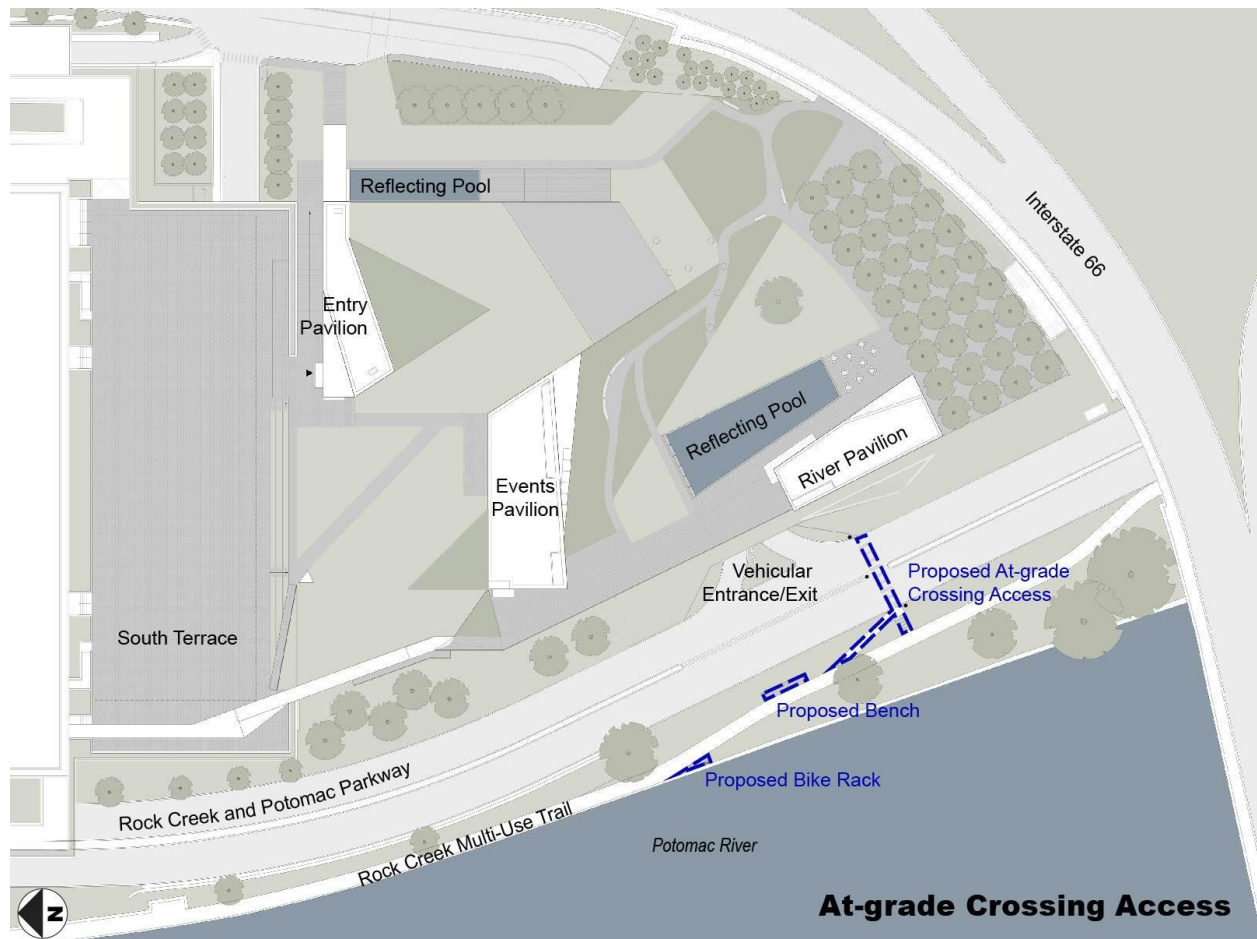


Figure 3: At-grade Crossing Access alternative.

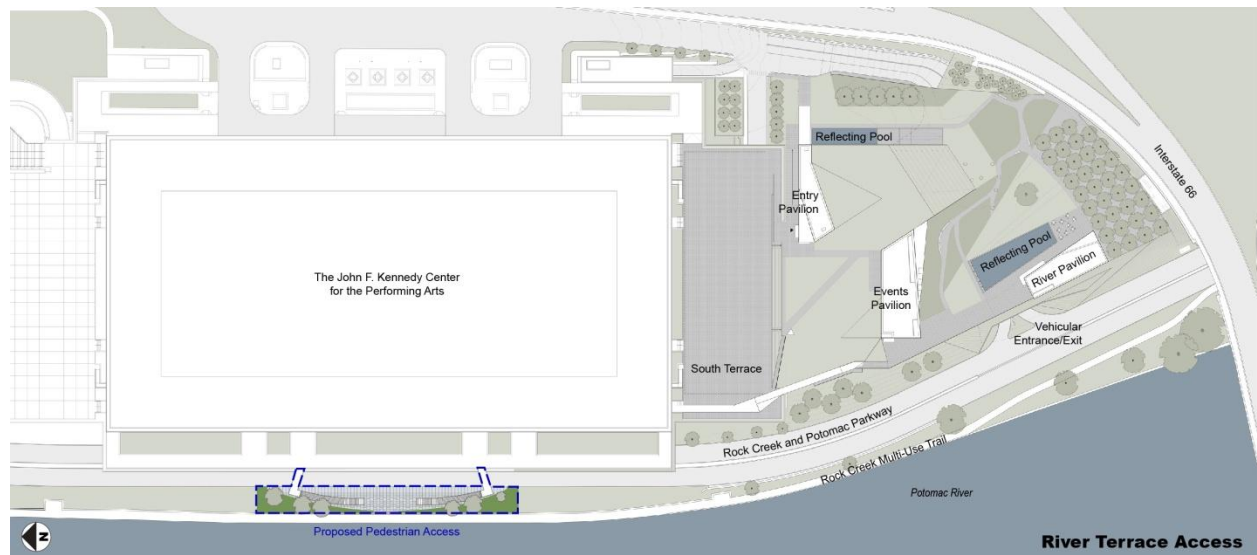


Figure 4: River Terrace Access alternative.

Attachment C:

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