



# United States Department of the Interior



NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
GRAND CANYON NATIONAL PARK  
P.O. BOX 129  
GRAND CANYON, ARIZONA 86023-0129

IN REPLY REFER TO:

D18 (GRCA 8217)

NOV 14 2007

Dear Interested Party:

Subject: Review of Environmental Assessment – Bright Angel Trailhead Area Design Plan

Enclosed is an Environmental Assessment for the Bright Angel Trailhead Area Design Plan. Grand Canyon National Park is proposing to develop and implement a design plan for the Bright Angel Trailhead Area located in Grand Canyon Village on the South Rim. The approximately 5-acre project area is an important component of the Grand Canyon Village National Historic Landmark District.

Proposed actions include developing a plaza near the primary trailhead; separating vehicle parking and circulation areas from pedestrian zones; enhancing trail connections and wayfinding; and constructing a new restroom near the proposed plaza and existing mule corral. Future implementation phases, if additional funding becomes available, include hardening the parking area surface and delineating approximately 70-80 parking spaces, creating an interpretive area at Kolb Garage and enhancing signage, revegetation and site amenities. The project's primary objectives include enhancing the area's signing, shade, seating, and restroom availability, improving paths and connecting trails, eliminating rim edge vehicle parking to provide enhanced pedestrian circulation, and creating a sense of place—an area visitors will immediately recognize as the Bright Angel Trailhead.

The EA evaluates two alternatives for addressing the purpose and need for action. The EA also evaluates taking no action (Alternative A, No Action).

The initiation of this planning effort was included in a January 2006 public scoping letter, soliciting issues and concerns with preliminary project proposals. Responses to this scoping effort were used during the preparation of the enclosed EA. The National Park Service encourages your review and comment on the EA. The EA can be reviewed online at <http://parkplanning.nps.gov/grca>. Comments can be submitted online at the same web address (the preferred method) or mailed to Stephen P. Martin, Superintendent, Grand Canyon National Park, Attention: Office of Planning and Compliance, P.O. Box 129 (1 Village Loop for express mail), Grand Canyon, Arizona 86023. Comments will be accepted through December 21, 2007.

*Before including your address, phone number, Email address or other personal identifying information in your comment, be aware that your entire comment – including your personal identifying information – may be made available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee we will be able to do so.*

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If you have any questions regarding this project, please contact Debbie Lutch, Project Planning Leader at (928) 774-0095.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Steve Martin". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "S" and a long horizontal stroke extending across the name.

Steve Martin  
Superintendent

Enclosure (1)