

Parsons met with WMATA (David Erion) on Wednesday, September 3, 2003.

The purpose of the meeting was to better understand WMATA's needs, interests and flexibility for accommodation of Metrobuses at Union Station.

Several points were made:

- WMATA expects that most Metrobus routes will require layover time at Union Station. (Currently, there are 6 active routes, 5 of which require some layover time).
- USRC is committed to provision of ample bus storage and maneuver space in the parking garage.
- WMATA will require space to layover 10 buses max.
- It is impractical to make the access roadway behind Union Station one-way eastbound. While this would allow Metrobuses to easily access the front of Union Station from the garage, via the east ramp, it would prohibit access to the garage for a substantial number of private vehicles, forcing the cars to enter from H Street or pass in front of Union Station and access the parking garage via the west ramp, further adding to vehicular congestion in front of the station.
- Currently, Metrobus operates 6 routes through Columbus Plaza. (One route, D1, is scheduled for rerouting out of Columbus Plaza in December, 2003). Three (3) routes require eastbound departure from Union Station and three (3) require westbound departure. These routes generate 22 buses in the AM peak (7 westbound departures; 15 eastbound departures) and 27 buses in the PM peak (14 westbound departures; 13 eastbound departures). (The PM number will drop to 24 in December with the re-routing of Route D1 which is a westbound departing route).
 - It was suggested that an alternative to Metrobus use of the east ramp to access the front of Union Station might be available. Use of the west ramp, to both access the garage from the front of Union Station and to leave the garage and proceed with the bus routes, would eliminate the conflict on the circulation road behind Union Station.
 - The west ramp and the "Transit deck" in the garage can accommodate the expected bus traffic. However, the configuration of channelization and streetscape islands at the foot of the west ramp would restrict egress of Metrobuses to the west on Massachusetts Avenue only.

- There are several Metrobus routes (Existing routes N22 [7buses AM peak; 6 buses PM peak], X8 [3 buses AM peak; 3 buses PM peak], 97 [4 buses AM peak; 4 buses PM peak]) that must go east on Massachusetts Avenue after exiting Union Station/Columbus Plaza. Layovers are expected for all existing routes.
- The ideal solution (from Metrobus point of view) is to retain the proposed westbound egress at First Street, and develop an eastbound egress as well. This can possibly be accomplished at the proposed new intersection with E Street. A lane designated for Metrobus only, with an actuated signal, is preferred. An analysis of this scheme is underway. Preliminary findings indicate that such a configuration can be developed. This would result in modification to island and landscaping configurations at the foot of the west ramp.
- If the west ramp is utilized for Metrobus egress, bus stops could be established along the west side of Union Station, rather than in the front of the station. Bus stops would be required on both the east side of the west ramp/roadway (for drop-offs) and on the west side of the west ramp/roadway (for pick-ups).
- The Metrobuses would still pass in front of Union Station, in the second lane, upon arrival to Columbus Plaza.
- This arrangement would also mitigate negative impact on pedestrians from private vehicles/taxis who, if discharged in the third or southern-most lane at station front, would have to negotiate through stopped Metrobuses in the second lane. Under the suggested arrangement, Metrobuses would not stop in front of the station, but would only travel through the second lane.
- Internal to the parking garage, the existing throat on the west exit lane (where taxis queue) is tight for bus passage. Consideration should be given to widening the throat to better accommodate the buses. This would be the egress route taken by buses to use the west ramp.
- The south opening onto the transit deck must be open to buses at all times. This is the route buses will use from the west ramp onto the transit deck. Taxi queuing across this entry point must be controlled.

IN SUMMARY, WMATA would be very pleased if all Metrobuses could access and egress the parking garage via the west ramp. Placement of bus stops on the west side of Union Station is also considered acceptable (preferred). If conditions of space availability for buses on the garage transit deck and egress to both east and west directions to Massachusetts Avenue, the alternate solution is preferred.

COLUMBUS PLAZA Re-Configuration

Status (Stakeholders) Meeting

Thursday, December 15, 2005

10 AM

Columbus Club @ Union Station

Invited

Accepted

Message Returned

Patel, Prakash

Yes

Wade, Josh

Yes

Stoneburner, Dave

*Message Returned
(Called – will attend)*

Lee, Jeff

*Yes
(w/Bang Shon)*

Patten, Robert

Yes

Viets, Alexa (NPS)

Yes

Rivera, Anthony (ANC)

No response

*Ruffin, Beverly
(US Courts)*

Message Returned

*Woods, Beverly
(AOC)*

Yes

Byrd, Clarrisa(TSA)

No Response

Erion, David (WMATA)

Yes (Eric Hu)

Maloney, David (SHPO)

No Response

Perry, David(FCC)

Yes

Mulumeh, Dawit

No Response

Hardy, Derrick (ANC) No Response

Paulus, Emily (SHPO) No response

Lewandowska, Ewa (Smith)
(Postal Museum) No Response

Sebastian, Jim (DDOT) No Response

Wirt, Karen (ANC) Yes

Alg, Kristina (CFA) Yes Message Returned

(Name: K. Penhoet)

Dixon, Mark (ANC) No Response

Jenkins, Michael (US Courts) Message
Returned(Called)

Weil, Michael (NCPC) Yes (David Levy)

Braunohler, Robert No Response
(Dreyfus)

Cherifi, Sais (DDOT) No Response

Ponce, Vince (USRC) No Response

OTHERS WHO ASKED TO ATTAND:

Carey, Anne WMATA –DC Circulator

Holmgren, W. AOC

Frampton, Marc AOC

Malkowski, J. USRC

Granger, M. Station Place

Distribution List Name: Columbus Plaza Pre Design Meeting December 15, 2005

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Union Station / Columbus Plaza Pre. Des.

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March 16, 2007

MEMORANDUM

To: Project Files

From: Gary Burch
Project Manager

Subject: Meeting with National Capital Planning Commission
Columbus Plaza Reconfiguration
March 16, 2007

Parsons staff met with National Capital Planning Commission and National Park Service to present proposed land jurisdiction transfers that will result from planned rehabilitation project at Columbus Plaza. The meeting was also intended to refresh NCPC familiarity with the project in preparation for formal project presentation to NCPC in the near future.

In attendance:

Nancy Witherell	National Capital Planning Commission
David Levy	National Capital Planning Commission
Lois Schiffer	National Capital Planning Commission
Christine Saum	National Capital Planning Commission
Perry Wheelock	National Park Service
Jennifer Talken-Spaulding	National Park Service
Susan Bupp	Parsons Transportation Group
Gary A. Burch	Parsons Transportation Group

NCPC staff reviewed the jurisdiction transfer map in general.

Parsons stated that the affected agencies (DDOT/NPS/USRC) had agreed to the transfers as depicted. Parsons stated that a meeting with Architect of the Capitol (AOC) had taken place earlier in the day and AOC was pleased with the transfer that gave AOC additional jurisdiction, but requested time to further evaluate.

NCPC stated that the staff was unable to effectively review the engineering drawings, and asked for renderings for review and discussion prior to submission of the project for formal approval. Parsons agreed to provide renderings in the near future.

Parsons stated that there were three projects, designed under separate funding, that would be combined into one for construction, if the schedules for each matched. NCPC expressed concern that the projects should be reviewed by NCPC together.

Specific Issues/Questions with the reconfiguration as presented including:

- Lack of symmetry between east and west sides of central plaza area. Parsons agreed to review the symmetry issue for improvements.
- Lack of cohesive design between landscaping on Thurgood Marshall Grounds and abutting area proposed for transfer to AOC. Parsons agreed to develop a more consistent landscape plan for that area.

It was agreed that another meeting (working session) with all interested parties should be held in the very near future. All concerns/issues can be raised at the meeting and fully addressed. Parsons agreed to contact the relevant parties and arrange a meeting.

NCPC had some questions concerning the environmental documents, including the lead Federal agency for the project. Also of interest was whether the proposed exchanges would require legislation or could be accomplished as jurisdictional transfers. NCPC and NPS agreed to pursue these issues.

March 15, 2007

MEMORANDUM

To: Project Files

From: Gary A. Burch
Project Manager

Subject: Columbus Plaza Re-configuration
Land Transfer
Meeting with Architect of the Capitol
March 15, 2007

Parsons representatives met with Architect of the Capitol (AOC) staff to discuss proposed land transfer to Architect of the Capitol as a result of roadway configuration proposed under the subject project.

In attendance were:

Catherine Sheehan	Contracting Officer	Office of the Architect of the Capitol
William T.K. Dolan	Associate General Counsel	Office of the Architect of the Capitol
Prakash Patel	Project Engineer	Parsons Transportation Group
Gary A. Burch	Project Manager	Parsons Transportation Group

Generally, the AOC representatives were please with the project's rehabilitation of Columbus Plaza. Since AOC property will not be adversely affected (no property taken), there was general support. (Recall that the revised configuration includes land on the east side of Union Station that is proposed for transfer to AOC).

However, the Associate General Counsel cautioned that AOC procedures, including possible legislation, must be followed before the transfer is completed.

Parsons has provided several copies of the land transfer map and the existing property jurisdictional map to AOC to assist in their review.

Joint Meeting

April 17, 2007

Rehabilitation of Columbus Plaza, N.E. Perimeter Security @ Union Station Bike Station

**Invitees: Federal Transit Authority
D.C. Department of Transportation
National Park Service
Union Station Redevelopment Corporation
National Capital Planning Commission
Commission of Fine Arts
Architect of the Capitol
D.C. Historic Preservation Office**

Agenda

- I. Introduction**
- II. Project Overviews**
- III. Schedules**
- IV. Land Transfers**
- V. Re-configuration of Columbus Plaza**
- VI. Formal Presentations to Review Agencies**

Schedules

- VII. Questions/Concerns**