

Dear Interested Party:

Please be advised that the U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) for exterior improvements at Federal Office Building 8, located at 200 C Street, SW, Washington, DC. The project proposes to modernize the existing facade with additional areas of glazing, provide a security screening pavilion as a building addition, and transform a surface parking area into a public plaza. The project also proposes perimeter security primarily in public space surrounding the building. This action is needed to provide medium level security for a proposed tenant, the Architect of the Capitol. Exterior improvements would be implemented in conjunction with building modernization activities. Currently the building is unoccupied and the interior has been demolished.



Aerial View of FOB8 Building

The EA is being prepared in accordance with Section 102 of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). NEPA requires a Federal agency to provide the public with an opportunity to participate in the process of analyzing the impacts of Federal actions on the human environment. The purpose of this letter is to notify members of the community and other stakeholders of an opportunity to assist GSA in identifying potential impacts that may occur as a result of the proposed Federal action. Your participation in this process is greatly appreciated.

GSA is accepting comments concerning the scope of the EA for 30 calendar days from the date of this letter. Comments received during the scoping period will be used to develop and refine alternatives and issues analyzed in the EA. GSA has identified the following as preliminary impact issues for analysis in the EA: Visual Resources; Vehicular Traffic; Historic Resources; Public Space; and Trees. GSA is also soliciting comments regarding the design and location of the exterior improvements, including perimeter security elements. Comments received during the scoping period will be used to refine alternatives and issues analyzed in the EA.

Pursuant to NEPA regulations, a no action alternative will also be analyzed.

Upon completion, the Draft EA will be made available to the public for review and comments for a period of 30 days. Availability of the Draft EA will be advertised in the Washington Post. The Draft EA will also be made available via the internet at: www.gsa.gov/ncrnepea. The Draft EA is scheduled for availability in Spring 2009.

Written comments concerning the scope should be submitted to:

Mr. Tony Lopacki
Project Manager
U.S. General Services Administration
301 7th Street, SW
Room 2114
Washington, DC 20407
Email: tony.lopacki@gsa.gov

Should you have any questions, please contact Tony Lopacki at (202) 708-8033.

Sincerely,

Bart Bush
Assistant Regional Administrator
Public Buildings Service