

Final Environmental Assessment for the Proposed U.S. Courthouse Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

Prepared by:
General Services Administration
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Appendix A

SUMMARY OF PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING COMMENTS

Name	Affiliation	Date & Form of Comment	Comments
Jim Akers	Various organizations which meet at Friends Meeting House	July 28, 2005; Letter	Alternative that does not take the Meeting House. Friends Meeting House has offered meeting space to various gay and lesbian organizations including church ministries and AA.
Jane M. Allis	Harrisburg Resident	July 25, 2005; Letter	Opposed to 3rd & Forster Street Site. Against choosing a site within CAN due to effects to historic district, loss of historic homes and neighborhoods. These communities cannot be replaced and comparable housing is not available.
William W. Allis Jr., President	Capitol Area Neighbors, President	July 17, 2005; Letter	Request to be Consulting Party under Section 106.
William W. Allis Jr., President	Capitol Area Neighbors, President	July 27, 2005; Letter	Opposed to 3rd & Forster Street Site. Attached petition of citizens who oppose selection of the site. Also attached a letter from Mayor Reed stating that the City of Harrisburg opposes the demolition of the CAN neighborhood.
William W. Allis Jr., President	Capitol Area Neighbors, President	July 31, 2005; Letter	Opposed to 3rd & Forster Street Site. Opposed to choosing site due to irreversible loss of a portion of the Harrisburg Historic District which is a viable residential neighborhood. Submitted a market analysis for the availability of in-kind housing for relocation, which concluded that no such housing is available for all residents that would be displaced.
Sloan and Susan Auchincloss	Midtown Action Council	July 1, 2005; Letter	Prefers 6 th and Basin Street Alternative because less disruptive to viable neighborhoods that contribute tax revenue, and it would stimulate economic development of 6th Street corridor.
A. Victor Banks, Jr.	NAACP	July 29, 2005; email	Concerned with 6th & Basin Street Alternative. Interested in meeting with GSA to discuss concerns of site residents raised at NAACP chapter meeting.

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Staci Basore	Mangia Qui owner and Resident	not dated; Letter	Opposed to 3rd & Forster Street Site. Concerns include loss of businesses and residences in historic district. A location that represents urban blight or is vacant with no current tax base would make a better choice.
Richard Benner	Interested Citizen	July 15, 2005; email	Opposed to choosing any site in a residential area. Would prefer a site in an area of the city that needs improvement.
George R. Beyer	Harrisburg Friends Meeting	July 28, 2005; Telephone	Asked about postmark cutoff for comment period.
Michael A. Billo	Resident of Site	July 16, 2005; Letter	Opposed to 3rd & Forster Street Site. Concerns include personal loss of property and neighborhood, effects to historic district, displacement of residents and businesses, loss of tax revenue.
Kelly Blair	Interested Citizen	July 15, 2005; email	Against choosing any site that would take homes and businesses. Would prefer a site that is currently undeveloped.
Representative Ronald I. Buxton	State Representative	July 20, 2005; Letter	Opposed to 3rd & Forster Street Site. Opposed to choosing site because it is in a Historic District, it would displace residents, and it would be counter to revitalization efforts of the city and citizens.
Kevin Cable	Harrisburg Resident	July 15, 2005; email	Prefer 6th & Basin Street Site. Opposed to choosing 3rd & Forster Site.
Jon Carfagno	Resident of Site	July 31, 2005; email	Opposed to 3rd & Forster Street Site. Concerns include personal loss of property and neighborhood, effects to historic district, displacement of residents and businesses, and decreased property values of surrounding homes.
Melanie G. Cook, Esq. and Anita J. Cook	Nearby Resident	July 29, 2005; email	Opposed to 3rd & Forster Street Site. Concerns include displacement of residents and businesses, loss of neighborhood, loss of tax revenue, impacts during construction, safety of neighborhood after construction.
Judi Cuffney	Friend of Resident	July 17, 2005; email	Opposed to 3rd & Forster Street Site. Concerned with taking this neighborhood in a historic area.

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Francine Deleweski	Relative of Resident	July 16, 2005; Letter	Opposed to 3rd & Forster Street Site. Concerns include effects to historic district, displacement of residents and businesses, loss of tax revenue.
Thomas J. Dermott, Jr.	Interested Citizen	July 15, 2005; email	Suggested another site in the 1900 block of N. 6th Street.
Ellwood Derricks	Nearby Resident	July 23, 2005; Letter	Does not like any of the 3 choices.. Concerns include effects to historical elements, community, and loss of businesses, and the need for the project to compliment and enhance the City.
Kim Effiong	Praise & Play Early Learning Center	July 25, 2005; Letter	Supports an alternative that does not take the Meeting House. Operates early childhood education center at Friends Meeting House. Location is ideal for clientele, many of whom are working parents or guardians who live in nearby neighborhoods.
Asuquo O. Effiong	Christian Bible Institute	July 27, 2005; Letter	Supports an alternative that does not take the Meeting House. Friends Meeting House has offered meeting space to Christian Bible Study Group. The day care facility at the property serves the local community.
Curt Engle	Resident of Site	June 21, 2005; Telephone	In process of selling property on one of the sites; asked questions regarding site acquisition.
Sandra Feigley	Harrisburg Resident	June 24, 2005; email	Suggested a site in the 1300 block of Derry Street.
Paula Fennelly	Relative of Resident	July 16, 2005; Letter	Opposed to 3rd & Forster Street Site. Concerns include effects to historic district, displacement of residents and businesses, loss of tax revenue.
Frances and Barrington Green	Resident of Site	July 14, 1005; Comment Form	Believes that Harrisburg Housing Authority will do its very best to place Jackson Lick residents in a building or apartments to fit our health needs.
Joe Greene	Interested Citizen	July 16, 2005; email	Opposed to 3rd & Forster Street Site. Opposed to choosing site because it is in a restored area of Harrisburg. Other sites could be improved by locating the new building on those sites.

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Judy A. Hancock	Interested Citizen	July 15, 2005; email	Would prefer a site that did not take people's homes, such as the State Hospital grounds.
William L. Henninger, ASLA	Harrisburg Resident	July 29, 2005; Letter	Raised concerns with choosing all three sites including effects to residents, businesses, City pool, Friends Meeting House, and availability of parking. Suggested alternative sites and commented on the scoping and site selection process.
Congressman Tim Holden	U.S. Congress	July 27, 2005; Letter	Opposed to 3rd & Forster Street Site. Against choosing a site within CAN due to effects to historic district, residents, and business owners. City has invested time and resources to assist CAN and wish it to remain untouched.
Clare Jones, President	NAACP	July 31, 2005; Letter	Does not like any of the 3 choices. Particularly concerned with effects to residents of the Jackson Lick apartments, including uncertain future for residents, their need for medical and other services, and fair representation of residents in site selection process.
Guy H. Kehler	Resident of Site	August 1, 2005; email	Opposed to 3rd & Forster Street Site; or any site within National Historic District. Opposed to choosing site because it is in a Historic District, it would displace residents, and destroy character of the neighborhood.
Paul Kohler	Interested Citizen	July 17, 2005; email	Supports project.
Vivian Koser, Clerk	Harrisburg Friends Meeting	July 27, 2005; Letter	Described the Harrisburg Friends Meeting's historical and current role in the Harrisburg community and concerns for remaining in a position and location to continue to serve the community.
Elizabeth Krasley	Friend of Resident	August 1, 2005; email	Opposed to project.

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Debbie Lee	Interested citizen	July 14, 2005; email	Does not like any of the 3 choices. Would prefer a site that did not take homes. Other concerns include displacement of residents, need for residents of Jackson Lick and Cumberland Court to be near public transportation and other amenities they currently enjoy, and parking for the courthouse employees.
Thomas P. Leonard	Harrisburg Resident	August 1, 2005; Letter	Opposed to 3rd & Forster Street Site. Opposed to choosing site due to loss of vital neighborhood in Historic District and concerned with closing Briggs Street.
Nancy P. LeRoy	Interested Citizen	July 16, 2005; Letter	6th & Basin Street Site, or vacant land uptown (farther north). Opposed to taking 3rd & Forster Street Site due to effects to historic neighborhood; opposed to taking 6th & Verbeke Street Site, particularly taking the Friends Meeting House.
M.J. Linnane	Interested Citizen	July 6, 2005; Letter	Suggested building additional stories to the Forum Place building at 5th and Walnut.
Rosemary Lucerne	Relative of Resident	July 16, 2005; Letter	Opposed to 3rd & Forster Street Site. Concerns include effects to historic district, displacement of residents and businesses, loss of tax revenue.
Kathy Speaker MacNett, Esq.	Nearby Resident	July 12, 2005; Letter	Opposed to 3rd & Forster Street Site; favors a vacant site. Concerns include effects to historical elements, community cohesion, traffic, parking, safety of nearby school children, and loss of businesses.
Nelson McCormick	Harrisburg Resident	June 25, 2005; email	Asked why the site needed to be in Harrisburg.
Pauline A. McGee	Relative of Resident	July 16, 2005; Letter	Opposed to 3rd & Forster Street Site. Concerns include effects to historic district, displacement of residents and businesses, loss of tax revenue.
Dave Robertson, President	Friends of Midtown	July 31, 2005; email	Does not like any of the 3 choices. Concerns include effects to residents of all three sites. Offered organization's services to those affected by selected site.

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Lindsay R. Mills	Resident of Site	August 1, 2005; email	Opposed to 3rd & Forster Street Site; or any site within National Historic District. Opposed to choosing site because it is in a Historic District, it would displace residents, and destroy character of the neighborhood.
Carter Nash, Client Counselor	Downtown Daily Bread	July 15, 2005; Letter	Supports an alternative that does not take the Meeting House. Friends Meeting House provides services to the community, including offering daycare facilities and meeting space to community and church groups. Jackson-Lick site would be inappropriate unless a new location is found with supportive services.
Carter Nash	Interested Citizen	June 20, 2005; email	Concerned about security of adjacent properties to new courthouse. Suggested two other sites on N. 6th Street and the State Hospital grounds.
Franz Niedermeyer	Harrisburg Resident	June 15, 2005; email	Requested information on the public scoping meeting.
Zenoria McMorris Owens	Interested Citizen	July 19, 2005; email	Opposed to 3rd & Forster Street Site. Opposed to taking homes in a historic district. Would prefer a vacant site.
Senator Jeffrey E. Piccola	State Senator	July 23, 2005; Letter	Opposed to 3rd & Forster Street Site. Opposed to choosing site because it is in Historic District and is the smallest site being examined.
William Pickering	Harrisburg Friends Meeting, Harrisburg Resident	August 1, 2005; email	Does not like any of the 3 choices. Concerns include effects to residents, Friends Meeting House, the daycare and other groups that meet at Meeting House, and finding suitable relocation for all of the above. Suggested that an exception to the Executive Order regarding floodplains could be pursued to allow development of the S. Front and Sycamore site.
Deborah Ritchey, Director	Neighborhood Dispute Settlement	July 21, 2005; Letter	Supports an alternative that does not take the Meeting House. Friends Meeting House has offered meeting space and monetary support to Neighborhood Dispute Settlement.

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Cindy Ruby	Interested Citizen	July 15, 2005; email	Opposed to taking homes in a historic district.
Melissa Sandoe	Dances of Universal Peace	July 25, 2005; Letter	Supports an alternative that does not take the Meeting House. Participates in spiritual dance group which meets at Friends Meeting House.
Blair Seitz	Harrisburg Friends Meeting, Harrisburg Resident	June 22, 2005; email	Against any site that would take homes, businesses and places of worship. Would prefer a site that is currently undeveloped, such as vacant lots near 6th and Verbeke.
Susan Shearer, Executive Director	Preservation Pennsylvania	July 29, 2005; Letter	Supports 6th & Basin Street Site or 6th & Verbeke Street Site. Either site is a better choice than 3rd & Forster Street Site, which is in a historic district and is a thriving urban neighborhood. Locating the courthouse on either of the other two sites could have a positive effect on revitalization efforts. Request to be consulting party under Section 106.
Matt Simmons	Capitol Area Neighbors	July 27, 2005; email	Opposed to 3rd & Forster Street Site. Concerns include loss of neighborhood, sense of community, and historic character; and displacement of residents and businesses.
Jan M. Skipper	Harrisburg Resident	July 23, 2005; email	Does not like any of the 3 choices. Against any site that would take homes and businesses. Would prefer a site that is currently undeveloped.
Randy Smedley	Interested Citizen	July 19, 2005; email	At next public meeting, locate the audio/visual presentation in a separate room so the audio can be heard.
Susan L. Stecher	Nearby Resident	July 17, 2005; email	Opposed to 3rd & Forster Street Site. Concerns include effects to character of the neighborhood, displacement of residents and businesses, effects to property values of nearby homes.
Joseph L. Theurer	Interested Citizen	June 14, 2005; Telephone	Suggested State Hospital site.

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Josephine M. Turner	Relative of Resident	July 16, 2005; Letter	Opposed to 3rd & Forster Street Site. Concerns include effects to historic district, displacement of residents and businesses, loss of tax revenue.
Emma Van Hocken	Interested Citizen	July 14, 2005; Telephone	Does not want people to lose their homes for a new courthouse.
Mary Williams	Harrisburg Resident	July 16, 2005; email	Would prefer adding to the current courthouse rather than building a new one.
Jane Wilshusen	People for Peace	July 13, 2005; Letter	Opposed to 6th & Verbeke Street Site. Friends Meeting House has offered meeting space to community groups such as People for Peace. The location is ideal for the members.
James Zimmerman, Chair	Harrisburg Center for Peace & Justice	July 31, 2005; Letter	Does not like any of the 3 choices. Friends Meeting House has offered meeting space to the Harrisburg Center for Peace & Justice.
Linda Zimmerman	Friend of Resident	July 31, 2005; Letter	Opposed to 3rd & Forster Street Site. Would prefer a site that did not take a neighborhood with so much history and beauty.
Dr. David Alan Zwifka, Executive Director	Historic Harrisburg Association	July 30, 2005; Letter	Opposed to 3rd & Forster Street Site. Opposed to choosing site because it is in a Historic District with significant number of original structures, it would displace residents in a stable urban neighborhood, and it would be counter to revitalization efforts of the city and citizens.
Anonymous	Interested Citizen	July 14, 2005; Telephone	Suggested sites outside of the City of Harrisburg.
Anonymous	Interested Citizen	July 18, 2005; email	Does not like any of the 3 choices. Opposed to taking people's homes. Would prefer a vacant site.