



## National Environmental Policy Act

The National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, commonly referred to as NEPA, is one of the nation's laws for protection of the environment. NEPA provides for the consideration of environmental issues in federal agency planning and decision-making. NEPA requires Federal agencies to prepare an EIS for actions that may significantly affect the quality of the human environment.

## Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act

Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 requires that Federal agencies take into account the effects of their actions on any district, site, building, structure, or object listed or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. GSA has initiated consultation with the Maryland Historical Trust in order to comply with Section 106.

## Project Purpose and Need

- Update the Master Plan for the FDA Headquarters at FRC to accommodate employee growth by 1,170 within the 130 acres appropriated by Congress for the FDA Campus.
- Need for the proposed action is to continue to support FDA Headquarters consolidation at FRC and provide the necessary office and laboratory space to support the expanded PDUFA and MDUFMA programs.

## Preliminary Scope of the SEIS

GSA is preparing a supplemental EIS (SEIS) to identify reasonable alternatives to the proposed actions and assess potential impacts from the proposed expansion on the surrounding community and roads. GSA's objective in conducting this supplemental EIS is to ensure any and all impacts on the natural, social, and cultural environment are identified and considered in the federal decision-making process.

A range of action alternatives for the Master Plan Update will be considered in the supplemental EIS that could potentially include additional building(s) and changes to building height, massing, and layout. Additional infrastructure for utilities will also be included in the Master Plan alternatives. Areas under consideration for the Master Plan update are shown in purple on the site map.

Preliminary impact topics for inclusion in the supplemental EIS are natural resources, social environment, cultural resources, transportation, air quality, noise, utilities, and environmental contamination. Your comments will be greatly appreciated and will be considered when refining alternatives to be studied in the supplemental EIS. Your comments will also help GSA determine impact topics to be studied in detail in the supplemental EIS.

## Public Involvement and Project Schedule

- Notice of Intent – March 7, 2008
- Scoping meeting – March 27, 2008
- Environmental and alternative analysis – April 2008
- Draft Supplemental EIS – Late 2008
- 45 Day Public Comment Period – To be determined
- Public Hearing – To be determined
- Final Supplemental EIS – To be determined
- Record of Decision – To be determined
- Implementation of Decision – To be determined

## Send Written Comments to:

U.S. General Services Administration  
Attention: Suzanne Hill  
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Washington, DC 20407  
(202) 205-5821

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All comments on the Proposed Master Plan Update are due to GSA by April 7, 2008.

(Mailed comments must be postmarked no later than April 7, 2008.)  
Comments on the Section 106 process will be accepted throughout the consultation process with the Maryland Historical Trust.

For more information, please call 202.205.5821.



Smarter Solutions

## FDA Consolidation

at the Federal Research Center at White Oak  
Silver Spring, MD

National Environmental Policy Act  
and  
Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act  
Compliance

## Public Scoping Meeting

March 27, 2008



## Purpose of Scoping

The purpose of scoping is to provide citizens an opportunity to learn about the study and to identify potential alternatives, impacts, and other significant issues to be addressed in the Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). Scoping also invites the participation of affected Federal, State and local agencies in the project. It also helps to identify and eliminate from detailed study the issues which are not significant or which have been covered by previous environmental review.

## Project Background and History

The Federal Research Center (FRC) at White Oak was a Navy weapons research center from 1944 to 1995. The Defense Base Closure and Realignment Act of 1990 ended the Navy's use of the site as a weapons research center. In 1997, Navy transferred 670 acres to GSA and the Army acquired the remaining 40 acres of the site as part of the transfer. Also, in 1997, GSA completed an EIS that analyzed the impacts from the consolidation of 5,974 FDA employees at the FRC.



In March of 2002, the FDA consolidation Master Plan was revised. As part of this revision, future expansion areas were identified and an additional 278 employees were added to the number of employees expected onsite. Due to the insignificance of the changes identified in the 2002 Revised Master Plan, no additional NEPA documentation was determined to be necessary.

In July of 2002, new legislation was passed that expanded FDA's mandate to support the Prescription Drug User Fee Act (PDUFA) and the Medical User Device Fee Modernization Act (MDUFMA). This new legislation and the growth of other programs resulted in an increase of employees needed at the FRC. In order to accommodate this increase in employees, an eastern access road was necessary. In 2005, GSA completed a Supplemental EIS that analyzed the potential impacts of the proposed campus expansion and a new eastern access road. A Record of Decision was published in December 2005.

In September 2007, new legislation was enacted that expanded FDA's mandate to support the PDUFA and the MDUFMA. In order for the FDA to fulfill the legislated mandates, additional employees may be needed, and the new legislation will likely result in an increase of employees at the FRC by 1,170. The increase in the campus population is needed to conduct the complex and comprehensive reviews necessary for new drugs and medical devices. The impacts of the increase of additional employees will be studied in a Supplemental EIS.

## Site Map

