

March 17, 2010

Dear Interested Party:

Please be advised that the U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) intends to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the proposed exterior site improvements at the Mary Switzer Federal Building, located at 330 C Street, SW, Washington, DC. The purpose and need for the proposed action are to enhance the quality of the landscaping of the building site and to provide for the required level of security at the perimeter of the site. 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 impacts to the human environment that could result from the proposed Federal action. The purpose of this letter is to initiate the scoping process for the EA and to notify members of the community and other stakeholders of an opportunity to assist GSA in refining alternatives to be analyzed in the EA and identifying potential resource issues that may be impacted as a result of the Proposed Action. Your participation in this process is greatly appreciated.

The actions to be analyzed in the EA include; enhanced landscaping around the Switzer building, implementation of perimeter security, changes to driveway locations and sidewalks to enhance pedestrian safety, and conversion of surface parking to a combination of landscaped plazas, gardens and parking. GSA will also explore ways to integrate sustainability practices into the design of the proposed project. Alternatives to be analyzed in the EA will differ in the amount of surface parking to be converted to landscaped plaza; as well as landscaping and perimeter security design concepts. A no action alternative will also be analyzed. All alternatives will analyze narrowing C Street, SW between 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Streets, SW. Narrowing C Street, SW, would be needed to improve pedestrian circulation. Preliminary issues to be studied in the EA include: historic and cultural resources, visual quality, vegetation, pedestrian circulation, land use planning, sustainability, stormwater management, and transportation.

GSA is accepting comments regarding the scope of the EA for 30 calendars days from the date stamped on this letter. Comments received during the scoping period will be used to refine alternatives and issues to be analyzed in the EA. If you have concerns, issues, or alternatives that you would like to see addressed as part of the analysis in the EA, please submit your comments to:

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GSA NCR  
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After the public scoping period, GSA will analyze the comments submitted and prepare the EA. The public will be informed of future opportunities to comment on the analysis in the EA. Should you have any questions regarding the EA and proposed action, please contact Ms. Suzanne Hill at (202)205-5821.

Sincerely,

Bart Bush  
Regional Commissioner  
Public Buildings Service