



Smithsonian Institution

NEPA Public Scoping/Section 106 Consulting Parties Meeting #3 Notice  
Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden - Revitalize Building and Plaza

April 19, 2024

Dear Interested Party:

The Smithsonian Institution (SI) and the National Capital Planning Commission (NCPC) announce the opportunity to provide public comment and to attend an online public scoping meeting as part of the initiation of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process for the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden (HMSG) Revitalize Building and Plaza, on the National Mall in Washington D.C.

The purpose of the proposed project is to revitalize the building and plaza of the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden (HMSG). This project is the third of three sequential campus revitalization projects that includes the Building Envelope Repair project (completed 2023) and the Sculpture Garden Revitalization project (under construction). The revitalization of the building and plaza will address critical infrastructure and programmatic deficiencies including: entry and circulation, accessibility and wayfinding, perimeter security, visitor screening, below grade expansion to support public and back of house spaces, and replacement of building systems that have reached the end of their useful life.

The proposed project is subject to the review of the NCPC under the National Capital Planning Act. NCPC will serve as the lead and responsible federal agency and work with SI as project owner to comply with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). NCPC and SI will prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) to analyze the potential environmental impacts associated with this project, in accordance with NEPA. The preparation of the EA will enable SI and NCPC to evaluate and analyze the environmental impacts of the project and alternatives under consideration. Concurrently, SI will conduct consultation under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

SI and NCPC invite you to attend an online joint NEPA Public Scoping and Section 106 Consulting Parties Meeting #3 that will take place on May 21, 2024, from 9:00 to 11:00 am and May 22, 2024, from 2:00 to 4:00 pm. The meetings will include an update to the concept development of the project, proposed project alternatives under consideration, and issues to be analyzed in the EA. Attendees must register in advance at [https://smithsonian.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_6-JEbhk5R0CUwDhZ5HQV8w](https://smithsonian.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_6-JEbhk5R0CUwDhZ5HQV8w) for the combined meeting. Those registered for Consulting Parties Meeting #3 do not need to complete an additional registration.

A site tour will be conducted by SI and NCPC staff on Wednesday, May 29, 2024, from 9:00 – 10:00 am, to provide an opportunity to understand the site, proposed project, and its relationship to the National Mall, other museums, and important viewsheds. Please email [preservation@si.edu](mailto:preservation@si.edu) to register for the tour. Tour participants should meet at the Hirshhorn's south entrance near 7<sup>th</sup> Street

and Independence Avenue, SW, in Washington, DC.

SI and NCPC will accept comments concerning the scope of issues to address in the EA through May 31, 2024. Comments received during the scoping period will be used to refine alternatives and inform the EA analysis. SI and NCPC will accept comments at the public scoping meeting or comments can be submitted in writing via email to: [preservation@si.edu](mailto:preservation@si.edu)

We look forward to meeting with you online on May 21st and 22nd. Your participation is greatly appreciated.

To request accessibility services, please email [preservation@si.edu](mailto:preservation@si.edu), one week in advance of the program. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact NCPC at [info@ncpc.gov](mailto:info@ncpc.gov) or 202-482-7200 or [preservation@si.edu](mailto:preservation@si.edu).