

## 4.0 CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION



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## 4.0 CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION

This chapter describes the public participation process and provides a list of the Federal and local agencies, as well as interested parties who were involved in the development of this Tier II EIS for the NMAAHC in Washington, DC.

### 4.1 HOW DID THE PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS WORK FOR THE TIER II EIS?

#### Public Scoping

Project scoping is designed to provide an opportunity for the public and other Federal and local agencies to help determine the scope of an EIS—more specifically, the range of actions, alternatives and impacts to be considered in an EIS.

#### *Notice of Intent*

The first formal step in the preparation of the Tier II EIS was the publication of a Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare the EIS. Pursuant to the NEPA, 42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq., the Smithsonian Institution and NCPC published the Notice of Intent for the Proposed Action in the Federal Register on November 10, 2009. The Notice of Intent described the Proposed Action and the reasons for why an EIS was to be prepared. In addition, the Notice of Intent stated the Smithsonian Institution and NCPC's continuation of related consultation under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (16 U.S.C. 470(f)).

The Notice of Intent initiated the public scoping period, a process that allows the public to identify issues or express their concerns about the development of the NMAAHC alternative. The Notice of Intent comment period for this project began on November 10, 2009, and concluded on December 24, 2009. Comments were accepted in writing or by email.

#### *Outreach Activities*

A number of outreach activities were employed in order to gather input from the community, Federal and local agencies, and other interested parties throughout the public scoping period. Some of these methods included the publication of newspaper advertisements, the distribution of flyers, a public scoping meeting held at a Smithsonian Institution building, and meetings with federal agencies and consulting parties. These activities are described in more detail below:

- **Newspaper Advertisements:** Details about the public scoping meeting were advertised in seven newspapers in Washington, DC: Washington Post Express, Capital Community News (Hill Rag, DC North, East of the River), El Pregonero, the Current Newspaper (Northwest, Dupont, Foggy Bottom, and Georgetown), Washington Informer, Washington City Paper, and the Afro American. All the advertisements announcing the date and location of the public scoping meeting were published in early December 2009. Table 4.1 shows specific publication dates.

Table 4.1 Newspaper Publication of the Scoping Notice

Newspaper	Publication Date
Washington Post Express	December 1, 2009
Capital Community News – Hill Rag	December 1, 2009
Capital Community News – DC North	December 1, 2009
Capital Community News – East of the River	December 1, 2009
El Pregonero	December 2, 2009
The Current Newspaper – Northwest	December 2, 2009
The Current Newspaper – Dupont	December 2, 2009
The Current Newspaper – Foggy Bottom	December 2, 2009
The Current Newspaper – Georgetown	December 2, 2009
Washington Informer	December 3, 2009
Washington City Paper	December 4, 2009
Afro American	December 5, 2009

Source: AECOM, 2010

- **Flyer Distribution:** A flyer with details about the Tier II EIS public scoping meeting was emailed to a mailing list of 91 individuals, neighborhood organizations, elected officials, Federal and local government agencies and institutions surrounding the project site. Furthermore, the flyer was sent via email to 2,527 email addresses on November 20, December 1 and December 8, 2009, preceding the public scoping meeting. The distribution list was compiled based on sign-in sheets at public meetings held during the Tier I EIS public scoping process, as well as agencies, organizations, and individuals reasonably expected to be interested, or with expertise or jurisdiction, or who

requested to be placed on the mailing list during the Tier I EIS process. The flyer was also distributed to an email distribution list compiled by Justice & Sustainability Associates for projects in the District.

- **Public Scoping Meeting:** The public scoping meeting took place at the Smithsonian Institution Building, Castle Commons (1000 Jefferson Drive, SW, Washington, DC, 20560) on Thursday, December 10, 2009 from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Attendees were greeted at the entrance and asked to provide their names and contact information on sign-in sheets. The public scoping meeting had a total of 41 individuals who signed in as attendees, with approximately 14 representing organizations, 20 interested individuals, 5 agencies, and 2 media outlets. The meeting began at 6:00 p.m. with a formal presentation and was followed by an informal open house format. The presentation portion of the meeting was led by the Smithsonian Institution and the consultant team; they explained the NEPA process and the purpose of scoping, as well as the need for the project and the Smithsonian Institution’s design competition to select the NMAAHC architect. After the presentation, participants were encouraged to visit topic area stations. Each station displayed up to three boards with information about the project. The topic areas covered included: 1) Purpose/Need and the NEPA Process/Roadmap; 2) Tier I EIS Issues and Section 106; and 3) Design Principles, Massing Parameters, and Design Competition Submission. Topic experts from the Smithsonian Institution, NCPC and the consultant team were on hand to answer participant questions and record

comments at each station. NPS also assisted as a Cooperating Agency at the event.

The complete Scoping Report can be viewed at [http://www.nmaahceis.com/documents/Scoping\\_Report\\_Final\\_040210.pdf](http://www.nmaahceis.com/documents/Scoping_Report_Final_040210.pdf).

#### **4.2 WHAT AGENCIES AND ORGANIZATIONS HAVE BEEN CONSULTED DURING DEVELOPMENT OF THE TIER II EIS?**

During the scoping process and prior to conducting the public scoping meeting, the Smithsonian Institution and NCPC—acting as the lead Federal agency, jointly leading the preparation of the Tier II EIS for NMAAHC project—initiated coordination and consultation with Federal and local agencies as part of the Tier II EIS process. The agencies who participated in the scoping process are listed below along with details of the coordination or consultation meeting.

##### **Agency Coordination**

- National Park Service: A meeting was held with the National Park Service on December 8, 2009.
- General Services Administration and National Aquarium: A conference call was held with the General Services Administration and National Aquarium staff on December 8, 2009.

An agency coordination meeting was held with interested public agencies on April 20, 2010 to solicit any additional feedback related to the scope of the Tier II Draft EIS. The agencies that participated in the meeting included:

- District of Columbia Office of Planning (DC OP)
- District of Columbia Department of Transportation (DDOT)
- District of Columbia Department of Environment (DDOE)
- District of Columbia Water & Sewer Authority (WASA)

##### **Consulting Parties**

Meetings with consulting parties to the concurrent National Historic Preservation Act, Section 106 consultation process were held monthly beginning on November 18, 2009 through the publication of this Tier II Draft EIS. Consultation with the consulting parties as part of the Section 106 process will continue until a programmatic document, such as a Memorandum of Agreement, can be finalized. A list of the consulting parties can be found on page 2-4 of this Tier II Draft EIS.

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## 5.0 REFERENCES



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## 6.0 ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS



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**6.1 ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS**

ACHP	Advisory Council on Historic Preservation	DCHPO	District of Columbia State Historic Preservation Office
ADT	Average Daily Traffic	DC OP	District of Columbia Office of Planning
A/E	architecture and engineering	DDOE	District of Columbia Department of Environment
APE	Area of Potential Effect	DDOT	District of Columbia Department of Transportation
BMPs	Best Management Practices	EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
bpf	blows per foot	EMS	Environmental Management System
CEQ	Council on Environmental Quality	EPA	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
CFA	U.S. Commission of Fine Arts	EPEAT	Electronic Product Environmental Assessment Tool
CFCs	chlorofluorocarbons	FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
CH <sub>4</sub>	methane	FEMP	Federal Energy Management Program
CO	carbon monoxide	GHGs	greenhouse gases
CO <sub>2</sub>	carbon dioxide	GSA	General Services Administration
Commission	National Museum of African American History and Culture Plan for Action Presidential Commission	HCM	Highway Capacity Manual
dba	A-weighted decibel	HOV	high occupancy vehicle
dbh	diameter at breast height	I-66	Interstate 66
		I-395	Interstate 395
		kV	kilovolt

LEED	Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design	Pb	lead
LOS	level of service	PM <sub>2.5</sub>	particulate matter less than 2.5 microns in diameter
msl	mean sea level	PM <sub>10</sub>	particulate matter less than or equal to 10 microns in diameter
NCPC	National Capital Planning Commission	RFK	Robert F. Kennedy
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act	RFQ	Request for Qualifications
NHPA	National Historic Preservation Act	ROD	Record of Decision
NMAAHC	National Museum of African American History and Culture	ROI	Region of Influence
NMAH	National Museum of American History	SHPO	State Historic Preservation Office
NMAI	National Museum of American Indian	SO <sub>2</sub>	sulfur dioxide
NMNH	National Museum of Natural History	SOE	Support of Excavation
N <sub>2</sub> O	nitrous oxide	SPT	Soil Penetration Test
NO <sub>2</sub>	nitrogen dioxide	TDA	Temporary Discharge Authorization
NOI	Notice of Intent	VOC	volatile organic compounds
NO <sub>x</sub>	oxides of nitrogen	WMATA	Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority
NPS	National Park Service		
NRHP	National Register of Historic Places		
O <sub>3</sub>	ozone		



## 7.0 PREPARERS



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