

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**

NATIONAL TRUST FOR HISTORIC  
PRESERVATION IN THE UNITED  
STATES,

Plaintiff,

v.

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, *et al.*,

Defendants.

Case No. 1:25-cv-04316-RJL

**DECLARATION OF HEATHER MARTIN REGARDING SUBMISSION OF THE  
PROJECT TO THE NCPC AND CFA**

I, Heather Martin, declare as follows:

1. I am a Deputy Assistant to the President, a Presidentially Commissioned Officer. In addition, I serve as the Chief Financial Officer and Deputy Director of the Office of Administration, Executive Office of the President. I serve as a senior official supporting the East Wing Modernization Project (“the Project”).
2. I have personal knowledge of all facts stated in this declaration, and if called to testify, I could and would testify competently thereto.

Submission to the NCPC

3. The National Capital Planning Commission (“NCPC”) is a twelve-member commission. All twelve commission seats are currently filled. The NCPC is also supported by a staff of planners, architects, urban designers, and other professionals. *See* <https://www.ncpc.gov/about/staff/> for a description of NCPC staff.

4. The NCPC does not have any promulgated regulations; instead, guidance for proceeding before the Commission is set out in the June 6, 2024 NCPC Submission Guidelines. However, my understanding is that the process as set forth in the guidelines is flexible.
5. On December 19, 2025, I conducted a pre-submission briefing with four members of NCPC staff and gave a presentation to inform them about the Project.
6. On December 22, 2025, EXR submitted an initial application for the Project to the NCPC.
7. On January 8, 2026, Josh Fisher, Director of White House Management and Administration, and Shalom Baranes, project architect, provided an informational presentation to the NCPC regarding the Project. Both took questions from Commissioners. *See Ex. 1, Excerpts from NCPC Tr. (Jan. 8, 2026).*<sup>1</sup>
8. I am currently scheduled to meet with NCPC staff on January 20, 2026, and January 27, 2026 to discuss EXR's final submission to the NCPC that EXR intends to file on January 30, 2026. These meeting will also include Commission of Fine Arts ("CFA") staff.
9. My understanding is that the NCPC will publicly release the final submission documents on February 12, 2026 and open an online portal for members of the public to register to speak at the NCPC public meeting scheduled for March 5, 2026.
10. On March 5, 2026, NCPC staff are scheduled to make their final presentation about the Project to the NCPC Commissioners.
11. My understanding is that the NCPC Commissioners will vote on the Project at the conclusion of the public comment period associated with the March 5, 2026 NCPC Public Meeting.

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<sup>1</sup> A video of the meeting is available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=js5NoDBQFzY>.

12. Development of the final design is continuing, and my understanding is the below-grade construction can accommodate potential modifications to the design of the above-grade structure. No above-grade construction on the Project will occur until April, at the earliest. EXR intends to secure approval from NCPC before above-grade construction commences.

Submission to the CFA

13. The CFA is comprised of seven commission members, all of whom are appointed by the President. There are currently four commission members. The CFA is staffed by full-time civil service employees that administer the operations of the CFA and the Old Georgetown Board. See <https://www.cfa.gov/about-cfa/who-we-are> for a description of the CFA staff positions.

14. On December 19, 2025, I conducted a briefing with four members of CFA staff and received informal feedback from CFA staff based on that presentation.

15. On January 20, 2026, and January 27, 2026, I am currently scheduled to meet with CFA staff to discuss EXR's submission to CFA. These meeting will also include NCPC staff.

16. On January 14, 2026, President Trump appointed four Members of the Commission of Fine Arts:

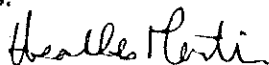
- Mary Anne Carter, of Tennessee, to be a Member of the Commission of Fine Arts for the term of four years, vice Billie Tsien, term expired.
- Roger Kimball, of Connecticut, to be a Member of the Commission of Fine Arts for the term of four years, vice Bruce Redman Becker.
- James Curtis McCrery II, of the District of Columbia, to be a Member of the Commission of Fine Arts for the term of four years, vice Peter Dibble Cook, term expired.

- Matthew Taylor, of the District of Columbia, to be a Member of the Commission of Fine Arts for the term of four years, vice Justin Garrett Moore, term expired.

17. I am working with CFA staff to schedule a public informational presentation with CFA Commission Members during the week of January 19th.

18. EXR is tentatively scheduled to present the Project to the CFA on February 19, 2026 and March 19, 2026. I intend to use my best efforts to work with CFA members and staff to complete the CFA review process at the March 19th meeting.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed on January 15, 2026.



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Heather Martin

EX. 1

NATIONAL CAPITAL PLANNING COMMISSION

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COMMISSION MEETING

+ + + + +

OPEN SESSION

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THURSDAY,  
JANUARY 8, 2026

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The meeting convened in the Commission Hearing Room at 401 9th Street NW, Washington, D.C., and via videoconference, at 1:00 p.m., William Scharf, Chair, presiding.

NATIONAL CAPITAL PLANNING COMMISSION MEMBERS  
PRESENT:

WILLIAM SCHARF, Chair  
    Presidential Appointee (At-Large)  
STUART LEVENBACH, Vice Chair  
    Mayoral Appointee  
LINDA ARGO, Mayoral Appointee  
MICHAEL BLAIR, Presidential Appointee  
EVAN CASH, Office of the Chairman of the Council  
    of the District of Columbia  
ANITA COZART, Office of the Mayor of  
    the District of Columbia  
ARRINGTON DIXON, Mayoral Appointee  
ED FORST, Administrator, General Services  
    Administration  
WILLIAM HENDERSON, U.S. Senate Committee on  
    Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs  
ELLIE MCGOWAN, U.S. House of Representatives  
    Committee on Oversight and Accountability  
PHIL MENDELSON, Chairman, Council of the District  
    of Columbia

<p>1 made by Commissioner Dixon and seconded by                  2 Commissioner Schaefer. Commissioner Cozart?                  3 COMMISSIONER COZART: Yes.                  4 MS. HOTTEL-COX: Commissioner Schaefer?                  5 COMMISSIONER SCHAEFER: Yes.                  6 MS. HOTTEL-COX: Commissioner Stidham?                  7 COMMISSIONER STIDHAM: Yes.                  8 MS. HOTTEL-COX: Commissioner Argo?                  9 COMMISSIONER ARGO: Yes.                  10 MS. HOTTEL-COX: Vice Chairman Levenbach?                  11 VICE CHAIR LEVENBACH: Yes.                  12 MS. HOTTEL-COX: Chairman Scharf?                  13 CHAIR SCHARF: Yes.                  14 MS. HOTTEL-COX: Commissioner Blair?                  15 COMMISSIONER BLAIR: Yes.                  16 MS. HOTTEL-COX: Administrator Forst?                  17 COMMISSIONER FORST: Yes.                  18 MS. HOTTEL-COX: Commissioner Dixon?                  19 COMMISSIONER DIXON: Yes.                  20 MS. HOTTEL-COX: Commissioner Cash?                  21 COMMISSIONER CASH: Yes.                  22 MS. HOTTEL-COX: Commissioner Henderson?</p>	90	<p>1 COMMISSIONER HENDERSON: Yes.                  2 MS. HOTTEL-COX: Commissioner McGowan?                  3 COMMISSIONER MCGOWAN: Yes.                  4 MS. HOTTEL-COX: Thank you. The motion                  5 carries unanimously.                  6 CHAIR SCHARF: Thank you very much, Madam                  7 Secretary. We're now moving on to Agenda Item 7A,                  8 which is an informational presentation on the East                  9 Wing Modernization Project.                  10 Quick logistical item. My impression was                  11 that Commissioner Cash was going to be leaving us                  12 and that Commissioner Mendelson was going to be                  13 taking his place virtually. Is he with us online                  14 right now?                  15 MS. HOTTEL-COX: Yes.                  16 COMMISSIONER MENDELSON: Yes, I am.                  17 CHAIR SCHARF: Okay, perfect. Thank you,                  18 sir. With that, do you want to proceed?                  19 INFORMATION PRESENTATION                  20 EAST WING MODERNIZATION PROJECT                  21 MR. FLIS: Hello. Thank you. Good                  22 afternoon, members of the Commission. As was</p>	91
<p>1 mentioned, this is an informational presentation                  2 and overview of the proposed White House East Wing                  3 Modernization Project.                  4 Before I turn it over to the applicant team                  5 I'm just going to provide you a brief background.                  6 The purpose of the project is to establish a                  7 permanent secure event space within the White House                  8 grounds that provides increased capacity for                  9 official state functions.                  10 I think everybody is familiar with the                  11 location of the White House, but here on the screen                  12 is a map view showing President's Park and the                  13 surrounding context. The National Mall is located                  14 here at the bottom of the screen. Pennsylvania                  15 Avenue is located to the north of the White House.                  16 And E Street is located to the south, just north                  17 of the Ellipse. The project is proposed to be                  18 located between the Executive Mansion and the                  19 Treasury Building.                  20 In addition to the Executive Residence,                  21 the vicinity of President's Park obviously also                  22 includes a number of significant buildings,</p>	92	<p>1 including the Eisenhower Executive Office Building,                  2 which is to the west, shown on the image on the left,                  3 and the main Treasury Building, which is located                  4 to the east. Mixed used development frames the                  5 entire area, as it is located within the central                  6 core of Washington, D.C.                  7 The project is located on federal land                  8 within the District of Columbia. The National                  9 Capital Planning Act requires Commission approval                  10 for all federal buildings and open space around such                  11 buildings within the District.                  12 As you know, NCPC has reviewed several                  13 other projects at the White House. Most recently,                  14 the White House fence in 2016 and 2017, and the                  15 tennis pavilion in 2019.                  16 In terms of the review of projects, NCPC                  17 uses guidance from the federal elements of the                  18 Comprehensive Plan for the National Capital,                  19 including policies related to urban design, parks,                  20 and open space, as well as visitor experience, among                  21 others. As you're aware, the Commission takes a                  22 holistic approach when applying the Comprehensive</p>	93

<p style="text-align: right;">94</p> <p>1 Plan policies in the context of each project's needs  2 and objectives.</p> <p>3 One of the primary areas of interest for  4 the review of this project is how the public will  5 see and experience the Modernization Project from  6 the surrounding public spaces. Most notably, from  7 Pennsylvania Avenue to the North, as shown here on  8 this image, or from E Street to the south, as shown  9 here. These are really the only publicly  10 accessible streets in the vicinity, as others are  11 located within a secure perimeter.</p> <p>12 The public experience extends to several  13 aspects of the proposed project, which will be  14 helpful to understand as the design advances,  15 including how the pedestrian level-views from the  16 north and the south may or may not change from  17 current conditions; how the connector or colonnade  18 between the Executive Mansion and the new East Wing  19 Modernization Project will be designed; how the  20 landscape will be designed, restored, or improved;  21 and how perimeter security and the associated  22 infrastructure might be beautified for the public</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">95</p> <p>1 and guests to the White House and grounds.  2 As the design proceeds for review, NCPC  3 staff will work with the applicant to understand  4 these components, as well as any other comments  5 raised by the Commission today.</p> <p>6 And so, with that, I am going to now turn  7 it over to Josh Fisher with the White House, who  8 will begin their presentation. Thank you.</p> <p>9 CHAIR SCHARF: Thank you.</p> <p>10 MR. FISHER: Good afternoon, Mr. Chairman  11 and Commission staff. My name is Josh Fisher. I'm  12 the Director of Management and Administration for  13 the White House. We appreciate y'all allowing us  14 the opportunity to discuss the East Wing  15 Modernization Project and the reason we believe it  16 to be so vitally important.</p> <p>17 Every day, people from across the country  18 and around the globe visit the White House and  19 surrounding grounds. They look to it as a  20 representation of the values that we, as Americans,  21 stand for. It is our responsibility to ensure that  22 the guests, those given the opportunity to come</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">96</p> <p>1 inside the fence and those viewing from Lafayette  2 Park or the Ellipse, experience the pride and the  3 powerful symbol of American democracy, leadership,  4 and history.</p> <p>5 While we are only discussing the ballroom  6 today, our efforts extend beyond the 18 acres so  7 that every school group, family trip, marriage  8 proposal, or birthday photo allow people to enjoy  9 the beautiful pride of our nation's capital and the  10 White House complex.</p> <p>11 As you all know, U.S. presidents have been  12 renovating, expanding, and modernizing the White  13 House to meet the needs of the present day, including  14 terraces built in the 1800s, the Truman Balcony in  15 1948, the original East Wing built in 1902 and  16 rebuilt in 1942, as well as numerous other projects.</p> <p>17 When President Trump decided to build a  18 grand ballroom and modernize other aspects of the  19 East Wing, we began researching. After careful  20 study and consultation with engineers, architects,  21 historians, and other experts, we determined that  22 modifying or renovating the colonnade in the</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">97</p> <p>1 existing East Wing was not feasible for many  2 reasons. We found significant deficiencies and  3 overall poor structural design and construction.  4 The colonnade was structurally unstable, the roof  5 systems had exceeded their service life, and the  6 underpinnings were not sufficient to support the  7 necessary upgrades.</p> <p>8 In the East Wing, there was chronic water  9 intrusion, accelerated deterioration, and mold  10 contamination. The electrical infrastructure was  11 obsolete, deemed undersized and noncompliant with  12 current code. Facilities were also noncompliant  13 with both ADA and Secret Service requirements.</p> <p>14 Because of this and other factors, the cost  15 analysis proved that demolition and reconstruction  16 provided the lowest total cost ownership and most  17 effective long-term strategy. As part of this  18 overall process, we also took great steps to ensure  19 that we preserved extraordinary history features,  20 including parts of the original colonnade, the  21 Kennedy Gardens, and the movie theater, amongst  22 other items.</p>

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1 In choosing to carry out the East Wing  
 2 Modernization Project, we are achieving life  
 3 safety, ADA, environmental, and federal compliance.  
 4 We are enhancing mission-critical functionality  
 5 and eliminating systematic infrastructure  
 6 failures. We are making necessary security  
 7 enhancements and delivering resilient, adaptive  
 8 infrastructure aligned with future mission needs.  
 9 Importantly, the addition of the  
 10 modernized facility also significantly reduces  
 11 negative impacts on the truly historic Executive  
 12 Mansion and South Lawn. The hosting of large  
 13 events, the size of which were not contemplated when  
 14 it was designed and reconstructed, drastically  
 15 increases the rate of deterioration on the East Room  
 16 and the State Dining Rooms, stressing the aging  
 17 structural components of that specific building.  
 18 In addition to consequential structural  
 19 and safety considerations, the East Wing  
 20 Modernization Project will significantly improve  
 21 the experience of the American people and foreign  
 22 dignitaries when they visit the White House.

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1 history will be made. It is a place that will bring  
 2 people together for diplomacy, celebration, and  
 3 unity. A beautiful, well-maintained, and  
 4 historically-designed ballroom will show respect  
 5 for these moments and emphasize the significance  
 6 of collaboration and tradition in our government.  
 7 Now I will turn it over to Shalom, the  
 8 architect on this project, to discuss the ballroom.  
 9 As you guys know, Shalom is no stranger to this  
 10 Commission. His work has been transformative  
 11 across the D.C. region. So, we're excited to see  
 12 what he can bring to the table.  
 13 MR. BARANES: So, good afternoon. And  
 14 thank you for the opportunity to appear before the  
 15 Commission. Today I'll provide a very high-level  
 16 overview of the White House East Wing project. A  
 17 more detailed and fully developed submission will  
 18 be presented in one of your subsequent hearings.  
 19 And I'd like to begin here with a brief  
 20 discussion of the evolution of the current design  
 21 approach. I joined the project team approximately  
 22 60 days ago, in early November, following the

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1 As I'm sure you're aware, historically,  
 2 when visitors come to the White House for events,  
 3 that tour begins at passing through temporary  
 4 double-wide trailers to gain entry onto complex.  
 5 State dinners or events with world leaders would  
 6 take place in a tent on the South Lawn. These tents  
 7 affected more than just the world leaders; their  
 8 use destroyed large portions of the South Lawn,  
 9 degrading its appearance for overall visitors and  
 10 creating a reoccurring expense to replace and  
 11 cultivate new grass.  
 12 Beyond the ballroom, we have plans for  
 13 beautifying visitors' experience in the area, such  
 14 as Lafayette Park, and creating a superior, more  
 15 efficient visitor security screening center. In  
 16 the coming weeks and month, both NPS and Secret  
 17 Service will be submitting their plans on those two  
 18 topics.  
 19 Inside the White Houses, spaces such as  
 20 the ballroom, are just as important as the grounds  
 21 outside. The ballroom is where leaders will  
 22 gather, important decisions will be discussed, and

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1 schematic design work that had been undertaken by  
 2 McCrery Architects.  
 3 That earlier phase, which spanned most of  
 4 2025, involved a fairly comprehensive evaluation  
 5 of programmatic needs and design alternatives,  
 6 including multiple massing configurations, and, of  
 7 course, a whole series of elevational studies.  
 8 Following the transition to my firm, we  
 9 continue to evaluate various sizes and  
 10 configurations for the project. Today, I'd like  
 11 to report that the ultimate decision in late  
 12 November was not to continue exploring options for  
 13 increasing the size of the project; instead, the  
 14 decision was made to advance one of the earlier  
 15 schemes that had been developed prior to our joining  
 16 the team.  
 17 That scheme is calibrated to respect key  
 18 contextual relationships. The addition's cornice  
 19 aligns and does not exceed with the cornice height  
 20 of the White House. And the building mass is set  
 21 back approximately ten-and-a-half feet from the  
 22 White House's primary north facade on Pennsylvania

<p style="text-align: right;">102</p> <p>1 Avenue. These measures, I think, are essential to                  2 maintaining the visual primacy of the White House.                  3       The program includes a ballroom of                  4 approximately 22,000 square feet. It's designed                  5 to accommodate approximately a thousand seated                  6 guests at a formal dinner. The total area of the                  7 two aboveground visible East Wing floors, that's                  8 two floors, including the colonnade and the ballroom                  9 structure, is just slightly over 89,000 square feet.                  10 Below the ballroom, and included in the 89,000                  11 square feet, the project incorporates a series of                  12 functions, which I'll show you on the boards shortly                  13 here.                  14       One could generously describe the current                  15 functioning of the White House support areas, such                  16 as loading, waste handling, general deliveries,                  17 food service, as being quite labyrinthian in                  18 character. And I think that's a kind description.                  19 These conditions reflect incremental adaptations                  20 over time, and they place ongoing operational stress                  21 on the historic structure.                  22       The proposed East Wing Modernization seeks</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">103</p> <p>1 to rationalize these functions in a manner that will                  2 relieve the stress by increase connectivity,                  3 operational efficiency, and by enhancing overall                  4 security. The changes will allow the White House                  5 to be experienced and to age, I think, at a much                  6 more graceful way over time.                  7       In advancing this proposal, we have aimed                  8 to land in a thoughtful middle ground by adapting,                  9 as I mentioned earlier, one of the earlier 2025                  10 designs that meets the thousand-seat requirement                  11 for the ballroom. And also, as I mentioned earlier,                  12 further consideration of enlarging the size was                  13 abandoned in late November.                  14       Our primary focus has been on refining the                  15 exterior facades through the re-proportioning of                  16 windows, masonry detailing, revisiting the exterior                  17 terraces, and further developing the interior                  18 spaces, of course.                  19       This scheme does require a two-story                  20 colonnade connecting the East Wing -- I'm sorry,                  21 connecting the East Room in the White House to the                  22 new ballroom. We believe it's appropriate to</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">104</p> <p>1 evaluate this condition within the context of the                  2 broader White House campus.                  3       The White House is, therefore, considering                  4 the idea of a modest one-story addition to the West                  5 Wing colonnade, which would serve to restore a sense                  6 of symmetry around the original central pavilion.                  7 It will be considered as part of a future overall                  8 planning framework which will be presented at a                  9 future hearing here.                  10       So, with this context, I'll now just walk                  11 you through, briefly, some of the boards that we                  12 have here. So, here, of course, you have                  13 Pennsylvania Avenue to the top here. Thank you.                  14       You have Pennsylvania Avenue here; it's                  15 at the upper part of the board. So the White House                  16 complex. And, of course, the colonnades with the                  17 (audio interference). There will be two priority                  18 access points to the ballroom. And we are talking                  19 about a large crowd here of a thousand people. One                  20 of them will be through the White House, through                  21 the colonnade, to a foyer that will serve the                  22 ballroom. And then the other one will be one level</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">105</p> <p>1 down.                  2       The grade drops as we come around this way.                  3 And there will be an entrance through a portico                  4 here into a foyer with a grand stair that will take                  5 you up one level to the ballroom, and essentially                  6 meet where the other guests will be coming from the                  7 other direction.                  8       The new structure here has a series of                  9 terraces on three sides of the building. On the                  10 south side of the colonnade we have a terrace that's                  11 about 12-feet wide with a stair that leads down to                  12 the lawn panels. And then that terrace continues                  13 around to the west side of the ballroom, along here.                  14 And, actually, that's a very important life safety                  15 egress point for the whole project.                  16       And that leads down to a stair here, which                  17 also lands at the lower level grade. Halfway down                  18 that stair you can make a left and access a terrace,                  19 which is underneath this colonnade roof. And that                  20 also has a stair leading down to the lawn.                  21       We will show you much more detailed                  22 drawings next time with viewsheds, but, for today,</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">106</p> <p>1 I'd just like to point out that there is a very dense  2 cluster of trees here, which will remain, which  3 really affects your view from the south, the public  4 view from the south looking at this, just as there  5 is a dense cluster of trees that protects the view  6 of the West Wing. And we also have the same  7 condition on the north side, where we have a dense  8 cluster of both evergreen and deciduous trees, which  9 will really frame the view of the central pavilion  10 of the White House.</p> <p>11 These are very schematic drawings of the  12 two primary levels. On your right here is the  13 ballroom level, which is the upper level. And on  14 the left is the level below the ballroom.</p> <p>15 So, well, let's start at the upper level  16 here. So if you're entering the ballroom from the  17 White House, the East Room is right here. You'll  18 come across the colonnade, adjacent to the stairs  19 here, enter this foyer area, and then make your way  20 into the ballroom, which has windows on three sides,  21 facing east, west, and south.</p> <p>22 If you're entering from the other side,</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">107</p> <p>1 as many of the guests will be entering from the other  2 side, you will come up a few stairs here through  3 a portico, and that would give you access -- you'll  4 be coming up here actually in a lower level -- that  5 will give you access to this hall here, the foyer,  6 and then up a grand stair which would land you right  7 in the same area here. And, again, giving you  8 access to the ballroom.</p> <p>9 On the lower level, the other uses that  10 we have are this large space, which is devoted to  11 food service. That's basically a commercial  12 kitchen. And it will not only service the ballroom,  13 but also service events inside the White House  14 itself.</p> <p>15 Opposite that, we have an office suite for  16 the First Lady. And then, on the lower level of  17 the colonnade itself, we are rebuilding the movie  18 theater that had been there.</p> <p>19 These are north and south elevations of  20 the White House complex. We removed all three  21 trees. No landscaping at all is shown; just wanted  22 you to see the building very clearly. And I think</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">108</p> <p>1 the most important thing here, perhaps, is what I  2 mentioned earlier, which is the alignment of the  3 cornice of the ballroom directly aligns with the  4 cornice and the balustrade of the White House. The  5 heights will match exactly.</p> <p>6 Here you see the upper level of the East  7 Colonnade. And I did mention the potential for a  8 future addition, a one-story addition, to the West  9 Wing. And that would occur right here. And you  10 can see that the reason to think about that is so  11 that we would reinstate the symmetry around the  12 central pavilion of the White House. We have not  13 looked at that at all yet, but hope to do so in the  14 future.</p> <p>15 So, here is the view from the south.  16 Again, you have the rear elevation of the White House  17 itself. We have the ballroom with the portico.  18 The terrace at the half-level. And then, of course,  19 here the West Wing, two-part with a colonnade.</p> <p>20 These are larger elevations so you can  21 start to understand the character of the building.  22 So, what we have at the top here is the east</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">109</p> <p>1 elevation of the ballroom, which is directly across  2 from the Treasury. This portico sits pretty much  3 directly across from a portico that abuts the  4 Treasury.</p> <p>5 The floor of the ballroom is at this upper  6 level, right through here. And the eight windows  7 that you see here are basically centered on the  8 ballroom. On the opposite side we have the same  9 condition, with the eight windows there centered  10 on the ballroom.</p> <p>11 This is the west elevation. And on the  12 lower level here you're seeing windows that face  13 into -- they serve the First Lady's office suite.</p> <p>14 We intend to develop all of this with a  15 combination of stone and precast. It will all be  16 painted white to match the White House. A very  17 similar finish as you see on the White House. And,  18 of course, you know, the windows and all of the  19 masonry details are things we are working on right  20 now.</p> <p>21 And then, finally, I just have one more  22 board. And this is just the north elevation, which</p>

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1 you saw a minute ago. But here we've added in the  
 2 street trees, which are shown as a darker green.  
 3 And then we've put in transparent outlines of the  
 4 larger trees, which are behind the street trees  
 5 inside the fence line. So the trees pretty much  
 6 match the height of the proposed ballroom. So  
 7 you'll start to get a sense, when I show you at your  
 8 next hearing some photographs, the extent to which  
 9 these will frame the view of the central pavilion.  
 10 So, that's all I have. And happy to open  
 11 it up to questions if you like.  
 12 CHAIR SCHARF: Thank you very much for  
 13 that presentation and for showing us this diagrams  
 14 and images. I'll open it up to the Commission now  
 15 for questions and clarifications.  
 16 COMMISSIONER MENDELSON: Mr. Chairman,  
 17 I'll have some questions. This is Commissioner  
 18 Mendelson.  
 19 CHAIR SCHARF: Please proceed,  
 20 Commissioner.  
 21 COMMISSIONER MENDELSON: Oh, thank you.  
 22 I hope you can all hear me. I do want to just first

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1 sufficient distance from the central pavilion of  
 2 the White House. And by proposing that the  
 3 colonnades be developed in a matching way on both  
 4 sides of the central pavilion of the White House,  
 5 I think we will actually be in concurrence with the  
 6 paragraph that you just cited.  
 7 COMMISSIONER MENDELSON: All right.  
 8 That probably will come up again at future  
 9 presentations.  
 10 Can the size, footprint, or location of  
 11 the ballroom, the location of the ballroom on the  
 12 site, be changed at this point?  
 13 MR. BARANES: I mean, certainly, anything  
 14 is possible. It all depends on schedule and money.  
 15 But this particular location has been studied  
 16 pretty carefully by the previous architect, as well  
 17 as myself. And it's been determined that this is  
 18 the best location in terms of getting access to it  
 19 from the East Room of the White House.  
 20 COMMISSIONER MENDELSON: But part of my  
 21 question was the size or footprint. So, has  
 22 construction work on the ballroom foundation

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1 take a moment to thank my designee, Evan Cash, who  
 2 comes to all the meetings. And I just want to thank  
 3 him publicly. And I also want to thank those who  
 4 gave the presentation.  
 5 I do have a number of questions. The first  
 6 is, how is this proposal consistent with the  
 7 Comprehensive Plan's urban design requirements,  
 8 which include, I think it's B.1.4 in the Urban Design  
 9 Element, visually reinforce the permanents of the  
 10 Capitol Building, White House, and other  
 11 nationally-significant resources by protecting the  
 12 visual frame around them; and B.5.10, visually  
 13 reinforce the special importance of the White House  
 14 and its grounds by protecting the existing spatial  
 15 relationship of the White House and the mass and  
 16 scale of adjacent buildings?  
 17 So my question pertains to how this  
 18 proposal is consistent with those comments of the  
 19 Comprehensive Plan.  
 20 MR. BARANES: Thank you for those  
 21 questions, Mr. Mendelson. We are being very, very  
 22 careful, first of all, to maintain, I think, a fairly

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1 already begun?  
 2 MR. BARANES: There's been excavation  
 3 work, there is some foundation work, but that's  
 4 really not the limiting issue in terms of whether  
 5 things can be changed or not.  
 6 COMMISSIONER MENDELSON: Okay. So, as  
 7 this gets further refined, the footprint could  
 8 conceivably be reduced a little bit, the work on  
 9 the foundation, so far as not that significant?  
 10 MR. BARANES: Well, as I said, the  
 11 footprint has been studied fairly extensively  
 12 already, and many different massing options were  
 13 studied before we even came onboard. So, at this  
 14 point, we've continued working with that, with the  
 15 product of all those studies, and we are primarily  
 16 refining the scheme.  
 17 COMMISSIONER MENDELSON: So, I appreciate  
 18 that the cornice line will not be higher than the  
 19 historic structure, but is it possible that the  
 20 height of the ballroom, which of course determines  
 21 the cornice line, that that could be reduced  
 22 somewhat? Because it still seems to me that it's

<p style="text-align: right;">114</p> <p>1 overwhelming the existing building.</p> <p>2 MR. BARANES: You know, it's interesting.</p> <p>3 I mean, it is the same height. I think you're</p> <p>4 familiar with the addition that we built to the</p> <p>5 Wilson Building that you're in?</p> <p>6 COMMISSIONER MENDELSON: Yes.</p> <p>7 MR. BARANES: So, you know, I mean, I bring</p> <p>8 it up because this size -- this question of size</p> <p>9 and relationship of an addition to an historic</p> <p>10 building comes up with almost every project I've</p> <p>11 ever worked on over the last 40 years. And we're</p> <p>12 essentially doing the same thing here we did at the</p> <p>13 Wilson Building.</p> <p>14 We're building an addition. Although at</p> <p>15 the Wilson Building it really contrasts. It's a</p> <p>16 very modern addition; it contrasts very strongly</p> <p>17 to the neoclassical building. But, even there, we</p> <p>18 matched the height. You know, we did match the</p> <p>19 height of the existing building. And I think it</p> <p>20 works quite well. And we've done that on many, many</p> <p>21 other structures.</p> <p>22 You know, we're just finishing up an</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">115</p> <p>1 addition to the Cannon Building where we increased</p> <p>2 the height by one story. That was reviewed pretty</p> <p>3 extensively. And, you know, you could look at it.</p> <p>4 I mean, I think that, too, works really well, you</p> <p>5 know, with the original historic structure, despite</p> <p>6 the additional height.</p> <p>7 COMMISSIONER MENDELSON: But my sense of</p> <p>8 it is that there are two levels here. One is, I'm</p> <p>9 going to say the lower level, and then there is the</p> <p>10 ballroom level. And I can't remember what the</p> <p>11 height. What is the height for the ballroom level?</p> <p>12 MR. BARANES: Well, if you measure it off</p> <p>13 the front driveway, where the portico is of the White</p> <p>14 House, we're approximately 51 feet above that</p> <p>15 elevation.</p> <p>16 (Simultaneous speaking.)</p> <p>17 COMMISSIONER MENDELSON: That's roughly</p> <p>18 the level of the ballroom?</p> <p>19 (Simultaneously speaking.)</p> <p>20 MR. BARANES: That's the roof of the</p> <p>21 ballroom. That's the height -- I mean, that's the</p> <p>22 height of the balustrade around our ballroom</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">116</p> <p>1 structure. I'm sorry, is that what you're asking?</p> <p>2 COMMISSIONER MENDELSON: No. I think I'm</p> <p>3 not asking it well. The ballroom is going to be</p> <p>4 like a 20-foot ceiling or 40-foot ceiling?</p> <p>5 MR. BARANES: It's about 38 to 40. Yes.</p> <p>6 COMMISSIONER MENDELSON: And could that</p> <p>7 be reduced?</p> <p>8 MR. BARANES: It's possible. Not</p> <p>9 impossible.</p> <p>10 COMMISSIONER MENDELSON: I had one other</p> <p>11 question, which I think is probably for Mr. Fisher</p> <p>12 and not you. And that is, why didn't the project</p> <p>13 come to us a whole instead of after the demolition?</p> <p>14 MR. FISHER: Thank you for that question.</p> <p>15 Yeah, we've been -- we've begun work on this</p> <p>16 project. There are two phases to this project.</p> <p>17 I think that you've alluded to it with Shalom here.</p> <p>18 There are some things regarding this project that</p> <p>19 are, frankly, of Top Secret nature that we are</p> <p>20 currently working on. That does not preclude us</p> <p>21 from changing the above-grade structure, but that</p> <p>22 work needed to be considered when doing this</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">117</p> <p>1 project, which was not part of the NCPC process.</p> <p>2 CHAIR SCHARF: And let me note just for</p> <p>3 the record, if it's okay with you, Commissioner,</p> <p>4 it's long been the view of NCPC's Counsel's Office</p> <p>5 that the National Capital Planning Act does not give</p> <p>6 us authority to review demolition or site</p> <p>7 preparation work. So, while many projects do come</p> <p>8 before us at that stage, that's not a requirement</p> <p>9 of the National Capital Planning Act, and review</p> <p>10 of demolition is not something that we have the</p> <p>11 authority to do as a Commission.</p> <p>12 COMMISSIONER MENDELSON: I appreciate</p> <p>13 that. And I've actually read that legal opinion.</p> <p>14 And I'm not arguing with it. It's just that I don't</p> <p>15 know the last time that a project has been presented</p> <p>16 before NCPC or Zoning Commission or any of the</p> <p>17 planning agencies where it wasn't presented as a</p> <p>18 whole: this is what we're going to do and we will</p> <p>19 proceed with the demolition as we move forward.</p> <p>20 As opposed to here, where the demolition occurred</p> <p>21 first.</p> <p>22 I don't have any other --</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">118</p> <p>1 CHAIR SCHARF: The Air and Space Museum 2 addition is one example of that, where they 3 proceeded with demolition of the old addition, I 4 believe, prior to presenting plans for the new 5 addition to this Commission. I think that's the 6 nearest historical analogy. I could be wrong. 7 COMMISSIONER MENDELSON: I just want to 8 conclude my -- I have a lot of respect for Shalom 9 Baranes. He's done a lot of great projects in the 10 city over the decades and I just want to acknowledge 11 that. Thank you. 12 CHAIR SCHARF: Thank you, Commissioner. 13 Do any other Commissioners have questions 14 for the presentation team? Yes, Commissioner 15 Dixon. 16 COMMISSIONER DIXON: One. The stairway, 17 that's going to be handicapped accessible also, I'm 18 assuming? You had mentioned stairways on the 19 building, but they were -- they're going to be 20 handicapped accessible, obviously? 21 MR. BARANES: The primary handicapped 22 access into the ballroom will be through the front</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">119</p> <p>1 door of the White House. 2 COMMISSIONER DIXON: Oh. So the other 3 entrances will not accommodate -- 4 MR. BARANES: The other stairways are 5 there for egress purposes, for fire code purposes. 6 And they are stairways, so a wheelchair would have 7 to really go in the other direction. 8 COMMISSIONER DIXON: But I think that may 9 be a concern, I would think. I mean, we want 10 handicapped people to be able to egress, too. 11 MR. BARANES: Oh, absolutely. No, no, 12 believe me, we are looking very closely at all of 13 the codes. 14 COMMISSIONER DIXON: Secondly, there was 15 -- there hasn't been any discussion of the new 16 security process that we used to go through, that 17 we have gone through, with the labyrinth of 18 different corridors to get cleared to get into the 19 White House. How is that going to be addressed in 20 this process? 21 MR. BARANES: I'm sure they'd let you in 22 at any time, but --</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">120</p> <p>1 COMMISSIONER DIXON: No, I doubt that. 2 (Laughter.) 3 COMMISSIONER DIXON: I haven't been back 4 for a while. 5 MR. FISHER: Thank you for the question, 6 sir. We are currently looking at a new visitors 7 entry facility that would be part of this project. 8 Again, as we look at this, it's not just the East 9 Wing Modernization, it's not the ballroom; we are 10 looking at a totality experience for the White House 11 complex. 12 As I mentioned earlier, historically, when 13 you come to the White House you go through 14 double-wide trailers, tents, out in the cold. We 15 don't think that that's befitting of what the White 16 House should be or could be, quite frankly. So 17 those plans are under review. We're trying to put 18 them together, make sure that we've got our i's 19 dotted and our t's crossed before we bring before 20 this Commission so that you guys can hopefully see 21 and enjoy what we've produced. 22 COMMISSIONER DIXON: Yeah, I think that</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">121</p> <p>1 it's a sensitive area to even put it -- make it 2 public, how this process may work. But one of the 3 detractions from the historical structures was the 4 complicated clearance process and the hodgepodge, 5 if you will. So I'm assuming you will present to 6 us how that will be handled in the future -- 7 MR. FISHER: Yes, sir. 8 COMMISSIONER DIXON: -- so we can look at 9 that? Good. And I do hope we do something with 10 the handicapped issue. Thank you. 11 CHAIR SCHARF: Thank you. Do any other 12 Commissioners have questions for the project team? 13 Yes, Commissioner -- 14 COMMISSIONER HENDERSON: Clarification 15 from something that was presented. There was talk 16 of adding, potentially, an additional level on the 17 West Wing side of the building. Is that to the West 18 Wing structure itself or just to the walkway or what 19 -- 20 MR. BARANES: It would be just to the 21 colonnade. 22 COMMISSIONER HENDERSON: Okay.</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">122</p> <p>1 CHAIR SCHARF: Any other questions before</p> <p>2 we proceed to deliberations?</p> <p>3 Hearing none, I'd like to thank, as always,</p> <p>4 our Staff and the presentation team here. Vice</p> <p>5 Chairman Levenbach, would you like to kick things</p> <p>6 off?</p> <p>7 VICE CHAIR LEVENBACH: I think what</p> <p>8 strikes me about is this, you know, some people here,</p> <p>9 some of the Commissioners, have participated in</p> <p>10 White House events more than I have, but I'm struck</p> <p>11 at how much this expands the utility of the compound.</p> <p>12 I mean, I think about the Hanukkah party</p> <p>13 I just went to you. You start the north end of</p> <p>14 Lafayette Park and you walk through one set of</p> <p>15 trailers and you walk through another set of</p> <p>16 trailers, and there's a coat check. And then when</p> <p>17 you get inside it's pretty crowded and there aren't</p> <p>18 that many people there. And this is going to just</p> <p>19 open up access to people at a much higher level.</p> <p>20 I think that it's going to be enjoyed for</p> <p>21 generations to come, so I'm really excited to see</p> <p>22 how this project develops.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">123</p> <p>1 CHAIR SCHARF: Thank you, Vice Chairman</p> <p>2 Levenbach. Commissioner Blair?</p> <p>3 COMMISSIONER BLAIR: I would just say I</p> <p>4 think that, you know, it looks like it's going to</p> <p>5 be very beautiful, but the utility, I think, for</p> <p>6 those of us that spend a lot of time there, is fairly</p> <p>7 obviously. Winston Churchill said to the House of</p> <p>8 Commons, when they were going to rebuild it, that</p> <p>9 we shape our buildings and they shape us thereafter.</p> <p>10 The White House is a special place, but</p> <p>11 people come there to gather and to work. I would</p> <p>12 tell you that we've seen times where simply doing</p> <p>13 something like getting the Congress together to have</p> <p>14 a meal and break bread is not something that the</p> <p>15 current structure of the White House really</p> <p>16 accommodates in any way with the President of the</p> <p>17 United States. That's a problem.</p> <p>18 When foreign dignitaries visit, you know,</p> <p>19 the President of the United States, of any party,</p> <p>20 is invited all over the world and goes and gets to</p> <p>21 see the best of whatever the country has to offer.</p> <p>22 And I think the President's view would be that he</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">124</p> <p>1 would -- he thinks the American people deserve that</p> <p>2 same opportunity to have grand gatherings for</p> <p>3 visitors to our country and show them what American</p> <p>4 has to offer.</p> <p>5 So I think it has a obvious utility. I</p> <p>6 think it's very considered in its design. And I</p> <p>7 look forward to seeing the progress of the project,</p> <p>8 and appreciate your presentation and look forward</p> <p>9 to working with you.</p> <p>10 CHAIR SCHARF: Thank you, Commissioner.</p> <p>11 Administrator Forst?</p> <p>12 COMMISSIONER FORST: Thanks so much,</p> <p>13 Chairman. James read from my notes, so I --</p> <p>14 (Laughter.)</p> <p>15 COMMISSIONER FORST: Thanks.</p> <p>16 CHAIR SCHARF: Thank you, Administrator</p> <p>17 Forst. Commissioner Dixon?</p> <p>18 COMMISSIONER DIXON: I appreciate the</p> <p>19 presentation and look forward, as this moves</p> <p>20 forward, to more deliberation. Thank you, Mr.</p> <p>21 Chairman.</p> <p>22 CHAIR SCHARF: Thank you, Commissioner.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">125</p> <p>1 Commissioner Mendelson?</p> <p>2 COMMISSIONER MENDELSON: Yes. Sorry, I</p> <p>3 was muted. Let me say that I think that elevation</p> <p>4 we saw from Pennsylvania Avenue was not as</p> <p>5 disturbing to me as the elevation from the Ellipse.</p> <p>6 And as I said in my questions, I'm concerned about</p> <p>7 this addition overwhelming the original historic</p> <p>8 building.</p> <p>9 I appreciate that the architect, Shalom</p> <p>10 Baranes, has really good taste with regard to</p> <p>11 dealing with historic structures, but I do think</p> <p>12 that -- it sounds to me like the height could be</p> <p>13 lowered without jeopardizing the footprint. I</p> <p>14 don't think that the footprint -- that is, 89,000</p> <p>15 square feet -- should be the goal in and of itself.</p> <p>16 So maybe it can be and needs to be shrunk a little</p> <p>17 bit more. Again, looking at the elevations from</p> <p>18 the south, it's just so -- it's just so imbalanced.</p> <p>19 The other observation I have is that it</p> <p>20 is disturbing to me that we are looking at an</p> <p>21 addition to this historic structure, but we're</p> <p>22 looking at what appears to be an overall plan in</p>

<p>1 a very segmented approach. So is there going to 2 be some changes with the visitor center? Is there 3 going to be some changes with Lafayette Park? Is 4 there going to be some changes with the West Wing? 5 But rather than looking at this as a whole, we're 6 going to be looking at it piecemeal, and that's 7 concerning as well.</p> <p>8 CHAIR SCHARF: Thank you, Commissioner. 9 Commissioner Henderson?</p> <p>10 COMMISSIONER HENDERSON: I would just 11 suggest, to those of us who don't work in that 12 complex every day, that it would be probably be 13 worthwhile and beneficial to our consideration to 14 take some opportunities to go and see the site, see 15 the facilities as they are, between now and future 16 considerations.</p> <p>17 CHAIR SCHARF: Thank you, Commissioner. 18 Commissioner McGowan?</p> <p>19 COMMISSIONER MCGOWAN: I don't have any 20 additional comments or questions, but thank you all 21 so much for the presentation. It was very 22 informative.</p>	<p>126</p> <p>1 CHAIR SCHARF: Thank you, Commissioner. 2 Commissioner Cozart?</p> <p>3 COMMISSIONER COZART: Yes. Thanks to the 4 staff for their work on this and for the 5 presentation. And I look forward to when it comes 6 before the Commission again.</p> <p>7 CHAIR SCHARF: Thank you, Commissioner. 8 Commissioner Schaefer?</p> <p>9 COMMISSIONER SCHAEFER: So, again, my 10 thank you as well. This is -- it's exciting. It's 11 a great job overall with the architectural features. 12 And looking forward to see how this progresses, 13 since I echo the same comments as has come before 14 me, as well, because I think this is a great 15 opportunity for us to continue to expand upon the 16 importance of our entire nation. So, thank you.</p> <p>17 CHAIR SCHARF: Thank you, Commissioner. 18 Commissioner Stidham?</p> <p>19 COMMISSIONER STIDHAM: Thank you. And 20 thank you for the overview. It is really helpful 21 to get a sense of the project. 22 And I should lead with that Secretary</p> <p>127</p>
<p>128</p> <p>1 Burgum, who I sit as a delegated position here, and 2 the Department of the Interior, supports the East 3 Wing Modernization without reservation. We 4 appreciate the designs that were shown here today 5 and we look forward to seeing more detail, 6 especially when it comes to the landscaping and 7 understanding how the temporary facilities will be 8 -- how the uses that currently happen in this 9 temporary facilities are taking shape in the new 10 facility, to really understand how that replacement 11 is taking place.</p> <p>12 As well as understanding clearly, you 13 know, it's important in those views, you know, 14 anyone who is coming to visit who does not have the 15 opportunity to be inside the fence to be able to 16 understand and to view the White House. And so 17 understanding those views will be really helpful 18 when you come back, as well as the design choices 19 you make and the materiality. So we look forward 20 to much more detail and appreciate the overview.</p> <p>21 CHAIR SCHARF: Thank you, Commissioner. 22 Commissioner Argo?</p>	<p>129</p> <p>1 COMMISSIONER ARGO: Yeah. I want to 2 associate myself with my next door neighbor's 3 comments. And seeing, you know, how seeing how this 4 progresses. I have some concern about size and 5 scale in a number of ways, but we can talk more about 6 that, as I said, as the design and the work on this 7 progresses. Thank you.</p> <p>8 CHAIR SCHARF: Thank you, Commissioner. 9 Speaking for myself, just a few things that 10 I'd say. First of all, Commissioners, if you want 11 to come over to lunch, you're welcome anytime. I'm 12 happy to show you around.</p> <p>13 More seriously, though, I think every 14 project that comes before this Commission is 15 ultimately determined, in large part -- or is 16 shaped, in large part, by its function. And I think 17 it's worth emphasizing a point that Commissioner 18 Blair made, which is the vital nature of the function 19 that I believe this project is intended to advance.</p> <p>20 It's been a distinct honor for me to get 21 to, frankly, travel around the world with the 22 President and visit foreign countries and be hosted</p>

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1 by the leaders of foreign countries. And I think  
 2 it's notable that when the President of the United  
 3 States of American flies to the United Kingdom he's  
 4 hosted at Windsor Castle. And when, next year, the  
 5 King of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and North  
 6 Ireland comes to the United States, more likely than  
 7 not, he will be hosted in a tent on the South Lawn  
 8 with porta-potties.

9 That, to me, is not a good look for the  
 10 United States of America. And I think that, when  
 11 you think about the long history of planning for  
 12 a state ballroom on White House grounds, if you think  
 13 about the number of times this project has been  
 14 suggested historically, it speaks to that  
 15 programmatic need. This isn't a new idea.

16 I've been interested to see that even in  
 17 the press reports that have been -- or the press  
 18 articles that have been very, I'd say, agitated  
 19 about the way that this project has progressed,  
 20 there has been a recognition by previous occupants  
 21 of the White House from both parties, people who  
 22 have worked in the White House from both parties,

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1 very stark and I don't think really represents how  
 2 the public would experience this building.

3 I think it's important that this is framed  
 4 between the White House and the Treasury Building,  
 5 which is a building of significant massing. And  
 6 I'd be interested to see an elevation that extends,  
 7 essentially, further to the left, or further to the  
 8 east, to encompass sort of the full viewing  
 9 experience from Pennsylvania Avenue.

10 And, as many Commissioners have said, I  
 11 just look forward to seeing more details in the weeks  
 12 and months ahead. And I'd like to thank, as always,  
 13 our staff for the collaboration, the work they're  
 14 already put in on this issue. I think they can be  
 15 a real resource to the project team, particularly  
 16 as you start thinking about the visitor experience,  
 17 visitor entrance, other aspects of the broader  
 18 modernization of the White House complex. In  
 19 particular, how the public interacts with it.

20 But, again, just speaking personally, I'm  
 21 really excited to see how this project develops.  
 22 And I'm excited to, hopefully, see more detailed

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1 that there is a real programmatic need for a building  
 2 like this.

3 So I think what we're really talking about,  
 4 then, is a lot of the issues that Shalom in  
 5 particular was addressing in his presentation,  
 6 which is, given the programmatic need, given this  
 7 size that that programmatic need necessarily  
 8 requires for this project, how do we ensure that  
 9 this project accords with what we, as a Commission,  
 10 care about? How do we ensure that the viewsheds,  
 11 the way that the public will experience this  
 12 building, won't detract from the way that the public  
 13 experiences what I believe is one of the, really,  
 14 two or three most important buildings in Washington,  
 15 D.C., and in the region that we have jurisdiction  
 16 over, which is the White House.

17 I'd be interested to see more detailed  
 18 elevations, particular from the south, in light of  
 19 Commissioner Mendelson's comments, what this would  
 20 look like with the tree line, because I think that  
 21 the elevation that we see there, just based on my  
 22 knowledge of that the property looks like, that's

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1 planning materials in the weeks and months ahead.  
 2 So, thank you.

3 Are there any other Commissioners that  
 4 have questions or comments before we adjourn for  
 5 the day?

6 (No response.)

7 CHAIR SCHARF: In that case, unless there  
 8 is anything else for us to address today, if there  
 9 is no other business, that concludes the open  
 10 session agenda for this meeting of the National  
 11 Capital Planning Commission. Our next regular  
 12 Commission meeting will be on Thursday, February  
 13 5th, at 1:00 p.m.

14 I believe the Commissioners are now going  
 15 to exit the chambers. If you can please hold your  
 16 seats while they do so, that would be a great help.  
 17 And thank you all for being here today.

18 (Whereupon, the above-entitled matter  
 19 went off the record at 3:10 p.m.)

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