

The Committee of 100

on the Federal City



Comments on behalf of the Committee of 100 on the Federal City Before the National Capital Planning Commission

Thursday, December 5, 2019

1 p.m.

Federal Reserve Board Building Project – File Number 8113

Good afternoon Commissioners. My name is Richard Busch and I am here representing the Committee of 100 (C100) on the Federal City.

The C100 supports Option B, the preferred choice of the architect and the Federal Reserve Board (FRB). We also support the scoping comments developed by Ms. Diane Sullivan of the Commission's Urban Design and Plan Review Division and those provided by the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and the DC Preservation League.

We believe that it is not too early to begin taking steps that will support preferred Option B and recommend the following for Commissioners and staff consideration:

- Create a campus site plan that not only show existing FRB properties and their proposed additions, but also identifies historic resources within the campus;
- On the same site plan or an overlay, identify how the programmatic figure of 1,750 overall needed work spaces will be divided among the three FRB buildings when all work is completed;
- Again, on the same plan or another overlay, identify adjacent historic resources as an aid to future planning;
- Ensure that proposed north/south construction on the existing Eccles Building will not be visible from Constitution Avenue, NW, an issue raised by the SHPO;
- Do everything possible to retain natural light sources that are now exist via the east and west courtyards of the Eccles Building;
- Include among mitigation efforts a National Historic Landmark nomination for the Eccles Building; and
- We were pleased to see inclusion of Transportation Systems on the second page of Ms. Sullivan's scoping comments. If indeed a work force of 1,750 individuals ultimately populates this campus, it's not too early to begin consideration of how vehicular parking will be divided among the three buildings and what traffic patterns will best serve their entrance and exit.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment.

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