The Committee of 100 on the Federal City



Founded 1923

June 4, 2015

Chair

Ms. Nancy Witherell, Regional Historic Preservation Officer

Nancy J. MacWood

Office of Planning and Design Quality

Vice-Chair

Public Buildings Service

Monte Edwards

U.S. General Services Administration 301 Seventh Street, SW, Room 4004

Secretary

Treasurer

Washington, DC 20407

Meg Maguire

SUBJECT:

National Register Nomination for Potomac Annex and Navy Hill Sites,

Potomac Hill Campus

Carol F. Aten

Trustees

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Dear Ms. Witherell:

As a Consulting Party to the ongoing Section 106 Review of the Potomac Hill Campus Master Plan, the Committee of 100 on the Federal City supports the single comprehensive nomination for the site. The area covered is the Potomac Annex, which includes Buildings 6 and 7 on the U.S Institute of Peace site (transferred administratively to the USIP in 2012), and Navy Hill. We commend the author(s) in this endeavor and for the thoroughness in their use of previous drafts.

The nomination implies that today, despite the growth of the City of Washington during the period of significance (1844-1961) and beyond, the physical prominence of the site can still be interpreted by such features as the grade of the access road from 23rd Street, NW, on the northeast corner; by the height of the retaining wall built during the early 1960s as part of the E Street Expressway; and by the height of a retaining wall along 23 Street, NW, leading south in the direction of Constitution Avenue, NW. While few of the vistas to and from the site remain, the Committee of 100 encourages retention of those that do.

Very truly yours,

Nancy MacWood, Chair