

## Armed Forces Retirement Home Office of the Chief Operating Officer 3700 N. Capitol Street, P.O. Box 1303 Washington, DC 20011-8400

## Final Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact Consolidation and Modernization of Residential and Medical Facilities

## Armed Forces Retirement Home – Washington

## Dear Interested Party:

The Armed Forces Retirement Home (AFRH), in cooperation with the U.S. General Services Administration and the National Capital Planning Commission, has finalized the Environmental Assessment (EA) for consolidation and modernization of residential and medical facilities at the ARFH-Washington campus located at 3700 North Capitol Street in Washington, DC. AFRH has determined that a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) is appropriate for this project.

The Final EA and FONSI were prepared in accordance with Section 102 of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). NEPA requires a Federal agency to provide the public with an opportunity to participate in the process of analyzing the impacts of federal actions on the human environment.

The purpose of this letter is to notify stakeholders that the public review period for the Final EA and FONSI will conclude 30 days from the date stamped on this letter. Your participation in this process is greatly appreciated. Previous opportunities to comment on the proposed action were provided to the public during a 30-day scoping period in November/December 2009. The Final EA responds to the comments received during the scoping period.

The proposed action analyzed in the Final EA includes controlled demolition of the existing Scott Building and construction and operation of a new smaller building within the original Scott Building footprint. The demolition of the Scott Building would also necessitate the relocation of information technology and chiller equipment and the construction of a new cooling tower. The purpose of this project is to modernize and consolidate AFRH-W residential and health functions in the central core of the campus. The project is needed to provide a facility that meets the changing needs of the AFRH-W's current and future residents, and increase operational and programmatic efficiencies.

Three alternatives are considered in the Final EA, two action alternatives and a no action alternative. The two action alternatives differ in terms of the design concept for the proposed new Scott Building. The impacts of the alternatives on the human environment are analyzed in the Final EA.

While both action alternatives meet the purpose and need of the proposed project, AFRH has selected Alternative A as the preferred alternative because it provides the greatest overall improvement to residents and facility operations.

A copy of the Final EA is available for public review on the internet at <a href="http://www.afrh.gov">http://www.afrh.gov</a> as well as at the following locations:

Armed Forces Retirement Home-Washington 3700 North Capitol Street, NW Washington, DC 20011

National Capital Planning Commission 401 9th Street, NW, North Lobby, Suite 500 Washington, DC 20004 Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Library 901 G Street, NW Washington, DC 20001

Petworth Neighborhood Library 4200 Kansas Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20011

AFRH welcomes comments on the Final EA and FONSI. Written comments should be submitted to the NEPA consultant:

Mr. Christopher J. Burkhardt Froehling & Robertson, Inc. Environmental Department Manager 310 Hubert Street Raleigh, NC 27603 | USA

Email: cburkhardt@fandr.com

Should you have any questions, please contact Mr. Burkhardt at 919-828-3441.

Sincerely,

Mr. Timothy Cox

**Chief Operating Officer** 

Smooth CC4

Armed Forces Retirement Home