

REHABILITATION OF THE MAIN AND O STREET PUMPING STATIONS
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA WATER AND SEWER AUTHORITY
1331 2nd Street, SE
Washington, D.C.

Delegated Action of the Executive Director

February 25, 2005

Pursuant to delegations of authority adopted by the Commission on October 3, 1996, I approve the preliminary and final site and building plans for the rehabilitation of the Main and O Street Pumping Stations for the District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority (WASA) located at 1331 2nd Street, SE, Washington, D.C. as shown on NCPC Map File No. 41.11(38.00)41549.

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The District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority (WASA) has submitted preliminary and final site and building plans for the rehabilitation of the Main Pumping Station and the O Street Pumping Station located at 1331 2nd Street, SE in Washington, DC. The WASA site is bounded to the west by 1st Street, SE and Canal Street, SE, to the north by N Place, SE and Tingey Street, SE, to the east by 2nd Street, SE and to the south by the Anacostia River. The Southeast Federal Center is located immediately to the east and north of the site. The WASA pumping stations will undergo interior and exterior rehabilitation. The renovations will update ventilation and ADA requirements in order to meet current building codes and standards.

The proposed project includes:

- The addition of a stair and an ADA-compliant ramp on the south side of the O Street Pumping Station. The existing parking area, adjacent to the ramp, will be re-stripped to include one handicap parking space.
- Four on grade mechanical units will be installed on a concrete pad adjacent to the northeast corner of the O Street Pumping Station.
- Two mechanical air intakes will be installed adjacent to the northwest corner of the Main Pumping Station. The top of the air intake curbs will be placed above the 100 year flood plain level (approximately 18 inches above the existing grade).

- The Main Pumping Station exterior masonry will be repointed and damaged exterior windows, doors and building cornice will either be repaired or replaced in-kind. Exterior windows located in occupied spaces will be reglazed to increase energy efficiency.
- A portion of the existing seawall will be repaired and/or replaced in-kind.

The proposal was coordinated by all participating agencies at the February 9, 2005 Coordinating Committee meeting, except the District of Columbia Office of Planning. The representative for DCOP withheld coordination because the project is required to undergo a special exception review by the Zoning Commission as it falls within the Capital Gateway Overlay area. Such review has not yet occurred, but staff has concluded that this does not affect the federal interest.

Commission of Fine Arts staff have reviewed the project and have determined that it will not be required to be submitted for approval by their commission.

Staff has determined that the project would not be inconsistent with the Comprehensive Plan for the National Capital, nor would it have an adverse impact on any federal interests. Staff recommends that views of the O Street Pumping Station mechanical equipment area be screened with landscape from the future Anacostia Waterfront Initiative (AWI) river walk.

Staff notes that since the Commission has an advisory role, Section 106 does not apply. The architecturally prominent Main Pumping Station has not been listed in the National Register of Historic Places or listed as a DC Landmark. Staff has reviewed the proposed window, door and cornice repair and replacement plans and finds them consistent with the recommended treatment for historic building fabric.

As the proposal is an activity outside of the Central Area, which has been concurrently defined by the Commission and Council to include the Shaw School and Downtown Urban Renewal Areas, the action is not subject to final federal approval as defined under Commission environmental procedures. The District of Columbia has reviewed the action and determined that it qualifies as an exempted action in accordance with the implementing rules of the District of Columbia Environmental Policy Act of 1989. Staff reviewed the project plans for extraordinary circumstances, as sanctioned by federal environmental review, but finds no significant issues that would alter the determination of exemption.

Patricia E. Gallagher, AICP
Executive Director