

The [Mayor's Agent hearing on McMillan Park](#) is scheduled for 9:30 AM on Monday, October 6, 2014, at 1100 4th Street SW (Waterfront Metro Station), Room 4302. Comments must be restricted to arguments for or against issuing a demolition permit for the park's underground caverns, arguing that the proposed development project lacks sufficient "special merit" to support granting the demolition permit, and why the historic designation and features of the site support such an argument. Those testifying do NOT need to bring along multiple copies of testimony. Written testimony can be submitted for this case (called HPA # 14-393) by email to Mr. Timothy Dennee at timothy.dennee@dc.gov. See the end of this document for some quotes from the applicant's submission to the Mayor's Agent for useful details for your testimony, and contact Kirby Vining at 202-213-2690 or restoremcmillan@gmail.com for further information.

Quotes from the Applicant's Submission to the Mayor's Agent

"The special merit features of the project consist of three new world-class healthcare facilities; two mixed-use, multi-family residential buildings with approximately 500 residential units; 80,000 square feet of much-needed, neighborhood-focused retail uses, anchored by a full-service grocery store; approximately 146 individual row dwellings; a 17,500 square foot community center; and approximately ten acres of open space, parks, and historic preservation, including 6.2 acres of contiguous green space at the southern end of the site."

"Another critical component to the special merit of the Applicant's proposal is the significant job creation and economic development impacts the project will have on the surrounding neighborhoods and the District as a whole. An estimated 3,000 construction jobs will be generated by the project's combined development activity and, when fully built out, an additional 3,200 permanent jobs will be generated, the majority of which will be in the high-impact and highly sought after healthcare industry."

"As described in more detail herein ((Exhibit B)), the demolition is necessary to support the proposed redevelopment of the McMillan Site since the underground cells are not structurally sound and cannot support any significant above-ground development."

"Under D.C. Official Code 6-1104(e) and 6-1106(e), the Mayor's Agent may authorize the issuance of permits to demolish or partially demolish an historic resource and to approve a subdivision if the issuance of such permits is found to be necessary in the public interest. D.C. Official Code 6-1101(b) specifies that "[w]ith respect to historic landmark", its purpose is (A) to retain and enhance historic landmarks in the District of Columbia and to encourage their adaptation for current use; and (B) to encourage the restoration of historic landmarks. D.C. Official Code 6-1101(b)(2). In this case, the partial demolition will ensure the creation of an extraordinary, high-

quality mixed-use development that adaptively reuses one of the District's most treasured historic engineering resources.”

“The Act defines “necessary in the public interest” to mean either (i) consistent with the purposes of the preservation law, or (ii) “necessary to allow the construction of a project of special merit.” D.C. Official Code 6-1102(10). A project of special merit is further defined as “a plan or building having significant benefits to the District of Columbia or to the community by virtue of exemplary architecture, specific features of land planning, or social or other benefits having a high priority for community services.” D.C. Code Ann. 6-1102(11). “

“As described below, these ((underground cell)) structures cannot be adaptively reused or reinforced to support the development objectives established by the city for the McMillan Site. “

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