

Summary of Comments and Questions

1. **Rebecca Miller, DC Preservation League (DCPL):** Asked for projected income that can be attributed to the new openings in the floor of the Main Hall.
2. **John Sandor, DCPL:** Took exception to the use of the term “temporary” when describing the LMUs, information kiosk, and signage over the openings. Suggested the term “movable.”
3. **Louise Brodnitz, Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP):**
 - a. Concern over the RETAIL sign over the escalator openings. Will there be other wayfinding materials?
 - b. Will all the little kiosks flanking the perimeter of the Main Hall stay?
 - c. Will there be only the two LMUs (Luxury Merchandizing Units), as shown in the drawings, or will there be more?
 - d. Will there be some form of guidelines to control the amount of clutter and task lighting on the proposed information desk?
 - e. Expressed concern that the rectilinear design motifs generally employed clash with the architectural lines of the station.
4. **Robert White, Rep. E.H. Norton:** Concern that the modern train directory board clashes with the character of the station’s architecture.
5. **Gary Scott, National Park Service (NPS):** Why are LMUs needed since there is a proposed opening into the Lower Level?
6. **Andrew Lewis, DC State Historic Preservation Office (DC SHPO):** The issue of a horizontal versus a vertical sign is not yet resolved. It is scheduled to be resolved as part of this consultation process.
7. **Thomas Luebke, U.S. Commission on Fine Arts (CFA):**
 - a. Appreciates elimination of the center café and the related allowance of the public to appreciate the monumentality of the space. However, need to keep the E-W axis as open as possible, and not clutter it.
 - b. The floor penetrations are in the correct locations, but they appear too wide, and question the need to have radii on the ends (they look dated and out-of-touch with the building’s character).
 - c. Concern about the signs over top of the escalator openings – are they necessary? They seem intrusive. Can pylons or gates be substituted in place?
 - d. Noted that a horizontally-oriented train directory board will look better than a vertically-oriented train directory board.

8. **Nancy Metzger, Capitol Hill Restoration Society (CHRS):**
 - a. Are Portals 2 and 4 filled too tight with counters and back-of-house spaces?
 - b. Are two sets of escalators really necessary? Are they needed?
9. **Gary Scott, NPS:** How do people with disabilities gain access to the lower level?
10. **Steve Strauss, DC Department of Transportation (DDOT):**
 - a. Endorsed the quantity of elevators shown on the drawings.
 - b. Do the escalators need overhead signs? Is there a better wayfinding technique than that?
 - c. Noted that in 20 years, Amtrak's presence at the ticket counter may be considerably decreased, given the upsurge of electronic activity.
11. **Nell Ziehl, National Trust for Historic Preservation (NTHP):**
 - a. Appreciated Amtrak's circulation flow sketch. How does the proposed layout relate to this flow?
 - b. Is it possible to get a head count of people coming and going through the various openings into the station?
12. **John Sandor, DCPL:** Asked if a study has been conducted that shows where people go throughout the station, and why the proposed location for the vertical circulation relates to the Main Hall rather than train users?
13. **Gary Scott, NPS:** Noted that even in the 1970s when the National Visitor Center was installed in the Main Hall, people only asked guides how to get to the trains.
14. **Rebecca Miller, DCPL:** Questioned why the wayfinding investigation is considered mitigation. Wouldn't that be something the design team would do anyway? What makes it mitigation?
15. **Louise Brodnitz, ACHP:** If the wayfaring is considered mitigation, will it be subject to consultation and review by the consulting parties?
16. **Andrew Lewis, DCSHPO:** Need to remember to keep avoidance and minimization ahead of mitigation. Do not jump straight to mitigation.
17. **Shauna Holmes, CHRS:** Will comments on minimization and mitigation be accepted?
18. **Bill Wright, Committee of 100:** We need to alert the public to the project status.
19. **Louise Brodnitz, ACHP:** Are the public meetings hereby concluded?
20. **Nell Ziehl, NTHP:** Can information about the project be posted somewhere in the station so commuters and people passing through will have a chance to look at it?
21. **Gary Scott, NPS:** Will there be a press release to notify the public about the project and bring them up-to-date?