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November 30, 2006

Vikki Keys, Superintendent
National Mall & Memorial Parks
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
1100 Ohio Drive S.W.
Washington, DC 20242

Re: National Mall Planning Process

Dear Superintendent Keys:

I am writing as a member of the public, and in connection with my affiliation with the National Coalition to Save Our Mall, to inquire regarding the National Park Service's recently announced activity that your agency has characterized as a "planning" process for the National Mall.

Is the National Park Service (NPS) conducting this process pursuant to the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)?

If not, what administrative process will the National Park Service follow?

If NEPA applies, I have been unable to locate any public notice, such as a *Federal Register* notice, that routinely marks the inception of a NEPA-based planning process. Is such notice forthcoming?

If NEPA applies, does the NPS consider the November 15th public meeting on the "plan" to constitute some or all of the "scoping" required under NEPA? If not, what was it?

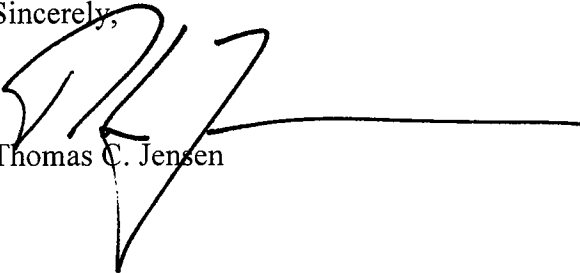
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If NEPA applies, has the NPS invited, or does the NPS intend to invite any other federal, state, District of Columbia, regional or other government entities to participate in the effort as "cooperating agencies" as that concept is reflected in NEPA, regulations and guidance documents from the President's Council on Environmental Quality, and Interior Department policies?

If NEPA applies, how does this planning process relate to the several other NEPA-based planning efforts currently underway for particular topical or geographic segments of the Mall, such as the transportation plan?

Recognizing your many other commitments, I would nevertheless be grateful for your timely reply to this letter. I would be happy to meet with you or any of your colleagues to discuss these issues. Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,



Thomas C. Jensen

CC: Hon. P. Lynn Scarlett, DOI
Dinah Bear, CEQ
Lois Schiffer, NCPC
Judy Scott Feldman, NCSOM

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