

## QUESTIONS ABOUT THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE'S COMPREHENSIVE MANAGEMENT PLAN

1. What is the scope of the NPS Comprehensive Management Plan?
2. Will NPS plan only for lands under its jurisdiction or for all the government entities with jurisdiction over parts of the Mall?
3. What is the definition of the "Mall" and the "National Mall" that comprises the area under study?

*The documentation produced by the NPS on its website and in the press materials show that:*

- NPS states that it is planning for the Mall and the National Mall but points out that its plan will not include areas under jurisdiction of other agencies (Smithsonian, Architect of the Capitol, and so on)
- NPS then defines the Mall and National Mall confusingly in a number of different ways that include only areas under its jurisdiction, thus supporting its claim that it has administrative authority over the "Mall" and the "National Mall."

### A. SOME NPS DOCUMENTS STATE THAT NPS HAS JURISDICTION OVER THE MALL:

"The National Mall and Pennsylvania Avenue National Historic Park are part of the national park system, and as such are administered by the National Park Service." [All parts of the Mall? How about the Smithsonian, Capitol, etc?]

<http://www.nps.gov/nationalmallplan/Legislation.html>

"Congress made the NPS administrator of the Mall in 1933, and, since that time, it has been the beginning and ending point for all planning, construction, and landscaping that takes place there." [Not the National Capital Planning Commission, Smithsonian, Architect of Capitol, and other agencies who plan for their own jurisdictions?]

<http://www.nps.gov/nationalmallplan/Donation%20Partners.html>

### B. OTHER NPS DOCUMENTS STATE THAT OTHER AGENCIES ALSO HAVE JURISDICTION OVER PARTS OF THE MALL

The National Park Service, the Architect of the Capitol, the National Gallery of Art, the Smithsonian Institution, and the Department of Agriculture **all have jurisdiction over lands and roads within the area that is perceived by the general public to be the National Mall (our emphasis)**. Other governmental entities with some level of responsibility within or near the National Mall include the General Services Administration, the District of Columbia, the D.C. Department of Transportation, and the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority. In addition, governmental organizations such as the Commission of Fine Arts, the National Capital Planning Commission, and the D.C. Historic Preservation Office have consultation, planning, review, and approval authority for issues related to planning, security, historic preservation, and design.

**The following adjacent areas will not be included in the National Mall plan** because plans have been previously prepared or because they are managed by entities other than the National Park Service and separate planning efforts are underway:

- The National Park Service manages the White House and President's Park, and a Comprehensive Design Plan was completed in 1999.
- The Architect of the Capitol manages adjacent federal lands associated with the U.S. Capitol (where a major new visitor center is under construction), the Library of Congress, the U.S. Supreme Court, and the Botanic Gardens. The Capitol Complex Master Plan is being updated for these areas, and the National Park Service and

the Architect of the Capitol will coordinate so their plans and visions for the future are compatible.

- The museums and facilities of the National Gallery of Art and the Smithsonian Institution, as well as the U.S. Department of Agriculture, line the eastern end of the National Mall. Property and boundaries for the National Gallery of Art and the Smithsonian Institution are defined in 40 USC 6301 (1)(2). Many of the museums have ongoing perimeter security projects, some of which are being coordinated with NPS projects.
- East Potomac Park\* has never been considered as part of the National Mall, it was not addressed in previous plans for the National Mall, and it is outside the study area boundaries . <http://www.nps.gov/nationalmallplan/Why%20Plan.html> WHY PLAN? Issues and Objectives of Planning:

## HOW MANY DEFINITIONS OF THE “MALL” VERSUS “NATIONAL MALL”?

1. The National Park Service (NPS) will be preparing a plan to provide a 50-year vision for the use and management of The National Mall...this plan will address The National Mall (West Potomac Park, The Washington Monument and the Mall) and the related Pennsylvania Avenue National Historic Park. <http://parkplanning.nps.gov/projectHome.cfm?parkId=427&projectId=17190>
2. Critical to this planning effort is the establishment of a common public understanding of the extent and identity of the National Mall. The National Park Service uses the term National Mall for the Mall (which extends from the grounds of the U.S. Capitol to the Washington Monument), the Washington Monument, and West Potomac Park, including the various memorials located within these areas. [But not the Smithsonian, Capitol, and other buildings?] . <http://www.nps.gov/nationalmallplan/Why%20Plan.html> WHY PLAN? Issues and Objectives of Planning
3. The National Mall stretches west from the U.S. Capitol to the Lincoln Memorial and the Potomac River, and north from the Jefferson Memorial to Constitution Avenue [This excludes the White House] <http://www.nps.gov/nationalmallplan/Why%20Plan.html> WHY PLAN? ISSUES AND OBJECTIVES OF PLANNING
4. Mall — The area west of the United States Capitol between Madison and Jefferson Drives from 1st to 14th streets NW/SW. [This is the grass area only between the Capitol and Washington Monument and does not include the Monument, Lincoln, Jefferson, or the Smithsonian and other museums] <http://www.nps.gov/nationalmallplan/Why%20Plan.html> WHY PLAN? GLOSSARY
5. National Mall — The area comprised of the Mall, the Washington Monument, and West Potomac Park. [This includes NPS jurisdictions but not Smithsonian and other buildings and jurisdictions] <http://www.nps.gov/nationalmallplan/Why%20Plan.html> WHY PLAN? GLOSSARY
6. Today the term National Mall includes the area historically referred to as the Mall (which extends from the grounds of the U.S. Capitol to the Washington Monument), the Washington Monument, and West Potomac Park (including the Lincoln, Jefferson, Vietnam Veterans, Korean War Veterans, World War II, and Franklin Delano Roosevelt memorials)... The White House and President’s Park, a unit of the national park system, is within the Reserve (see the “Existing Conditions” section), but it is not within the National Mall. <http://www.nps.gov/nationalmallplan/History.html>