National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

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George Washington Memorial Parkway News Release

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National Park Service Seeks Comment on Environmental Assessment for the Clara Barton House Rehabilitation Project

Washington – The National Park Service is making available for public review and comment an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Clara Barton House Rehabilitation Project. The EA evaluates feasible alternatives to install a new fire suppression system, construct a climate management system, and rehabilitate a failing metal roof at the Clara Barton National Historic Site in Glen Echo, Maryland. Comments are being accepted through April 8, 2015.

The purpose of the project is to preserve the historic house and protect the museum collections on exhibit and in museum storage by installing a fire suppression system, a climate management system, and by rehabilitating a failing metal roof in a manner that is consistent with the historic significance of the house.

Action is needed because the historic structure greatly exceeds building and fire code limitations for an unprotected wooden-framed structure. The action is also needed because the existing hot water heating system is inadequate and inefficient. Lastly, the low-pitched metal roofs have experienced frequent failures from seasonal expansion and contraction due lack of expansion joints. This is causing damage to the interior ceilings and walls.

The EA also evaluates a no action alternative, which would include no rehabilitation or facility improvements. Under the no action alternative, the current management and maintenance activities would continue.

How to Comment

Members of the public and organizations are encouraged to provide comments online through the National Park Service Planning, Environment, and Public Comment website, which is used by the agency to manage official correspondence and analyze public comment in the planning process. Please visit http://parkplanning.nps.gov/GWMP to comment.

Comments may also be submitted in writing to:

Clara Barton House EA
Attn: Claire Rozdilski
National Park Service
George Washington Memorial Parkway
c/o Turkey Run Park
McLean, VA 22101

Comments must be entered into the website or postmarked by April 8, 2015 to receive consideration. Please be aware that the entire comment submitted – including personal identifying information such as address, phone number, e-mail address – may be made publicly available. Requests to withhold

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such personal identifying information from public release will be considered, but there is no guarantee that they will be withheld.

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