GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
OFFICE OF PLANNING, HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE
1100 4TH STREET SW, SUITE E650
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20024

In the Matter of:	)	
	)	
Application of the District of Columbia	)	
Water and Sewer Authority for a Raze	)	
Permit for Construction of the First Street	)	**HPA No. 13-208**
Tunnel at the McMillian Slow Sand Filtration	)	
Plant, which is the part of the McMillan Park	)	
Reservoir Historic District	)	
	)	

ORDER

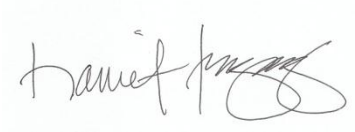
The application of the District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority to demolish two filtration cells at McMillan Park Reservoir is **Granted**. Applicants will construct a stormwater and sewer overflow tunnel primarily beneath First Street, NW, a central component of a Mayoral initiative to address flooding from combined sewer overloads in the Bloomingdale and LeDroit Park neighborhoods. In order to accomplish this, it will be necessary to demolish the two sand filtration cells at the southwest corner of the parcel (filter beds 25 and 26) to create a staging and boring area for the construction of a below-grade vertical entrance shaft to the tunnel. The applicant has agreed to pursue the plan for the site identified as Option C, which avoids a curb cut and will restore the topography of the site to its current elevation.

The application plainly qualifies as "necessary to allow for the construction of a project of special merit" under D. C. Code § 6-1107(f). Building the tunnel is necessary to alleviate chronic flooding, a project with public health and safety "benefits having a high priority for community services" within the statutory definition of special merit at D.C. Code § 6-1102(a)(11). This order is being issued in advance of an opinion containing findings of fact and conclusions of law, because this is a time-sensitive public safety project that has not attracted substantial opposition. The opinion will be prepared as soon as the transcript of the hearing becomes available.

April 10, 2013

J. Peter Byrne
Mayor's Agent Hearing Officer

Confirmed:



Harriet Tregoning
Director, Office of Planning

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a copy of the foregoing Order was served this 10th day of April, 2013 by mailing a copy of the same *via* electronic mail or first-class, United States Postal Service mail, postage prepaid, to the following:

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