

U.S.C. 4321–4347, the National Institutes of Health (NIH) is issuing this notice to advise the public that an environmental impact statement will be prepared for the National Institutes of Health, Bethesda Campus Master Plan, Bethesda, Maryland.

**DATES:** The Scoping Meeting is planned for 6 p.m. on February 28th, 2012. Scoping comments must be postmarked no later than March 26, 2012 to ensure they are considered.

**ADDRESSES:** The Scoping Meeting will be held at 6001 Executive Plaza, Conference Room D, Bethesda, Maryland. All comments and questions on the Scoping Meeting and Environmental Impact Statement should be directed to Valerie Nottingham, Chief, Environmental Quality Branch, Division of Environmental Protection, Office of Research Facilities, NIH, B13/2S11, 9000 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, Maryland 20892, telephone (301) 496–7775; fax (301) 480–8056; or email [nihnepa@mail.nih.gov](mailto:nihnepa@mail.nih.gov).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Valerie Nottingham, Chief, Environmental Quality Branch, Division of Environmental Protection, Office of Research Facilities, NIH, B13/2S11, 9000 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, Maryland 20892, telephone (301) 496–7775; fax (301) 480–8056; or email [nihnepa@mail.nih.gov](mailto:nihnepa@mail.nih.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** NIH is the focal point of the federal government for health research and is one of the world's foremost biomedical research institutions. The NIH mission is to discover new knowledge that will lead to better health for all. To achieve that mission, nearly eighty percent of the total NIH budget is expended in the form of peer-reviewed, competitively awarded research grants, cooperative agreements, and contracts to nearly 50,000 principal investigators at more than 1,700 institutions across the country including universities, medical schools, and hospitals. In addition, some 2,000 research projects are conducted in the NIH intramural laboratories and at the NIH Clinical Center. Research is conducted at both the basic and clinical levels, encompassing studies related to the prevention, diagnosis, treatment and cure of the many diseases that afflict the men, women and children of the world. In addition, the basic research supported by NIH provides the foundation for the nation's pharmaceutical and biotechnology industries. As one measure of the agency's excellence in research, it should be noted that NIH-supported

investigators won over 107 Nobel Prizes from 1939 to 2002.

A Master Plan is an integrated series of documents that present in graphic, narrative, and tabular form the current composition of NIH campuses and the plan for their orderly and comprehensive development over a 20-year period. The plan provides guidance in coordinating the physical development of NIH campuses, including building locations, utility capacities, road alignments, parking facilities, and the treatment of open spaces. General design guidelines are also used to provide detailed guidance for the placement and design of physical improvements.

The proposed action is to develop a long-range physical master plan for NIH. The plan will cover a 20-year planning period and address the future development of the NIH site, including placement of future construction; vehicular and pedestrian circulation; parking within the property boundaries; open space in and around the campus; required setbacks; historic properties; natural and scenic resources; noise; and lighting. The plan will examine potential growth in NIH personnel and consequent construction of space over the planning period. Future construction on the site could include such facilities as new animal holding, research laboratories, and support facilities.

In accordance with 40 CFR 1500–1508 and DHHS environmental procedures, NIH will prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed master plan. The EIS will evaluate the impacts of the master plan should development occur as proposed. Among the items the EIS will examine are the implications of the master plan on community infrastructure, including, but not limited to, utilities, storm water management, traffic and transportation, and other public services. To ensure that the public is afforded the greatest opportunity to participate in the planning and environmental review process, NIH is inviting oral and written comments on the master plan and related environmental issues.

The NIH will be sponsoring a public Scoping Meeting to provide individuals an opportunity to share their ideas on the master planning effort, including recommended alternatives and environmental issues the EIS should consider. All interested parties are encouraged to attend. NIH has established a 45-day public comment period for the scoping process.

Dated: February 2, 2012.

**Daniel G. Wheeland,**

*Director, Office of Research Facilities Development and Operations, National Institutes of Health.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

### National Institutes of Health

#### National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences; Notice of Closed Meeting

Pursuant to section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. App.), notice is hereby given of the following meeting.

The meeting will be closed to the public in accordance with the provisions set forth in sections 552b(c)(4) and 552b(c)(6), Title 5 U.S.C., as amended. The grant applications and the discussions could disclose confidential trade secrets or commercial property such as patentable material, and personal information concerning individuals associated with the grant applications, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

*Name of Committee:* National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, Special Emphasis Panel, Environmental Stem Cells Research.

*Date:* February 29–March 2, 2012.

*Time:* 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

*Agenda:* To review and evaluate grant applications.

*Place:* Radisson Hotel, 150 Park Drive, Ballroom ABC, Research Triangle Park, NC 27709.

*Contact Person:* Teresa Nesbitt, Ph.D., DVM, Chief, Scientific Review Branch, Division of Extramural Research and Training, National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, P.O. Box 12233, MD EC–30, Research Triangle Park, NC 27709, (919) 541–7571, [nesbitt@mail.nih.gov](mailto:nesbitt@mail.nih.gov).

(Catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Nos. 93.115, Biometry and Risk Estimation—Health Risks from Environmental Exposures; 93.142, NIEHS Hazardous Waste Worker Health and Safety Training; 93.143, NIEHS Superfund Hazardous Substances—Basic Research and Education; 93.894, Resources and Manpower Development in the Environmental Health Sciences; 93.113, Biological Response to Environmental Health Hazards; 93.114, Applied Toxicological Research and Testing, National Institutes of Health, HHS)

Dated: January 31, 2012.

**Jennifer S. Spaeth,**

*Director, Office of Federal Advisory Committee Policy.*

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