



www.chrs.org

September 2009

Community Forum: Traffic and Transportation on Capitol Hill from All Angles—What’s In Store? Will It Get Better?

Come to CHRS’s September 21 Community Forum and ask the experts about traffic on and around Capitol Hill, whether it will get better, what the DC and Federal governments are planning, and what solutions are being considered. The officials who have confirmed include Karina Ricks, the Director of Planning for DDOT and former Ward 6 Planner with the Office of Planning and Peter May, the Land Use Coordinator for

the National Capital Region of the National Park Service (a long-time Capitol Hill resident and former deputy in the DC Office of Property Management). Other experts have been invited as well.

Much of the Forum will focus on transit: express buses; light rail; bicycles; tourist buses; truck issues; and studies and actions that are underway to address problems. Capitol Hill projects will also be

discussed: Eastern Market Metro Plaza (Capitol Hill Town Square project); the 14th and Potomac roundabout; and Barney Circle. A brief membership meeting will precede the Forum.

Date: Monday, September 21
6:30 pm

Place: St. Peter’s Parish Hall
2nd and C Streets, SE

Contact: CapHRS@aol.com, or
543-0425 ★

Letter from CHRS Board on Eastern Market Plaza Redesign

The following communication from CHRS was provided to the members of the Capitol Hill Town Square Steering Committee:

At its meeting on July 21, 2009, the Board of the Capitol Hill Restoration Society (CHRS) voted to support two versions of the consultants’ study for creating a Capitol Hill Town Square on the site of the Eastern Market Plaza. The vote was in support of the “As Is” and the “Triptych.” The “Central Park” proposal was specifically rejected as imposing too great a burden on existing residences and businesses with the re-routing of Pennsylvania Avenue traffic around a large public square with few buffers to the large volume of traffic on the Avenue.

Both proposals would make a statement regarding the importance of this location. Only the Triptych, however, creates a new space with an important center portion, large as Thomas Circle, that could be used for gatherings and

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President's Column: "Goin' Down the Road Feelin' Bad"

by Beth Purcell

We all feel this way, stuck in Capitol Hill traffic, late for where we are trying to go. It's a problem everywhere—I Street, SE; C Street, NE; 17th Street (aka the speedway); and of course, Pennsylvania Avenue, SE. Pennsylvania Avenue is getting a lot of attention. In a cosmic coincidence, two new traffic circles (ovals actually) may form on Pennsylvania Avenue, SE—the "Triptych" at the Eastern Market Metro Plaza, and a not-yet-named circle at Pennsylvania and Potomac Avenues, SE. Triptych, if it is ever built, will be the product of community input, more traffic studies, and the go-ahead from

several government agencies, including DDOT and the National Capital Planning Commission. The unnamed traffic circle at Pennsylvania and Potomac is a result of DDOT's Middle Anacostia Crossings (MAC) Study in 2005. There were several public meetings for the MAC; as I recall, the reaction to the traffic circle was generally positive at the time. The existing intersection is unattractive and daunting to pedestrians.

At the recent ANC 6B meeting, however, people expressed concerns, including the effect of the proposed circle on the L'Enfant Plan and views of the Capitol. The Pennsylvania and

Potomac intersection deserves the same thought being devoted to the Eastern Market Metro Plaza. DDOT is working on an Environmental Assessment of the project.

Then there are the nightmares past and future: the Barney Circle Freeway (thankfully not built), the Massachusetts Avenue vehicle bridge (hopefully not feasible to build), and the "park road" between Benning Road and Barney Circle (still very much alive as far as we know). A lot needs to be done, and a lot is going on. For this reason, CHRS is focusing on traffic and transportation issues at our Community Forum on September 21, 2009. Please come by. ★

2010 House & Garden Tour

Planning is underway for the 2010 Mother's Day House & Garden Tour, with the goal of completing the house and garden selections by the end of 2009. The geographic area will be bounded by 3rd and 9th Streets and East Capitol and Pennsylvania Avenue. If you would like to volunteer your house or garden—or recommend one—please contact one of the Tour Co-Chairs: Paul Cromwell (543-7530) or Aileen Moffatt (258-8545), or via e-mail at: paulcromwell@verizon.net or acmoffatt@hotmail.com.

Advance tickets will be available in time for holiday gifts and stocking stuffers! What better gift to give than to throw open the doors of more than a dozen beautiful Capitol Hill homes to your family and friends and let them explore at their leisure.

Additional information about the Tour will be posted on the CHRS website at www.chrs.org.

Preservation Cafés Resume in September with "What Style Is It?"

We all have many reasons for choosing to live on Capitol Hill, with its unique look, feel, and historic character no doubt among them. And while we relish the appearance and ambience of our homes and neighborhood, we sometimes wish we knew more about the architectural styles and character-defining features that make them so special and distinctive.

If this describes you, satisfy your curiosity at the September 16 Preservation Café, where architect Bruce Wentworth will give an illustrated presentation about architectural styles on Capitol Hill and how to distinguish one from another. Mr. Wentworth, who says he is "passionate about historic architecture," has handled numerous renovation projects in historic buildings, including homes on Capitol Hill. A DC resident, he has conducted

research on Washington's architectural styles and recently presented a Preservation Café in Cleveland Park about the community's architecture.

The Preservation Café, which will be specially tailored to feature Capitol Hill building styles, will begin with the first old house Mr. Wentworth remodeled on the Hill—an 1873 Italianate—and will move on to include Queen Anne, Second Empire, Greek Revival, and Richardsonian Romanesque. Customized handouts will also be provided.

What Style Is It? will be held from 6:30–7:15 pm on Wednesday, September 16, in the downstairs community room at Ebenezers Coffeehouse at 2nd & F Streets, NE. The Preservation Café is free, handicapped accessible, and open to all in the Capitol Hill community. No reservations are required. ★

Capitol Hill Restoration Society (CHRS)

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To reach any of the above, please contact the Society offices at (202) 543-0425 or via e-mail: CapHRS@aol.com.

www.CHRS.org

Celebrating more than 50 years helping to preserve and protect Capitol Hill's residential character, the Society is now the largest civic association on Capitol Hill, and one of the largest in the entire District of Columbia. From the beginning, the Society has played a key role in maintaining the diverse, residential character of our neighborhood. With your participation, we will continue to do so for many years to come.

To start or renew a CHRS membership:

- ★ On the web at www.CHRS.org
- ★ Call (202) 543-0425; choose option 2
- ★ Pick up a form at one of our meetings

Starting at just \$25 per year for a single membership, it's a great deal.

Eastern Market Plaza Redesign continued from cover

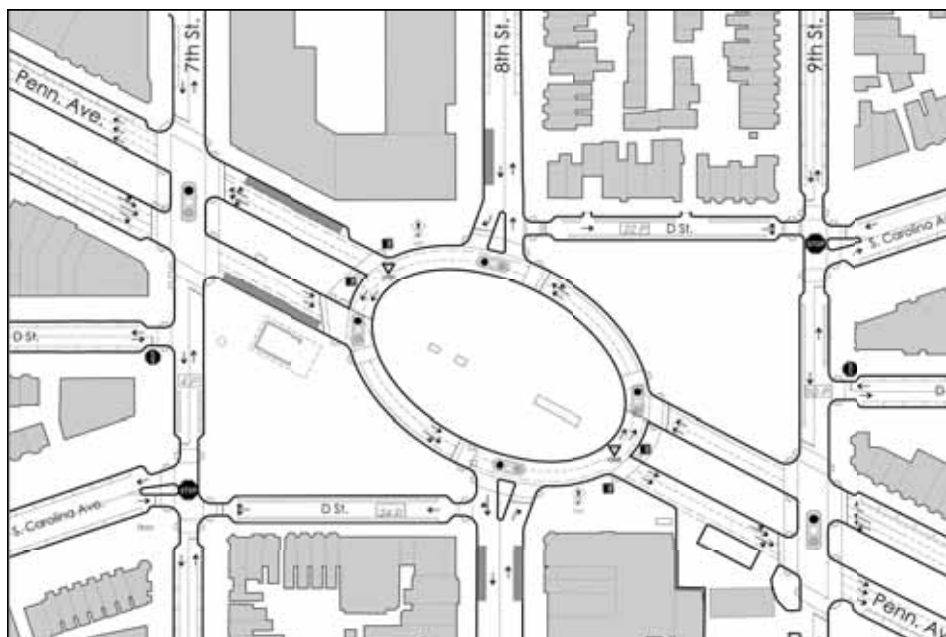


ILLUSTRATION COURTESY CAPITOL HILL TOWN SQUARE

Triptych traffic diagram

truly “call out” the space as the Capitol Hill Town Square. Both concepts would serve the dual purpose of functioning as parks for residents and symbolically tying together the important business areas of Market Row, Barracks Row and the 600 block of Pennsylvania Avenue. In this regard we concur with Councilmember Wells’ concern that the development of the Hine site be designed to interface with the new town square concept.

The major concerns with the Triptych are the narrowing of Pennsylvania Avenue to two lanes around the oval, parking, and pedestrian access and safety. Various comments on the Town Square web site state that the narrowing could deflect traffic on to neighboring streets and that Pennsylvania Avenue as a major emergency evacuation avenue would be unduly limited in its capacity to carry such traffic. Although the traffic engineer consultant has attempted to deal with these issues by declaring there is no problem, there needs to be a more detailed and fine-grained evaluation of these concerns. In this connection, it should be noted that Eighth Street, both NE and SE, will be further burdened with growing commuter traffic and mass transit development, including planned express buses and street cars. The Triptych would result in a loss of parking spaces. These issues require broader studies of traffic and parking needs that go beyond the immediate area. We understand that even if nothing is done with the existing Metro Plaza, these issues will continue to be potential problems. In conclusion, selection of the Triptych proposal is contingent on the results of the study of traffic, parking, and pedestrian safety and access.

We applaud the consultants and the Barracks Row Board for the quality of the work done in this stage of the planning process. It has been an open and creative activity. We understand that there remain a variety of economic and planning hurdles going forward to achieve a good result. This process and the concepts are a major step toward the realization of an idea that has long been part of CHRS’s views regarding the development of Capitol Hill.

Beth Purcell
President, Capitol Hill Restoration Society ★

Eastern Market Reopens

by Monte Edwards

This story is continued from the July/August issue.

The Farmers' Line

Prior to 1931, the Farmers' Line that had existed from the Market's earliest days had to endure the vagaries of the weather when selling at the Market. In 1931, a continuous shed was erected to shelter the farmers. In that time of depression-era city budgets, the original design was not adopted, but rather a less expensive, simple, corrugated metal roof with a double row of columns was built. It was replaced with the present structure in 2004. The farmers who sold at the market decreased in number, and by 1987, the northern portion of the Farmers' Line had been assigned to Market 5 Gallery and flea market sales. Later Eastern Market legislation re-established the Farmers' Line as extending to North Carolina Avenue.

Threats of Closure

During the mid-1960s, the Market was threatened not just with closure, but with the threat of demolition. Jim Hodgson, president of CHRS, prevailed on the DC government to perform a study of the Market's viability, which showed the Market was economically viable; because of that finding, Eastern Market was not torn down. The Glasgow lease of the South and Center Halls, beginning in the mid-1950s, contributed to the Market's viability.

Moving Toward Today's Eastern Market

The transition to the Market that we know today began in part with the reuse of the North Hall as an art gallery and the related recruitment of art-related vendors in the North Plaza outside North Hall. The area

now occupied by the Aquatic Center was a Fire Station, and in 1929, the North Hall transferred to the Fire Department to store fire equipment. It was later used by DC's Department of Transportation (DDOT) for storage. In 1975 the North Hall was leased to John Harrod's Market 5 Gallery and Kumba Center for art exhibits, performances, and special events, and over time Market 5's operations expanded to the North Plaza. A Saturday Crafts Fair and Sunday Flea Market evolved, and that distinction between Saturday and Sunday use of the North Plaza was incorporated into the Eastern Market legislation.

In 1974, using federal grant money, the South Hall was partially renovated, with primary focus on the exterior and without attention to historic considerations. The roof was replaced with new wooden decking and artificial slate. Deteriorated brick and stone work was repaired, but the brownstone was patched with colored mortar, rather than replaced. Window glazing was replaced with plastic for security reasons, and metal columns were installed to reinforce the deteriorated floor. The original landmark designation of 1964 was amended in 1991 by the Historic Preservation Review Board (HPRB) to include the interior spaces and features. As a consequence, the HPRB must now approve changes proposed to both the interior and the exterior.

In the 1980s the Market, along with the rest of the District, again lost some its vitality and patronage. In addition, day-to-day maintenance was neglected, as were long-term needs. The recent resurgence of the Market was triggered by the 1990s Eastern Market legislation that instituted a new framework for the



New and improved 7th Street today

Market's operation and management, as well as for planning its renovation and restoration.

The Legislation and the Renovation

Between 1997 and 1999, Ward 6 Councilmember, Sharon Ambrose, drafted and guided the enactment of the Eastern Market legislation that defined how the Market would be managed, regulated, and improved. It placed the Market under the jurisdiction of the District's Office of Property Management (now known as the Office of Real Estate Services (ORES)), required unified management of the Market, and created the Eastern Market Community Advisory Committee (EMCAC) to advise ORES about the operation, management, and capital improvements for the Market. EMCAC is an advisory group that represents the entire Eastern Market community, consisting of representatives from community organizations, DC elected officials, vendors that operate at Eastern Market, merchants and professionals that do business on Capitol Hill, and an independent community representative, each of whom is elected or appointed to represent the viewpoints of their respective organization or constituency. By being constituted as an inclusive body that is representative of the

PHOTO: MONTE EDWARDS

full spectrum of the Eastern Market community, EMCAC is able to make comments and recommendations that reflect all perspectives of the community and thereby promote the success of Eastern Market.

EMCAC initially recommended renovation and repairs to the Market to bring it up to current standards and code requirements. A Scope of Work was developed, and based on EMCAC's recommendation, the architectural firm of Heery International was hired to perform an assessment. The first capital improvement recommended by EMCAC was replacement of the Farmers' Line Shed, which was accomplished in 2004. In 2005, based on another EMCAC recommendation, Quinn Evans Architects was retained to design the required renovations and repairs.

Quinn Evans proposed a comprehensive effort, the cost of which was about double the \$1.7 million that was available for the work. EMCAC recommended a two-phase project, with the first phase costing all of the available \$1.7 million and including a plan to prepare the drawings and justification to seek additional funds in the 2007 budget. Quinn Evans proceeded to develop design drawings based on that. A part of that first phase involved the necessary utility and infrastructure upgrades that needed to be coordinated with the proposed Streetscape project that DDOT would accomplish.

The Fire, the Foundation, and Restoration

By late April 2007, Quinn Evans had completed their 95% design drawings for the \$1.7 million repair and renovation and for the additional renovations that would be part of a budget request to the City Council. On April 30, 2007, the Market burned. The residents of Capitol Hill regard the Market as the unofficial town center, and whenever the fate of the

Market has been in jeopardy, protests, campaigns, and creative efforts by civic groups, customers, merchants, and the City have saved the day. Immediately after the fire, Capitol Hill residents and others from across the District turned out to save the Market at a community meeting called by Mayor Adrian Fenty. The crowd overflowed into two large meeting rooms at the Hine School across the street from the Market. At this meeting, the Mayor committed to build a temporary East Hall for the displaced merchants and to rebuild and renovate the historic building as quickly as possible.

It would take some time to build the East Hall and make it ready for the merchants to resume business. On the day of the fire, the Capitol Hill Community Foundation established the Eastern Market Committee and began raising money for emergency expenses of the merchants and farmers, such as refrigerated trucks, display tables, scales, and other equipment they would need to operate until the East Hall could be constructed. Through community contributions and fund-raising events that took place throughout the Hill, over \$450,000 was raised.

Because of the fire, the focus shifted from repair and rehabilitation to restoration of the Market. The fire had destroyed much of the 1974 rehabilitation work, and EMCAC urged the City to focus on restoration of the more architecturally significant elements of the building: the 1873 Adolf Cluss design with the 1908 Snowdon Ashford addition. A month after the fire, Quinn Evans provided new drawings to implement the design changes required by the fire and the more ambitious restoration design. The City agreed to invest \$22 million to accomplish the restoration we see today. The current restoration was the overwhelming response by everyone to the devastating fire.

Streetscape Funding Builds the East Hall

The rehabilitation of 7th Street between North Carolina and Pennsylvania Avenues had previously been approved by the City Council, and dedicated funds had been in the DDOT budget since 2002. The Streetscape went through various scheduling and design changes, and by the time of the fire no work had been done, though the money was still there. With the City's commitment to build a temporary Market structure came the recognition that no money had been budgeted for that purpose. However, the dedicated \$1.7 million for the Streetscape was just about the amount needed, so DDOT rather than ORES was tasked with construction of the East Hall using the Streetscape money. In the next budget cycle, money for the Streetscape was restored to DDOT's budget.

The Streetscape Today

To emphasize the main South Hall portico entrance, the reconstructed Farmers' Line shed was built in two parts, with a break at the portico. EMCAC's advocacy convinced DDOT that this was a special situation which justified departing from their policy of no mid-block crosswalks to provide the one we have now at the South Hall portico. The cobra-style lights at intersections have been replaced with period-appropriate pendant-style lights. The new "Washington Globe" street lights have cross arms and electric receptacles for holiday lighting. The brick sidewalks have been redone with period-appropriate molded brick. Seventh Street in front of the Market is paved with a modern pre-cast concrete block that gives the appearance of cobblestones, but is pedestrian friendly, and conveys a sense that you are entering a special area, one that is different from other streets.

The Restored Market Building

The large blocks of stone at the base of the Market's corners and at the main door openings are brownstone replacements designed to match the deteriorated original brownstone, and are from a newly reopened quarry. The brick work has been repointed. The roof has been restored with slate which replaces the artificial slate that had been installed as part of the 1974 renovation. The original design of the continuous ridgeline vent has been recreated (but now with electric ventilation fans), and the decorative corner chimneys, cornices, and roof ornamentation reflect the original design. The flagpole over the South Hall portico is now metal, rather than wood, and has lighting so the flag can be illuminated at night.

The windows are new, with the former milky-looking plastic replaced by glass with a barely noticeable gray tint that reduces glare. Based on a historic paint analysis, the window and door trim has been painted with original colors. The green on the South Hall trim and the white on the North Hall trim reminds us that the Halls were built at different times, and that the two eras had different tastes in paint colors. The interior is protected with a fire sprinkler system, and there are ADA-compliant ramps and automatic doors to access the Market. The actuators for the automatic doors that face Seventh Street are located in the bases of the period light fixtures that flank the ADA entrances.

A New North Hall

Under the Eastern Market legislation, the North Hall is designated as a community arts center and public meeting space. For the first time, the restored North Hall is heated and air conditioned. It has a wet bar suitable for catering, a de-mountable stage, theatrical lighting, and moveable art display panels. The space can be configured as a display area, a

performance area, or a meeting space, and can be used for special events such as receptions. With the new North Plaza lighting, those events can take place both indoors and out.

The New North Hall Connection

Probably around the time the North Hall became a storage space for the Fire Department, the doorway between the North Hall and Center Hall was bricked closed, and a large part of the Center Hall was used for the Market Lunch kitchen. The Market Lunch area has now been reconfigured, and a clear passageway is provided through the Center Hall, with double doors opening into the South Hall and double doors that open into the North Hall. The doors into both the North and South Halls are aligned and similar in size. They provide a visually significant, architecturally pleasing, and functional passageway between the North and South Halls, and also provide access to the new ADA-compliant restrooms.

Restrooms

Since the Center and North Halls were built, there were a total of four toilets and two lavatories in the men's and women's restrooms combined (plus two Jiffy Johns in the North Hall). The restored Market has 13 toilets, 3 urinals, and 10 lavatories located in the Center Hall that are accessible from both the North and South Halls, plus a unisex restroom in the South Hall basement Pottery Studio.

The South Hall

An immediately noticeable change in the South Hall is the brightness provided by new skylights and new window glazing. After the fire, the frame structures for the skylight system were discovered. Even though there is no record of glass ever having been installed in the frames, some believe the framing indicates skylights were planned. The skylights are fitted with a special glass that minimizes UV transmission and improves the appearance of the displayed foods. Also, the new windows have tinted glass, to avoid an overly-bright, washed-out appearance of the displayed food. The area lighting is controlled by a dimmer system to provide a uniform level of light and reduce energy usage. Another change in the South Hall is the addition of kiosks along the walls that provide air for heating, cooling, and ventilation and also



Market Lunch line in the new North Hall

PHOTO: DAVID HOLMES

house the electric and gas meters for the individual merchants.

The roof truss system is of a unique design. When it was originally built, modern steel had not been developed, and the trusses were built of cast iron and wrought iron. Because of the fire, the structural integrity of those original trusses was compromised. Modern, high strength steel trusses were fabricated that replicate the original design. When you look up, you might be able to see that every other one of the trusses is a new steel truss, and the ones between them are the original cast iron or wrought iron trusses. Because the new steel trusses are sufficiently strong to support the entire roof load, the original, fire-compromised trusses do not carry any of the load.

Heating and Air Conditioning

Originally, the second floor of the Center Hall was used as a restaurant or café. It was later converted to the Pottery Studio in 1967. With the decision to air condition the building, this space was repurposed

as the mechanical room for the air conditioning chillers and air handlers. For heating, the original boiler room space in the basement now houses a new boiler, and the hot water is distributed to fan coil units in the basement that draw fresh air from the air intakes across the alley and distribute heat or ventilation air through the new kiosks along the walls of the South Hall. The former vents in the roof peak of the South Hall have been replaced with electric exhaust fans that can be operated to maintain comfortable conditions at times when neither heating nor air conditioning is needed.

The New Pottery Studio and South Hall Basement

With its former space now being used for air conditioning equipment, the Pottery Studio has been relocated at the southern end of the South Hall basement, along with modern, code-compliant kilns and a unisex restroom. It is accessed from the exterior double stairs at the south end of the Market.

An elevator has been installed to deliver the merchants' goods from the alley to the basement, where walk-in coolers provide long-term and seasonal storage. The basement also holds air handling units that distribute heat and ventilation air. A separate, insulated room houses the compressor and condenser units that cool the refrigerated display units and walk-in coolers. The balance of the basement now has increased ceiling height, adequate for public use that may be expanded in the future.

North Plaza

The plaza area between the North Hall and North Carolina Avenue has been reconfigured. Tree boxes have been moved to the perimeters, to be more pedestrian-friendly for weekend vending and for special events. Four tall period-appropriate light standards have been installed so the entire plaza area can be illuminated for night-time events. Trees will be planted this fall, and bicycle racks will be installed. ★

City-Wide Preservation Conference September 25–26

Washington's many preservation challenges are the focus of a two-day preservation conference planned by the DC Preservation League for September 25–26 at the Carnegie Institution of Science, 1530 P Street, NW. The Friday night reception will be held at the recently renovated historic St. John's Church on Lafayette Square. Sessions will focus on the individual home, neighborhood resources, and city-wide issues. Topics include: Ensuring Preservation for Publicly-owned Buildings; Lessons Learned in Establishing New Historic Districts;

Saving a Historic Property Through Acquisition; Washington's Green Building Ordinance; Establishing a Nonprofit; Archaeological Investigations; Local Resources from the Recent Past; Greening Your Historic Home; Uncovering the Story of Your House; Evaluating the Use of Substitute Materials on a Historic Building; and What It Means When a Building Is Designated Historic.

On Saturday there will be two tours: Architect David Bell will be highlighting the details of his project to make a 19th-century Italianate row-house a new home for his

architectural practice, while pursuing LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certification. Preservation Consultant Sally Berk will be highlighting Holmead Village, 3,000 porch-front row-houses built by real-estate tycoon Harry Wardman in 1907–1911. Some houses will be open for touring.

For program and registration details, please consult the DC Preservation League website at www.dcpreservation.org. It's possible to register for one or both days. Registration before September 11 is encouraged. ★

Welcome CHRS Supporters

We thank the following new members, patrons, and sponsors.

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Carol Spils
Miranda Gregory Harwell
Thomas Chapman
Fran Zaniello
Roy and Martha Rockwell
Mary Wadleigh

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Historic Home Repair Guides

The DC Historic Preservation Office has available a series of short brochures relating to repair and replacement of historic property elements. They can be found online at www.chrs.org, under Publications.

- ★ Door Replacement for Historic Properties
- ★ Masonry Repair and Repointing
- ★ Metal Repair and Fabrication
- ★ Roof Decks and Roof Additions
- ★ Window Repair and Replacement

Proposed 2010 CHRS Operating Budget, Beginning October 1, 2009

by Paul Cromwell

The 2010 CHRS budget, right, which was approved by the Board of Directors, will be voted upon at the membership meeting on September 21. The budget for FY 2010 has been reorganized and streamlined in order to provide more flexibility and better accounting. Expenses proposed for approval by the membership are the total expenditures proposed for Administration, Program, Communications and Membership, thus allowing some flexibility within these four categories.

Prior year budgets included the "Sale of Goods" which for 2010 has been moved to "Special Events" under "Communications," and the House Tour income has been included as an Income item, rather than as a separate section in the proposed budget. However,

income and expenses for the Tours are included in a chart below the proposed budget.

The major item in the 2010 budget is the continuation of the Beyond the Boundaries project. CHRS funds are being used to supplement grants that have been received by CHRS in support of this project. Since these funds far exceed income, monies will be transferred from the Endowment Fund to achieve a balanced CHRS budget. This was presented in the 2009 budget, but no funds will be transferred from the Endowment Fund in Fiscal 2009 because the funds have not yet been needed.

Income and Expenditures to date for 2009 are through June 30. A further accounting of Income and Expenditures will be on the web site at www.chrs.org. ★

Donation in Honor of Jan Eichorn

The CHRS Board, at their July meeting, voted to send a monetary donation to Jan's Tutoring House in memory of Jan Eichorn's service to our neighborhood children. Jan died in June after a long illness.

About twenty years ago Jan founded, raised funds, secured staff, and recruited volunteers for a tutorial program (Friends of Tyler) at Tyler School across the street from her home. Although she had no children of her own, her home was filled with children who often had no place to go after school.

The tutoring program grew to occupy its own center on Pennsylvania Avenue and recently changed its name to Jan's Tutoring House. Hundreds of children from Hill public schools and the surrounding northeast and southeast neighborhoods have benefited from Jan's efforts. This successful program, as well as the dedicated efforts of its volunteers, have assisted many students in gaining admission and scholarships to private high schools.

Anyone interested in more information about the program or in becoming a tutor may call 547-1345. ★

Proposed 2010 CHRS Operating Budget

	Income/ Expended 2006	Income/ Expended 2007	Income/ Expended 2008	Budgeted 2009	Dollars thru 6/30/09 2009	Dollars remaining year end	Budget Proposed 2010
I. Total Income	68048	82457	75537	144740	76535	73815	164793
Membership	21331	22850	27151	25000	15775	9225	25000
House Tour (see below)	42500	59607	47860	45000	47805	2805	49000
Interest	734	0	26	300	0	300	50
Contributions	1000	0	500	200	12955	-12755	3000
Transfer from Endowment Fund	0	0	0	74240	0	74240	87743
Miscellaneous (e.g., Photo project)	2483	0	0	0	0	0	0
II. Total Expenses	56371	72125	70293	144740	61802	82478	164793
A. ADMINISTRATIVE	32877	29669	37515	35400	33922	1478	42100
Administrative Expenses	4032	5109	6673	6000	12620	-6620	6000
Accounting Service Expenses	4000	2500	2750	3000	0	3000	6500
Computer Support/Purchase	0	0	6441	4000	0	4000	1000
Insurance	1087	1361	1077	800	0	800	1100
Salaries	7590	506	0	0	0	0	0
Personal Services Contract	0	9572	9360	10000	13602	-3602	13000
Employment Expenses	1670	430	0	0	0	0	0
Miscellaneous	3861	0	561	100	0	100	3000
Rent (office/storage/St. Peters)	10067	9991	9914	11000	7700	3300	11000
CHRS Elections	570	200	739	500	0	500	500
B. PROGRAM	10962	22314	16952	88940	17271	71669	108293
Grants Paid	9000	18700	2000	0	150	-150	0
City Planning Committee	0	0	0	300	0	300	300
Community Dev. Comm.	475	34	230	300	150	150	300
Environment Committee	0	15	15	100	0	100	100
Historic Preservation Comm.	1487	3311	1754	3000	902	2098	2000
Beyond the Boundaries	0	0	2378	80000	0	80000	99493
Zoning Committee	0	254	0	240	0	240	100
Transportation	0	0	10575	5000	16069	-11069	6000
C. COMMUNICATIONS	11992	13316	10641	14900	8582	5858	8400
Newsletter Expenses	9942	9992	9410	11000	8007	2993	7000
Communications Committee	864	0	0	500	0	500	300
Special Events	-625	71	210	800	40	300	300
President's Party	273	483	472	300	93	207	300
Forums	88	70	174	300	40	260	300
Web Site (DC Access)	1450	2700	375	2000	402	1598	200
D. MEMBERSHIP	540	6826	5185	5500	2027	3473	6000
Membership Committee	540	6826	5185	5500	2027	3473	6000
III. CHRS Operating Net Gain <Loss>	11677	10332	5244	0	14733	-8663	0
House Tours							
Tour Income (total)	57000	78508	62952	65000	60836	4164	65000
Prior Year (2006)	57000	650	0	0	0	0	0
Prior Year (2007)	0	77858	0	0	0	0	0
Prior Year (2008)	0	0	62952	0	0	0	0
Current Year (2009)	0	0	0	65000	60836	4164	0
Budget Year (2010)	0	0	0	0	0	0	65000
Tour Expenses (Current and Prior)	14500	18251	15000	20000	13031	6969	16000
Net Gain <Loss> from House Tours	42500	59607	47860	45000	47805	2805	49000

Did You Know?

- ★ **The four clubs—Eastern Power Boat Club, Washington Yacht Club, District Yacht Club, and Seafarers Yacht Club—have joined forces to form the Historic Anacostia Boating Association (HABA).**
The current city-issued operating permits of the different marinas will expire at the end of 2009. All are negotiating with the city government for long-term leases. The proposed new 11th Street Bridges and possible new development adjacent to Boathouse Row will complicate life for the Clubs over the next few years. The marinas are working to put up signs explaining the history of each of the clubs and commemorating historic events and sites along the waterfront (the John Wilkes Booth escape route, the Sousa Bridge, etc.). The clubs encourage the Capitol Hill community to use the Anacostia Riverwalk bike path/nature trail and to experience and appreciate the natural areas of the waterfront.
- ★ **The city has begun improvements at the Potomac Avenue Triangle Park in the 1200 block of Potomac Avenue, SE.**
Last month, community members approved the Parks Department conceptual design for the park at a neighborhood meeting. The new park will feature a dog-friendly area, side-door opening trash receptacles, raised steel planters, backless steel benches, cobblestone border accents, and stone pavers. The contractor, Turf Center Lawns, is scheduled to complete work on the park by the end of September 2009.
- ★ **Tour the exterior of the Capitol, Mondays at 10 am.**
If you haven't experienced this tour by the U.S. Capitol Historical Society (USCHS), you don't know the Capitol. Bring your out-of-town guests or come alone to learn about the history, art, architecture, and lore surrounding the Capitol. The tours run from March through November, rain or shine. Free for USCHS members, \$10 for others (discount for children and seniors). For information call 543-8919 x17 or uschs@uschs.org.

The Hill on Film

by Mike Canning

Highlighted in an earlier article in this series how the “money shot” for many motion pictures which feature Washington, DC, is the Capitol Dome, that instantly recognizable symbol of our government and our town. That earlier piece noted that Hollywood filmmakers do shoot the actual dome, but they often fudge it, making the Capitol visible from almost anywhere in the DC area. This time, I want to highlight uses of the Capitol Dome which are completely fictive and imaginary—which tends to happen in sci-fi or comedy movies.

Take, for example, the alien invasion flick *Earth vs. The Flying Saucers* (1956), a fairly cheesy sci-fi epic mainly set in Washington, with stop-motion effects by Ray Harryhausen. Its lengthy action finale incorporates an invasion of

saucers over DC, cruising over many recognizable landmarks, including the Capitol. The climax of that finale comes when the dome is sliced off by a saucer, but the effect is laughable because the Capitol looks like a badly-shaped wedding cake.

Then there is the opening sequence in *Three for the Road* (1987), an egregious comedic mess in which Charlie Sheen stars as a naive Senate staffer. It shows Sheen gunning his motorcycle from his DC home supposedly to his Capitol workplace—which has a strangely high dome and stands next to a large high-rise building. It is actually the State Capital of Little Rock, Arkansas, where the film was shot.

Even less realistic is the Capitol featured in Tim Burton's 1996 silly satire *Mars Attacks!* Fairly early in

the film, the Martians land on the Capitol's West Front, invade the House chamber, and then blow up the building, but the building shown is a clumsy, hardly accurate model.

Finally, in the somewhat more serious science fiction drama *Contact* (1997), lead Jodie Foster is shown leaving the Capitol out the West Front, but the aerial view of the dome that follows is definitely not our US Capitol: there is no hill and the structure has a flat front and back. Maybe St. Paul's or Sacramento's? ★

The Hill on Film *is an occasional series about how Hollywood has treated—or mistreated—elements of Capitol Hill.* Canning writes movie reviews for the Hill Rag.

Looking Back on Capitol Hill

by Nancy Metzger

With the re-opening of Eastern Market, one can't help but think of the thousands of Capitol Hill residents over the decades who made a Saturday trip to the market a part of their routine. In his memoir, *Simpler Times: Stories of Early Twentieth Century City Life*, J. George Butler, born 100 years ago, recalled his childhood trips to the market from the family home at 231 Second Street, SE, now under the Madison Building of the Library of Congress:

"Once a week, generally on Saturdays, Mother, Dad and the family, including our enormous pet, Shep, [a large collie] would go to Eastern Market. The building took up the entire block on Seventh Street, SE, from North Carolina Avenue to C Street. It was a long, red brick building, oblong in shape, somewhat resembling a trolley car barn. The peaked roof was supported by cantilevered trusses with long, horizontal iron tie bars holding the two walls together.

"Outside the market on Seventh Street, curbside stalls lined the block for farmers to display their fresh produce. They came from such 'remote' places as Oxon Hill, Maryland, where truck farms abounded. In order to get to the market by seven am, these farmers got up around three am, loaded their wagons, hitched up their teams, and drove ten or twelve miles into the city. Once at their stalls, they unloaded their wagons, unhitched and tethered their teams, and spent the day working to sell their produce. At the end of the day, they loaded up any unsold items and began the long trek home.

"Conscientious shoppers learned that it paid to arrive early if they wanted their pick of vegetables. As a little fellow, I loved those trips to the

market. The smells, sounds, and sights were different from anything else, and somehow seemed exotic. As a special treat, I could usually wangle 15 cents to buy some imported Swiss cheese at Mr. Doerr's stand at the south end of the market. Swiss cheese was my favorite, probably because of the added mystery of just how the cheese maker put those holes in the cheese.

"The north end of the market was given over, for the most part, to fruit stands. Refrigerated rail cars, relying on ice and sawdust, brought

all manner of oranges, bananas, and more exotic items from abroad to market. One of the fruit vendors was a short, rotund, and very jolly Italian whose produce quality was better than his English. Recently arrived in this country, he had but a limited command of English. On seeing Shep, his face always broke out in a wide smile as he exclaimed with pleasure, "Himma bigga dogga," as he patted Shep on the head." ☆

CHRS Reaches Out

by Elizabeth Nelson

As part of our "Beyond the Boundaries" program, CHRS volunteers are engaging in a variety of outreach activities. We staffed a booth at Tommy Wells' Ward 6 Family Day at the Rosedale Recreation Center, where we had an opportunity to share the Society's goals with neighbors from across the Ward, but especially those from the historic Rosedale neighborhood surrounding the center. That area was the site of a walking tour in May, and folks were particularly taken with the CHRS newsletter referencing that event.

A few weeks later, we participated in the Eastern Market re-opening celebration. The big hit at the CHRS booth was this year's House and Garden Tour catalogue—especially with the many Capitol Hill "alumni" who had made the pilgrimage from out of town. Beads to string kept the kids busy while we engaged the adults. Next on the calendar was the Capitol Hill Independence Day Parade, which included a CHRS contingent tossing Mardi Gras beads into the crowd.

Our participation at these events is part of an on-going effort to introduce ourselves to newcomers to the Hill and to those living outside the boundaries of the Capitol Hill Historic District. Future activities will include staffing a table at the H Street Festival on September 19 and distributing pencils with the CHRS logo to students at the Walk to School Day event in Lincoln Park in early October. Volunteers are always more than welcome—they are truly needed. Plus it's a lot of fun to meet friends, old and new. If you would like to assist in these efforts, please call or email Elizabeth Nelson, 543-3512, elizabeth_knits@yahoo.com.

Mark Your Calendar!

AUGUST

31 Monday, 6:30 pm
CHRS Historic Preservation Committee,
Kirby House, 420 10th St., SE, first floor.
Details: Nancy Metzger, 546-1034.

SEPTEMBER

10 Thursday, 7:30 pm
CHRS Zoning Committee,
Kirby House, 420 10th St., SE, first floor.
Details: Gary Peterson, 547-7969.

15 Tuesday, 6:30 pm
CHRS Board of Directors, Capitol Hill
Townhomes, 750 6th St., SE, second floor.
Details: Beth Purcell, 622-4303.

16 Wednesday, 6:30–7:15 pm
CHRS Preservation Café,
“What Style Is It?” Ebenezers Coffeehouse,
2nd & F Sts., NE, downstairs. Architect
Bruce Wentworth will describe and
answer questions about architectural
styles on Capitol Hill. Free, handicapped
accessible, no reservations required.
Details: Shauna Holmes, 546-5211.

21 Monday, 6:30 pm
CHRS Community Forum,
St. Peter’s Church, 2nd & C Sts., SE.
Brief membership meeting at 6:30,
followed immediately by the program.
Meeting is free and open to the public;
no reservations required.
Details: Beth Purcell, 622-4303.

24 Thursday, 10:00 am
Historic Preservation Review Board,
441 4th St., NW, Room 220 South.
Details: Nancy Metzger, 546-1034.

25 Friday and **26** Saturday,
9:00 am–5:00 pm
Meeting Preservation Challenges.
Carnegie Institution of Science,
1530 P St., NW. Join the DC Preservation
League for a conference focused on
preservation issues facing communities in
the city of Washington. More information
to come; check the DCPL website at
www.dcpreservation.org.

OCTOBER

5 Monday, 6:30 pm
CHRS Historic Preservation Committee,
Kirby House, 420 10th St., SE, first floor.
Details: Nancy Metzger, 546-1034.

20 Tuesday, 6:30 pm
CHRS Board of Directors, Capitol Hill
Townhomes, 750 6th St., SE, second floor.
Details: Beth Purcell, 622-4303.

22 Thursday, 10:00 am
Historic Preservation Review Board,
441 4th St., NW, Room 220 South.
Details: Nancy Metzger, 546-1034.

Saturdays through November 21
9 am–12 pm
H Street NE Freshfarm Market,
625 H Street, NE (across from H Street
Self Storage). Shop for fresh fruits and
vegetables, pasture-raised meats, local
cheeses, yogurt, breads and baked
goods, cut flowers and more. Open rain
or shine. www.freshfarmmarkets.org



Capitol Hill Restoration Society
420 Tenth Street, SE
Washington, DC 20003