

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT REFORM

2157 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING

WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6143

MAJORITY (202) 225-5074
MINORITY (202) 225-5051
<https://oversight.house.gov>

December 17, 2025

Mr. William Scharf
Chair
National Capital Planning Commission
401 9th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20004

Dear Chair Scharf:

I write regarding your statement that the National Capital Planning Commission (NCPC) is expected to receive plans from the White House for its ongoing ballroom construction by the end of December.¹ As you know, the NCPC was “created to preserve the important historical and natural features of the National Capital” and is responsible for reviewing project plans and proposals affecting federal property, such as the White House.² The board, composed of 12 members, includes the chairman of the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, which holds jurisdiction over the District of Columbia.³

As ranking member of the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, I request that you share any document(s) regarding this project, including, but not limited to, notification of the NCPC’s receipt of the plans, access to directly review the plans once received, and regular updates on the NCPC’s review of the plans to keep apprised of the ongoing construction, including all waivers to or deviations from the standard review process as applied in past NCPC reviews. This information will assist the Committee in our ongoing oversight into the ballroom’s construction, especially in the event that I am to join the Commission in future Congresses.

The Committee on Oversight and Government Reform is the principal oversight committee of the House of Representatives and has broad authority to investigate “any matter” at “any time” under House Rule X. If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Democratic Committee staff at (202) 225-5051. Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

¹ *White House Is Expected to Submit Plans for New Ballroom to Planning Commission This Month*, ABC News (Dec. 4, 2025) (online at <https://abcnews.go.com/US/wireStory/white-house-expected-submit-plans-new-ballroom-planning-128116475>).

² 40 U.S.C. § 8711(a).

³ 40 U.S.C. § 8711(b)(1)(A).

Mr. William Scharf
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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Garcia', written over a horizontal line.

Robert Garcia
Ranking Member

cc: The Honorable James Comer, Chairman