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# DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER M E M O R I A L C O M M I S S I O N

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## EISENHOWER MEMORIAL COMMISSION STATEMENT REGARDING TODAY'S APPEARANCE BEFORE THE U.S. COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

*-- Receives Revised Concept Approval; Ready for Groundbreaking—*

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**WASHINGTON, DC** – The Eisenhower Memorial Commission (EMC) today appeared before the U.S. Commission of Fine Arts (CFA) for the purpose of seeking Revised Concept Approval for the most recent edits made to the design for the Eisenhower Memorial.

Following the EMC's presentation, the CFA approved the request for Revised Concept Approval. Today's CFA approval follows the National Capital Planning Commission's 10 to 1 vote to grant the design Preliminary Approval on October 2, 2014. With these two approvals secured, the Eisenhower National Memorial is ready to move forward with ground breaking in 2015.

After today's meeting, Eisenhower Memorial designer, Frank Gehry commented, "Capturing the life and legacy of one of the greatest figures of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, has been a unique honor. I appreciate the approval given by the U.S. Commission of Fine Arts today."

Eisenhower Memorial Commission Chairman, Rocco Siciliano, added his appreciation, "Part of Gehry's brilliance is his ability to respond to the many stakeholders in this process while still maintaining the power and integrity of his design. This is our second approval in just a few weeks. It's good to see the work that has gone into preparing the design for approvals now yielding positive results and moving the project forward."

Among the recent revisions to the design is the replacement of the east and west tapestries with single columns that mark the north corners of the site and prepare the visitor for entrance to the memorial. The south columns and tapestry work to define the space of the memorial and frame the views of the United States Capitol.

In the coming months, the EMC will return to CFA for review and approval of several design-specific items, including: statuary; quotations; landscaping; lighting; and materials.

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