

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY
Final Supplemental Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact
New Federal Courthouse in Chattanooga, Tennessee

Pursuant to the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the United States General Services Administration (GSA) Southeast Sunbelt Region (Region 4) announces the availability of the Final Supplemental Environmental Assessment (SEA) and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the construction and operation of a new federal courthouse (Courthouse) located in Chattanooga, Tennessee.

This SEA supplements a Final EA released in April 2024, which assessed three sites in the city of Chattanooga for acquisition, design and construction, and operation of the proposed Courthouse. The proposed new Courthouse would encompass approximately 190,701 gross square feet; include 40 secured parking spaces, 7 courtrooms, and 9 chambers; and be located within the city limits of Chattanooga.

Following completion of the Final EA, on April 9, 2024, GSA issued a press release and announced two short listed sites, the Hawk Hill Stadium Site and TVA Office Complex. However, GSA is electing to consider an additional location as a site for the proposed Courthouse. The Vine Street Site is a one-block area bounded by E 5th Street to the north, Lindsay Street to the east, Vine Street to the south, and Georgia Avenue to the west. The Vine Street Site encompasses approximately 4.12 acres and comprises eight tax parcels. One tax parcel supports a multi-tenant office building and garages; one approximately 0.8-acre tax parcel is undeveloped and supports maintained lawn and limited numbers of trees; and most of the remainder of the Vine Street Site is utilized as surface parking.

The Final SEA also considers a No Action Alternative, which provides a baseline for comparison with impacts from the Proposed Action and to satisfy federal requirements for analyzing “no action” under NEPA (40 CFR 1502.14(d)). Under the No Action Alternative, GSA would not acquire new property in Chattanooga and would not construct a new Courthouse.

The Final SEA summarizes and incorporates comments received during a 15-day public review period held December 3-18, 2024. Availability of the Draft SEA, the start of the public review period, and instructions regarding how to submit comments were announced in the *Chattanooga Times Free Press*, letters to stakeholders, and a GSA press release.

GSA has determined that implementation of the Proposed Action would not result in a significant adverse impact to the human or natural environment. The Final EA and FONSI are available online through GSA’s project website: <https://www.gsa.gov/chattanoogacourthouse> under Latest Updates.