

new review is necessary because of a change in the delineated area. The existing U.S. Courthouse at 1010 5th Street is listed on the National Register of Historic Places along with its lawn area.

The Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts (AOC) has requested GSA provide a building based on the Long Range Facility Plan for the Western District of Washington. The new Courthouse would provide for 15 courtrooms for use by the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, the U.S. District Court, and U.S. Magistrate judges. The existing Courthouse would continue to be utilized.

At occupancy, the new facility is expected to house approximately 700 federal employees. Development would involve construction of one building comprising approximately 620,000 square feet of gross floor area and parking for 200 vehicles.

Alternatives: The EIS will examine the short and long term impacts on the natural and built environment of developing and operating a new courthouse in downtown Seattle. Potential impact assessment will include but not be limited to changes in the social environment, changes in land use, aesthetics, changes in traffic and parking patterns, economic impacts, and conformance to City planning and zoning requirements.

The EIS will also examine measures to mitigate significant unavoidable adverse impacts resulting from the proposed action. Concurrent with NEPA implementation, GSA will also implement its consultation responsibilities under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act to identify potential impacts to existing historic or cultural resources.

The EIS would consider a no action alternative and action alternatives. The no-action alternative (no-build) alternative would continue the use of the existing U.S. Courthouse supplemented by the continued use of leased space throughout the downtown Seattle area. The preferred action alternative is construction of a new courthouse building. Currently, three separate site alternatives are being proposed for study. GSA will consider the acquisition of one or two block sites sufficient to meet future expansion needs of the court and within an area delineated as follows:

Bounded on the north by Blanchard Street, on the east by Terry Avenue, on the south by James Street, and by First Avenue on the west.

Due to the unique requirements for courtrooms, chambers, and security considerations, GSA has found it is

impractical to consider the use of an existing building through either purchase or lease in which to meet these needs.

Procedures: The Draft EIS will be prepared at the completion of and based upon a scoping report. The Draft EIS will then be made available for public and agency review and comment with a public hearing being held during this comment period. A final EIS would be prepared following conclusion of the comment period to address issues raised on the Draft EIS.

Dated: January 23, 1997.

L. Jay Pearson,

Regional Administrator (10A).

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Office of the Secretary; Statement of Organization, Functions, and Delegation of Authority

Part A (Office of the Secretary), Chapter AE (Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation (OASPE), of the Statement of Organization, Functions and Delegation of Authority for the Department of Health and Human Services (most recently amended at 61 FR 24499 on May 15, 1996) is amended to establish the Office of Science Policy within OASPE.

I. Chapter AE, add the following as paragraph F:

F. The Office of Science Policy (OSP) is responsible for guiding and coordinating the development of science policy throughout the Department. As directed by the Secretary or the ASPE, OSP establishes and leads broadly representative, multi-office working groups to develop policy initiatives related to complex science and technology issues that cut across the missions of several entities within the Department. The Director, OSP frequently serves as the spokesperson for these working groups in presentations to the Secretary, other senior DHHS staff, to members and/or staff of the Congress, and to others outside DHHS.

OSP is responsible for guiding and coordinating the incorporation of science-policy considerations within regulatory proposals, legislative proposals, Congressional testimony, press releases, and other public documents describing major Departmental initiatives. OSP staff provide critique and advice regarding

the science-policy content of such documents, which typically originate from DHHS Operating Divisions or other units within the Office of the Secretary. In selected instances, OSP initiates and directs the development of such documents.

OSP is responsible for creating and maintaining effective communication with scientific and technical communities outside the Department regarding science-policy issues. This may include liaison with the Office of Science and Technology Policy, Executive Office of the President. It also includes active participation in inter-agency science and technology activities (such as those sponsored by the National Science and Technology Council) and government/private sector collaborations related to science policy (such as those sponsored by the National Academy of Sciences). These duties may include service as the Secretary's representative in meetings with leaders of research universities, scientific societies, professional associations, and industrial organizations involved in biomedical, behavioral, or social-science research or in the delivery of health and human services.

In all of these areas, OSP staff coordinate their activities as appropriate with those of other components within OASPE, with other components of the Office of the Secretary, and with the Operating Divisions of the Department. The Director, OSP consults regularly with the Assistant Secretary for Health in his/her role as the Secretary's senior advisor on public health and science.

Dated: January 17, 1997.

John J. Callahan,

Assistant Secretary for Management and Budget.

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Office of the Secretary

Federal Financial Participation in State Assistance Expenditures; Federal Matching Shares for Temporary Assistance to Needy Families, Medicaid, and Aid to Needy Aged, Blind, or Disabled Persons for October 1, 1997 Through September 30, 1998

AGENCY: Office of the Secretary, HHS.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Federal Percentages and Federal Medical Assistance Percentages for Fiscal Year 1998 have been calculated pursuant to the Social Security Act (the Act). These percentages will be effective from