



Chairman Kevin Yoder

*Subcommittee on the Legislative Branch
House Committee on Appropriations*

**Architect of the Capitol FY2019 Budget Hearing
April 12, 2018
Opening Statement As Prepared**

Today I would like to welcome Stephen Ayers, the Architect of the Capitol today. We will hear testimony regarding the Architect of the Capitol's fiscal year 2019 budget request. Since Mr. Ayers last appeared before this subcommittee the AoC has made significant progress with several initiatives; they include stone preservation projects across the campus at the Capitol, Supreme Court, Russell Senate Office Building, and Botanic Garden, additionally work on the west wing of the Cannon House Office building is more than 50% complete with the goal of 100% completion by this year's Congressional transition, furthermore conservation of the Capitol's Brumidi Corridors was completed.

These projects along with several others were done by the AoC while also maintaining its day-to-day services and operations which included welcoming over 3 million visitors to the Capitol Visitor Center and Botanic Garden. It is safe to say the AoC had a busy year and I commend the organization for its hard work.

The larger ongoing multi-phase projects included in this request are; the Cannon House Office Building Renewal which is a \$752.7 million project of which \$62 million is included in this year's request; also included is a request for \$32.7 million for the final phase of the Rayburn Interior Garage Rehabilitation project, a project that will total \$131 million; finally, in the request is \$22.6 million for cooling tower renovations at the Capitol Power Plant, that project's total cost is estimated at \$232.6 million.

Over the last year I have had the opportunity to learn more about these projects and appreciate the site visits the AoC has hosted, anytime I get to wear a hard hat is a good time. Mr. Ayers I looked forward to continuing to work with you and your team as this subcommittee puts together the fiscal year 2019 Legislative Branch Appropriation bill.

Mr. Ayers, your complete statement will be made part of the record, feel free to summarize your remarks at this time.

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