

Committee on Natural Resources

Rob Bishop, Chairman
Mark-Up Memorandum

June 20, 2017

To: All Committee on Natural Resources Members

From: Majority Committee Staff – Terry Camp
Subcommittee on Federal Lands (x6-7736)

Mark-Up: **H.R. 1397 (Rep. Barbara Comstock)**, To authorize, direct, facilitate, and expedite the transfer of administrative jurisdiction of certain Federal land, and for other purposes.
June 22 & 27, 2017; 1324 Longworth HOB.

Summary of the Bill

H.R. 1397, introduced by Congresswoman Barbara Comstock (R-VA-10), authorizes a land exchange between the Department of the Interior (DOI) and the Department of Transportation (DOT) in Fairfax County, Virginia. Specifically, the bill would transfer administrative jurisdiction over 0.342 acres of federal land within the boundary of the George Washington Memorial Parkway of the National Park Service to DOT, and transfer from DOT 0.479 acres of federal land within the boundary of the Turner-Fairbank Highway Research Center (Research Center) of the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). The land exchange addresses security issues at the entrance to the Research Center and CIA headquarters.

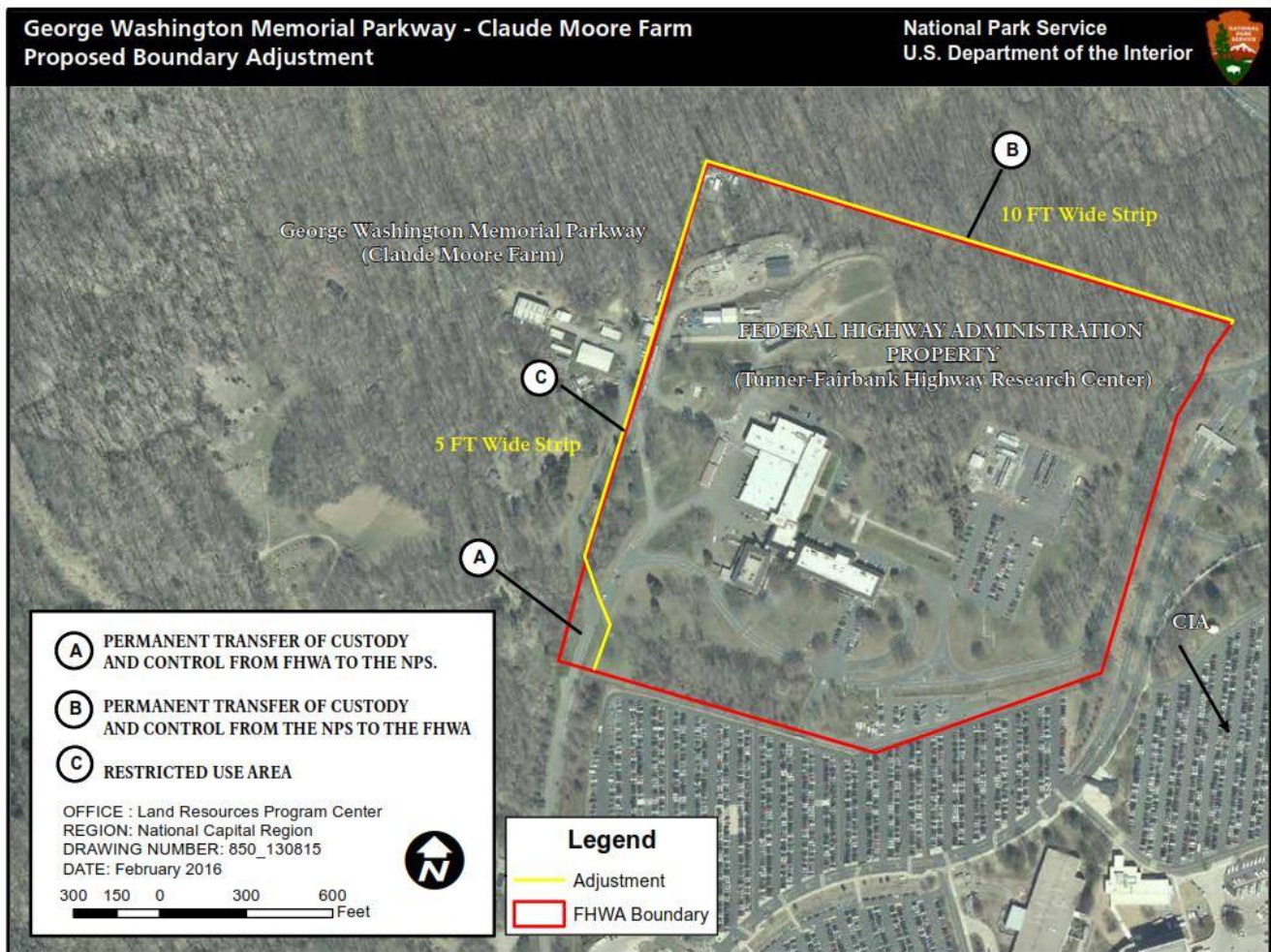
Background

Colonial Farm Road provides public access from Georgetown Pike to Claude Moore Colonial Farm (Farm), a site managed by the National Park Service (NPS) within the George Washington Memorial Parkway. In addition to providing access to the Farm, this road serves as an entrance road to the Research Center and as a secondary entrance to the CIA. The configuration of the property lines between the Farm and the Research Center requires Farm staff to travel across Research Center property to access their facilities.

The three Federal agencies, DOI, DOT and the CIA, have discussed concerns over crossing property lines, the need to have uninterrupted access to their properties, and the need to improve security (visibility) near perimeter fencing of the Research Center. The agencies have identified properties suitable for exchange on their boundaries which will provide public access to the Farm and provide the means to improve security outside the fencing of the Research Center and CIA which will be acceptable to NPS standards. Though the immediate security concerns have previously been addressed through a temporary agreement, legislation is needed to codify the land exchange.

Major Provisions

- Authorizes a transfer administrative jurisdiction over 0.342 acres of federal land within the boundary of the George Washington Memorial Parkway to DOT, and transfers from DOT 0.479 acres of federal land within the boundary of the Turner-Fairbank Highway Research Center to DOI.
- Imposes a use restriction on 0.139 acres of federal land within the boundary of the George Washington Memorial Parkway, by prohibiting the storage, construction, or installation of any item that may interfere with the access of the Research Center to the restricted land for security and maintenance purposes.
- Requires NPS and FHWA to comply with the terms and conditions of the agreement entered into by the parties on September 11, 2002, regarding the transfer of administrative jurisdiction, management, and maintenance of the land described in the agreement.



Cost

A CBO cost analysis has not been completed at this time.

Administration Position

The Administration position is unknown at this time.

Effect on Current Law (Ramseyer)

None.