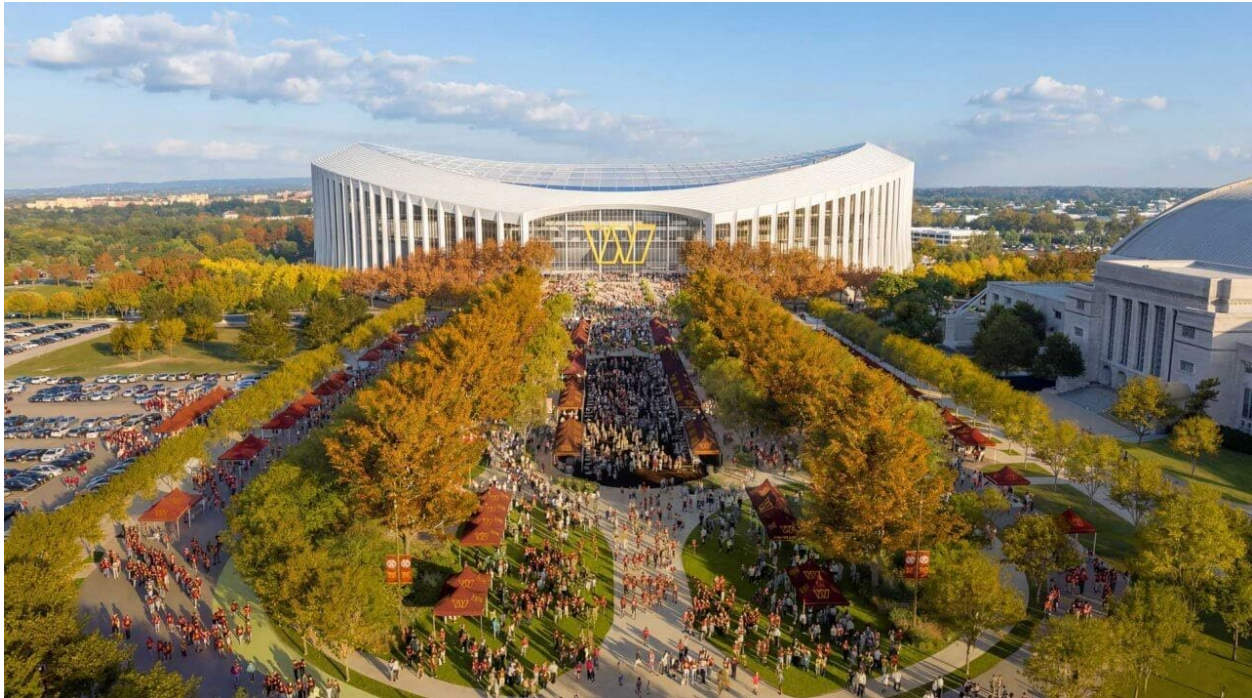


The Architect's Newspaper

OJB shares landscape plans for Washington Commanders stadium

By Daniel Jonas Roche



An aerial view of the festival plaza shows the robust tree canopy that will line the lawns that sprawl out in front of the stadium.
(Courtesy OJB)

OJB shared conceptual [landscape architecture](#) plans for the forthcoming Washington Commanders stadium, [designed by HKS](#). The venue according to OJB will be a “stadium in a park” and rooted in the region’s riverfront ecology.

Approximately 30 percent of the 180-acre site in [Washington, D.C.](#) will be given over to active and passive recreational spaces. A continuous promenade will connect plazas to the east and west.

The site has significant natural grade change. OJB is leveraging this topography by embedding lawns, groves, promenades, and plazas around the stadium. These spaces will be used for year-round activities, not just game days for the Commanders.



The festival plaza will be used for tailgating on game days and can be used for other activations year-round.
(Courtesy OJB)

Central to the overall design is what OJB calls the Festival Plaza at 22nd Street Northeast. This will become the area's "front porch," OJB said, and host seasonal markets, watch parties, performances, community events, and, of course, tailgating.

Arrival plazas will serve as gateways to the stadium. The plazas will be clearly identifiable lined with trees and signage. "We're designing a landscape around the stadium that feels inseparable from Washington's park and riverfront experience," OJB founder Jim Burnett said in a statement.



To accommodate the site's natural topography, steps will be built into the west.
(Courtesy OJB)



From the south, fans and spectators will enter the stadium passing underneath a raised highway.
(Courtesy OJB)

“The goal is a civic place that can hold the excitement of game day but also supports community health and well-being every day: spaces to walk, gather, play, recharge, and celebrate,” Burnett continued. “It will offer something for everyone, in every season.”

The [tranche of renderings by HKS was issued in March](#). Visuals showed the stadium’s form and how it will appear from East Capitol Street Northeast, the Whitney Young Memorial Bridge, and East Capitol Street Southeast.



A promenade will connect plazas to the east and west.
(Courtesy OJB)

Preliminary site and building plans for the Commanders Stadium were approved by [the National Capital Planning Commission \(NCPC\) on April 2](#). The next NCPC meeting is scheduled for May 7.

Vertical construction is anticipated to begin in spring 2027 and full completion is scheduled for 2030 with kickoff soon after.

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