

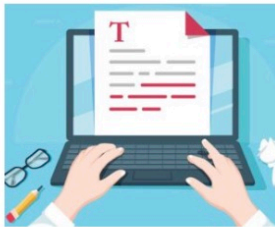
Trump's Monumental Arch project should not be built for many reasons

June 11, 2026



To the editor:

The National Park Service is now taking public comment on Trump's Monumental Arch that he wants to build between the Lincoln Memorial and the Arlington Cemetery along the Potomac River. You can find their complete description of his [proposal here](#) and until June 15, you can submit [your comment here](#).



I am an Army Vietnam veteran (1st Infantry Division) and both of my father's brothers fought in WWII. In my opinion, the proposed initially privately and probably eventually taxpayer funded, 250-foot-tall monster "Triumphal" Arch (half the height of the Washington Monument) was conceived by Donald Trump to be another of his personal gilded vanity projects — like his proposed ugly, imbalanced and ostentatious ballroom addition to our nation's classically designed White House. It would also dominate the skyline and disrupt intentionally created views between the Lincoln Memorial and Arlington National Cemetery.

It is not a worthwhile, historic addition to our Capitol's cherished Memorial Circle and would be an insult to our fallen heroes and veterans buried at Arlington National Cemetery. And I am not alone in this opinion. On June 1, the SAH Heritage Conservation Committee sent a letter to William Scharf, Chair of the National Capital Planning Commission, and its commissioners supporting my objections and outlining why the proposed 250-foot Monumental Arch should not be advanced to preliminary and final approval.

— Jay Roelof, *Lincoln City*