



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Independence National
Historical Park

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Independence National Historical Park

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Next Step in INDE Security Plan to be Implemented

On Tuesday, June 19, 2007, Independence National Historical Park will implement the next step in the park's plans for moving forward with revised visitation and security measures. Part of this new procedure will be a streamlined screening process for visitors to Independence Hall and the Liberty Bell Center. Visitors will no longer be asked to walk through the magnetometers. Visitors with bags or parcels will be asked to make these items available for visual inspection, however, those not carrying any items will be able to pass quickly through the screening.

Starting on Tuesday, June 19, visitor screening for Independence Square will take place outside Old City Hall, between Old City Hall and Independence Hall. Visitors will still gain entry to Independence Square at the corner of 5th and Market Streets. Access to the Liberty Bell Center will continue to be from the west side of the Center on 6th Street.

This proposal is designed to provide continued excellence in visitor service as well as appropriate security for the icons, visitors, and park staff. The security plan, announced in January 2007, includes moving visitor screening at Independence Square out of Old City Hall, revising visitor screening techniques, and creating a Visitor Use Area. The revised measures were worked out in consultation between the Department of the Interior, the NPS, Pennsylvania Senator Arlen Specter, and the City of Philadelphia. The Visitor Use Area, which will be completed later this year, will be enclosed by bollards and chains and will provide visitors and neighbors with a secure, contemplative space for visits to Independence Hall and Independence Square. The proposal provides the best achievable balance between providing necessary security for Independence Hall and the Liberty Bell while still preserving the cultural resources and maintaining the quality of the visitor experience.

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