



National Infrastructure Protection Plan

National Monuments and Icons Sector

Homeland Security Presidential Directive 7 (HSPD-7) identified 17 critical infrastructure and key resources (CIKR) sectors and designated Federal Government Sector-Specific Agencies (SSAs) for each of the sectors. Each sector is responsible for developing and implementing a Sector-Specific Plan (SSP) and providing sector-level performance feedback to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to enable gap assessments of national cross-sector CIKR protection programs. SSAs are responsible for collaborating with public and private sector security partners and encouraging the development of appropriate information-sharing and analysis mechanisms within the sector.

Sector Overview

The National Monuments and Icons (NMI) Sector encompasses a diverse array of assets, systems, networks, and functions located throughout the United States. Many NMI assets are listed in either the National Register of Historic Places or the List of National Historic Landmarks.

NMI sector assets share three common characteristics:

- Are a monument, physical structure, or object;
- Are recognized both nationally and internationally as representing the Nation's heritage, traditions, and/or values or are recognized for their national, cultural, religious, historical, or political significance; and
- Serve the primary purpose of memorializing or representing significant aspects of our Nation's heritage, traditions, or values and as points of interest for visitors and educational activities. They generally do not have a purpose or function that fits under the responsibility of another sector.

Sector assets are essentially physical structures and include the operational staff and visitors who may be impacted by a terrorist attack or all-hazard incident. There are minimal cyber and telecommunications issues associated with this sector due to the nature of the assets. All of the assets in the sector are owned by the Federal Government.

The NMI Sector is committed to ensuring that the symbols of our Nation remain protected and intact for future generations. In the course of protecting these monuments and icons, the sector will ensure that staff and visitors are also protected from harm. Because access to NMI assets is a hallmark of life in a free and open society, the sector strives for an appropriate balance between security, public access, and aesthetics. The sector continues to take protective measures to prevent adversaries from affecting the national psyche by damaging or destroying these important symbols.

NMI sector assets are generally open to the public and must preserve the historical footprint of the site. The public nature of the sector limits the range of protective measures available.

As a result, NMI sector assets are more difficult to protect than those in other sectors.

Selected Initiatives

- Work with DHS' Science and Technology Directorate and the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy to develop unobtrusive physical security techniques and/or environmental/architectural designs that enhance perimeter security; cost-effective visitor screening technology that maintains accessibility; and/or unobtrusive surveillance as well as reliable CBRNE detection systems.
- Where applicable, fully participate in DHS-sponsored Buffer Zone Protection Program development and other security-related initiatives such as the Lower Manhattan Protection Zone.
- Identify funding to conduct a comprehensive study of the psycho-social impacts of a terrorist attack on a NMI asset. A pilot study was conducted by the Homeland Security Institute (HSI); however, a comprehensive study would require more time and resources than were allocated to HSI for the initial effort.
- Promote the use of the Homeland Security Information Network (HSIN) secure portal by Government Coordinating Council partners as a practical means of sharing information concerning physical and cyber threats, vulnerabilities, incidents, potential protective measures, and best practices.
- Implement civil aviation restrictions around CIKR assets located outside the Washington metropolitan area.
- Continue to coordinate with the Government Facilities Sector in providing outreach to State, local, tribal, territorial, and private entities through its Sector Coordinating Council.



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For questions or more information, please contact NIPP@dhs.gov or visit www.dhs.gov/nipp.