

FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM, BOARD OF GOVERNORS
PERIMETER SECURITY ENHANCEMENTS
Eccles and Martin Buildings, 20th and C Street, NW, Washington, DC

Delegated Action of the Executive Director

March 25, 2004

Pursuant to delegations of authority adopted by the Commission on October 3, 1996, I approve the final site development plans for security enhancements at the Eccles and Martin Buildings at 20th and C Streets, NW, Washington, DC, as shown on NCPC Map File No. 1.34(38.00)-41339.

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The Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System has submitted final site development plans for security enhancements around the Eccles and Martin Buildings, which are bounded by Constitution Avenue on the south, Virginia Avenue on the north, and 20th and 21st Streets, NW. The 2000 block of C Street, NW runs between the two buildings and is also the subject of perimeter security enhancements for both buildings.

The Commission approved preliminary site development plans at its December 2003 meeting, requiring the Federal Reserve to resolve outstanding design issues raised by the staff, as well as to gain the written approval of the D.C. Department of Transportation (DDOT) for the removal of metered parking on 20th and 21st Streets, NW. DDOT provided written approval on February 25, 2004. The design issues included: staggering the continuous line of bollards along Constitution Avenue and the continuous fence wall along 20th, 21st, and C Streets, NW; selecting a lighter color bronze bollard to better complement the historic bronze windows of the Eccles Building; submit more architecturally developed guardhouses to complement the two buildings, and well-designed vehicular controls at the entrances to the underground parking garages. The Federal Reserve has responded to these requirements for approval by resolving these design issues as directed by the Commission. The bollard line is varied and spaced as required by the Commission, and the bollard fence is staggered, including use of the tree planting boxes. The bollard designs for the Eccles and Martin Buildings are similar but not identical, as appropriate for buildings of different eras. The guardhouses and the vehicle controls at the entrances to the parking garages have been detailed satisfactorily. The Commission directed the Federal Reserve to pull the bollard line inward at the corner locations on C Street to provide more room for pedestrians. The Federal Reserve can achieve this in all locations except at one ramp, where underground utility vaults necessitate installing the bollards at the curb.

The case was coordinated by the agencies present at the November 2003 Coordinating Committee meeting. The Federal Reserve completed its NEPA requirements with a FONSI dated December 16, 2003. Since receiving preliminary approval from the Commission, the Federal Reserve has completed its

Section 106 responsibilities for the undertaking by signing a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the D.C. State Historic Preservation Office (DC SHPO) on February 12, 2004. The MOA is based on the final drawings submitted to the Commission and indicates the SHPO's concurrence with the Federal Reserve's consideration of the effects of the security project on the historic Eccles Building as well as the L'Enfant Plan streets, including Constitution Avenue, NW. The Federal Reserve has designed the project to ensure that all original architectural elements of the Eccles Building are not physically affected by the proposed project. Further, the Federal Reserve will document the Eccles Building the Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS) Standards as a condition of approval. The Federal Reserve has coordinated its proposal throughout the development of the project with the staff and the DC SHPO, as well as with its neighbors.

Patricia E. Gallagher, AICP
Executive Director