



ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

First Impression Exterior Sign Program
1201 Constitution Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C.

Delegated Action of the Executive Director

April 28, 2005

Pursuant to delegations of authority adopted by the Commission on October 3, 1996, I approve the concept design and general locations of four freestanding site identification signs for the Environmental Protection Agency in the front and courtyards of the Ariel Rios Building on Pennsylvania Avenue and 12th Street, NW, and at corner yards of the West and East Buildings on Constitution Avenue between 12th and 14th Streets, NW, as shown on NCPC Map File No. 1.24(05.17)41588.

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The General Services Administration (GSA) has submitted a concept design for four site identification signs located in the building yard of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) within Federal Triangle. The EPA site is a pilot project for GSA's First Impression Sign Program, a system-wide sign and graphics program intended to achieve consistent identification of federal facilities in the National Capital Region.

Two site identification signs will replace existing signs at the Ariel Rios Building, one near the building's northeast corner at Pennsylvania Avenue and 12th Street NW, and another to be located north of the existing sign in the courtyard on 12th Street, NW. Two new signs will replace two located near the outer-most corner of each building; southwest of the West Building, and southeast corner of the East Building. The nine-foot high by two-and-one-half-foot wide freestanding monument sign panels would be faced with brass veneer and backed by bronze painted aluminum, with an inset bronze painted steel base. Site identification signs would feature the Great Seal, with the agency and building name subordinated to the building address, and would replace the ten-foot high brown ribbon signs that have faded and show deterioration.

The three existing signs are located in building yards near intersecting streets, and would be replaced in the same general locations, visible to the public approaching on foot or by vehicle. View of the existing sign in the Ariel Rios courtyard is obstructed by a Metro pylon and elevator located on the sidewalk. The new sign would be located in the courtyard's north quadrant, far enough from the Metro structures to provide a clear view from the sidewalk.

The project was coordinated by all agencies attending the April 13, 2005 Coordinating Committee meeting. GSA is responsible to complete Section 106 review of the proposed sign design and locations, which has been initiated with the District of Columbia State Historic Preservation Office. The Ariel Rios Building and East and West Buildings are contributing historic structures in the Federal Triangle and the Pennsylvania Avenue National Historic Site. The project meets environmental criteria to qualify as a Categorical Exclusion.

Patricia E. Gallagher, AICP
Executive Director