



**INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE NEW CARROLLTON FEDERAL BUILDING
MODIFY ESCALATOR AND ADD PROTECTIVE SCREENING
5000 Ellin Road,
Lanham, Prince George's County, Maryland**

Delegated Action of the Executive Director

May 30, 2008

Pursuant to delegations of authority adopted by the Commission on October 3, 1996 and 40 U.S.C § 8722 (b)(1), I approve the final building plans to modify the escalator canopy at the New Carrollton Federal Building pedestrian bridge, including the addition of a new escalator protective screen, as shown on NCPC Map File No. 3203.33(38.00)-42546

* * *

The General Services Administration (GSA) has submitted final building plans for GSA modifications to the escalator enclosure at the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) New Carrollton Federal Building in Lanham, Maryland. The project is near the New Carrollton Metrorail Station. The covered concrete walkway and bridge over Ellin Road connect the IRS building to the Metrorail Station, but the covered pedestrian bridge structure and escalator are owned by GSA and were built in 1997. The escalator and bridge are primarily used by IRS employees as the safest and most direct access to the Federal Building from the Metrorail Station and adjoining Amtrak Station.

The final plans call for installation of an enclosure for the escalator below the existing canopy eaves on each side. The enclosure support will be constructed of 6-inch by 4-inch painted steel tubing connected to the escalator base and existing canopy structure above. The framing color will match the existing canopy structure color. Atop the frame will be 4-inch by 3-inch stainless steel tubing vertical posts. On the posts, GSA will install 17-inch high by 14-feet long, 3/16-inch thick, clear Plexiglas panels. The panels are attached to the front and back of the posts in a staggered fashion that creates a weather-shield extending beneath the canopy. The Plexiglas panels will be aligned in a horizontal direction stepping with the stairway until they reach the horizontal platform at the bottom and top of the escalator. Because the weather panels are offset approximately two feet from the escalator handrail, the panels will be difficult to reach for passing pedestrians, making them less likely to be vandalized.

GSA has applied a categorical exclusion to the project under GSA's National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) implementing procedures, finding the proposal eligible under its Categorical Exclusion 5.3 (k) as a project of repair and alteration, where no hazardous materials are utilized or present; the building footprint or envelope will not be increased; and no buildings or properties are eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. As a project in the environs, NCPC is advisory and does not have independent NEPA responsibility for the project.

There are no structures that are listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places located in, or adjacent to, the 1994 acquired 30.2 acre IRS building site. NCPC does not have independent responsibility under National Historic Preservation Act, Section 106, because the project is in the environs outside of the District of Columbia.

Marcel C. Acosta
Executive Director