



IN REPLY REFER TO:  
NCPC FILE No. 8211

October 21, 2020

Mr. Cliff Seagroves  
Director (Acting)  
Office of Foreign Missions  
Department of State  
2201 C Street, NW Room 2236  
Washington, DC 20520

Dear Mr. Seagroves:

The letter summarizes the agreement reached between the National Capital Planning Commission (NCPC) and the United States Department of State, Office of Foreign Missions (OFM) regarding the appropriate party to determine the consistency of an application for construction, expansion, or alteration of a chancery with the 2019 Master Plan for development at the Foreign Missions Center (FMC). Section C.1.b of the 2017 Memorandum of Agreement between NCPA and OFM Regarding the Review of Chancery Development at the Foreign Mission Center (MOA) places the responsibility for a consistency determination with OFM. In a phone conversation on October 15, 2020, both NCPC and OFM staff agreed it would be beneficial to the overall development at the FMC, if NCPC were to review proposed chancery projects for consistency with the 2019 FMC Master Plan in addition to the six Foreign Missions Act (FMA) criteria.

The MOA is the shared understanding of the parties regarding the review process for development at the FMC. While the MOA outlines NCPC's review of proposed projects in accordance with the six criteria in the FMA, it does not, as noted above, assign to NCPC the responsibility to review proposed chancery projects for consistency with the approved 2019 Master Plan. Given the Commission's expertise in land-use planning and design, all parties to the October 15, 2020 phone call agreed that amending the MOA to allow NCPC to exercise this review standard would result in higher quality projects at the FMC. Therefore, we recommend this letter serve as an amendment to the MOA, allowing NCPC to review proposed projects in accordance with the 2019 Master Design Plan in addition to the six FMA criteria. All other aspects of the MOA will remain unchanged.

If you agree with this amendment, please indicate by signing on the signature line on the following page.

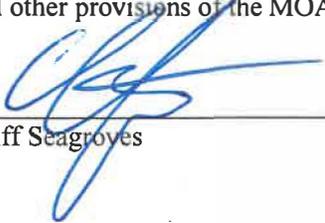
Sincerely,

Marcel Acosta  
Executive Director

cc: Diane Sullivan, Director, Urban Design and Plan Review  
Anne R. Schuyler, General Counsel

Mr. Cliff Seagroves  
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I agree that this letter shall serve as an amendment to the MOA referenced above, and NCPC shall be responsible for reviewing applications at the FMC for consistency with the 2019 Master Plan for the FMC. All other provisions of the MOA shall remain unchanged.

  
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Cliff Seagroves

Date: 10/21/2020