



CITY of NAPA

MAYOR/CITY COUNCIL
955 School Street
Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 660
Napa, California 94559-0660
Voice Mail: (707) 258-7876
FAX # (707) 257-9534

July 21, 2015

Julianne Polanco
State Historic Preservation Officer
Office of Historic Preservation
1725 23rd Street, Suite 100
Sacramento, CA 95816

Re: Section 106 Consultation
Napa Franklin Station
1351 Second Street
Napa, Napa County, CA 94559-9991 (the "Property")
National Register Information System #85000133

Dear Ms. Polanco:

Thank you for forwarding your letter dated July 16, 2015 regarding the decision of the United States Postal Service (USPS) to initiate a Section 106 consultation process for the above-referenced property. The Napa Franklin Station is an iconic and prominent feature of our downtown that is valued by residents and businesses alike, both for its historic and aesthetic significance. The building is one of the crown jewels in a rich and diverse inventory of historic resources that the City and community have worked hard to preserve. As you are aware, the Napa Franklin Station has been documented as possessing considerable aesthetic value, containing one of the most flamboyantly, well decorated post offices in California. It is one of only a few post offices built in the entire state with such strong "Art Deco" design elements and is without question worthy of preservation.

We are deeply concerned that the USPS is considering demolition as an undertaking. Residents, locally elected officials and those in the preservation community were all surprised by the sudden conclusion by the USPS that demolition is an appropriate undertaking – particularly in the absence of any supporting documentation. Given the historic significance and value of the subject property, the Section 106 consultation process should be a deliberative and transparent process that gives serious consideration to the viewpoints of the public and recognized consulting parties. The predetermined conclusion by the USPS that demolition is the preferred outcome strikes us counter to the spirit of consultation and an improper way to start the Section 106 process.

The City understands that your office will have a central role in the Section 106 process and we respectfully request that your office take the following actions to ensure a transparent and meaningful consultation process:

1. Request that the USPS analyze the feasibility of alternative undertakings that do not involve demolition of the building and provide an opportunity for consulting parties and the public to review and comment on the alternatives analysis prior to the conclusion of the consultation process.

Ms. Julianne Polanco
State Historic Preservation Officer
July 21, 2015

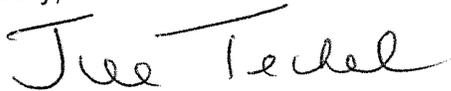
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2. Request that the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation formally engage in the consultation process to ensure a transparent, deliberative and collaborative process that complies with the spirit and letter of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

The City also requests that it be kept informed of SHPO's consultation discussions and advised of any opportunity to actively participate in the process.

Thank you for your consideration of these requests. Please feel free to contact Mr. Ken MacNab of our staff at (707) 258-7860 or by e-mail: kmacnab@cityofnapa.org with any questions.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jill Techel". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name and title.

Jill Techel
Mayor

Attachment

cc: Rick Tooker, Community Development Director



CITY of NAPA

July 13, 2015

MAYOR/CITY COUNCIL
955 School Street
Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 660
Napa, California 94559-0660
Voice Mail: (707) 258-7876
FAX # (707) 257-9534

Mr. Daniel B. Delahaye
Federal Preservation Officer
475 L'Enfant Plaza West, SW Room 6670
Washington, DC 20260-1862

RE: Section 106 Consultation
Napa Franklin Station
1351 Second Street
Napa, Napa County, CA 94559-9991 (the "Property")
National Register Information System #85000133

Dear Mr. Delahaye:

Thank you for your correspondence dated June 26, 2015, advising that the United States Postal Service (USPS) is initiating a Section 106 process for the above-referenced property. The City of Napa appreciates the recognition as a consulting party pursuant to 36 C.F.R. 800.3(f)(1) and looks forward to serving in this capacity throughout the Section 106 process. As you are aware, the Napa Franklin Station is a significant part of Napa's heritage. Centrally located, the building is a vital part of the historic downtown and one of the crown jewels in a rich and diverse inventory of historic resources that the City and community have worked hard to preserve. The Napa Franklin Station has been documented as possessing considerable aesthetic value, containing one of the most flamboyantly, well decorated post offices in California. It is one of only a few post offices built in the entire state with such strong "Art Deco" design elements and is an iconic building worthy of preservation.

We are deeply concerned that the USPS is considering demolition as an undertaking. The information provided with the June 26, 2015 correspondence does not support the conclusion that demolition is justified. We respectfully request copies of all documentation, reports and analyses that lead the USPS to conclude demolition is an appropriate undertaking. This information will allow the City to understand and assess the conclusion that's been made and provide more fully informed and meaningful comments in our role as a consulting party. We also request that the City be provided

with copies of the views of the public, other consulting parties and the California SHPO that are received during the consultation process.

Please direct this information and any future correspondence, meeting requests, public notices and documents circulated for comment to:

Rick Tooker, Community Development Director
City of Napa
1600 First Street
Napa, CA 94559
(707) 257-9530
rtooker@cityofnapa.org

Given the historic significance and irreplaceable value of the subject property, we assume that this Section 106 consultation will be a deliberative and transparent process with serious consideration given to the viewpoints provided by all consulting parties and the citizens of Napa.

Respectfully,



Jill Techel,
Mayor

cc: Senator Barbara Boxer
Senator Diane Feinstein
Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi
Congressman Mike Thompson
State Office of Historic Preservation
John M. Fowler, Executive Director, Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
Rick Tooker, City of Napa Community Development Director