

City of Richmond



BYRON C. MARSHALL
CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

"SIC ITUR AD ASTRA"
SUCH IS THE WAY TO THE STARS

April 9, 2014

Mr. Rob Nieweg, Field Director & Attorney
Washington Field Office
National Trust for Historic Preservation
The Watergate Office Building
2600 Virginia Avenue, NW, Suite 1000
Washington, D.C. 20037

RE: Revitalize RVA Plan/Federal Mandates of the National Historic Preservation Act

Dear Mr. Nieweg:

Thank you for your letter of March 31, 2014, offering the assistance of the National Trust for Historic Preservation (Trust) in helping the City to understand how the requirements of the National Historic Preservation Act apply to the Revitalize RVA Plan (Plan). We appreciate the Trust's interest in this unique opportunity to revitalize an area of the City in a manner that is sensitive and respectful of our history; provides an opportunity for understanding and interpreting this history; and provides jobs for our citizens.

As we implement the Plan, the City will comply with all applicable federal, state and local laws and regulations. We are meeting with all our federal and state partners to brief them on the Plan and are asking them to define their role in the project, specifically as it relates to the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and its implementing regulations, 36 CFR Part 800, *Protection of Historic Properties*. If there is a federal or state partner that determines it has a role in the project and such role requires them to comply with the provisions of Section 106, the City will assist that partner in meeting its obligations under the Act. Until such time as the City has reasonable assurances from its federal and state partners that they either have or do not have a role in implementation of the Plan that would require their compliance with Section 106, the City will not initiate any project actions that would affect any historic properties known or suspected, or preclude the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation from its opportunity to comment on the project.

As we move forward with this exciting and important project for the City, if you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. If a federal or state partner is required to comply with Section 106 for this project, the City looks forward to working with you and other consulting parties in that process, should you choose to participate.

Sincerely,


Byron C. Marshall
Chief Administrative Officer

c: The Honorable Dwight C. Jones, Mayor
The Honorable Members of Richmond City Council
Julie Langan, Virginia Department of Historic Resources
Reid Nelson, Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
David Dutton, Dutton + Associates, LLC