



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

National Mall and Memorial Parks
900 Ohio Drive SW
Washington, DC 20024



January 30, 2018

Mr. David Maloney
State Historic Preservation Officer
District of Columbia, Office of Planning
1100 4th Street SW, Suite E650
Washington, D.C. 20024

Subject: State Historic Preservation Office Consultation for the Lincoln Memorial Rehabilitation,
National Mall and Memorial Parks, Washington, DC

Dear Mr. Maloney:

The National Park Service (NPS), National Mall and Memorial Parks (NAMA) wishes to continue consultation with the District of Columbia (DC SHPO) under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act regarding rehabilitation of the Lincoln Memorial, in accordance with 36 CFR 800.3 of the regulations of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation. As detailed in the enclosed Assessment of Effects report, the NPS has determined that the project will have an adverse effect on historic properties.

The Lincoln Memorial is a legislated unit of the NPS that is part of the National Mall and Memorial Parks (NAMA). It commemorates one of the most venerated presidents in American history. Designed by architect Henry Bacon (1866-1924) and constructed between 1914 and 1922, the Memorial takes the form of a Greek temple and features a portrait sculpture of the Great Emancipator by Daniel Chester French. Located on a site identified by the McMillan Commission in its 1901-02 plan for Washington, the relation to the U.S. Capitol, the Grant Memorial, the Washington Monument, and the Arlington Memorial Bridge. The purpose of this project is to improve accessibility, enhance the chamber experience, improve visitor services, and improve the efficiency of operations at the park. In addition, this project would introduce the experience of the undercroft in order to expand the overall interpretive and educational visitor experience of the Lincoln Memorial. This project would provide a new experience to visitors at one of the most heavily visited sites on the National Mall and would allow the park to tell new and expanded stories related to the Memorial and its construction, while respecting the historic character and intended solemnity of the Memorial.

Public meetings, consulting parties meetings, and the NPS Planning, Environment, and Public Comment (PEPC) website are being used to involve the public in the Section 106 process. A NEPA public scoping meeting and Section 106 consulting parties meeting were held on June 27, 2017 and July 24, 2017, during which the public was introduced to the project and invited to comment on the proposal. A 30-day public comment period was open following each meeting.

The project's EA will be released to the public on February 5, 2018, and a 30-day comment period will be held from February 5 to March 7, 2018. A consulting parties meeting is being planned to discuss the NPS preferred alternative and effects of the proposed undertaking.

In compliance with 36 CFR Part 800.11(e), the enclosed Assessment of Effects report has been prepared for the proposed rehabilitation of the Lincoln Memorial. As described in the Assessment of Effects report, the NPS has determined that the preferred alternative would have an adverse effect on the historic structure. The adverse effect would include a change in appearance of the Memorial's east façade due to the installation of larger exterior doors as well as removal of historic material for the enlargement of the exterior doors and the installation of the visitor facilities and NPS support spaces on the interior of the Memorial.

The NPS looks forward to working with your office and other consulting parties to continue to identify ways to avoid, minimize, or mitigate adverse effects. The NPS will seek to execute a Memorandum of Agreement to resolve the adverse effects in accordance with 36 CFR Part 800.6.

For questions or clarifications regarding this notice, please do not hesitate to contact Catherine Dewey, Chief of Resource Management, at catherine_dewey@nps.gov.

Sincerely,



Karen L. Cucurullo
Acting Superintendent
National Mall and Memorial Parks

Attachment