



MIAMI BEACH

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER
NO. LTC # 132-2014

LETTER TO COMMISSION

TO: Mayor Philip Levine and Members of the City Commission
FROM: Jimmy L. Morales, City Manager
DATE: April 15, 2014

SUBJECT: Historic Preservation Board recommendation regarding the US Post Office located at 1300 Washington Avenue.

Attached, please find a copy of a resolution regarding the current condition of the US Post Office structure located at 1300 Washington Avenue, which was adopted by the Historic Preservation Board at their April 8, 2014 meeting.

The Board is requesting that the Mayor and City Commission direct the Administration to initiate discussions with appropriate State and County agencies, in order to perform any required trimming and maintenance prior to the 2014 hurricane season.

JLM/JMJ/TRM/DJT

C: Jose Smith, City Attorney
Gary Held, First Assistant City Attorney
Rafael Granado, City Clerk
Thomas R. Mooney, Acting Planning Director

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**CITY OF MIAMI BEACH
HISTORIC PRESERVATION BOARD**

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the City of Miami Beach Historic Preservation Board is charged by Ordinance as serving in an advisory capacity to the City Commission and other City Boards on issues affecting the City's architecture, design, historic districts and structures; and

WHEREAS, the US Post Office at 1300 Washington Avenue is classified as a 'Contributing' structure in the Miami Beach Historic Properties Database and is located within the Flamingo Park Local Historic District and the National Register Architectural District; and

WHEREAS, the US Post Office was constructed in 1937 and designed by nationally recognized architect Howard L. Cheney; and

WHEREAS, the US Post Office building is an outstanding example of the Streamline Moderne style of architecture, incorporating a 2-story central cylinder topped with a circular cupola flanked by 1-story asymmetrical bays; and

WHEREAS, the US Post Office contains a highly significant public interior space consisting of a circular lobby with three rare murals depicting Ponce de Leon's invasion of Florida, designed by noteworthy artist Charles Russell Handman; and

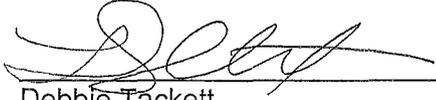
WHEREAS, the US Post Office is currently in a state of disrepair, requiring restoration and maintenance and;

WHEREAS, the Historic Preservation Board strongly supports all efforts to retain, preserve and fully restore the US Post Office building; and

WHEREAS, the retention, renovation and restoration of the structure at 1300 Washington Avenue is extremely important to the architectural history of Miami Beach; and

THEREFORE, it is hereby resolved that the Historic Preservation Board urges that the Mayor and City Commission of the City of Miami Beach direct the Administration to engage the City's federal lobbyist to prioritize the initiation of a discussion with the US Postal Service regarding the maintenance and restoration of the historic Post Office located at 1300 Washington Avenue.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 8th DAY OF APRIL, 2014.



Debbie Tackett
Principal Planner
For the Historic Preservation Board