August 3, 2016

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Subject: Initiation of Section 106 consultation for the construction of the Bay View Campus at the NASA Ames Research Center, Santa Clara County, CA

Dear Ms. Polanco,

In 2008, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) entered into a long-term Enhanced Use Lease (EUL) with Planetary Ventures, LLC (PV) (effective May 14, 2008) for the Bay View site located at 12000 Shoreline Blvd., Mountain View, Santa Clara County, California, which is situated in the northwest portion of the NASA Ames Research Center (ARC). NASA and PV entered into the EUL under the prior programmatic agreement that expired in 2012.

Prior to the expiration of that programmatic agreement, NASA approved an earlier Bay View design plan that resulted in initial rough grading, demolition of existing structures, basic surface and subsurface infrastructure improvements, temporary building construction, and newly compacted building pads on the site. Re-grading on the site was to depths generally not exceeding 3 feet except where underground pipes or structures were removed. However, this site work preparation was later suspended by PV in favor of a new building design solution to meet its current requirements. Pending before NASA is that new design plan, submitted by PV pursuant to the EUL.
Per the requirements of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), as amended, and its regulations found at 36 CFR Part 800, NASA is the lead agency and requests consultation under Section 106 for the proposed construction of the Bay View Campus (Undertaking). The attached documentation contains the following items for your review:

   (Description of Proposed Undertaking, Area of Potential Effects, Identification of Historic Properties, and Application of the Criteria of Adverse Effect)
2. Bay View Campus, Section 106 Technical Report Appendices, July 2016
   a. Appendix A, Maps
   b. Appendix B, Archaeology Report
   c. Appendix C, Existing Conditions Photographs
   d. Appendix D, Selected Drawings
   e. Appendix E, Roof Reflection Analysis

The proposed Undertaking would involve the construction of an office complex and support facilities on the Bay View site, which is currently undeveloped. This Undertaking will be primarily composed of three domed office buildings of varied heights with the largest set towards the northwest corner of the site, furthest from the NASA Ames campus. The Undertaking aims to provide a communal, functional, sustainable, resilient and innovative environment that is sensitively integrated with the surrounding natural and cultural resources.

The Bay View site is not within an historic district, but is near several historic properties. NASA has established an Area of Potential Effects (APE) for the proposed Undertaking. Several historic properties are identified within the APE.

The enclosed Section 106 Technical Report (Item 1) outlines the project description, delineates the APE, and lists the identified historic properties within the APE. The Technical Report also provides an assessment of the proposed Undertaking under the Criteria of Adverse Effects. Based on the Technical Report, NASA has made a finding of No Adverse Effect for the proposed Undertaking.

Due to the time-sensitive processes involved in the Undertaking, we request expedited consultation in accordance with 36 CFR § 800.3(g), which authorizes NASA and SHPO to concurrently address multiple steps in the Section 106 process. NASA is seeking the SHPO’s concurrence with NASA’s finding that the proposed undertaking will have No Adverse Effect on historic properties. NASA requests the SHPO’s concurrence within 30 days of receipt of this letter, as specified in 36 CFR 800.5(c).

Additionally, prior to making any disclosures, we request that the Office of Historic Preservation provide me with notice, with copies of such notice concurrently sent to the cc addresses provided below, of any California Public Records Act requests received by the Office of Historic Preservation related to this Section 106 consultation for the construction of the Bay View campus. Thank you for your continued participation and for your attention to our enclosed request.
Sincerely,

Keith H. Venter
Historic Preservation Officer

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Cc:

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Enclosures