



TO: Mayor Jim Gray  
Urban County Council Members

FROM: Bettie Kerr, Director  
Historic Preservation

CC: Sally Hamilton, CAO

Derek Paulsen, Commissioner  
Planning, Preservation and Development

DATE: June 27, 2016

SUBJECT: MOA per US Federal Courthouse, Barr Street

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Request:

Council Authorization for Mayor to execute Memorandum of Agreement with the U. S. General Services Administration regarding security improvements at the U. S. Federal Courthouse and Post Office building, 101 Barr Street, Lexington, Kentucky.

Purpose:

In compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (as amended), the LFUCG, through the Division of Historic Preservation, is a consulting party as it relates to the renovation and new construction being done on the U.S. Federal Courthouse on Barr Street. This process has included being a review party, in conjunction with the Kentucky Heritage Council( KHC), relative to the construction plans and the resulting mitigation being carried out by the General Services Administration(GSA). Renovation includes some interior changes that are not detrimental to the historic character of the historic structure, new construction results in adding across the rear of the building, including the addition of stair/elevator towers. This new construction will allow security issues including prisoner movement, vertical and horizontal circulation for ingress and egress, and associated needs related to tenant spaces and infrastructure.

A determination was made by the GSA, based on the Secretary of the Interior Standards, and with the agreement of both the KHC and the LFUCG, that the exterior additions result in an Adverse Effect on the integrity of the historic structure, however needed to be carried out due to the security issues. In light of this finding of Adverse Effect, mitigation resulted in the GSA committing to several programs of research, documentation and education to further awareness of the significance of the historic structure, listed on the National Register of Historic Places March 18, 1999. This will included creating substantial documentation materials which are to be housed in the University of Kentucky Special Collections, and the installation of a State Historic Marker in the vicinity of one of the building entrances on Barr Street. The attached Memorandum of Agreement reflects the outcome of the process noted above.

There is no cost to the LFUCG related to this project.



