



August 14, 2013

Diana Alvarado  
Facilities Headquarters – Pacific Area  
U.S. Postal Service  
1300 Evans Ave. Ste. 200  
San Francisco CA 94188-8200

Dear Ms. Alvarado:

On behalf of the Board of Directors and members of The Glendale Historical Society (TGHS), I would like to strongly encourage the United States Postal Service (USPS) to exhaust every possibility before considering the sale and closure of our historic main post office. Established in 1979, TGHS is a non-profit, all-volunteer organization with more than 500 members committed to the preservation of Glendale's rich history and architectural heritage.

We understand the Postal Service's financial difficulties and respectfully ask that you consider other cost-cutting solutions, such as consolidating operations and liquidating satellite offices, or perhaps entering into a shared use agreement with another public agency. The nearby Glendale Courthouse, for example, is in need of additional space and may be interested in such a lease arrangement.

Built in 1934, the granite-clad Italian Renaissance-style building was designed by George M Lindsay and is listed on the Glendale Register of Historic Resources and the National Register of Historic Places. As such, Glendale's main post office is considered a "historic property" and the proposed closure and sale of the building would likely constitute an "adverse effect" under Section 106 of the National Preservation Act of 1966. Under Section 106, an adverse effect is found "when an undertaking may alter, directly or indirectly, any of the characteristics of a historic property that qualify the property for inclusion on the National Register in a manner that would diminish the integrity of the property's location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, or association."

Some examples of an adverse effect as defined in Section 106:

1. Alteration of the property.
2. Change of the character of the property's use or physical features within the property's setting that contribute to its historic significance
3. Neglect of a property which causes its deterioration.

4. Transfer, lease, or sale of property out of Federal ownership or control without adequate and legally enforceable restrictions or conditions to ensure long-term preservation of the property's historic significance.

Therefore, TGHS requests that an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) be prepared to address the effects of any proposed relocation, sale or project. We also ask to be included in all aspects of the Section 106 environmental review.

If the property must ultimately be sold, then the sale should include preservation covenants on the building's significant character-defining features, including the public lobby. The sale should also take into consideration the proposed project and the financing of the project.

We look forward to the opportunity to provide further comment on the future of Glendale's historic post office and ask to be kept informed throughout the decision-making process. I can be reached at 818-242-7447 or by mail at PO Box 4173, Glendale CA 91202.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Greg Grammer', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Greg Grammer, President  
The Glendale Historical Society