

# U.S. COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS 17 MAY 1910

NATIONAL BUILDING MUSEUM  
401 F STREET, N.W., SUITE 312  
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17 June 2005

Dear Mr. McGill:

During its meeting of 16 June 2005, the Commission reviewed the demonstration mockups of GSA's proposed new building identification sign program at the Department of Veterans Affairs Building at 810 Vermont Avenue, NW.

Another mockup of the signs should be constructed for review, reducing the height of the tallest sign by approximately twelve inches, increasing the contrast of the lettering with respect to the panel, and more accurately representing the material proposed for the signs. One version of the sign should place the agency name or names at the top of the sign while the other proposal places the agency identifier under the address of the building. The Commission strongly recommends the use of incised lettering on bronze plate rather than the use of simulated bronze material or metal panels with painted lettering. In addition, placing the mockups at other sites in the city, such as the Federal Triangle area, would be helpful for the Commission to determine the appropriateness of their general application at other federal buildings.

The Commission looks forward to the review of these additional sign mockups. Please coordinate with the staff to schedule the site visit.

Sincerely,  
  
Thomas Luebke, AIA  
Secretary

Michael S. McGill, Special Assistant for Regional Coordination  
U.S. General Services Administration  
301 7th Street, SW  
Washington, D.C. 20407-0001

cc: Rodney Molden, GSA