

From: Aldridge, Jason H. [<mailto:Jason.Aldridge@dos.myflorida.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, February 20, 2018 5:46 PM
To: RSinger@naplesgov.com
Cc: Elaine Reed <ereed@napleshistoricalsociety.org>
Subject: SHPO Response for Proposed Naples Ordinance for NFIP Reviews

Good Afternoon Robin,

I've attached a copy of our letter and will send a hard copy as well. At this time our office is unable to defer the responsibilities associated with reviewing NFIP projects to local governments that are not Certified Local Governments. Please let me know if you have any questions about our letter.

Sincerely,

Jason Aldridge

Compliance Review Supervisor | Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer | Bureau of Historic Preservation | Division of Historical Resources | Florida Department of State | 500 South Bronough Street | Tallahassee, Florida 32399 | 850.245.6344 | 1.800.847.7278 | Fax: 850.245.6439
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FLORIDA DEPARTMENT *of* STATE

RICK SCOTT
Governor

KEN DETZNER
Secretary of State

Bill Barnett
Mayor, City of Naples
P.O. Box 3535
Naples, FL 34106

February 20, 2018

RE: DHR Project File No.: 2017-6022

Request for State Historic Preservation Officer Approval for a Locally Managed Historic Preservation Program

Dear Mayor Barnett:

Thank you for reaching out to our office regarding the City of Naples' proposed historic preservation ordinance that would authorize the city's Design Review Board to evaluate requests to modify historic buildings in the Naples Historic District or in other areas of the city. Our office reviewed the proposed ordinance as it relates to the request for our office to transfer our role in reviewing and commenting on National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) projects to the city's Design Review Board.

Our office reviews NFIP projects to determine if they qualify for variances provided for historic properties in NFIP regulations (44 CFR 59 and 44 CFR 60). We conduct these reviews according to 44 CFR 59 and 44 CFR 60 as well as related guidance provided by the Federal Emergency Management Agency. NFIP regulations allow our agency to comment regarding a property's listing, or eligibility for listing, in the National Register of Historic Places and to comment regarding a proposed NFIP project's effect on historic properties. Based on this review, our office provides a recommendation of whether or not the project meets the requirements to receive the variance. However, the final decision to issue the variance is made by the local floodplain manager or equivalent position.

Whereas this review role is part of a federal program, our agency is limited in the ability to pass on this role to local governments. The National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 and Chapter 267, *Florida Statutes* established the Certified Local Government (CLG) program in Florida and allows our office to pass on certain federally assigned duties to local governments approved under the CLG program. Our office does not have the statutory ability to defer our federal roles to local governments, except through the CLG program. Therefore, our office is unable to transfer the authority to review historic structure variances allowed in NFIP regulations to the city's Design Review Board at this time.

Our office shares the goal of encouraging historic preservation efforts in Naples and we hope to continue to work with the city to advance this goal. We acknowledge the NFIP program creates obstacles to historic preservation and we hope to assist the city in streamlining and improving the review of NFIP

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projects to encourage historic preservation within the Naples Historic District and elsewhere in the city. To advance that goal, we suggest the following options:

- Naples may apply to the Certified Local Government program. Once approved as a CLG, Naples can conduct NFIP reviews without consulting with our office.
- Naples may coordinate with Collier County, which is a Certified Local Government, to establish an inter-local agreement for the review of NFIP projects.
- The city and our office may coordinate to develop a Memorandum of Understanding to streamline the continued review of NFIP projects by our office.

For additional information about applying to the Certified Local Government program, please contact Ruben Acosta, National Register Coordinator, at Ruben.Acosta@dos.myflorida.com or 850-245-6364. For other questions, please contact Jason Aldridge, Compliance Review Supervisor, at Jason.Aldridge@dos.myflorida.com or 850-245-6344.

Sincerely,



Timothy A Parsons, Ph.D.
Director, Division of Historical Resources
& State Historic Preservation Officer