



United States Department of State

Office of Foreign Missions

Washington, D.C. 20520

June 21, 2016

REF 16-961

Ms. Sara Benjamin Bardin  
Director, Office of Zoning  
One Judiciary Square  
441 4th Street, NW  
Suite 200S  
Washington, DC 20001

RECEIVED  
D.C. OFFICE OF ZONING  
2016 JUN 27 AM 9:56

RE: BZA Application No. 19301  
Embassy of the Republic of The Gambia  
Square 2721W, Lot 27  
5630 16th Street, NW

Dear Ms. Bardin:

The Department of State hereby provides its comments concerning the application submitted to the Board of Zoning Adjustment (BZA) by the Embassy of the Republic of The Gambia regarding its desire to use the property located at 5630 16th Street, NW, as its chancery. The application was submitted pursuant to DC Code 5-1206 and Section 206 of the Foreign Missions Act (22 U.S.C. §4306.) This case is scheduled to be heard on July 12, 2016.

On behalf of the Secretary of State, and pursuant to the Foreign Missions Act (22 U.S.C. §§ 4301-4316), particularly sections 4303 and 4306, I hereby convey to the BZA the following comments and determinations concerning the subject application. These comments and determinations relate to the statutory criteria governing BZA determinations that lie within the purview of the Federal Government, namely 22 U.S.C. § 4306(d)(1), (4), and (6), as well as the pertinent portion of (d)(3).

First, with respect to the criterion set forth in 22 U.S.C. § 4306(d)(1), we have determined that favorable BZA action on the present application would fulfill the international obligation of the United States to facilitate the provision of

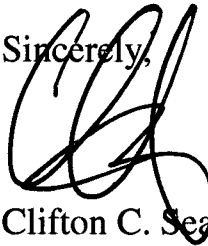
Board of Zoning Adjustment  
District of Columbia  
CASE NO.19301  
EXHIBIT NO.34

adequate and secure premises for the Government of the Republic of The Gambia in Washington.

Second, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. § 4306(d)(3), after consultation with Federal agencies authorized to perform protective services, we have determined that there exist no special security requirements relating to parking in this case. I have also determined, after similar consultation, and pursuant to 22 U.S.C. § 4306(d)(4), that the subject site and area are capable of being adequately protected.

Finally, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. § 4306(d)(6), there is a federal interest in this project. The Government of the Republic The Gambia has been helpful in addressing the United States' land use needs in Banjul, The Gambia. Such cooperation was essential for successfully achieving the Federal Government's mission of providing safe, secure, and functional facilities for the conduct of U.S. diplomacy and the promotion of U.S. interests worldwide.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'C. Seagroves', written over the word 'Sincerely,'.

Clifton C. Seagroves  
Assistant Director for Diplomatic  
Property, Tax, Services, and Benefits

cc: Embassy of the Republic of The Gambia