



**CHANCERY OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA**  
INTERNATIONAL PLACE PARKING AREA  
International Chancery Center  
Connecticut Avenue and Van Ness Street, NW  
Washington, D.C.

**Delegated Action of the Executive Director**

December 1, 2006

Pursuant to delegations of authority adopted by the Commission on October 3, 1996, I approve the preliminary and final site development plans for the Chancery of the People's Republic of China parking area located on International Place, NW and adjacent to the Central Park in the International Chancery Center located at Connecticut Avenue and Van Ness Street, NW, Washington, D.C., as shown on NCPC Map File No. 72.10(38.00)42142.

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On behalf of the Chancery of the People's Republic of China, the United States Department of State (DOS) is submitting preliminary and final site plans for a parking area on International Place, NW located immediately west of the Central Park and east of the federal office building (Lot 9) in the International Chancery Center (ICC). The ICC is located at Connecticut Avenue and Van Ness Street, NW in Washington, DC. Access to the main chancery entrance will be via International Place. The proposal will change the existing two-way traffic pattern on International Place to one-way eastbound from International Drive, and the street will be realigned slightly to accommodate a new parking area located along the western edge of Central Park. The parking area will replace 25 perpendicular, on-street parking spaces with 16 parking spaces. A six-foot wide island with street trees will buffer the parking area from International Place. Additional site improvements will include improved sidewalks along International Place that will provide pedestrian access to the chancery and the Central Park, the replacement and reconfiguration of the park's stone retaining walls, and new landscape throughout the area, including street trees. The existing vehicular drop-off for the federal office building will be eliminated and replaced by landscape improvements and entrance sidewalks. The seven existing parallel parking spaces, adjacent to the federal office building on International Place will be

reduced to six spaces and reconfigured to allow for a pedestrian crosswalk to the proposed parking area.

The DOS issued a Finding of No Significant Impact on September 22, 2000 for the Chancery of the People's Republic of China which included the parking area. Staff has determined that the proposal adheres to the NCPC Categorical Exclusion requirements under §8(C)(2) of the agency's Environmental and Historic Preservation Policies and Procedures. The applicant has determined, and staff concurs that proposed actions inside the ICC are not subject to further review under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act because the buildings are not eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. The National Register-listed residential properties to the south of the ICC would not be affected by the proposed project.

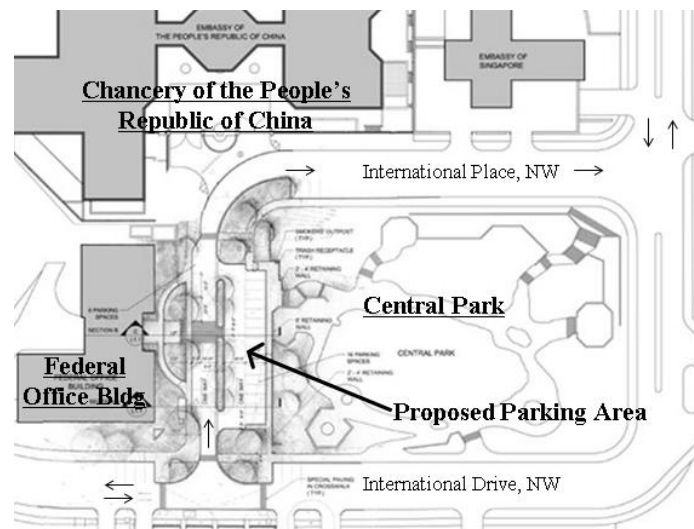
Previously, at its April 4, 2004 meeting, the Commission approved the final site and building plans for the Chancery of the People's Republic of China. The staff report noted the impacts of the parking area configuration proposed at that time on pedestrian access to the ICC Central Park. DOS indicated that they would revise the design and resubmit the parking area for approval at a later date. The applicant's proposed design resolves the Commission's previous concerns regarding "an abrupt and awkward relationship between the parking area and the pedestrian entrance to the Park."

The Coordinating Committee reviewed this item at its meeting on November 15, 2006, and forwarded the proposed preliminary and final site plans to the Commission with the statement that the project has been coordinated by all agencies participating.

At its November 16, 2006 meeting the Commission of Fine Arts approved the final design submission for the proposed project.

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Patricia E. Gallagher, AICP  
Executive Director



**PROPOSED SITE PLAN**