

Department of Transportation

HAROLD E. LINNENKOHL COMMISSIONER (404) 656-5206

DAVID E. STUDSTILL, JR., P.E. CHIEF ENGINEER (404) 656-5277 State of Georgia #2 Capitol Square, S.W. Atlanta, Georgia 30334-1002

February 7, 2006

NOTIFICATION

Initiation of Section 106 Process for GDOT Project STP-0006-00(984), Fulton County P.I. No. 0006984

LARRY E. DENT DEPUTY COMMISSIONER (404) 656-5212

> EARL L. MAHFUZ TREASURER (404) 656-5224

Fulton County has entered into an agreement with the Georgia Department of Transportation to develop proposed Livable Centers Initiative (LCI) Project STP-0006-00(984). In compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, the City of Sandy Springs has determined that because of the nature and the scope of this undertaking, the proposed project has the potential to cause effects to historic properties if any such properties exist in the project area. The City of Sandy Springs is attempting to identify historic properties already listed in the National Register of Historic Places and any property not already listed that would be considered eligible for listing that are located within the geographic area of potential effects (APE) of the proposed project.

The proposed project would consist of providing pedestrian and aesthetic improvements along Peachtree Dunwoody Road from I-285 to Abernathy Road. The project is approximately 1.30 miles long and is located within Fulton County. At the gaps in the existing sidewalk, a new sidewalk five to eight feet in width would be installed dependent upon right-of-way constraints. Short lengths of retaining walls may be required to minimize construction impacts. Streetscape improvements would include, but are not limited to new ADA compliant sidewalks, decorative signal poles, landscaping, benches and other amenities as appropriate (see Figure 1). Existing right-of-way is varies from 100 to 126 feet. Temporary easement would be required to construct the proposed sidewalks.

Because of the nature and scope of the undertaking, the APE is limited to the proposed right-ofway and viewshed of the proposed project, within which all construction and ground disturbing activity would be confined (refer to attached location map). No potential for indirect effects outside of the proposed right-of-way exists.

Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act requires the Federal Highway Administration, the Georgia Department of Transportation, and the City of Sandy Springs in consultation with the Georgia State Historic Preservation Officer, to identify potential consulting parties and to invite them to participate in the Section 106 process. This Notification letter is one of several methods the City of Sandy Springs may use to encourage public participation in this

process and it serves as your invitation to participate as a consulting party in the Section 106 process for this project.

A written request to become a consulting party for this project should be directed to:

Edwards-Pitman Environmental, Inc.

1250 Winchester Parkway

Suite 200

Smyrna, Georgia 30080

Attn: Grant D. Hudson

Responses would be appreciated within thirty (30) days of receipt of this Notification letter. Please refer to the project identification (P.I. 0006984) number that is at the top of this letter in your response. The potential consulting parties identified and invited to participate in the Section 106 process for this project are the Atlanta Regional Commission and the Fulton County Department of Environment & Community Development. If you are aware of other organizations or individuals interested in cultural resources in the project area not already identified, please forward their names to the City of Sandy Springs.

Also, on behalf of the Federal Highway Administration Georgia Division (FHWA), in keeping with a government-to-government relationship and in compliance with 36CFR800, the following tribal governments are invited to participate in the Section 106 process for this project: Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas, Chickasaw Nation, Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Poarch Band of Creek Indians, Seminole Nation of Florida, Thlopthlocco Tribal Town, and the United Keetoowah Band of Indians. Responses to this Notification regarding tribal concerns should be addressed to the attention of Mr. Eric Duff, the Department's Native American liaison, at the above address.

Existing information on previously identified historic properties has been checked to determine if any are located within the APE of this undertaking. This review of existing information revealed that no properties listed in or nominated for listing in the National Register, no National Historic Landmarks and no bridges determined eligible for inclusion in the National Register in the updated Georgia Historic Bridge Survey (GHBS) are located within the proposed project's APE.

No properties 50 years old or older were identified within the proposed project's APE in the 1995 Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Fulton County Survey. Even though no properties 50 years old or older were identified within the APE in the 1995 Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Fulton County survey, because buildings or structures were identified within the APE by consulting aerial photography and topographic maps, the proposed project will be field surveyed for both historic properties and archaeological sites and the Criteria of Eligibility will be applied to any identified properties in consultation with the Georgia SHPO and other consulting parties to determine if any of those properties are eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places.

Consulting parties are also invited to provide information concerning any historic or archaeological properties already listed in the National Register or that could be eligible for listing in the National Register that are not identified in this Notification letter at this time. In accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, City of Sandy Springs will assess project effects to any identified historic properties as preliminary project plans become available, endeavor to minimize harm to all identified historic properties and produce an Assessment of Effects report. This document will be provided to all consulting parties for comment when completed.

Individuals and organizations that do not wish to become a consulting party, but would still like to comment on the proposed project will also have that opportunity throughout the plan development process. Historic resource concerns can be addressed to Grant D. Hudson (770-333-9484 or ghudson@edwards-pitman.com) of Edwards-Pitman Environmental, Inc.; archaeological resource concerns, including cemetery and other human burials, can be addressed to Eric Anthony Duff (404-699-4406 or eric.duff@dot.state.ga.us) of the Department's Office of Environment/Location. Questions concerning general design or location issues may be addressed to Chauncey Elston (77-263-5945) of Moreland Altobelli Associates, Inc.