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March 21, 2006

NOTIFICATION

Initiation of Section 106 Process for

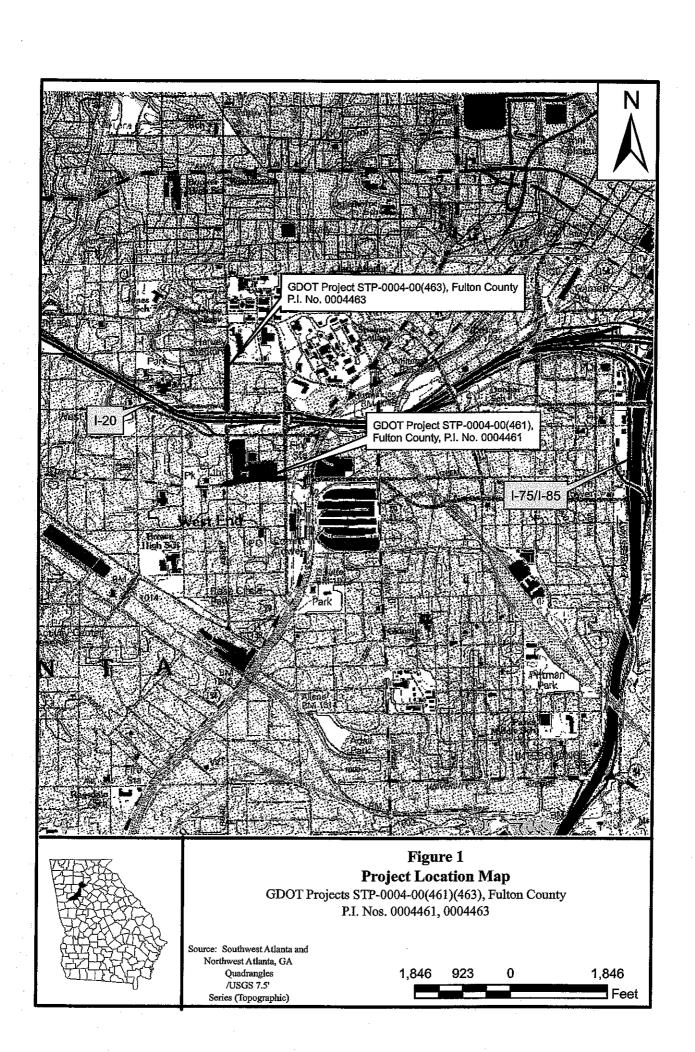
GDOT Projects STP-0004-00(461)(463), Fulton County

P.I. Nos. 0004461, and 0004463

The City of Atlanta has entered into an agreement with the Georgia Department of Transportation to develop proposed Livable Centers Initiative (LCI) Projects STP-0004-00(460(461)(463), Fulton County. In compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, the City of Atlanta has determined that because of the nature and the scope of these undertakings, the proposed projects have the potential to cause effects to historic properties if any such properties exist in the project area. The City of Atlanta 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 projects.

The proposed project STP-0004-00(461) would consist of the addition of a 10-foot, or to the face of the buildings, pedestrian way with paver accents, pedestrian lighting with breakaway design. landscaping, and street furniture on both sides of Ralph David Abernathy Boulevard from Joseph Lowery Boulevard to Lee Street. Improvements at the intersection of Ralph David Abernathy with Lee Street and Joseph Lowery Boulevard would include the restriping of the existing crosswalks, the widening of the tuning radii to accommodate tracks and buses where there is available right-of-way, the upgrading of the existing signal system with LED signal heads, and the addition of pedestrian friendly sidewalks, crosswalks and ramps. Gateway features to identify the West End Historic District Area are proposed at these intersections (see Figure 1).

The proposed project STP-0004-00(463) would consist of overall pedestrian access improvements that would include the addition and/or renovation of sidewalks with paver accents. the restriping and/or addition of crosswalks, the addition of pedestrian lighting with breakaway design, landscaping, street furniture, and uniform street name signage along Joseph Lowery Boulevard. The proposed project would be divided into three phases. Phase one would be from Sells Avenue to West End Avenue. Phase two would be between West End Avenue and Norcross Street. Phase three would be from Norcross Street to I-20 (see Figure 1).



Because of the nature and scope of the undertaking, the APE is limited to the proposed right-of-way and viewshed of the proposed project, within which all construction and ground disturbing activity would be confined. 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 Atlanta 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 Atlanta 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 these projects.

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

Edward-Pitman Environmental, Inc. 1250 Winchester Parkway Suite 200 Smyrna, Georgia 30080

Attn.: David Adair

Responses would be appreciated within thirty (30) days of receipt of this Notification letter. Please refer to the project identification (P.I. 0004461 and 0004463) numbers that are 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, the Atlanta Preservation Center, the Atlanta Urban Design Commission, and the Fulton County Department of Environment and 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 Atlanta.

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 one property 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. This property is the West End Historic District.

No properties 50 years old or older were identified within the proposed project's APE in the 1997 Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Fulton County Survey or the 2002 NAHRGIS Survey.

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 Atlanta 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 David J. Adair (770-333-9484 or <u>dadair@edwards-pitman.com</u>); archaeological resource concerns, including cemetery and other human burials, can be addressed to Eric Anthony Duff (404-699-4406 or <u>eric.duff@dot.state.ga.us</u>). Questions concerning general design or location issues may be addressed to Ahmad Moshenzadeh (770-988-0400 or <u>ahmadm@edtinc.net</u>).