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NOTIFICATION

Initiation of Section 106 Process for GDOT Project NHS-0001-00(759), Clayton County

P.I. # 0001759

February 28, 2006

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The Georgia Department of Transportation is in the beginning stages of project development for this proposed transportation project. In compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, the Department 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 Department is attempting to identify historic properties already listed in the National Register of Historic Places and any properties 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 the widening of I-75 from SR 54/Jonesboro Road north to Aviation Boulevard (see attached location maps). The widening would consist of adding one high occupancy vehicle (HOV) lane in each direction, with the ability to expand to two HOV lanes in each direction. Existing right-of-way is variable; additional right-of-way would be required in order to implement the proposed project.

Because of the nature and scope of the undertaking, the APE for the proposed project would include the areas within the proposed right-of-way and the viewshed of the proposed project (refer to attached graphic). No potential for indirect effects outside this corridor is anticipated as a result of implementation of the proposed project. No additional access to the existing facility would be provided and existing access to the facility would either be maintained or modified. The project would only increase the capacity of the existing roadway to meet anticipated future demand.

Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act requires the Federal Highway Administration and the Georgia Department of Transportation, 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 Department uses 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 cultural resources for this project should be directed to:

Joseph E. Tomberlin PBS&J 5665 New Northside Drive Suite 400 Atlanta, GA 30328

Responses would be appreciated within thirty (30) days of receipt of this Notification letter. Please refer to the project identification number (P.I. 0001759) 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, Georgia SHPO and the Clayton County Commission. 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 Department.

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, 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 1977 Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Clayton County Survey.

Even though no properties 50 years old or older were identified within the APE in the 1977 DNR Clayton 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. In accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, the Department 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 Joe Tomberlin (770-933-0280 or jetomberlin@pbsj.com); archaeological resource concerns, including cemetery and other human burials, can be addressed to Chris Koch (770-623-0755 or cpkoch@terracon.com). Questions concerning general design or location issues may be addressed to Scott Dubord (770-933-0280 or smdubord@pbsj.com).

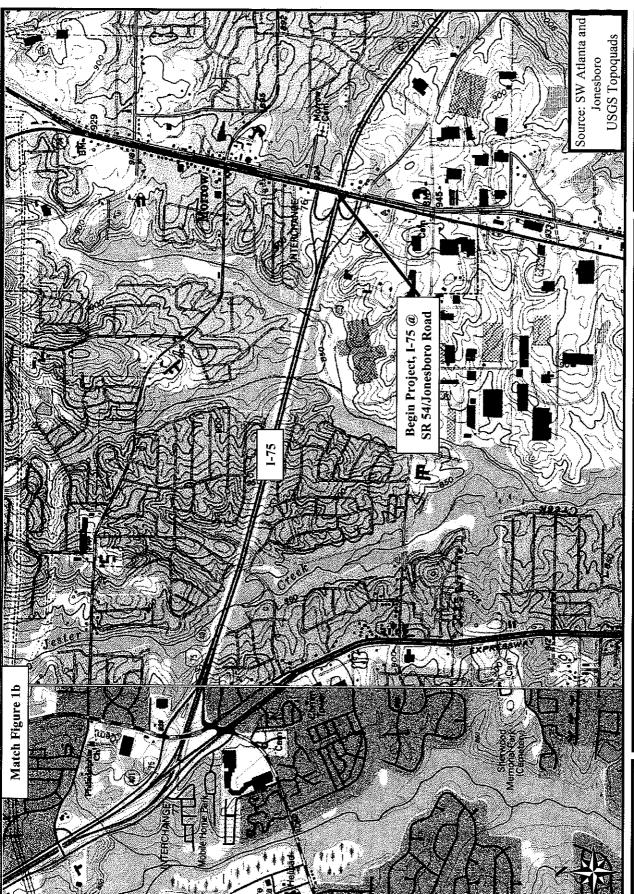
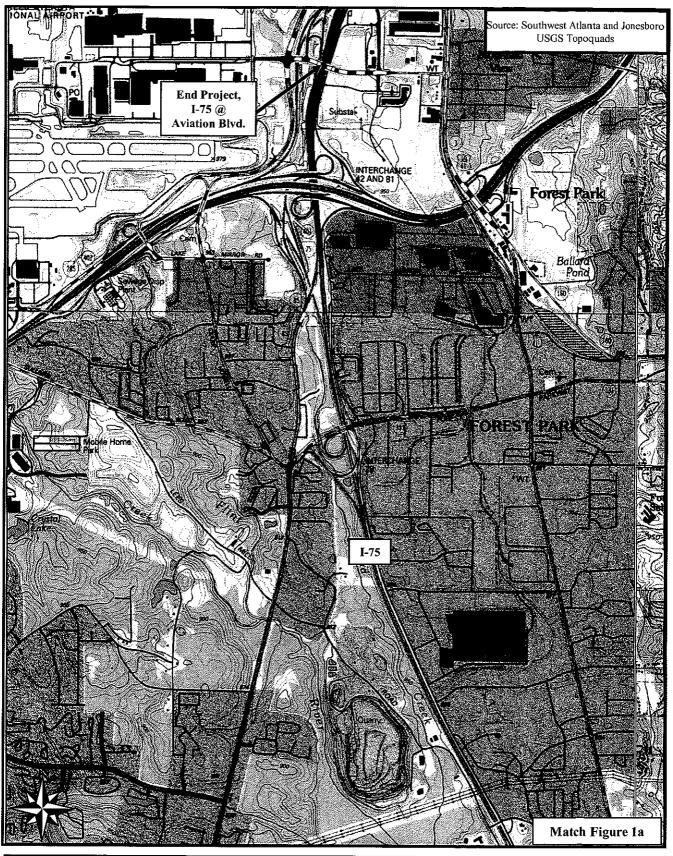


Figure 1a
Project Location Map
(not to scale)

I-75 HOV Lanes GDOT Project NHS-0001-00(759), P.I. #0001759 Clayton County, Georgia







I-75 HOV Lanes GDOT Project NHS-0001-00(759), P.I. #0001759 Clayton County, Georgia Figure 1b
Project Location
Map
(Not to Scale)