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February 28, 2006

NOTIFICATION

Initiation of Section 106 Process for GDOT Project STP-0004-00(487), Rockdale County

P.I. No. 0004487

MAR - 3 2006

The City of Conyers has entered into an agreement with the Georgia Department of Transportation to develop proposed Livable Centers Initiative (LCI) Project STP-0004-00(487). In compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, the City of Conyers 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 Conyers 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 improve the intersection of SR 20/Sigman Road and East View Road, located approximately 1.80 miles northeast of I-20 (see Figure 1). The project limits on SR 20/Sigman Road would extend approximately 600 feet north and south of the East View Road centerline. The project limits on East View Road would be approximately 400 feet east and west of the SR 20/Sigman Road centerline. The existing SR 20/Sigman Road and East View Road intersection is unsignalized and consists of one 10-foot to 12-foot travel lane in each direction with no sidewalks and rural shoulders. The proposed project would install a traffic signal at the intersection of SR 20/Sigman Road and East View Road and would provide separate left turn lanes. SR 20/Sigman Road would have rural shoulders. East View Road would have eight-foot shoulders with two feet of pavement, a five-foot sidewalk, and a one-foot grass strip on the south side of the eastbound approach. The north side of the eastbound approach and both sides of the westbound approach of East View Road would have rural shoulders. The existing right-of-way width on SR 20/Sigman Road varies from approximately 100 feet to 130 feet. The existing right-of-way width on East View Road is approximately 60 feet. No additional right-ofway would be required on SR 20/Sigman Road. Approximately 40 feet of additional right-ofway, 20 feet to the north and 20 feet to the south, would be required on East View Road for a total right-of-way width of approximately 100 feet.

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Because of the nature and scope of the undertaking, the APE is limited to the view shed and the proposed right-of-way 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 Conyers in consultation with the Georgia State Historic Preservation Officer (GASHPO), 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 Conyers 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:

Martha Teall
Edwards-Pitman Environmental, Inc.
1250 Winchester Parkway
Suite 200
Smyrna, GA 30080

Responses would be appreciated within thirty (30) days of receipt of this Notification letter. Please refer to the project identification (P.I. 0004487) 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, the Rockdale County Board of Commissioners, the Rockdale County Historical Society, the Conyers Historic Preservation Commission, and the GASHPO. 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 Conyers.

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: 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.

Even though no properties 50 years old or older were identified within the APE in the 1991 GADNR Rockdale County survey, because of the age of the survey, the proposed project will be field surveyed for both historic properties and archaeological sites. The Criteria of Eligibility will be applied to any identified properties in consultation with the GASHPO 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, the City of Conyers 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 Martha Teall of Edwards-Pitman Environmental, Inc, (770-333-9484 or mteall@edwards-pitman.com); 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). Questions concerning general design or location issues may be addressed to David Hannon of LAI Engineering (770-423-0807, ext. 123, or DavidH@LAIEngineering.com).

