

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

STATE OF GEORGIA

INTERDEPARTMENT CORRESPONDENCE

FILE P.I. #0010425 **OFFICE** Environmental Services

DATE August 20, 2013

FROM Madeline L. White

TO Files

SUBJECT GDOT Project: Grade Separation along CR 3929/Walther Boulevard over SR 316;
Gwinnett County; P.I. #0010425 and HP #040204-002:
Finding of No Historic Properties Affected.

Attached is the Finding of No Historic Properties Affected document for the subject project. This finding fulfills the Department's responsibilities under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966 and subsequent amendments for historic districts, buildings, structures, or objects. By agreement, because no resources fifty (50) years of age or older were found within the Area of Potential Effect of this project, no signed concurrence from the State Historic Preservation Officer is required. A report, which fulfills the Department's responsibilities under Section 106 for archaeological sites, will be submitted separately.

MLW/

cc: Rodney N. Barry, P.E., FHWA, w/attachment (Attn: Kelly Wade)
David Crass, Deputy SHPO, w/attachment
Atlanta Regional Commission, w/attachment
Michael Hester, GDOT NEPA
Wendy Dyson, Atkins North America
Andrew Hoenig, GDOT Project Manager, Office of Innovative Program Delivery

FINDING OF NO HISTORIC PROPERTIES AFFECTED

GWINNETT COUNTY

P.I. # 0010425

HP # 040204-002

Description of the Undertaking

GDOT PI # 0010425 is federally funded. Therefore, Section 106 compliance is being processed through the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA).

The proposed project would consist of the grade separation of Walther Boulevard over State Route (SR) 316 in Gwinnett County, Georgia. The proposed project is approximately 0.3 mile in length. The existing typical section of Walther Boulevard consists of two 12-foot travel lanes (one in each direction) with a 12-foot flush median. The proposed typical section of Walther Boulevard would consist of two 12-foot travel lanes with a 14-foot two way left turn lane and a 12-foot shoulder. Four foot bike lanes and 5-foot sidewalks would be located on both sides of the roadway. The proposed Walther Boulevard bridge over SR 316 would be a four span bridge 404 ft in length (see attached location map). Existing right-of-way (ROW) along Walther Boulevard varies between approximately 80 and 147 feet. Proposed ROW would be required and would vary between approximately 90 and 385 feet.

The area of potential effects (APE), as defined in 36 CFR 800.16(d), is the geographic area or areas within which an undertaking may directly or indirectly cause changes in the character or use of historic properties if any such properties exist. Based on this definition, the nature and the scope of the undertaking, the guidance in the GDOT/FHWA Cultural Resources Survey Guidelines and past experience with similar projects, the Department has evaluated and defined the APE for this proposed project. Because of the nature and scope of the undertaking, the area of potential direct effects consists of the project viewshed and the proposed right-of-way of the proposed project, within which all construction and ground disturbing activity would be confined (refer to attached graphic). No potential for indirect effects is anticipated by implementation of the proposed project.

Identification of Historic Properties

Existing information on previously identified historic properties was checked to determine if any are located within the APE of this undertaking. This review included National Register listed properties, pending National Register nominations, National Historic Landmarks, and the updated Georgia Historic Bridge Survey (GHBS). No properties listed in or nominated for listing in the National Register, National Historic Landmarks or bridges determined eligible for inclusion in the National Register were identified within the proposed project's APE. The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Gwinnett County surveys dated 1978 and 2006 were also consulted and no historic resources were identified within the proposed project's APE.

In addition to the Georgia SHPO, other potential consulting parties were identified based on the nature of the undertaking and the guidance in the GDOT/FHWA Cultural Resource Survey Guidelines. The other potential consulting parties invited to participate in the Section 106 process were the Atlanta Regional Commission, the Gwinnett County Board of Commissioners and the Gwinnett County Historical Society. The consulting parties were informed of our efforts to identify historic properties by consulting existing information and the results of those efforts and asked to provide information on any unidentified National Register listed or eligible properties within the project's APE by a Notification dated June 20, 2013 (see Notification in Appendix). A response was received from the Georgia SHPO by a letter dated July 2, 2013.

Although the 1978 and 2006 Gwinnett County DNR surveys did not identify any properties 50 years old or older within the APE, buildings and structures were visible on aerial photography and topographic maps. Therefore, the proposed project was field surveyed for historic properties. As a result of these efforts, no property listed in or considered eligible for listing in the National Register was identified within the proposed project's APE and no additional property 50 years old or older was identified within the proposed project's APE.

Determination

Based on the results of our historic property identification efforts, no properties listed in or considered eligible for listing in the National Register were located within the APE of this undertaking. Therefore, there is a finding of No Historic Properties Affected for this undertaking in accordance with 36 CFR 800.4(d)(1)

Legend

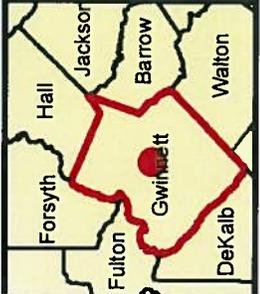
 Study Area (Walther Blvd. PI No. 0010425)

End PI No. 0010425 (Walther Blvd.)

CR-3929/Walther Blvd.

Begin PI No. 0010425 (Walther Blvd.)

SR316



Aerial Photography Source: Bing Maps, flown 2010



**SR 316 at CR 3929/Walther Blvd -
Grade Separation, Gwinnett County**

GDOT Project PI No. 0010425

**Figure 1:
Project
Location
Map**



APPENDIX
NOTIFICATION
AND
EARLY CONSULTATION CORRESPONDENCE



NOTIFICATION

Initiation of Section 106 Process for GDOT P.I. # 0010425, Gwinnett County

June 20, 2013

The Georgia Department of Transportation (Department) 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 (NRHP) 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 grade separation of Walther Boulevard over State Route (SR) 316 in Gwinnett County, Georgia. The proposed project is approximately 0.3 mile in length. The existing typical section of Walther Boulevard consists of two 12-foot travel lanes (one in each direction) with a 12-foot flush median. The proposed typical section of Walther Boulevard would consist of two 12-foot travel lanes with a 14-foot two way left turn lane and a 12-foot shoulder. Four foot bike lanes and 5-foot sidewalks would be located on both sides of the roadway. The proposed Walther Boulevard bridge over SR 316 would be a four span bridge 404 ft in length (see attached location map). Existing right-of-way (ROW) along Walther Boulevard varies between approximately 80 and 147 feet. Proposed ROW would be required and would vary between approximately 90 and 385 feet.

Because of the nature and scope of the undertaking, the APE is limited to the proposed ROW 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 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.

Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act requires the Federal Highway Administration and the Department, in consultation with the Georgia State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), 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:

Atkins North America
1600 RiverEdge Parkway, Suite 600
Atlanta, Georgia 30328

Attn: Wendy Dyson

Responses would be appreciated within thirty (30) days of receipt of this Notification letter. Please refer to the project identification number (P.I. 0010425) 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, Gwinnett Historical Society, and the Gwinnett 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, 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: Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council, Poarch Band of Creek Indians, Seminole Tribe of Florida, Thlopthlocco Tribal Town, and the United Keetoowah Band. Responses to this Notification regarding tribal concerns should be addressed to the attention of Mr. Jim Pomfret, the Department's American Indian liaison.

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 NRHP, no National Historic Landmarks and no bridges determined eligible for inclusion in the NRHP in the updated Georgia Historic Bridge Survey 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 1978 or 2006 Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Gwinnett County Survey.

Even though no properties 50 years old or older were identified within the APE in the 1978 or 2006 DNR Gwinnett 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 NRHP.

Consulting parties are also invited to provide information concerning any historic or archaeological properties already listed in the NRHP or that could be eligible for listing in the NRHP 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. The Department also wishes to know of any past, present or future local developments or zoning plans which may result in indirect or cumulative impacts to archaeological sites and historic structures as they relate to the proposed project.

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 Wendy Dyson (770-933-0280 or wendy.dyson@atkinglobal.com) of Atkins North America; archaeological resource concerns, including cemetery and other human burials, can be addressed to Jim Pomfret (404-631-1256 or jpomfret@dot.ga.gov) of this office. Questions concerning general design or location issues may be addressed to Bayne Smith (770-532-5526 or bsmith@dot.ga.gov) of the Department's Gainesville (District # 1) Office.

 **GEORGIA**
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

HISTORIC PRESERVATION DIVISION

MARK WILLIAMS
COMMISSIONER

DR. DAVID CRASS
DIVISION DIRECTOR

MEMORANDUM

TO: Glenn S. Bowman
State Environmental Administrator
Office of Environmental Services
Georgia Department of Transportation
Attn: Sandy Lawrence

FROM: Stephanie Jordan *SCJ*
Transportation Projects Coordinator
Historic Preservation Division

RE: Receipt of Early Coordination Information

Project Title: PI 0010425
Grade Separation, Walther Blvd over SR 316

Project Number: HP-130626-003

County: Gwinnett

DATE: July 2, 2013

The Historic Preservation Division has received the early coordination information required by Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and the Georgia Environmental Policy Act (GEPA). Thank you for submitting this information, and we look forward to working with you in the future as this project progresses.

SCJ:jad

cc: Kelly Wade, FHWA
Jim Pomfret, GDOT
Dennis Cheek, GDOT
Wendy Dyson, Atkins North America