



## State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
P.O. Box 600  
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0600

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5/10/2022

Ms. Katherine Marcopul  
Administrator and Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer  
Mail Code 501-04B  
State of New Jersey  
Department of Environmental Protection  
Historic Preservation Office  
PO Box 420  
Trenton, NJ 08625-0420

Route 29 Alexauken Creek Road to Washington Street,  
MP 19.67-24.5, 27.4 – 30.4, and 33.7-34.3  
Pavement Resurfacing, Pavement Reconstruction and Drainage  
Improvements  
Lambertville City, Delaware Township,  
Kingwood Township, Stockton Borough and Frenchtown Borough  
Hunterdon County  
NJDOT Job #1007516

Attn: Jennifer Leynes, Vincent Maresca

Dear Dr. Marcopul:

The purpose of this letter is to initiate the Section 106 process, identify consulting parties, and develop a Public Involvement Action Plan per 36 CFR 800.2 and 36CFR800.3. Additionally, this letter is intended to establish an agreed upon Area of Potential Effect and an appropriate level of survey to identify historic properties within the project area per 36CFR800.4.

### **Section I: Description of Undertaking and Area of Potential Effects (APE)**

#### *Purpose*

The New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) is proposing pavement resurfacing, pavement reconstruction and drainage improvements of Route (Rt.) 29 in Lambertville City, Delaware Township, Kingwood Township, Stockton Borough, and Frenchtown Borough,

Hunterdon County. The goal of this project is to improve the existing conditions of the pavement and drainage facilities along Route 29 within the project limits while minimizing environmental, quality of life, access, right of way and utility impacts. The project limits are Mile Post (MP) 19.67 to MP 24.5, MP 27.4 to MP 30.4, and MP 33.7 to MP 34.3. The purpose of this project is to provide a solution to correct the severe pavement deficiencies within the project limits, contain surface runoff to prevent further pavement deterioration, and improve safety.

### *Need*

The pavement is in fair to poor condition throughout the corridor and the lanes exhibit surface distresses including cracking, high deflections, severe settlement, and raveling. The Drainage Management System reports high incidence of flooding and icing at numerous locations within the project limits due to inadequate drainage facilities. This has led to prolonged standing water within the roadway facility, which has undermined the integrity of the pavement. Additionally, slope failures along the D&R Canal have resulted in pavement failures, where the roadway runs parallel to the canal in close proximity. Therefore, drainage improvements, slope stabilization and some limited pavement reconstruction are included in this project.

### *Project Description*

The Preliminary Preferred Alternative is a pavement reconstruction project with most of the limits being "mill 'x', pave 'x', specified sections of "mill 'x', pave 'x +1', and limited areas of full pavement reconstruction where required. Drainage improvements include modifying the existing drainage facilities with most of the work and proposed facilities being contained within the footprint of the roadway and/or NJDOT ROW. Drainage improvements must contain the existing storm water runoff without increasing the peak flow or outfall pipe sizes to the Delaware and Raritan (D&R) Canal. Other stormwater management improvements include the replacement and/or remediation of deficient headwalls and existing swales within the limits.

Additional improvements include the reconstruction of curb ramps, sidewalk and vertical curb repairs to meet ADA standards, guiderail replacement as needed for substandard barrier and other incidental roadway improvements including raised pavement markers, in-kind replacement of center line rumble strips and the improvement of lighting at critical locations within the corridor. Structural improvements also include in-kind replacement of Structure No. 1007-155 (MP 21.39), a three-sided culvert with a natural bottom known as the Brookville Creek Culvert. The Brookville Creek Culvert has experienced streambed erosion as well as super and substructure issues. Additional structural improvements also include the remediation of Structure No. 1008-165 (MP 23.91), a 4-chambered Arch Culvert that passes the Wickecheoke Creek.

The NJDOT proposes 7 Work Zones for this project including: Work Zone 1 MP 19.67-20.10, Work Zone 2 MP 20.10-21.60, Work Zone 3 MP 21.60-22.45, Work Zone 4 MP 22.45-23.00, Work Zone 5 MP 23.00-24.50, Work Zone 6A MP 27.40-30.40, and Work Zone 6B MP 33.70-34.30.

### *Architectural APE*

The architectural APE will consist of project areas that intersect with 8 historic districts and properties that intersect with Rt. 29 including; 1. Inch Lines Linear Multistate Historic District (NR eligible SHPO opinion 8/31/1993), 2. The Holcombe House and Farm Historic District (NR

Eligible SHPO Certification of Eligibility (COE) 8/21/2006), 3. The Delaware and Raritan Canal Historic District (NR eligible 5/11/1973, State Register (SR) eligible 11/30/1972), 4. Stockton Historic District (NR eligible SHPO opinion 7/26/2002), 5. Prallsville Industrial Historic District (NR eligible 6/27/1979, SR eligible 8/16/1976), 6. Rosemont Rural Agricultural Historic District (NR eligible 6/18/2010, SR eligible 2/10/2010), 7. PSE&G Branchburg to Pleasant Valley Segment of the Roseland to Pleasant Valley Transmission Line Historic District (NR eligible SHPO opinion 8/17/2020), and 8. Belvidere-Delaware Railroad, Flemington Branch (NR eligible SHPO COE 9/1/2015).

### *Archaeological APE*

The archaeological APE will include the areas of ground disturbance, and areas where documented archaeological sites overlap with the project area. The archaeological APE will include areas of drainage improvement that fall outside the existing NJDOT ROW, areas of slope stabilization/erosion control including slope stability treatments along the southbound (SB) lane of Rt. 29 near the D&R Canal, and the area surrounding Structure No. 1007-155. Much of this work will require temporary construction easements for access. All areas that will be impacted by temporary construction easements will be restored to their original condition once construction is completed.

### **Section IA: Ground-Disturbing Activity**

Most of the ground-disturbing activity will occur in the existing NJDOT ROW. The planned ground disturbing activity that occurs past the existing NJDOT ROW is described below.

#### *Drainage Work*

##### *Work Zone 1*

The NJDOT will conduct drainage work throughout the project area including the reconstruction and/or remediation of inlets, the remediation of existing drainage pipes with a more durable material while maintaining the existing capacity and conveyance, and the remediation of deficient headwalls. Some of this work will occur between MP 19.90 and 20.00 in Work Zone 1. This drainage work will require a temporary construction easement from Block 1 Lot 1. This work will be conducted within an existing median that has been disturbed from previous construction, and it is unlikely to have an impact on any cultural resources.

##### *Work Zone 2*

The NJDOT will conduct drainage work in Work Zone 2 at MP 20.40 and 22.10, and between MP 20.50-20.60, 20.70-20.80, 20.80-20.90, 20.90-21.00, 21.21-21.20, 21.30-21.40, and 21.50-21.60. This drainage work will require temporary construction easements from the following parcels;

- block 59, lot 11,
- block 63, lot 101,
- block 64, lot 100,
- block 63, lot 1,
- block 59, lot 3,
- block 59, lot 15,
- block 59, lot 18.

### *Work Zone 3*

The NJDOT will conduct drainage work in Work Zone 3 between MP 21.60-21.70, 21.70-21.80, and 21.80-21.90. This drainage work will require temporary construction easements from the following parcels;

- block 11, lot 20,
- block 11, lot 18,
- block 11, lot 19,
- block 7, lot 35.01,
- block 11, lot 15,
- block 11, lot 10,
- block 11, lot 11,
- block 7, lot 29,
- block 59, lot 19.

### *Slope Stability Work*

The NJDOT will conduct slope stability work including the installation of sheeting to stabilize Route 29 and D&R Canal and installation of erosion control measures. The slope stability work will be conducted at MP 20.40, and between MP 20.40-20.50, 20.60-20.70, 20.70-20.80, 20.80-20.90, 21.10-21.20, 21.20-21.30, 21.40-21.50, 21.50-21.60, and 22.00-22.10. Slope stability work in this area will require temporary construction easements from the following parcels;

- block 63, lot 101,
- block 64, lot 100,
- block 59, lot 3,
- block 63, lot 1,
- block 11, lot 8.06.

### *Guiderail Improvement*

#### *Work Zone 1*

Additional work proposed by the NJDOT includes the installation of new guiderails and upgrades to guiderails to current standards. The NJDOT will conduct this guiderail work between MP 19.90 and MP 20.00 requiring a temporary construction easement from Block 1 Lot 1.

#### *Work Zone 3*

The NJDOT will conduct guiderail work in Work Zone 3 between MP 21.60-21.70 requiring permanent easements from the following parcels;

- block 64, lot 100,
- block 7, lot 37.02,
- block 56, lot 7.01.

### *Structural Work*

The NJDOT is proposing to replace Structure NoNBA. 1007-155, located between MP 21.40 and 21.50 with a precast concrete box culvert, a concrete footing and pedestal, and concrete parapets with aluminum railings. Grading is proposed on both the north and south ends of the culvert

beyond the existing NJDOT ROW. This work will require a temporary construction easement from a parcel labeled as block 63, lot 100 and a partial fee take from a parcel labeled as block 59, lot 3.

Between MP 20.60 and 20.70 the NJDOT is proposing facilities work immediately north of Rt. 29, resulting in 2 permanent easements from a parcel labeled as block 59, lot 3. This facility work extends past MP 20.70 towards MP 20.80.

## **Section II: Identification of Historic Properties**

### *Archival Research*

Historic properties and archaeological sites in the APE were identified through a desktop review of GIS information provided by the NJHPO as well as LUCY. The NJDOT's additional survey recommendations are described at the end of this section.

### *Participants in the Section 106 Process/Public Involvement Action Plan*

The interested and consulting parties have been identified as follows;

Hunterdon County  
Kevin Davis, Hunterdon County Administrator  
71 Main Street- Building #1, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
P.O. Box 2900  
Flemington, NJ 08822

Delaware Township  
Maria Andrews, Registered Municipal Clerk  
570 Rosemont Ringoes Road  
P.O. Box 500  
Sergeantsville, NJ 08557

Delaware and Raritan Canal Commission  
John Hutchison, Executive Director  
33 Risler Street  
Stockton, NJ 08559

Lambertville  
Cynthia L. Ege, City Clerk & Registrar  
18 York Street  
Lambertville, NJ

Kingswood Township  
Cynthia Keller, Township Clerk  
599 Oak Grove Road  
Frenchtown, NJ 08825

Stockton Borough  
Michele Hovan, Administrator/Clerk  
2 S. Main Street  
P.O. Box M  
Stockton, NJ 08559

Frenchtown Borough  
Brenda S. Shepard, Borough Clerk  
29 Second Street  
Frenchtown, NJ 08825

Kingswood Township Historical Society  
Betty DeSapio, Historian  
599 Oak Grove Road  
Frenchtown, NJ 08825

Hunterdon County Cultural & Heritage Commission  
Gayle Maher, Chair  
P.O. Box 2900  
Flemington, NJ 08822

Hunterdon County Historical Society  
David Harding, Administrator  
114 Main Street  
Flemington, NJ 08822

Delaware Township Historical Society  
Roger Byrom, President  
P.O. Box 149  
Sergeantsville, NJ 08557

Lambertville Historical Society  
Jeffrey Campbell, President  
P.O. Box 2  
60 Bridge Street  
Lambertville, NJ 08530

Delaware Nation  
Erin Thompson-Paden, Delaware Nation Historic Preservation Officer  
P.O. Box 825  
Anadarko, OK 73005

Delaware Tribe of Indians  
Susan Bachor, Delaware Tribe Historic Preservation Office  
126 University Circle, Stroud Hall RM 437  
East Stroudsburg, PA 18301

Shawnee  
Tonya Tipton, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer  
P.O. Box 189, 29 S HWY 69A  
Miami, OK 74355

Per 36 CFR 800.2(d)(3), the NJDOT, on behalf of the FHWA, can utilize their existing Public Involvement Action Plan (PIAP) to fulfill Section 106 public outreach requirements. Public involvement occurs during the life of the project at various stages of project development, depending on the nature and magnitude of the project. During the Section 106 process, the consulting parties are invited to review any cultural resources reports and make suggestions on the effects and mitigation, if necessary. Per the NJDOT PIAP procedures, the public will be invited to attend any Public Information Center(s) and/or meeting(s) that may discuss historic preservation.

This list of participants in the Section 106 process is not exhaustive and may include individuals and organizations that have not yet been identified. Please inform us if there are additional parties that we should reach out to regarding this project.

#### *Historic Architecture*

In addition to the historic districts and properties listed in Section I, the majority of the project lies within the Delaware and Raritan Canal Historic District, specifically the section between MP 19.80 and MP 24.50. The following project limits are located within the Delaware and Raritan Canal Commission (D&RCC) Jurisdiction Boundary: Section 1- MP 19.80 to MP 24.50 which is located within D&RCC Review Zone A, Section 2 – MP 27.40 to MP 30.40 which is located within D&RCC Review Zone B, regulated as Zone A, and Section 3 – MP 33.70 to MP 34.30 which has no regulation and is not within D&RCC Jurisdictional Boundary.

There are many historically sensitive features associated with the Delaware and Raritan Canal, such as culverts, possible collapsed culverts, drains, stone drains, iron pipe drains, a pipeline crossing, bridges, wood shoring, collapsed stone walls, pilings, stone armor, stone berms, and structural foundations some with windows and doorways, others with structural walls. Partial Fee takes are proposed within the boundary of the Delaware and Raritan Canal Historic District. The

project is considered a major project since it will result in the disturbance of more than one (1) acre of land and will require Delaware and Raritan Canal Commission Approval.

Please notify us if you are aware of any other architectural resources.

*Archaeology*

GIS information provided by the New Jersey Historic Preservation Office (NJHPO) and LUCY, New Jersey’s Cultural Resources Online Map Viewer, indicates that Rt. 29 runs throughout several archaeological grids. Table 1 illustrates the location of the archeological grids near the project area.

Mile Posts	Grid Number	Mile Posts	Grid Number
19.67-19.8	BO136	23.6-24.1	BI131
19.85-20	BN136	24.15-24.5	BH132
20.05-20.55	BN135	27.4-27.55	BC130
21.3-21.7	BM133	33.7-33.8	BC118
21.75-22	BL 133	33.85-34.3	BC117
22.05-22.3	BL 132		

*Table 1- List of documented archaeological grids in the project area.*

GIS information provided and LUCY indicate that there are multiple documented archaeological sites near the project area. Table 2 illustrates the location of the documented archaeological sites near the project area.

Mile Post	Position	Site Name
19.9-19.95	South of Rt. 29	Unnamed Precontact Site
20.25-20.3	North of Rt. 29	Unnamed Precontact Site
20.25-20.3	South of Rt. 29	Unnamed Precontact Site
20.5	Intersects with Rt. 29	Unnamed Precontact Site
22.0	Intersects with Rt. 29	Unnamed Precontact Site
24.05	South of Rt. 29	Unnamed Precontact Site
24.2-24.25	South of Rt. 29	Unnamed Precontact Site
24.45	North of Rt. 29	Unnamed Precontact Site
27.3	Southwest of Rt. 29	Byram Archaeological Site (28-HU-39, 40, 41)

33.7	Intersects with Rt. 29	Unnamed Pre-contact Site
34-34.05	West of Rt. 29	DeRewal Prehistoric Site (28-HU-0530)

Table 2- The location of documented archaeological sites within the project area.

Please notify us if you are aware of any other archaeological resources.

**Conclusion**

Based on the above information, the NJDOT believes that the submitted Archaeological and Architectural APEs accurately capture the surrounding properties with the potential for direct and indirect effects because of the proposed project. Additionally, the NJDOT requests the NJHPO’s opinion on an appropriate level of survey to identify historic properties and cultural resources in the project area. Should project plans change, the NJDOT will reinitiate consultation with the NJHPO. Please indicate your opinion regarding the submitted APEs and need for survey on the lines provided below within 30 days.

**To the parties listed below, if you have comments or concerns regarding this project, please contact me with your comments within 30 days. Comments can be sent to me at the address at the top of the letterhead or emailed to Jesse Metzler at Jesse.Metzler@dot.nj.gov. If you have any questions, please call me at (609) 963-1114 or Jesse Metzler at (609) 963-1669.**

Sincerely,

Zakrollah Asadpour  
 Environmental Engineer IV  
 Division of Capital Program Support  
 Bureau of Landscape Architecture and Environmental Solutions

Cc (w/o enclosures): P. Patel *Program Manager*  
 C. Henry *Project Manager*  
 R.Mamun *FHWA Area Engineer*  
 K. Davis *Administrator, Hunterdon County*  
 C. Ege *City Clerk and Registrar, Lambertville*  
 C. Keller *Township Clerk, Kingswood Township*  
 M. Andrews *Registered Municipal Clerk, Delaware Township*  
 M. Hovan *Administrator & Clerk, Stockton Borough*  
 B. Shepard *Borough Clerk, Frenchtown Borough*

Cc (w/ APE maps): Delaware and Raritan Canal Commission  
 Kingswood Township Historical Society  
 Hunterdon County Cultural & Heritage Commission  
 Hunterdon County Historical Society  
 Delaware Township Historical Society  
 Lambertville Historical Society



Cc via FHWA letter: Delaware Nation  
Delaware Tribe of Indians  
Shawnee

\_\_\_\_\_ I concur with the Architectural and Archaeological APEs and the list of consulting parties for the proposed resurfacing and drainage improvements of Route 29 from Alexauken Creek Road to Washington Street in the city of Lambertville, Delaware Township, Kingwood Township, Stockton Borough and Frenchtown Borough, Hunterdon County, New Jersey.

\_\_\_\_\_ My opinion differs from the above due to the following:

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Dr. Katherine J. Marcopul  
Administrator and Deputy  
State Historic Preservation Officer

Date: \_\_\_\_\_