



Preserving America's Heritage

October 1, 2014

Mr. Jonathan Crum
Environmental Protection Specialist
Program Development
Pennsylvania Division
Federal Highway Administration
228 Walnut Street, Room 536
Harrisburg, PA 17101-1720

Ref: *Proposed Headquarters Road Bridge over Tinicum Creek
Tinicum Township, Bucks County, Pennsylvania
SR 1012, Section BRC*

Dear Mr. Crum:

The ACHP has received copies of recent correspondence exchanged among the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), and the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) regarding the Headquarters Road Bridge project in Tinicum Township, Pennsylvania. In an email message dated September 17, 2014, from Kara Russell of PennDOT to Barbara Frederick of the Pennsylvania SHPO, Ms. Russell pointed out the lengths to which PennDOT has gone to engage consulting parties and consider their views. She further indicated that PennDOT believes it is time to move forward with the replacement option for the Headquarters Road Bridge.

As you know, the ACHP entered the Section 106 consultation process for this project in December 2013. We participated in one consultation meeting, held April 2, 2014 in Doylestown, Pennsylvania. At this meeting, and in subsequent correspondence, it was clear that the differences of opinion on the purpose and need for the project, and the appropriateness of the replacement alternative have not been resolved. Unfortunately, the large number of consulting parties, the continued lack of trust, and the entrenched positions expressed by both sides of the issues has inhibited FHWA's ability to identify a mutually agreeable solution to the effects of this project on the Ridge Valley Historic District and the Headquarters Road Bridge at Tinicum Creek.

In light of this situation, we request that FHWA set up a meeting among the principals: your agency, PennDOT, SHPO, and the ACHP, to discuss the current status of the project. We should also discuss the path forward to concluding Section 106 review and reaching a balance between historic preservation values and broader project goals.

ADVISORY COUNCIL ON HISTORIC PRESERVATION

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If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Najah Duvall Gabriel, at 202-517-0210 or via email at ngabriel@achp.gov.

Sincerely,



for

Charlene Dwin Vaughn, AICP
Assistant Director
Federal Permitting, Licensing, and Assistance Section
Office of Federal Agency Programs