



U.S. Department
of Transportation

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

**Federal Railroad
Administration**

March 4, 2022

Elizabeth Hughes
State Historic Preservation Officer
Maryland Historical Trust
Maryland Department of Planning
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032

**RE: B&P Tunnel Project
Section 106 Programmatic Agreement Implementation
National Register Evaluation and Assessment of Effects Findings for Madison Park
Medical Center, Baltimore, MD**

Dear Ms. Hughes:

As part of the implementation of the Programmatic Agreement (PA) for the Baltimore & Potomac (B&P) Tunnel Project, the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) is pleased to submit a Determination of Eligibility (DOE) Form for the Madison Park Medical Center (B-1379-6) located at 920 W. North Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland. This National Railroad Passenger Corporation (Amtrak) Project proposes to replace the B&P Tunnel, which is part of Amtrak's Northeast Corridor. Constructed in 1970, the Madison Park Medical Center was less than 50 years old at the time of the 2015-2016 historic architectural surveys prepared in compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (36 CFR Part 800). Because the building is now over 50 years old, Amtrak's qualified cultural resources consultant, RK&K, has re-evaluated this property's eligibility for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) in accordance with PA Stipulation VII (Project Changes). As discussed during the prior Section 106 consultation process, Amtrak will acquire and demolish this building to make way for the intermediate vent facility for the new tunnel. The acquisition is in process.

National Register Evaluation and Effects Assessment

Both the current evaluation and the 2015-2016 study evaluated the Madison Park Medical Center for its potential significance as either a contributing element within the Reservoir Hill Historic District or as an individually eligible historic property. Both evaluations concluded that the medical center, constructed 29 years after the 1941 end date for the historic district's period of significance, does not contribute to the historic district. Regarding individual eligibility, in 2016 the building was evaluated as not eligible for inclusion in the NRHP because it lacked the exceptional significance required of properties less than 50 years old ("Baltimore and Potomac Tunnel Project Technical Memorandum," July 28, 2016). However, as a result of the current

evaluation, **FRA finds that the Madison Park Medical Center meets Criteria A and C for inclusion in the NRHP and is, therefore, a historic property.**

A hard copy of the DOE Form with all required attachments is enclosed, as well as an archival CD with digital copies of all DOE Form components, including digital photographs. Consulting parties and those organizations currently being invited to become consulting parties, all copied on this letter, will only receive an electronic copy of the DOE Form unless they request a hard copy.

The demolition of the Madison Park Medical Center will be an adverse effect to the historic property. This additional adverse effect finding does not alter the overall finding of the Project, which has already been determined to constitute an adverse effect.

Request for Concurrence and Comments, and the Next Steps

FRA requests your concurrence with our NRHP evaluation and effects assessment findings. If you concur, FRA and Amtrak will implement mitigation measures to be determined in consultation with you and other consulting parties, in accordance with PA Stipulation VII (Project Changes). While not associated with a change in project scope, the advancing age of properties in the Area of Potential Effects (APE) represents a change in conditions in the field, and this PA Stipulation best addresses this situation. At a later date, Amtrak and FRA will evaluate the eligibility of other resources in the APE that will become 50 years of age prior to project completion.

Also, should you concur with our findings, FRA will submit an individual evaluation addendum for this historic site, per Section 4(f) of the U.S. Department of Transportation Act of 1966 (now codified under 49 USC 303(c)). This Section 4(f) addendum addressing the Madison Park Medical Center is currently being drafted, and we will request your concurrence before submitting the documentation to the U.S. Department of the Interior for their review.

Consulting parties, copied on this letter, are also invited to review and comment on the enclosed DOE Form and FRA's eligibility and adverse effect findings. The federally recognized Indian Tribes, Delaware Tribe of Indians and Shawnee Tribe, will receive the submittal under separate cover letters. In addition, by copy on this letter and because of this newly identified historic property, the **Baltimore Afro-American Historical and Genealogical Society; Baltimore City Branch of the NAACP; Friends of Reservoir Hill; Greater Baltimore Urban League; Lille Carroll Jackson Civil Rights Museum; The National Great Blacks in Wax Museum;** and the **Reginald F. Lewis Museum of Maryland African American History and Culture** are invited to become consulting parties for this Project, and the **Reservoir Hill Improvement Council** is being re-invited to become a consulting party. Responding parties should include in their email response their willingness to participate and name a representative to participate on behalf of their group. Only those parties that accept their roles as consulting parties, and in turn accept their roles as concurring parties to the PA, will receive PA mitigation documentation for review and comment. The PA is enclosed for reference.

Per PA Stipulation XI (Document Review), we request that any responses be provided within 30 calendar days to me at christeen.taniguchi@dot.gov and to Nancy Zerbe, Amtrak's lead historic preservation consultant for PA implementation, at nzerbe@arch2inc.com. We will consider all consulting parties' comments received within those 30 days. If any parties have any questions, I can be reached at (202) 493-0564 or christeen.taniguchi@dot.gov, and Ms. Zerbe can be reached at (908) 208-1288 or nzerbe@arch2inc.com. Please note that FRA has authorized Amtrak to coordinate with your agency on behalf of FRA for the purposes of this Project. FRA looks forward to continuing to advance implementation of the PA.

Sincerely,



Christeen Taniguchi
Environmental Protection Specialist
Environment and Project Engineering Division
Office of Railroad Policy and Development

Enc: 920 W. North Avenue DOE Form
B&P Tunnel Project Section 106 Programmatic Agreement
Archival CD with digital photographs and other DOE Form components (to MHT only)

cc: Shreyas Bhatnagar, FRA
Laura Shick, FRA
Alex Coll, Amtrak
Johnette Davies, Amtrak
Jeff Ensor, Amtrak
William Prosser, Amtrak
Eric Holcomb, Baltimore City Commission for Historical and Architectural Preservation
(CHAP)
Lauren Schiszik, Baltimore City CHAP
Chris Ryer, Baltimore City Department of Planning
Steve Sharkey, Baltimore City Department of Transportation
Johns W. Hopkins, Baltimore Heritage, Inc.
Shauntee Daniels, Baltimore Heritage Area Association
David Nyweide, Bolton Hill Community Association
Kim Forsyth, Historic Mount Royal Terrace Association
Sherry L. Ayers, Maryland Commission on Indian Affairs
Jacqueline Thorne, Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT)
Lauren Molesworth, MDOT Maryland Transit Administration
Kate Sylvester, MDOT Maryland Transit Administration
Joe Richardson, Midtown Edmondson Improvement Association
Nicholas A. Redding, Preservation Maryland
Roland N. Mills, Baltimore Afro-American Historical and Genealogical Society
Reverend Kobi Little, Baltimore City Branch of the NAACP

Alex MacDonald, Friends of Reservoir Hill

Tiffany Majors, Greater Baltimore Urban League

Gabriel Tenabe, Lille Carroll Jackson Civil Rights Museum

Dr. Joanne M. Martin, The National Great Blacks in Wax Museum

Terri Lee Freeman, Reginald F. Lewis Museum of Maryland African American History
and Culture

Suzanne Rackl, Reservoir Hill Improvement Council

Maria de la Paz Aviles, Booz Allen Hamilton

Barbara Bottiger, Booz Allen Hamilton

Nancy Zerbe, ARCH², Inc.

Laura van Opstal, RK&K