



September 30, 2021

Katherine Zeringue
Federal Preservation Officer
U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Railroad Administration
Office of Railroad Policy and Development
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Via email: katherine.zeringue@dot.gov

Dear Ms. Zeringue,

In accordance with Stipulation XVIII of the Programmatic Agreement (PA) for the Baltimore & Potomac Tunnel Project (“Project”) under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (Section 106), I am writing to notify you that Amtrak is proceeding with plans to acquire property in order to advance the Project. Our expectation is to sign the very first property acquisition agreement in approximately 10 days, with the first formal acquisition anticipated to occur in December.

The properties for which we are proceeding with acquisition include the following historic properties, listed below under the themes identified in Stipulation V.E of the PA:

- Midtown Edmondson Historic District Commercial and Industrial Corridor
 - 2020 Mosher Street
 - 2100 West Lanvale Street
 - 740 North Pulaski Street
 - 700 North Pulaski Street
 - B&P Railroad Edmondson Avenue Station, 2235 Edmondson Avenue
 - Trade school building, 2237 Edmondson Avenue
 - Automotive service garage, 501 North Bentalou Street
- Midtown Edmondson Rowhouses
 - 1000-1032 North Payson Street
 - 2034/2036/2038 West Lanvale Avenue
 - 2037 West Lanvale Street
 - 812/814/816 North Brice Street (under consideration for acquisition)
- Greater Rosemont Rowhouses
 - 2301/2303/2353 Lauretta Avenue
- Reservoir Hill Commercial Buildings
 - 900-908 West North Avenue
 - 920 West North Avenue (new evaluation of significance; see explanatory note below)

In addition to these historic properties, Amtrak is proceeding with arrangements to purchase numerous buildings that are within one of the National Register-listed or eligible historic districts, but that were evaluated as non-contributing to the significance of the respective historic districts.

Prior to the demolition of any historic property, Amtrak commits to ensure that all relevant mitigation measures will be completed and that we will notify you at least 10 days in advance of the demolition.

New Historic Property

As mentioned during our conference call with FRA on August 17, 2021, Amtrak has evaluated the historical significance of one of the properties to be acquired for demolition that has become 50 years old since Section 106 consultation was completed. The Madison Park Medical Center, historically known as Mercy Medical Center, is located at 920 West North Avenue within the Reservoir Hill Historic District. As part of the Section 106 review process conducted in 2015-2016, the medical center was evaluated as not historically significant. Built in 1970, the medical center post-dates the 1941 end date for the historic district's period of significance. In addition, in 2016 the medical facility was less than 50 years old, did not have exceptional significance, and was therefore evaluated as not individually eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places (FRA to MHT, "Baltimore and Potomac Tunnel Project Technical Memorandum," July 28, 2016). Due to the medical center now being over fifty years old, Amtrak's cultural resources consultant, RK&K, re-evaluated its significance and is currently preparing a Determination of Eligibility form to recommend that the medical center meets Criteria A and C for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. The evaluation will be provided to you in the coming days under separate cover.

Based on a recent discussion with FRA about the medical center, it is Amtrak's understanding that FRA does not object to Amtrak proceeding with the acquisition of this building, as was originally planned. We will work within the framework of the PA to address the adverse effect of demolition, implement any mitigation measures, and provide to you the 10-day notice prior to proceeding with demolition of the medical center.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Johnette Davies at johnette.davies@amtrak.com.

Sincerely,



Jeffrey D. Ensor
Senior Director, NEC South End

cc: Christeen Taniguchi, FRA
Brandon Bratcher, FRA
Laura Shick, FRA
Craig Caldwell, Amtrak
Michael Ciappi, Amtrak
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