

**From:** FHWA, Illinois (FHWA)

**Sent:** Tuesday, April 14, 2020 11:46 AM

**Subject:** Conclusion of Assessment of Effects - Consulting Party Notification

Dear Consulting Parties:

Based on the advisory opinion issued by the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) on April 1, 2020, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) has concluded the assessment of effects step for the proposed undertaking in and adjacent to Jackson Park, City of Chicago, Cook County, Illinois. FHWA has determined that the undertaking will have an “adverse effect” to historic properties. Furthermore, FHWA’s findings contained in the final Assessment of Effects (AOE), dated January 2020, with respect to individual historic properties remain unchanged.

The final AOE was made available for consulting parties and the public to review beginning January 16, 2020 and the opportunity to either concur or object to those findings concluded on February 18, 2020. The FHWA received twenty responses to the final AOE. Several consulting parties objected to the “no adverse effect” findings for historic properties surrounding Jackson Park. However, the consulting parties did not provide specific reasons for their disagreement with FHWA’s findings, as required by 36 CFR 800.5(c)(2)(i). Therefore, FHWA did not reconsider its findings with respect to those objections.

One consulting party objected to FHWA’s finding of “no adverse effect” on the Jackson Park Terrace Historic District. FHWA submitted documentation to the ACHP on March 17, 2020, to seek their advisory opinion on whether the adverse effect criteria had been correctly applied with respect to the Jackson Park Terrace Historic District. The ACHP concluded in its April 1, 2020, letter that FHWA has applied the criteria of adverse effect correctly. The ACHP letter is attached to this e-mail.

As documented in the Historic Properties Inventory Report, FHWA considers the Jackson Park Terrace Historic District eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under criteria A and C. However, as noted in ACHP’s response, the Final AOE incorrectly stated it was also eligible under criterion B. We are issuing an errata, which is attached and available on the City of Chicago’s website, to correct this error in the final AOE.

## **NEXT STEPS**

The next step in the Section 106 process is to resolve the adverse effect to historic properties. To facilitate that process, in coordination with the National Park Service, the Illinois Department of Transportation, and the City of Chicago, three consulting party meetings will be held, beginning in early May. We plan to host the consulting party meetings in a webinar format, like the consulting party meeting held in January. We will notify consulting parties of the logistics for those meetings as soon as the dates and times are available.

The consulting party meetings will provide a foundation for what mitigation is and what it should accomplish, seek ideas and input from consulting parties on mitigation ideas proposed, provide a forum to discuss the mitigation measures proposed and which ones are feasible to

implement, and discuss the draft and final Memorandum of Agreement which will memorialize the commitments that will become part of the project.

Thank you for your continued involvement in the project as a Section 106 consulting party. Please contact Matt Fuller (e-mail: [Matt.Fuller@dot.gov](mailto:Matt.Fuller@dot.gov); phone: 217-492-4625) should you have any questions.