

North Carolina Department of Natural and Cultural Resources

State Historic Preservation Office

Ramona M. Bartos, Administrator

Governor Pat McCrory Secretary Susan Kluttz January 26, 2016 Office of Archives and History Deputy Secretary Kevin Cherry

Yvette G. Taylor, Regional Administrator Attn: Julia Walker Federal Transit Administration 230 Peachtree Street NW, Suite 1400 Atlanta, GA 30303

julia.walker@dot.gov

RE: Durham-Orange Light Rail Transit Project, Durham and Orange Counties, ER 12-0738

Dear Dr. Taylor:

Thank you for your letter of January 13, 2016, transmitting the Federal Transit Authority's (FTA) Determination of Effects for the above-referenced undertaking. The letter correctly documents that we concur with FTA's finding of no adverse effect on historic properties based on the implementation of several conditions as part of the project's construction and operation. In addition to that concurrence, State Historic Preservation Officer Kevin Cherry on January 11, 2016, signed and sent to you a Memorandum of Agreement that addresses the treatment of National Register-eligible archaeological resources should they be identified and affected by the undertaking.

While we believe that we have no role in the Section 4(f) process, we are pleased to concur with your *de minimis* use finding for historic properties. We would also note that our project tracking number in your letter of the thirteenth appears to have some transposed numbers. The correct tracking number is ER 12-0738 as shown above.

The above comments are made pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation's Regulations for Compliance with Section 106 codified at 36 CFR Part 800.

Thank you for your cooperation and consideration. If you have questions concerning the above comment, contact Renee Gledhill-Earley, environmental review coordinator, at 919-807-6579 or environmental.review@ncdcr.gov. In all future communication concerning this project, please cite the above referenced tracking number.

Sincerely,

► Ramona M. Bartos

Kense Bledhill-Earley