

**OFFICE OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION**

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10 May 2010

Reply To: FTA100405A

Leslie Rodgers
Regional Administrator
Federal Transit Administration
201 Mission Street, Suite 1650
San Francisco, CA 94105-1839

Re: Section 106 Consultation for the Van Ness Avenue Rapid Bus Transit Project, San Francisco City and County, CA

Dear Mr. Rogers:

Thank you for your letter of 31 March 2010 initiating consultation for the Federal Transit Authority (FTA) for the above referenced undertaking in order to comply with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 and its implementing regulation at 36 CFR Part 800. You are requesting at this time that I concur with the determination of the Area of Potential Effect (APE) and determination of eligibility for the historic properties within the APE.

As I presently understand it, the proposed undertaking consists of reconfiguring the existing roadway along 2.2 miles of Van Ness Avenue to provide for dedicated bus lanes and transit platforms, and lighting and landscaping improvements within the streetscape. The majority of the improvements occur within the existing curb-to-curb pavement.

The project APE was defined as the areas that could directly or indirectly be affected and is depicted in Attachment 1 of the Historic Property Survey. I find this satisfactory pursuant to 36 CFR 800.4(1).

Within the APE, there were three historic properties previously identified:

- San Francisco Civic Center Historic District/War Memorial Building, listed on the NRHP and a NHL.
- 11-35 Van Ness Avenue, Masonic Temple, determined eligible for listing in the NRHP.
- 1699 Van Ness Avenue (Paige Motor Car Company Building); listed in the NRHP.

In addition to the three previously identified historic properties, FTA determined four additional properties were eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP):

- 799 Van Ness Avenue, automobile garage, eligible under Criteria A and C at the local level
- 945-999 Van Ness Avenue, automobile showroom, eligible A and C at the local level
- 1320 Van Ness Avenue, Scottish Rite Temple, eligible A and C at the local level
- 1946 Van Ness Avenue, Oakland Motor Auto Company Showroom, eligible A and C at the local level

I concur with the determinations for the above referenced properties. The remained 23 properties identified by FTA were determined ineligible for inclusion in the NRHP. I also concur with the determinations of ineligibility.

Thank your for considering historic properties in your planning process and I look forward to continuing consultation on this project. If you have any questions, please contact Amanda Blosser of my staff at (916) 654-7372 or e-mail at ablosser@parks.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Susan K Stratton for".

Milford Wayne Donaldson, FAIA
State Historic Preservation Officer

MWD:ab