

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

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September 12, 2014

Reply in Reference To: FTA_2012_1105_001

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

Re: Continuing Section 106 Consultation on the Addendum to the Archaeological and Native American Cultural Resources Sensitivity Assessment for the Van Ness Avenue Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Project, City and County of San Francisco, CA

Dear Mr. Rogers:

Thank you for your letter of August 1, 2014 continuing consultation 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 that I review and comment on the *Addendum Archaeological and Native American Cultural Resources Sensitivity Assessment for the Van Ness Avenue Bus Rapid Transit Project, San Francisco, California* (Meyer et al. 2014) enclosed with your letter.

In previous consultation with our office staff, it was requested that an Addendum report be completed to fulfill the first minimization measure proposed in the Revised Finding of Effect (FOE) report (King 2013). The Addendum is a minimization measure that is part of a systematic approach to gather additional detailed historical information to further identify and evaluate potential subsurface prehistoric and historic-era deposits located within the Van Ness Avenue corridor. As previously requested by my office staff, the purpose of the Addendum is to achieve the following three primary objectives: to determine the potential for buried sites through a detailed cut-and-fill reconstruction of the APE and focused documentary research; to identify high sensitivity areas for potential presence/absence testing; and to determine if project activities could impact high sensitive areas. The analysis concluded that significant historic-era remains likely impacted by undertaking construction activities was the Laguna Survey tract located within Area 3 of the APE. The Laguna Survey tract is associated with a residential settlement dating from the early 1800s until the 1890s and is situated at an angle across the proposed Van Ness Avenue alignment. There is a high likelihood that intact domestic artifact deposits from the 1840s-1890s are extant in backyard areas and could be encountered by undertaking construction activities at this location.

Based upon my review, I find that the Addendum fulfills the previously requested information by our staff and that is bulleted in the Revised FOE report.

Thank you for considering historic properties in your planning process and I look forward to continuing consultation on the Archaeological Treatment Plan for this undertaking. If you require further information, please contact Alicia Perez of my staff at 916-445-7020 or at Alicia.Perez@parks.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Carol Roland-Nawi, Ph.D." The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'C'.

Carol Roland-Nawi, PhD
State Historic Preservation Officer