



TETRA TECH

October 29, 2014

NHL Program Northeast Regional Office
National Park Service
200 Chestnut Street
Philadelphia, PA 19106

Subject: Invitation to Comment: Finding of No Historic Properties Adversely Affected, Proposed HUD Undertaking in the Cape May Historic District National Historic Landmark-- Renovations and Enhancements to the Lafayette Street Park, Cape May, NJ (Application ID # NCR39811)

Greetings:

Tetra Tech, Inc., a contractor acting as agent for the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP), is conducting a Categorical Exclusion Subject To PARA. 58.5 (CEST) review of proposed park improvements that are being funded in part by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Grant Number B-13-DS-34-0001. NHPA Section 106 obligations are being addressed in accordance with the "Programmatic Agreement Among the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the New Jersey State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), the New Jersey State Office of Emergency Management, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, the Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma, the Delaware Nation, the Delaware Tribe of Indians, the Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma, and the Stockbridge Munsee Band of Mohicans as a Result of Hurricane Sandy" (PA). PA Stipulations II.A.2, II.C.3.b, II.C.5.a and II.C.5.e relate specifically to Undertakings that have the potential to affect National Historic Landmarks (NHLs).

As indicated in our notification e-mail of October 10, 2014, the proposed undertaking involves funding for renovations and enhancements to Lafayette Street Park, 801 Lafayette Street, City of Cape May, Cape May County, New Jersey, and is within the boundaries of the Cape May Historic District NHL as defined in the NHL nomination of February 10, 1976. Our review indicates a finding of **No Historic Properties Adversely Affected** with respect to the undertaking.

We are today submitting a consultation package to HPO in support of our finding, with request for comment, which we are simultaneously sending to you. You are hereby invited to comment on this review, preferably within 15 days. Feel free to reply by mail, e-mail (chris.borstel@tetrattech.com), or phone (973-630-8358). Thank you in advance.

Sincerely yours,

Christopher L. Borstel, Ph.D., RPA
Cultural Resources Specialist



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October 29, 2014

Warren Coupland, Chairman
Cape May Historic Preservation Commission
City of Cape May
643 Washington Street
Cape May, NJ 08204

Subject: Invitation to Comment, NHPA Section 106 Public Consultation
Proposed Renovations and Enhancements to the Lafayette Street Park, Cape May, NJ
(Application ID # NCR39811)

Dear Mr. Coupland:

On behalf of the NJ Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP), Tetra Tech, Inc., is conducting environmental compliance reviews of proposed US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)-funded grants to municipalities in response to Superstorm Sandy under the agency's Neighborhood and Community Revitalization (NCR) program.

One topic addressed by the reviews is historic preservation. Specifically, the reviews must, in accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), evaluate whether the federal grant will result in an adverse effect to a property listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). The regulatory process involved in the implementation of Section 106, which is described in Title 36 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 800 (36 CFR 800), includes a public participation component. The NJ Historic Preservation Office (HPO) has indicated that reviewers should contact local historic preservation commissions of Certified Local Governments to invite comment on the historical significance and potential effects of a funded repair project to property in their municipalities.

The project involves proposed renovations and enhancements to Lafayette Street Park. The park, as you may know, is located within the boundaries of the Cape May Historic District National Historic Landmark and is also located within the City of Cape May local historic district. Our review indicates that the park is not a contributing resource to any designated historic district, at the federal, state, or local level. In addition, we have concluded the proposed renovations and enhancements will not substantially alter the scale, character, or use of the park and will not have an adverse effect on nearby properties that are listed as contributing elements to one or more of the historic district entities. We have also concluded that the park has low potential for containing intact, potentially significant archeological resources. In our submittal to HPO, we are therefore recommending a finding of No Historic Properties Adversely Affected.

For your reference, I enclose a copy of the NJ HPO form we completed to document our evaluation. I invite your comments on the proposed project and our evaluation, preferably within 15 days. Feel free to reply by mail, e-mail (chris.borstel@tetrattech.com), or phone (973-630-8358). Thank you in advance.

Sincerely yours
Christopher L. Borstel, Ph.D., RPA
Cultural Resources Specialist

Tetra Tech, Inc.

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