



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Highway
Administration**

Maine Division

August 22, 2018

40 Western Ave, Rm 614
Augusta, ME 04330
207-622-8350

In Reply Refer To:
HDA-ME

Dear Consulting Parties,

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Maine Department of Transportation (MaineDOT) held a fourth consulting parties meeting on June 27, 2018 to discuss mitigation of adverse effects to historic properties from the Frank J. Wood Bridge project (WIN 22603.00). While some potential mitigation measures were discussed, many attendees voiced concern that the timing was premature to discuss mitigation, primarily because rehabilitation alternatives had not been fairly vetted from their perspective.

We compiled the following materials outlining responses to substantive questions from the meeting, including MaineDOT's and FHWA's analyses of the additional rehabilitation alternative proposed by the Friends of Frank J. Wood Bridge (Friends). Enclosed please find:

- Minutes for the June 27th meeting.
- Q&A document answering questions raised at the June 27th meeting.
- Minutes of a July 17th meeting with the Maine State Historic Preservation Officer regarding mitigation measures.
- A timeline documenting Section 106 consultation to date, including project components that were revised or revisited after consulting party input.
- Technical memorandum reviewing the additional rehabilitation concept proposed by the Friends.
- Mitigation comments from consulting parties and the public since the June 27th meeting.

We appreciate your engagement and information provided on this undertaking and will continue to use views shared by this group to inform our next step in the Section 106 process. We plan to invite consulting parties to discuss a draft Section 106 Memorandum of Agreement, including mitigation measures, in the coming weeks. If you have questions, please contact me at cheryl.martin@dot.gov, or Eva Birk, Environmental Program Manager at eva.birk@dot.gov.

Sincerely,

Cheryl B. Martin
Assistant Division Administrator