December 21, 2010

Glenn Bowman, P.E.
State Environmental Administrator
Georgia Department of Transportation
One Georgia Center
600 West Peachtree Street, NW
16th Floor
Atlanta, Georgia 30308

Attn: Chad Carlson

RE: Bridge Replacement, SR 11 over CSX Railroad, Social Circle
BRST-052-1(12); PI# 132980
Walton County, Georgia
HP-040507-003

Dear Mr. Bowman:

The Historic Preservation Division (HPD) has received the documentation for the above-referenced project. Our comments are offered to assist the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) in complying with the provisions of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended.

Based on the information provided in the December 1, 2010 Assessment of Effect document prepared for the proposed project, HPD concurs with GDOT’s determination that the proposed project will have an adverse effect on the Social Circle Historic District, as defined in 36 CFR Part 800.5(d)(1).

However, HPD has reviewed the draft Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) submitted with the AOE and we have additional recommendations for mitigation. We believe it is important to photo-document the commercial structure that will be removed due to the project, 304 South Cherokee Road, with high resolution digital photography according to the National Register Photo Policy. It would be acceptable to expand Stipulation 1 of the draft MOA to include documentation of 304 South Cherokee Road as well as the setting around the bridge to be replaced.

We also recommend that an expanded and/or updated historic resources survey be done for Social Circle. The last DNR survey for Social Circle was done in 2002, but there appears to be a few gaps in the survey and it appears that mid-20th century resources were not surveyed. Therefore, it may be appropriate to resurvey to address these needs. We are happy to
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coordinate with you more on these details. It may also be advisable to contact Social Circle's historic preservation commission for additional information or recommendations.

If we may be of further assistance, please contact Amanda Schraner, Transportation Projects Coordinator, at (404) 463-6687 or Amanda.Schraner@dnr.state.ga.us.

Sincerely,

Richard Cloues
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

RC:als

cc: Rodney N. Barry, P.E., FHWA, (Attn: Kelly Wade)
    Burke Walker, Northeast Georgia Regional Commission