

## **Appendix R**

## Draft Section 6(f) Evaluation



Mr. Justin E. Hancock State Liaison Officer South Carolina Department of Parks, Recreation, and Tourism 1205 Pendleton Street, Suite 248 Columbia, SC 29201

Re:

Request for Conversion of Use

Project No. 45-00691

Dear Mr. Hancock:

Please accept this letter as the initial request, by the City of North Charleston (the "City"), that certain real property owned by the City and presently restricted to public outdoor recreational use be converted to a use other than public outdoor recreation.

The real property subject to the conversion request (the "Restricted Property") comprises 0.23 acre and is located at 2401 Richardson Drive within the Highland Terrace-Liberty Park Community Center, a public, city-owned park in North Charleston, South Carolina. The real property the City proposes to restrict to public outdoor recreational use in replacement of the Restricted Property (the "Replacement Property") comprises 4.90 acres and is located at 5260 Deacon Street in North Charleston and is presently a residential parcel. The Restricted Property is shown on Exhibit A and the Replacement Property is depicted on Exhibit B.

The City believes that conversion of the Restricted Property is appropriate in this instance, for the following reasons. The Restricted Property is a small portion of the Highland Terrace-Liberty Park Community Center parcel. The South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) proposes to convert the Restricted Property to allow for permanent right of way acquisition in conjunction with the I-526 LCC WEST transportation project. The SCDOT also proposes to replace recreational facilities with a pocket park on the remaining 0.64-acre at the Highland Terrace-Liberty Park Community Center, which will still have the LWCF public outdoor recreation use restriction. Although the Community Center is within the existing LWCF boundary, replacing the structure is not a requirement of the LWCF conversion regulations since it predates establishing the LWCF boundary. There is a plan to replace the Community Center on the larger property; however, it will be subdivided from the LWCF replacement site.

The partial land conversion is necessitated by the I-526 LCC WEST transportation project, which would improve traffic conditions in North Charleston. Under the No Action alternative, no major changes would be made to the I-526/I-26 interchange and only routine maintenance would occur in future years. This alternative would result in the NPS not receiving the State's proposal, submitted on behalf of the City, to convert a portion of Highland Terrace-Liberty Park Community Center, pursuant to

the LWCF conversion regulations. This alternative would not allow land to become available for the Taylor Street realignment, additional right-of-way for the I-526 LCC WEST project, and the development of replacement facilities on the Anderson Tract. The No Action alternative would not meet the purpose of and satisfy the need for improved transportation facilities in the area, and was not selected as the preferred alternative.

The SCDOT evaluated other available land within the immediate vicinity of the affected LWCF property, in an effort to replace the facility as close to the existing facility as possible. This evaluation included several City-owned and privately-owned parcels; however, these parcels were either too small or were comprised almost entirely of wetlands. The conversion of the Restricted Property and the development of the Replacement Property for public outdoor recreational use is in the best interest of the City and its residents.

The SCDOT has a conceptual plan for the development of the Replacement Property. A host of outdoor facilities are anticipated, including a full size outdoor basketball court, educational wetlands, playground, multi-use field, and fitness loop. The acquisition and development of the Replacement Property for these public uses will benefit the citizens of North Charleston to a much greater degree than having the Restricted Property continue its function as a small portion of the Highland Terrace-Liberty Park Community Center.

More specifically, the City believes its plans for the Replacement Property satisfies several (if not all) of the State Outdoor Recreation Goals set forth in Section VII of the South Carolina Comprehensive Recreation Plan ("SCORP"). SCORP Goal 1 ("improving access to public recreation areas") will be satisfied upon the completion of the conversion and the development of the Replacement Property. The Restricted Property is (as stated above) a small portion of the existing Highland Terrace-Liberty Park Community Center parcel. The Replacement Property will be home to numerous public amenities, including sports fields, open recreation areas, and educational facilities.

SCORP Goal 2 ("promoting stewardship of resources") will be satisfied with the placement of the Replacement Property into the City's parks service, particularly with the availability of the educational wetlands. The public will have opportunities to learn about the wetland ecosystem, which will be accomplished in an urban setting easily accessed by residents of the City. The preservation of the remaining land at the Highland Terrace-Liberty Park Community Center location for recreational purposes also serves to achieve this goal.

Goal 3 ("ensuring sustainable economic benefits"), will be satisfied by the fact that the Replacement Property is a much larger space than the Restricted Property. As a very small portion of the existing park parcel, the recreational potential of the Restricted Property is inherently limited, and so is the potential to sustain any real economic benefits. The Replacement Property, comprising approximately 4.90 acres, will have vastly more potential in all areas of the SCORP, including the potential to sustain economic benefit over the years to come.

SCORP Goal 4 ("adapting to changes in recreation demand") will also be satisfied by the conversion. As a small portion of the existing park, the Restricted Property is limited by its small size and

functionality – the area includes parking spaces, a playground area, and a portion of a full-size basketball court. However, all of these amenities will be reconstructed within the proposed pocket park at the same location.

In summary, the City is confident that the conversion will result in enhanced recreational activities for its citizens and is excited about the opportunity presented to develop those uses on the Replacement Property.

In preparation for its formal request for conversion, the City, in coordination with the SCDOT, will use its best efforts to do the following:

- Complete and submit the National Park Service "Proposal Description and Environmental Screening Form" (NPS Form 10-904);
- Comply with the requirements of those portions of National Park Service Land and Water Conservation Fund State Assistance Program Manual governing the conversion process; and
- Satisfy the State Outdoor Recreation Goals set forth in Section VII of the South Carolina Comprehensive Recreation Plan, as generally outlined above.

The City of North Charleston looks forward to working with your office and the National Parks Service in the conversion process. Should you have any questions, or require any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely

Doyle Best

Director of Recreation City of North Charleston

(843)740.5814

djbest@northcharleston.org

## Partial Land Conversion, North Charleston, SC Highland Terrace/Liberty Park Community Center, LWCF Projects #45-00691

The South Carolina Department of Parks, Recreation & Tourism (SCPRT) has received a request from the City of North Charleston (the City), the project's sponsor, to submit a partial conversion request to the National Park Service. The City is seeking to remove the Land & Water Conservation Fund 6(f)3 restrictions from 0.27 acre of the approximately 0.87-acre Highland Terrace/Liberty Park Community Center. The South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) proposes to convert this portion of the Highland Terrace-Liberty Park Community Center to allow for permanent right-of-way acquisition required for the I-526 LCC WEST project. The conversion will affect some of the existing recreational facilities at the Highland Terrace-Liberty Park Community Center. The converted property will be replaced with approximately 4.90 acres of residential land that will become a new park in North Charleston.

The 0.87 acre Highland Terrace/Liberty Park Community Center parcel, valued at \$380,000, will be replaced with 4.90 acres, valued at \$610,000, located off of Deacon Street in the City. The remaining 0.60 acre at the existing site will be used in the development of a pocket park. The replacement property is currently residential land that is privately owned; the property will be acquired and developed by SCDOT to provide replacement amenities, and subsequently ownership will be transferred to the City. All appraisals were prepared in accordance with Uniform Federal Appraisal Standards and reviewed by an independent appraisal reviewer.

The SC Department of Parks, Recreation & Tourism supports the Town's request for the conversions and will recommend approval to the National Park Service.

#### **Environmental Assessment**

## Highland Terrace-Liberty Park and Community Center Partial Land Conversion 2401 Richardson Drive/5260 Deacon Street

A conversion of land protected under
The Land and Water Conservation Fund Act

September 29, 2020

#### For Information Contact:

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Director of Environmental Services
South Carolina Department of Transportation
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Columbia, SC 29202-191

#### Submitted to:

Justin Hancock
Director of Recreation, Grants and Policy
SC Department of Parks, Recreation & Tourism
1205 Pendleton Street
Columbia, SC 29201

#### For:

Alexis John Land and Water Conservation Fund Program Officer National Park Service Southeast Region, Recreation Programs Branch 100 Alabama Street, SW 1924 Building Atlanta, GA 30303-8701 This page intentionally left blank.

The Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF), Stateside Assistance grant program, provides funds to states, and through states to local agencies, for the acquisition and development of outdoor recreation resources. Lands that have received funding through LWCF are protected by section 6(f)(3) of the Act unless a conversion is approved by the Secretary of the Interior as delegated to the National Park Service.

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#### **SUMMARY**

North Charleston, South Carolina (City) is a coastal city with incorporated areas in Berkeley, Charleston, and Dorchester Counties. With the continued growth of the metropolitan area, the City has experienced a substantial increase in population over the last decade which is expected to continue as the area is further developed. Between 2017 and 2040, the City's population is projected to increase by approximately 46%. To accommodate recent and projected growth, the I-526 LCC WEST project proposes additional lanes on I-26 as part of improvements to the I-526/I-26 interchange. These improvements would require the westward realignment of Taylor Street, which would encroach on **Highland Terrace-Liberty Park Community Center**, a resource with a federal Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) Act public outdoor recreation use restriction (now codified at 54 U.S.C. § 200305) boundary, located at 2401 Richardson Drive. The South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT) proposes to convert a portion of the Highland Terrace-Liberty Park Community Center to allow for permanent right-of-way acquisition.

In addition to evaluating the proposed replacement property, the SCDOT evaluated other available land within the immediate vicinity of the affected LWCF property, in an effort to replace the facility as close to the existing facility as possible. This evaluation included several City-owned and privately-owned parcels; however, these parcels were either too small or were comprised almost entirely of wetlands. After an extensive search, a privately-owned parcel located at 5260 Deacon Street, referred to as the **Anderson Tract**, was found to be a suitable location without notable environmental or cultural features. The no-build alternative was also evaluated; however, leaving the existing LWCF property in its current state would not be compatible with the purpose of the I-526 LLC WEST project nor consistent with LWCF regulatory requirements set forth by 54 U.S.C. §200305(f)(3).

The SCDOT proposes to acquire the Anderson Tract and convey ownership to the City in accordance with the LWCF conversion regulations at 36 C.F.R. § 59.3. The SCDOT also proposes to replace recreational facilities with a pocket park on the remaining 0.60-acre at the Highland Terrace-Liberty Park Community Center, which will still have the LWCF public outdoor recreation use restriction. Although the Community Center is within the existing LWCF boundary, replacing the structure is not a requirement of the LWCF conversion regulations, since it predates establishing the LWCF boundary. There is a plan to replace the Community Center on the larger property; however, it will be subdivided from the LWCF replacement site. Public input on the proposed replacement facilities will occur concurrent to the public engagement being conducted for the I-526 LCC WEST Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) in the fall of 2020. The DEIS includes a project commitment to construct the replacement facilities prior to the displacement of the existing facility.

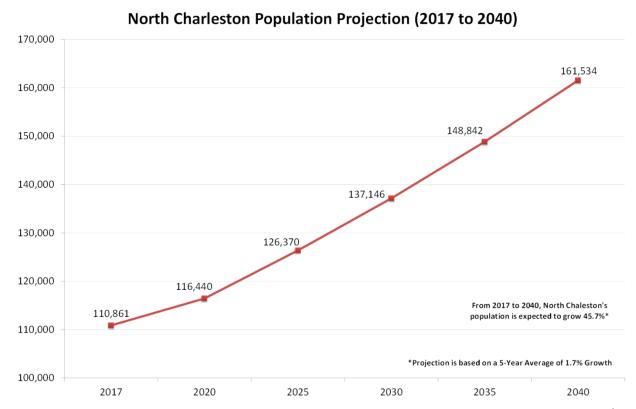
In light of proposed project and associated efforts to replace converted LWCF property, the SCDOT is requesting that SC Department of Parks, Recreation & Tourism forward a recommendation to the NPS to approve the proposed conversion and replacement.

#### INTRODUCTION

In October 1977, the City received a LWCF grant for the creation of the **Highland Terrace-Liberty Park Community Center**, located at 2401 Richardson Drive, and establishing of the LWCF public outdoor recreation use boundary. Due to the proposed I-526 LCC WEST transportation improvement project, this location is needed for permanent right-of-way acquisition. The SCDOT proposes to replace impacted facilities at the Highland Terrace-Liberty Park with replacement amenities constructed at 5260 Deacon Street (**Anderson Tract**). Approximately 4.90 acres of the Anderson Tract and the City owned parcel to the north would be included within the LWCF replacement boundary. The appended vicinity map shows the location of both properties.

#### PURPOSE, NEED AND BACKGROUND

North Charleston, South Carolina is a coastal city with incorporated areas in Berkeley, Charleston, and Dorchester Counties. With the continued growth of the Charleston



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metropolitan area, North Charleston has experienced a substantial increase in population over the last decade. The City's population grew by approximately 20% in ten years from 97,471 in 2010 to 116,440 in 2020. As shown in the chart below, the City's population is projected to increase by approximately 46% in 2040.

To accommodate recent and projected growth, the SCDOT proposes to convert land owned by the City and protected under the LWCF for permanent right-of-way acquisition as a part of the I-526 LCC WEST transportation improvement project. The SCDOT proposes replacement of the converted land with the acquisition of nearby land currently in private ownership, development of the property to provide replacement amenities, and subsequent transfer of ownership to the City.

The purpose of this project is to convert a portion of the Highland Terrace-Liberty Park Community Center to allow for permanent right-of-way acquisition required by the proposed I-526 LCC WEST transportation improvement project. The community center and associated recreational facilities are located within close proximity to I-26 and would be impacted by the proposed transportation improvements. The I-526 LCC WEST project proposes additional lanes on I-26 as part of improvements to the I-526/I-26 interchange improvements and would require the westward realignment of Taylor Street, which would encroach on the Highland Terrace-Liberty Park property. Description of the Highland Terrace-Liberty Park Community Center – The Highland Terrace-Liberty Park Community Center is a publicly-owned recreational area. It provides a forum for youth development programs and community gatherings and serves as a voting center. The 0.87-acre property consists of recreational amenities including a full-size basketball court, half-size basketball court, a playground, and a 1,947 square foot community center. See appended map and photos. The City purchased the property in 1977. Per the August 14, 2020 appraisal completed by Saunders & Associates, Inc., the property is valued at \$380,000. See appended environmental features site map.

**Description of the Anderson Tract** – The Anderson Tract, owned by Hattie Ruth Levy Anderson, is a planned acquisition by SCDOT with the intent of conveying ownership to the City. The parcel is mostly wooded and contains one single-family residence along its southern boundary. The entire landholding is 5.53 acres, of which 4.56 acres is proposed as replacement LWCF land. An additional 0.34 acres is required within the City owned parcel to the north for a proposed driveway. Per the July 6, 2020 appraisal completed by Saunders & Associates, Inc., the 4.90 acres including land and the existing residence are valued at \$610,000. If the NPS approves the conversion, this property would become a recreational complex that provides full replacement of amenities impacted at the Highland Terrace-Liberty Park Community Center. The appended vicinity map shows the location of both properties. See appended environmental features site map.

#### **DESCRIPTION OF ALTERNATIVES**

Alternative A (No Action) – This alternative would result in the NPS not receiving the State's proposal, submitted on behalf of the City, to convert a portion of Highland Terrace-Liberty Park Community Center, pursuant to the LWCF conversion regulations. This alternative would not allow land to become available for the Taylor Street realignment, additional right-of-way for the I-526 LCC WEST project, and the development of replacement facilities on the Anderson Tract. Alternative A was not selected because it would not meet the purpose of and satisfy the need for improved transportation facilities in the area.

Alternative B (Build Alternative) – Alternative B includes construction of the I-526 LCC WEST project and would remove federal protection from 0.27-acre of the Highland Terrace-Liberty Park Community Center to allow for permanent right-of-way acquisition. This alternative includes the creation of an outdoor recreational complex on the Anderson Tract including a full size outdoor basketball court, educational wetlands, playground, multi-use field, and fitness loop. This alternative also includes the reconstruction of outdoor recreational facilities at the existing facility (Highland Terrace-Liberty Park pocket park). See appended figures showing proposed facilities at each location.

**Alternatives Evaluated But Not Carried Forward** – In addition to evaluating the proposed replacement property, SCDOT evaluated other available land within the immediate vicinity of the affected LWCF property, in an effort to replace the facility as close to the existing facility as possible. This evaluation included several City-owned and privately-owned parcels; however, these parcels were either too small or were comprised almost entirely of wetlands and as such, were not carried forward as feasible alternatives.

#### AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT

#### <u>Highland Terrace-Liberty Park Community Center</u>

• Geological resources: soils, bedrock, slopes, streambeds, landforms, etc.

Per the Phase I Environmental Site Assessment prepared by S&ME, Inc. on March 27, 2020, the project area is generally underlain by sandy and sandy loam soils. The Highland Terrace-Liberty Park Community Center is a fully developed parcel that consists of predominantly open space recreational areas. The tract is flat and relatively on grade with the road grades of Richardson Drive.

#### Air quality

Per the Air Quality Impact Analysis performed by Stantec Consulting Services, Inc. dated May 2020, the project area is in attainment for all criteria pollutants. Modeled concentrations of all MSAT pollutants are projected to experience significant reductions between 2015 and 2050.

#### • Sound (noise impacts)

The main sources of noise within the current property include a rail corridor to the north as well as motor vehicles along I-26.

#### • Water quality/quantity

According to an environmental survey performed by Civil Engineering Consulting Services, Inc. on July 23, 2020, there are no streams or other water conveyances located on the property.

#### • Stream flow characteristics

According to an environmental survey performed by Civil Engineering Consulting Services, Inc. on July 23, 2020, no streams will be affected by the proposed land conversion.

#### Marine/estuarine features

There are no known marine/estuarine features that will be affected in the proposed conversion area.

#### • Floodplains/wetlands

Per Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Floodplain Mapping, the entire property is located in Zone X (moderate flood hazard zone). A small wetland area sits on the northern boundary of the parcel, as shown in the appended environmental features map.

#### Land use/ownership patterns; property values; community livability

Per an appraisal by Saunders & Associates, Inc. dated August 14, 2020, the current land use is recreational. The subject tract has primarily been designated for recreational use by the City since it was transferred on May 17, 1977. This transaction was recorded in the RMC Office of Charleston County in Deed Book L112, Page 371.

#### • Circulation, Transportation

The main circulation/transportation is currently access from Richardson Drive and Taylor Street. The nearest public transportation option is the CARTA bus route along Rivers Avenue.

#### Plant/animal/fish species of special concern and habitat

According to an environmental survey performed by Civil Engineering Consulting Services, Inc. on July 23, 2020, there is no suitable habitat for species of special concern.

#### Federal listed or proposed for listing

According to an environmental survey performed by Civil Engineering Consulting Services, Inc. on July 23, 2020, there is no suitable habitat for federally-listed species or species proposed for listing.

 Unique ecosystems, such as biosphere reserves, World Heritage sites, old growth forests, etc.

No unique ecosystems, World Heritage sites, old growth forests, or other notable terrestrial communities were identified during the environmental survey performed by Civil Engineering Consulting Services, Inc. on July 23, 2020.

#### • Unique or important wildlife/ wildlife habitat

Per an e-mail from United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) dated July 28, 2020, USFWS concurs with findings that the proposed "land swap" will not alter the quality of the natural environment, and we do not offer any objections.

#### • Unique or important fish/habitat

No unique or important fish/habitat was identified during the environmental survey performed by Civil Engineering Consulting Services, Inc. on July 23, 2020.

- Introduce or promote invasive species (plant or animal)

  There are no notable areas with invasive species currently on the property.
- Recreation resources, land, parks, open space, conservation areas, rec. trails, facilities, services, opportunities, public access, etc.

Current recreational resources within the property will be impacted by the proposed land conversion. However, 0.60-acre of the 0.87-acre property not acquired for permanent right-of-way acquisition will be developed into a pocket park.

#### Accessibility for populations with disabilities

The Highland Terrace-Liberty Park Community Center includes access for populations with disabilities.

#### • Overall aesthetics, special characteristics/features

The property is fully developed and contains a 1,947 square foot community center with recreational amenities. Outside of these facilities, there are no special characteristics or features on the property.

• Historical/cultural resources, including landscapes, ethnographic, archeological, structures, etc. Attach SHPO/THPO determination.

The Highland Terrace-Liberty Park Community Center was surveyed for historic resources as part of the studies conducted for the proposed I-526 LCC WEST project. Based on the results of background research and field survey, there are no historic resources recommended eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places at the Highland Terrace-Liberty Park Community Center. The Highland Terrace-Liberty Park Community Center does not warrant intensive archaeological survey, as soils are defined as Urban land and located within the Filbin Creek drainage.

#### Socioeconomics, including employment, occupation, income changes, tax base, infrastructure

The Highland Terrace-Liberty Park Community Center provides after school and summer programs which provide childcare options for neighborhood residents.

Minority and low-income populations

- The Highland Terrace-Liberty Park Community Center provides programs for the surrounding neighborhoods which are identified as minority and low-income populations.
- Energy resources (geothermal, fossil fuels, etc.)

The Highland Terrace-Liberty Park Community Center does not contain any energy resources such as geothermal energy or fossil fuels.

- Other agency or tribal land use plans or policies
  - The Highland Terrace-Liberty Park Community Center is not a focus area in any agency or tribal land use plans or policies.
- Land/structures with history of contamination/hazardous materials even if remediated

Per the Phase I Environmental Site Assessment prepared by S&ME, Inc. on March 27, 2020, no sites of concern are located on the parcel.

• Other important environmental resources to address.

There are no other known environmental resources to address by the proposed land conversion.

#### <u>Anderson Tract</u>

• Geological resources: soils, bedrock, slopes, streambeds, landforms, etc.

Per the Phase I Environmental Site Assessment prepared by S&ME, Inc. on March 27, 2020, the project area is generally underlain by sandy and sandy loam soils. The Anderson Tract consists of predominantly wooded and open space areas. The tract is relatively flat and on grade with the road grade of Deacon Street.

Air quality

Per the Air Quality Impact Analysis performed by Stantec Consulting Services, Inc. dated May 2020, the project area is in attainment for all criteria pollutants. Modeled concentrations of all MSAT pollutants are projected to experience significant reductions between 2015 and 2050 due to improvements in vehicle emission standards.

• Sound (noise impacts)

The main sources of noise within the proposed recreational complex area include the adjacent rail corridor and noise from motor vehicles along I-526.

#### Water quality/quantity

According to an environmental survey performed by Civil Engineering Consulting Services, Inc. on July 23, 2020, the only aquatic habitat observed within this site is an approximately one-half acre freshwater pond.

#### Stream flow characteristics

According to an environmental survey performed by Civil Engineering Consulting Services, Inc. on July 23, 2020, no streams will be affected by the proposed land conversion.

#### • Marine/estuarine features

According to an environmental survey performed by Civil Engineering Consulting Services, Inc. on July 23, 2020, the only aquatic habitat observed within this site is an approximately one-half acre freshwater pond.

#### Floodplains/wetlands

Per FEMA Floodplain Mapping, the entire property is located in Zone X (moderate flood hazard zone) and 0.3-acre is located in Zone AE (1% annual chance flooding). There are no wetlands on the Anderson Tract; a small wetland area exists within the City owned parcel containing the proposed driveway to the replacement facilities.

#### • Land use/ownership patterns; property values; community livability

Mr. Samuel F. and Hattie Ruth Levy Anderson built the subject house in the 1960's. Mrs. Hattie Ruth Levy Anderson received title to the subject from Samuel F. Anderson a/k/a Samuel Anderson through Deed of Distribution on May 1, 2008. This is identified as Case Number: 2008-ES-10-00481 and recorded in the RMC Office for Charleston County in Deed Book Y658, Page 882.

#### • Circulation, Transportation

There are approximately 650 linear feet of an unpaved private driveway extending from Deacon Street to a single-family residence. Visibility and access to the rear portion of the parcel are otherwise limited due to the presence of a rail line to the west and Filbin Creek to the south. The nearest public transportation option is the CARTA bus route along Rivers Avenue.

#### Plant/animal/fish species of special concern and habitat

According to an environmental survey performed by Civil Engineering Consulting Services, Inc. on July 23, 2020, there is no suitable habitat for species of special concern.

#### Federal listed species or species proposed for listing

According to an environmental survey performed by Civil Engineering Consulting Services, Inc. on July 23, 2020, there is no suitable habitat for federally-listed species or species proposed for listing.

## • Unique ecosystems, such as biosphere reserves, World Heritage sites, old growth forests, etc.

No unique ecosystems, World Heritage sites, old growth forests, or other notable terrestrial communities were identified during the environmental survey performed by Civil Engineering Consulting Services, Inc. on July 23, 2020.

#### • Unique or important wildlife/ wildlife habitat

No unique or important wildlife or wildlife habitat was identified during the environmental survey performed by Civil Engineering Consulting Services, Inc. on July 23, 2020.

#### Unique or important fish/habitat

No unique or important fish/habitat was identified during the environmental survey performed by Civil Engineering Consulting Services, Inc. on July 23, 2020.

- Introduce or promote invasive species (plant or animal)

  There are no notable areas with invasive species currently on the property.
- Recreation resources, land, parks, open space, conservation areas, rec. trails, facilities, services, opportunities, public access, etc.

The Anderson Tract does not contain any existing recreational resources, services, or opportunities for recreation.

#### • Accessibility for populations with disabilities

The Anderson Tract is privately-owned and does not include facilities specifically for access by populations with disabilities.

#### Overall aesthetics, special characteristics/features

The property is mostly wooded, and a single-family residential structure is present. no special characteristics or features are present on the property.

• Historical/cultural resources, including landscapes, ethnographic, archeological, structures, etc.

The Anderson Tract was surveyed for historic resources as part of the studies conducted for the proposed I-526 LCC WEST project. Based on the results of background research and field survey, there are no historic resources recommended eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places at the Anderson Tract. The Anderson Tract does not warrant intensive archaeological survey, as soils are defined as Urban land and located within the Filbin Creek drainage.

#### Socioeconomics, including employment, occupation, income changes, tax base, infrastructure

The Anderson Tract does not contain any facilities or provide functions that influence or otherwise affect local socioeconomic conditions.

#### • Minority and low-income populations

The Anderson Tract does not contain any facilities or provide functions that provide services for minority and low-income populations.

- Energy resources (geothermal, fossil fuels, etc.)
  - The Anderson Tract does not contain any energy resources such as geothermal energy or fossil fuels.
- Other agency or tribal land use plans or policies
   The Anderson Tract is not a focus area in any agency or tribal land use plans or
- Land/structures with history of contamination/hazardous materials even if remediated
  - Per the Phase I Environmental Site Assessment prepared by S&ME, Inc. on March 27, 2020, no sites of concern are located on the parcel.
- Other important environmental resources to address

  There are no other known environmental resources to address by the proposed land conversion.

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS**

policies.

Recreational resources, facilities, and recreation opportunities at Highland Terrace-Liberty Park Community Center would be impacted by the proposed I-526 LCC WEST project. No impacts to the human or natural environment are anticipated from the proposed land conversion and replacement of impacted recreational facilities.

This proposal is being prepared in conjunction with the I-526 LCC WEST transportation improvement project. As previously stated, a DEIS is being prepared for the I-526 LCC WEST project. The DEIS includes a project commitment to construct the replacement facilities prior to the displacement of the existing facility.

#### <u>Highland Terrace-Liberty Park Community Center</u>

- Geological resources: soils, bedrock, slopes, streambeds, landforms, etc.
   No measurable effects to geologic resources are expected as a result of the proposed land conversion and construction of a pocket park on the land remaining at the Highland Terrace-Liberty Park Community Center.
- Air quality

No measurable effects to air quality are expected as a result of the proposed land conversion and construction of a pocket park on the land remaining at the Highland Terrace-Liberty Park Community Center.

#### • Sound (noise impacts)

No measurable changes to existing or expected noise levels anticipated as a result of the proposed land conversion and construction of a pocket park on the land remaining at the Highland Terrace-Liberty Park Community Center.

#### Water quality/quantity

No measurable effects to water quality or quantity are expected as a result of the proposed land conversion and construction of a pocket park on the land remaining at the Highland Terrace-Liberty Park Community Center.

#### • Stream flow characteristics

There are no streams at the existing site and no measurable effects to stream flow are expected as a result of the proposed land conversion and construction of a pocket park on the land remaining at the Highland Terrace-Liberty Park Community Center.

#### • Marine/estuarine features

No measurable effects to marine/estuarine features are expected as a result of the proposed land conversion and construction of a pocket park on the land remaining at the Highland Terrace-Liberty Park Community Center.

#### • Floodplains/wetlands

The small wetland along the northern boundary of the existing facility would not be impacted by the proposed conversion. No measurable effects to floodplains/wetlands are expected as a result of the proposed land conversion and construction of a pocket park on the land remaining at the Highland Terrace-Liberty Park Community Center.

#### Land use/ownership patterns; property values; community livability

The City currently owns the Highland Terrace-Liberty Park Community Center and would retain ownership of the remaining 0.60-acre pocket park. No changes to land use, ownership patterns, or other community effects would be created as a result of the proposed land conversion and construction of a pocket park on the land remaining at the Highland Terrace-Liberty Park Community Center.

#### • Circulation, Transportation

No measurable effects to circulation or transportation are expected as a result of the proposed land conversion. The proposed pocket park would be accessed from Richardson Drive and the Taylor Street relocation. Currently there are eight parking spaces at the existing facility; approximately ten spaces would be created along Taylor Street as a part of the proposed conversion.

#### • Plant/animal/fish species of special concern and habitat

No notable species of special concern or habitat were found during field surveys. No measurable effects on plant/animal/fish species of special concern and habitat are expected as a result of the proposed land conversion and construction of a pocket park on the land remaining at the Highland Terrace-Liberty Park Community Center.

#### Federal listed species or species proposed for listing

No protected species or habitat were identified during field surveys. No measurable effects to federal listed or proposed for listing are expected as a result of the proposed land conversion and construction of a pocket park on the land remaining at the Highland Terrace-Liberty Park Community Center.

• Unique ecosystems, such as biosphere reserves, World Heritage sites, old growth forests, etc.

There are no unique ecosystems located at the existing facility. No measurable effects to unique ecosystems, such as biosphere reserves, World Heritage sites, old growth forests, etc. are expected as a result of the proposed land conversion and construction of a pocket park on the land remaining at the Highland Terrace-Liberty Park Community Center.

#### • Unique or important wildlife/ wildlife habitat

There is no unique or important wildlife or wildlife habitat at the existing facility. No measurable effects to unique or important wildlife/wildlife habitat are expected as a result of the proposed land conversion.

#### Unique or important fish/habitat

There is no unique or important fish habitat at the existing facility. No measurable effects to unique or important fish/habitat are expected as a result of the proposed land conversion.

#### Introduce or promote invasive species (plant or animal)

The proposed conversion would not create an opportunity to introduce or promote invasive species. The Highland Terrace-Liberty Park Community Center would be landscaped and regularly maintained.

• Recreation resources, land, parks, open space, conservation areas, rec. trails, facilities, services, opportunities, public access, etc.

Although amenities would be replaced at the proposed replacement property and on the remaining land at the existing facility, 0.27-acre containing recreational features would be converted to permanent transportation right-ofway.

#### Accessibility for populations with disabilities

No measurable effects on accessibility for populations with disabilities are expected as a result of the proposed land conversion and construction of a pocket park on the land remaining at the Highland Terrace-Liberty Park Community Center. Accessibility will be included in the design of both the new recreational complex and the pocket park at the existing site.

#### Overall aesthetics, special characteristics/features

Outside of typical maintenance and a small amount of landscaping, there are no special aesthetic characteristics or features currently at the Highland Terrace-Liberty Park Community Center. The proposed pocket park would be

landscaped and maintained to provide a positive effect on overall aesthetics of the site.

#### Historical/cultural resources, including landscapes, ethnographic, archeological, structures, etc.

No measurable effects on historical/cultural resources, including landscapes, ethnographic, archeological, structures, etc. are expected as a result of the proposed land conversion.

Per a letter dated July 27, 2020 from SHPO, there are no documented historic properties that are eligible for listing or listed in the National Register of Historic Places in the proposed Area of Potential Effect (APE) and no additional cultural resources/historic property identification survey are needed.

On March 29, 2019, an invitation to be a consulting part on the I-526 LCC West project was sent via email to the Tribal Historic Preservation Officers (THPO) for the Catawba Indian Nation, Eastern Shawnee Indians, and Muscogee Creek Nation. The Catawba Indian Nation responded via email on May 6, 2019 indicating they wished to be a consulting party. On June 18, 2019, SCDOT transmitted electronic copies of the overall eligibility of resources in the project study area to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and Eastern Shawnee Nation, and a physical copy of the report to the Catawba Indian Nation on behalf of FHWA. The Catawba Indian Nation returned a signed concurrence letter to SCDOT on June 26, 2019. On July 2, 2019, SCDOT received a concurrence letter from the Catawba Indian Nation on both the I-526 Lowcountry Corridor West Project, Charleston Co., SC Addendum II report and the I-526 West Cultural Resources Effect Determination Memo. Throughout the project a response was not received from the Eastern Shawnee Indians or Muscogee Creek Nation.

#### Socioeconomics, including employment, occupation, income changes, tax base, infrastructure

No measurable effects on socioeconomics, including employment, occupation, income changes, tax base, infrastructure are expected as a result of the proposed land conversion and construction of a pocket park on the land remaining at the Highland Terrace-Liberty Park Community Center.

#### • Minority and low-income populations

No measurable effects on minority and low-income populations are expected as a result of the proposed land conversion and construction of a pocket park on the land remaining at the Highland Terrace-Liberty Park Community Center.

#### • Energy resources (geothermal, fossil fuels, etc.)

No measurable effects on energy resources (geothermal, fossil fuels, etc.) are expected as a result of the proposed land conversion and construction of a pocket park on the land remaining at the Highland Terrace-Liberty Park Community Center.

#### Other agency or tribal land use plans or policies

No measurable effects on other agency or tribal land use plans or policies are expected as a result of the proposed land conversion and construction of a pocket park on the land remaining at the Highland Terrace-Liberty Park Community Center.

#### Land/structures with history of contamination/hazardous materials even if remediated

No measurable effects on land or structures with a history of contamination/hazardous materials even if remediated are expected as a result of the proposed land conversion and construction of a pocket park on the land remaining at the Highland Terrace-Liberty Park Community Center.

#### • Other important environmental resources to address

No measurable effects on other important environmental resources are expected as a result of the proposed land conversion and construction of a pocket park on the land remaining at the Highland Terrace-Liberty Park Community Center.

#### **Anderson Tract**

## Geological resources: soils, bedrock, slopes, streambeds, landforms, etc. No measurable effects to geologic resources are expected as a result of the proposed land conversion.

#### Air quality

No measurable effects to air quality are expected as a result of the proposed land conversion.

#### • Sound (noise impacts)

No measurable changes to existing or expected noise levels are anticipated as a result of the proposed conversion.

#### Water quality/quantity

The proposed replacement facility would increase the amount of impervious surface on the Anderson Tract; however, it is limited to the basketball court, playground, and fitness loop. To manage stormwater, two stormwater detention basins are proposed on the Anderson Tract as part of the LWCF replacement. These stormwater facilities will also serve as educational wetlands. No adverse impacts to water quality/quantity are anticipated by the proposed land conversion. No measurable effects to water quality or stream flow are expected as a result of the proposed land conversion.

#### • Stream flow characteristics

No measurable effects to water quality or stream flow are expected as a result of the proposed land conversion.

#### • Marine/estuarine features

No measurable effects to marine/estuarine features are expected as a result of the proposed land conversion.

#### • Floodplains/wetlands

Approximately 0.32 acre of floodplain impacts and 0.27 acre of wetland impacts are expected as a result of the proposed land conversion. As noted above, the proposed replacement facility includes stormwater management measures.

# Land use/ownership patterns; property values; community livability The Anderson Tract is currently a planned acquisition by SCDOT with the intent of conveying ownership to the City as a result of the proposed land conversion. The creation of recreational facilities would have a positive effect on community

livability and cohesion which may provide benefit for adjacent property values.

#### • Circulation, Transportation

The proposed replacement property would include an access drive from Deacon Street as well as a driveway and approximately 25 parking spaces which would be accessed from Elder Avenue.

#### Plant/animal/fish species of special concern and habitat

No measurable effects to plant/animal/fish species of special concern and habitat are expected as a result of the proposed land conversion. Per correspondence from USFWS dated July 28, 2020, USFWS concurs with findings that the proposed "land swap" will not alter the quality of the natural environment and does not object to the proposed conversion and replacement.

#### Federal listed species or species proposed for listing

No measurable effect to federal listed or proposed for listing are expected as a result of the proposed land conversion. Per correspondence from USFWS dated July 28, 2020, USFWS concurs with findings that the proposed "land swap" will not alter the quality of the natural environment and does not object to the proposed conversion and replacement.

## • Unique ecosystems, such as biosphere reserves, World Heritage sites, old growth forests, etc.

No measurable effect to unique ecosystems, such as biosphere reserves, World Heritage sites, old growth forests, etc. are expected as a result of the proposed land conversion. Per correspondence from USFWS dated July 28, 2020, USFWS concurs with findings that the proposed "land swap" will not alter the quality of the natural environment and does not object to the proposed conversion and replacement.

#### • Unique or important wildlife/ wildlife habitat

No measurable effects to unique or important wildlife/wildlife habitat are expected as a result of the proposed land conversion. Per correspondence from USFWS dated July 28, 2020, USFWS concurs with findings that the proposed "land"

swap" will not alter the quality of the natural environment and does not object to the proposed conversion and replacement.

#### • Unique or important fish/habitat

No measurable effects to unique or important fish/habitat are expected as a result of the proposed land conversion. Per correspondence from USFWS dated July 28, 2020, USFWS concurs with findings that the proposed "land swap" will not alter the quality of the natural environment and does not object to the proposed conversion and replacement.

#### • Introduce or promote invasive species (plant or animal)

The proposed conversion would not create an opportunity to introduce or promote invasive species. The Anderson Tract would be landscaped and regularly maintained.

 Recreation resources, land, parks, open space, conservation areas, rec. trails, facilities, services, opportunities, public access, etc.

The Anderson Tract would be Property will be developed as a recreational complex if the proposed land conversion is approved. Recreational resources in the area would be improved by the addition of the recreational complex on the Anderson Tract in addition to the remaining land at the Highland Terrace-Liberty Park Community Center being retained and redeveloped for outdoor recreational purposes.

#### Accessibility for populations with disabilities

The proposed replacement recreational facilities would be designed to ensure accessibility for populations with disabilities. No measurable effects on accessibility for populations with disabilities are expected as a result of the proposed land conversion.

#### • Overall aesthetics, special characteristics/features

There are no special characteristics or features currently on the Anderson Tract. The property will be landscaped and maintained to provide a positive effect on overall aesthetics of the site.

• Historical/cultural resources, including landscapes, ethnographic, archeological, structures, etc.

No measurable effects on historical/cultural resources, including landscapes, ethnographic, archeological, structures, etc. are expected as a result of the proposed land conversion.

Per a letter dated July 27, 2020 from SHPO, there are no documented historic properties that are eligible for listing or listed in the National Register of Historic Places in the proposed Area of Potential Effect (APE) and no additional cultural resources/historic property identification survey are needed.

On March 29, 2019, an invitation to be a consulting part on the I-526 LCC West project was sent via email to the Tribal Historic Preservation Officers (THPO) for

the Catawba Indian Nation, Eastern Shawnee Indians, and Muscogee Creek Nation. The Catawba Indian Nation responded via email on May 6, 2019 indicating they wished to be a consulting party. On June 18, 2019, SCDOT transmitted electronic copies of the overall eligibility of resources in the project study area to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and Eastern Shawnee Nation, and a physical copy of the report to the Catawba Indian Nation on behalf of FHWA. The Catawba Indian Nation returned a signed concurrence letter to SCDOT on June 26, 2019. On July 2, 2019, SCDOT received a concurrence letter from the Catawba Indian Nation on both the I-526 Lowcountry Corridor West Project, Charleston Co., SC Addendum II report and the I-526 West Cultural Resources Effect Determination Memo. Throughout the project a response was not received from the Eastern Shawnee Indians or Muscogee Creek Nation.

#### Socioeconomics, including employment, occupation, income changes, tax base, infrastructure

No measurable effects on socioeconomics, including employment, occupation, income changes, tax base, infrastructure are expected as a result of the proposed land conversion.

#### • Minority and low-income populations

No measurable effects on minority and low-income populations are expected as a result of the proposed land conversion.

#### Energy resources (geothermal, fossil fuels, etc.)

No measurable effects on energy resources (geothermal, fossil fuels, etc.) are expected as a result of the proposed land conversion.

#### • Other agency or tribal land use plans or policies

No measurable effects on other agency or tribal land use plans or policies are expected as a result of the proposed land conversion.

#### Land/structures with history of contamination/hazardous materials even if remediated

No measurable effects on land or structures with history of contamination/hazardous materials even if remediated are expected as a result of the proposed land conversion.

#### • Other important environmental resources to address

No measurable effects on other important environmental resources to address are expected as a result of the proposed land conversion.

#### **Coordination and Consultation**

Relevant agency correspondence and technical reports are appended to this EA. The following agencies were contacted during the preparation of this document:

- Saunders & Associates, Inc., 106 Pitt Street, Mount Pleasant, SC 29464
- Civil Engineering Consulting Services, Inc., 2551 Oscar Johnson Drive, Suite B North Charleston, SC 29405
- SC Historic Preservation Office, 8301 Parklane Road, Columbia, SC 29223-4905
- Catawba Indian Nation, 1536 Tom Stevens Road, Rock Hill, SC 29730
- Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, P. O. Box 445, Cherokee, NC 28719
- Muscogee Creek Nation, P. O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 176 Croghan Spur Road, Suite 200, Charleston, SC 29407
- Department of the Army Corps of Engineers Regulatory Division, Strom Thurmond Federal Building, 1835 Assembly Street, Rm 865B-1, Columbia, SC 29201

This EA will be submitted to Justin Hancock, Director of Recreation, Grants and Policy, SC Department of Parks, Recreation & Tourism, 1205 Pendleton Street, Columbia, SC 29201 for review and recommendation.

#### **Opportunities for Public Comment**

Public input on the proposed replacement facilities will occur concurrent to the public engagement being conducted for the I-526 LCC WEST Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) in the fall of 2020. The Draft Environmental Assessment will be released for a 30-day comment period coinciding with the distribution of the DEIS in October 2020. This Draft EA will be available for review and comment as part of the DEIS technical appendices. The DEIS and this EA will be available for review online at the project website and at the Project Community Office, located at 5627 Rivers Avenue (CARTA Route 10). This EA will also be available for review during normal business hours at City of North Charleston City Hall, 2500 City Hall Lane, North Charleston, SC 29406.

#### **References Consulted**

Saunders & Associates, Inc., Appraisal of 5260 Deacon Street, North Charleston, SC

Saunders & Associates, Inc., Appraisal of 2401 Richardson Drive, North Charleston, SC

Stantec Consulting Services, Inc., I-526 LCC WEST Air Quality Impact Analysis, Interstate 526 & Interstate 26 Interchange

Civil Engineering Consulting Services, Inc., Proposed LWCF Conversion of the Highland Terrace-Liberty Park Community Center, Biological Survey

S&ME, Inc., Phase I Environmental Site Assessment, I-526 Corridor Improvements FEMA Floodplain Maps

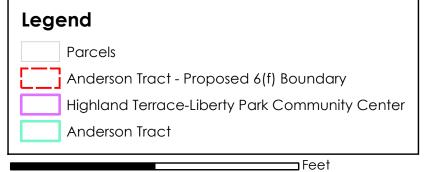
#### **List of Preparers**

The following individual, firms, and resources contributed, directly or indirectly, to the development of this EA which was prepared in consultation with the National Park Service:

- Chad Long, Director of Environmental Services, SCDOT, Post Office Box 191, Columbia, SC 29202-191
- Amy Sackaroff, Senior Transportation Planner, Stantec, 801 Jones Franklin Road Suite 300, Raleigh, NC 27606-3394
- Michael Wray, Transportation Engineer, Stantec, 801 Jones Franklin Road Suite 300, Raleigh, NC 27606-3394
- Stuart M. Saunders, Appraiser, Saunders & Associates, Inc., 106 Pitt Street, Mount Pleasant, SC 29464
- Amanda Harris, Civil Engineering Consulting Services, Inc., 2551 Oscar Johnson Drive, Suite B, North Charleston, SC 29405

## **FIGURES**





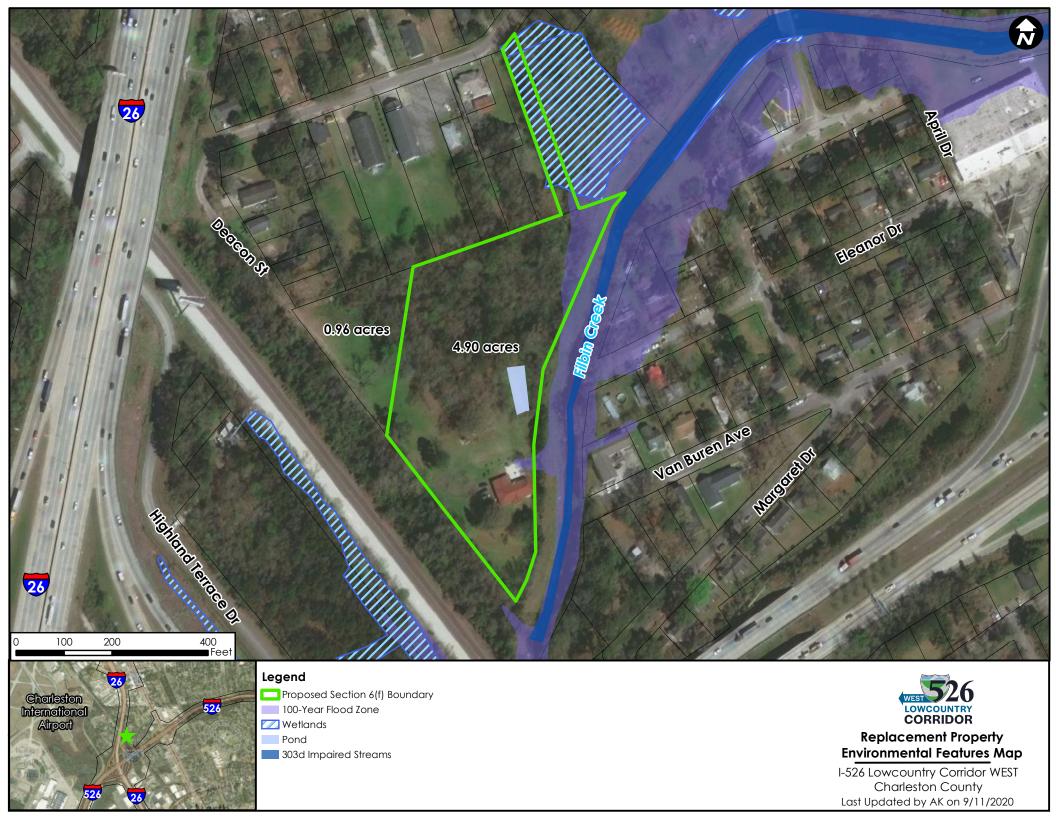
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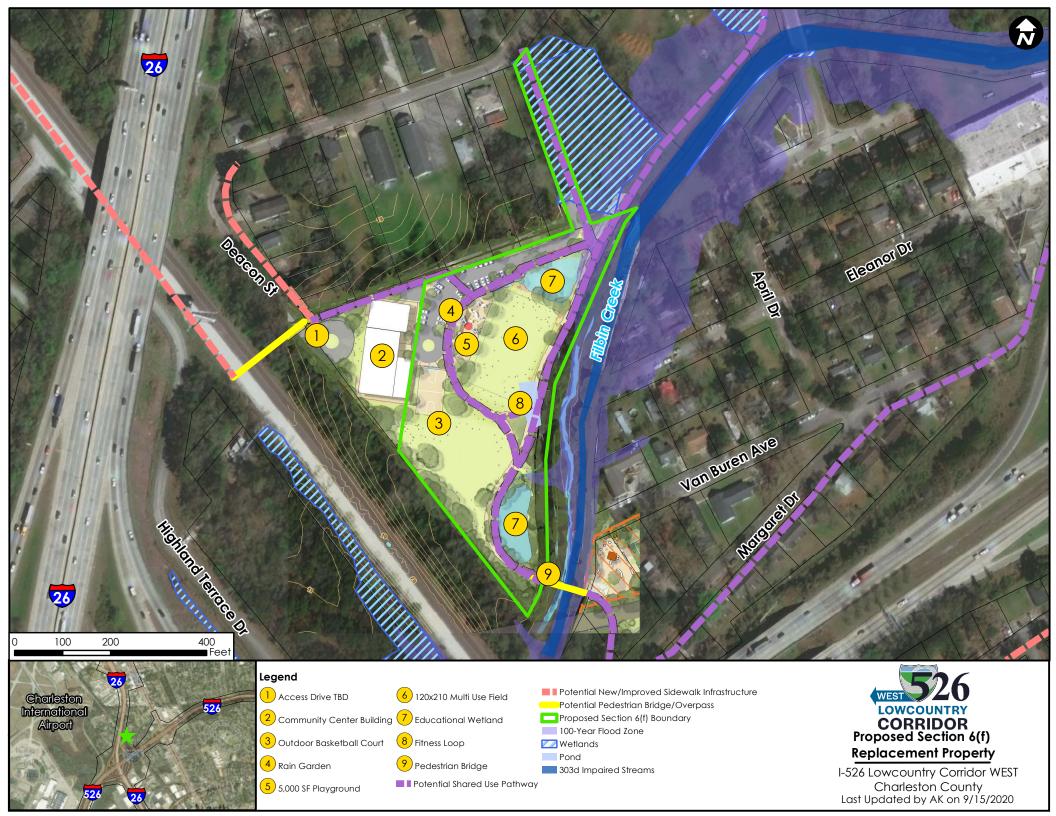
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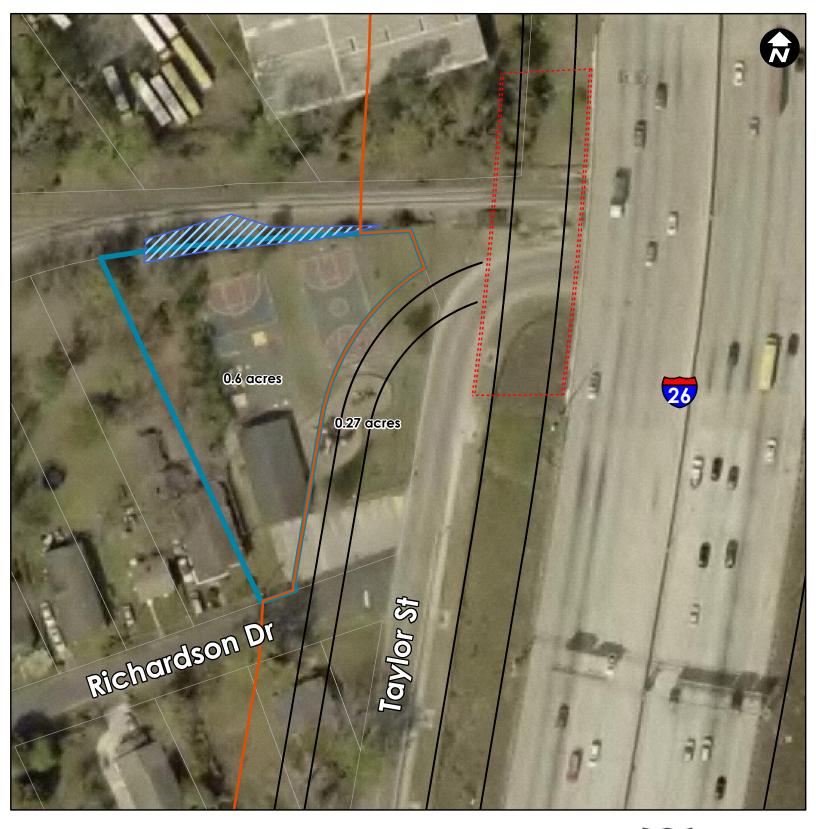


**Vicinity Map** 

I-526 Lowcountry Corridor WEST Charleston County Last Updated by AK on 9/11/2020









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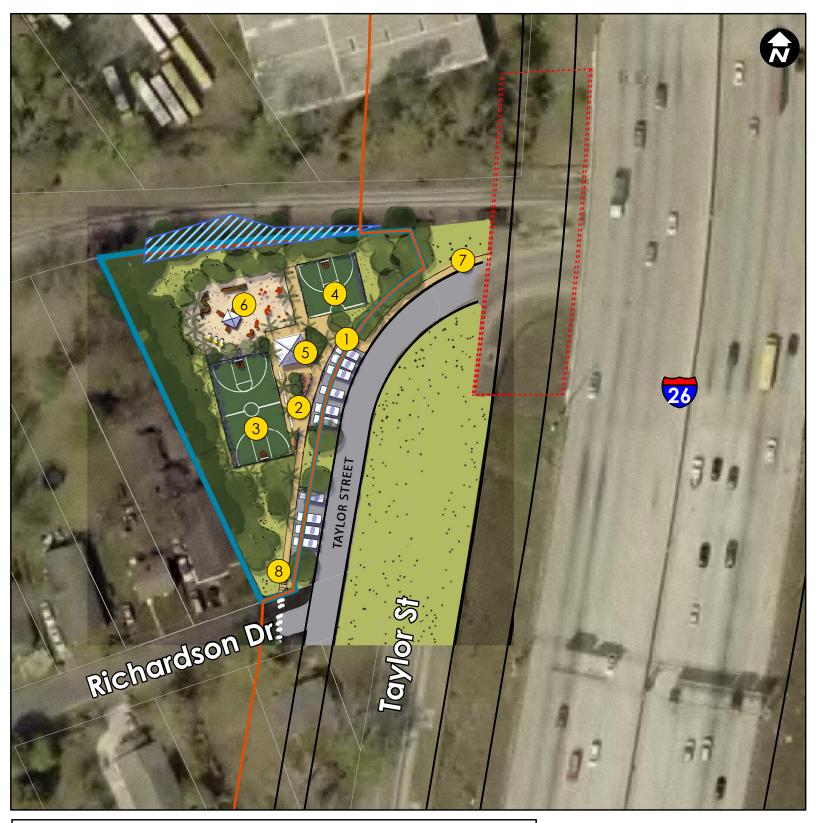
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Highland Terrace-Liberty Park Community Center Environmental Features

> I-526 Lowcountry Corridor WEST Charleston County Last Updated by AK on 9/8/2020







Highland Terrace-Liberty Park
Community Center
Environmental Features

I-526 Lowcountry Corridor WEST Charleston County Last Updated by AK on 9/9/2020

Wetlands

## **APPENDICES**

## **APPENDIX A**

#### **AGENCY COORDINATION**



June 18, 2019

Joseph E. Wilkinson Review Coordinator for Transportation Projects State Historic Preservation Office South Carolina Department of Archives & History 8301 Parklane Road Columbia, South Carolina 29223-4905

RECEIVED Road
th Carolina 29223-4905

Environmental Managements

Brockington and Associates' 1.) Cultural Resource Survey of the I-526 Corridor Improvements Re: Project & 2.) Cultural Resource Survey of the I-526 Lowcountry Corridor West Project—Addendum Report, Charleston County, SCDOT PIN P027507

Dear Mr. Wilkinson:

The SCDOT proposes to improve I-526 from SC Route (SC-) 461 (Paul Cantrell Boulevard) to the SC-61 Spur (Glenn McConnell Parkway). Improvements along 1-26 extend from West Montague Avenue west to Remount Road. The project may include adding a travel lane in each direction along I-526; interchange improvements at Leeds Avenue, SC-642 (Dorchester Road), West Montague Avenue, International Boulevard, and Paul Cantrell Boulevard; and the system-to-system connections at Glenn McConnell Parkway, I-26, and Rivers Avenue. Interchange improvements along I-26 may include West Montague Avenue. Improvements are also to be evaluated along Paul Cantrell Boulevard from S- 10-1373 (Tobias Gadson Boulevard) to Charlie Hall Boulevard. This segment of Paul Cantrell Boulevard includes the intersection of S-10-1863 (Magwood Drive), which will be evaluated for a grade separation to accommodate future traffic volumes.

The two cultural resources reports referenced above cover the full Area of Potential Effect (APE) for the proposed project. This correspondence addresses the combined results of those two reports and therefore the entirety of the project APE. The purpose of this correspondence is only to establish National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) eligibility for cultural resources documented as part of the subject surveys. Additional Section 106 coordination to determine project effects upon cultural resources will be initiated when a preferred alignment for the project is developed.

Archaeological investigations for the project revisited one (1) previously identified archaeological site (38CH17) and identified one new site (38CH2523). Neither of these sites is recommended eligible for the NRHP Underwater archaeological survey was also conducted within the project APE, and two anomalies (006-1 and 010-1) were identified. Anomaly 006-1 is recommended eligible for the NRHP. Anomaly 010-1 is recommended as not eligible for the NRHP.

The historic architectural survey identified several survey-eligible neighborhoods, individual resources, and landscape features within the APE (refer to attached reports for specifics). Only one (1) aboveground resource identified in the studies (site 7806, Bethune Elementary) is recommended eligible for the NRHP. Other aboveground resources documented in the reports are recommended (or previously recommended) as NRHP-eligible but do not fall within the project APE as currently defined.



#### Please provide your concurrence with or comment on the eligibility findings of the two subject reports.

In accordance the memorandum of agreement approved by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), November 29, 2011, SCDOT is providing this information as agency official designee, as defined under 36 CFR 800.2, to ensure compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

It is requested that you review the enclosed material and, if appropriate, indicate your concurrence with SCDOT findings. Please respond within 30 days if you have any objections or if you have need of additional information.

Sincerely

David P. Kelly

NEPA Coordinator, RPG 4

DPK:dk

Enclosures: Cultural resources reports, aboveground survey forms, photographs

I (do not) concur in the above determinations.

Signe

ec:

Shane Belcher, FHWA

LeeAnne Wendt, Muscogee (Creek) Nation

Brett Barnes, Eastern Shawnee

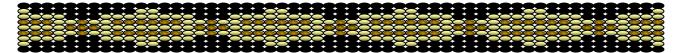
cc:

Wenonah G. Haire, Catawba Nation THPO

Keith Derting, SCIAA

Page 2Brockington and Associates'
1.) Cultural Resource Survey of the 1-526 Corridor Improvements Project & 2.) Cultural Resource Survey of the I-526 Lowcountry Corridor West Project—Addendum Report, Charleston County, SCDOT PIN P027507





Catawba Indian Nation Tribal Historic Preservation Office 1536 Tom Steven Road Rock Hill. South Carolina 29730

Office 803-328-2427 Fax 803-328-5791

August 25, 2020

Attention: Tracy Martin

SCDOT P.O. Box 191

Columbia, SC 29202

Re. THPO# TCNS#

Project Description
Partial Land Conversion on the Proposed I-526 West Lowcountry Corridor

2020-66-22 Improvements EIS in Charleston Co., SC

Dear Ms. Martin,

The Catawba have no immediate concerns with regard to traditional cultural properties, sacred sites or Native American archaeological sites within the boundaries of the proposed project areas. However, the Catawba are to be notified if Native American artifacts and / or human remains are located during the ground disturbance phase of this project.

If you have questions please contact Caitlin Rogers at 803-328-2427 ext. 226, or e-mail Caitlin.Rogers@catawba.com.

Sincerely,

Wenonah G. Haire

Tribal Historic Preservation Officer

Cattle Rogers for



**South Carolina** 

1835 Assembly Street, Suite 1270 Columbia, South Carolina 29201 803-765-5411 803-253-3989

March 29, 2019

In Reply Refer To: HDA-SC

Mr. Brett Barnes Tribal Historic Preservation Officer Eastern Shawnee Tribe of OK 127 W. Oneida St. Seneca, MO 64865

Subject:

Invitation to Become a Participating Agency for the Preparation of an

Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Proposed I-526 West Lowcountry

Corridor Improvements Project in Charleston County, South Carolina;

Federal Project Number P027507

Dear Mr. Barnes:

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), in cooperation with the South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT), is preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the I-526 West Lowcountry Corridor Improvements Project. The proposed project would make improvements to the I-526 corridor from Virginia Avenue to Paul Cantrell Boulevard in Charleston County, South Carolina. The purpose of the proposed project is to increase capacity and improve operations at the I-26/526 interchange and along the I-526 mainline from Virginia Avenue to Paul Cantrell Boulevard (see study area map on enclosed project information sheet). The Ashley River bridge crossing would be widened to accommodate the improvements on the I-526 mainline. Since this is a major infrastructure project that is starting after August 15, 2017, it will adhere to the One Federal Decision guidance and tracked on the federal permitting dashboard.

Pursuant to Section 6002 of SAFETEA-LU, as amended by Section 1304 of the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act, cooperating and participating agencies are responsible for identifying, as early as possible, any issues of concern regarding the project's potential environmental, social, or economic impacts. Section 6002 is intended to assure that agencies are fully engaged in the scoping of the project and the decisions regarding alternatives to be evaluated in detail in the NEPA analysis. In accordance with the SAFETEA-LU Section 6002, FHWA is in the process of identifying local, state, and federal agencies that may have an interest in the project. This same guidance is in the Memorandum of Understanding for Implementing One Federal Decision (issued April 9, 2018), as well as the One Federal Decision Working Agreement.

The FHWA would like to take this opportunity to formally invite you to become a Participating Agency in the development of the EIS. Areas of concern to be emphasized in the EIS will include potential environmental impacts upon existing ecological resources, wetlands, water resources,

historic and archaeological resources, parks and recreation facilities, noise and air, social and community character, hazardous/contaminated materials, cumulative and indirect impacts, and potential impacts due to project construction.

Your involvement in the proposed project would entail those areas under its jurisdiction or area of expertise. No direct writing or analysis by your agency will be necessary for this document unless you request to do so. We suggest that your agency's role in the development of the above project should include the following as they relate to your area of expertise:

- 1. Participate in coordination meetings as appropriate.
- 2. Consultation on any relevant technical studies that may be required for the project.
- 3. Timely review and comment on the environment document to reflect the views and concerns of your agency on the adequacy of the document, alternatives considered, and the anticipated impacts and mitigation.

To become a Participating Agency with the FHWA, please respond to this office in writing with an acceptance or denial of the invitation within 30 days. If you accept, please identify the appropriate contact person(s) within your organization for coordination. If your agency declines, please provide a written response that states your reason for declining the invitation, such as:

- Has no jurisdiction or authority with respect to the project;
- · Has no expertise or information relevant to the project; and
- Does not intend to submit comments on the project.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss in more detail the project or each agency's respective roles and responsibilities during the preparation of the EIS, please contact Ms. Michelle Herrell at 803-765-5460 or by email at <a href="mailto:michelle.herrell@dot.gov">michelle.herrell@dot.gov</a>; or Mr. J. Shane Belcher at 803-253-3187 or by e-mail at <a href="mailto:jeffrey.belcher@dot.gov">jeffrey.belcher@dot.gov</a>.

Sincerely,

Emily O. Lawton
Division Administrator

#### Enclosures

ec:

Mr. Chad Long, SCDOT Environmental Division Manager

Mr. David Kelly, SCDOT RPG 1 NEPA Coordinator

Mr. Will McGoldrick, SCDOT Design-Build NEPA/Permitting Coordinator

Ms. Joy Riley, SCDOT Program Manager



South Carolina

1835 Assembly Street, Suite 1270 Columbia, South Carolina 29201 803-765-5411 803-253-3989

March 29, 2019

In Reply Refer To: HDA-SC

Ms. Corain Lowe-Zepeda Tribal Historic Preservation Officer Muscogee (Creek) Nation of OK 1008 East Eufaula Street Okmulgee, OK 74447

Subject:

Invitation to Become a Participating Agency for the Preparation of an

Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Proposed I-526 West Lowcountry

Corridor Improvements Project in Charleston County, South Carolina;

Federal Project Number P027507

Dear Ms. Lowe-Zepeda:

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), in cooperation with the South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT), is preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the I-526 West Lowcountry Corridor Improvements Project. The proposed project would make improvements to the I-526 corridor from Virginia Avenue to Paul Cantrell Boulevard in Charleston County, South Carolina. The purpose of the proposed project is to increase capacity and improve operations at the I-26/526 interchange and along the I-526 mainline from Virginia Avenue to Paul Cantrell Boulevard (see study area map on enclosed project information sheet). The Ashley River bridge crossing would be widened to accommodate the improvements on the I-526 mainline. Since this is a major infrastructure project that is starting after August 15, 2017, it will adhere to the One Federal Decision guidance and tracked on the federal permitting dashboard.

Pursuant to Section 6002 of SAFETEA-LU, as amended by Section 1304 of the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act, cooperating and participating agencies are responsible for identifying, as early as possible, any issues of concern regarding the project's potential environmental, social, or economic impacts. Section 6002 is intended to assure that agencies are fully engaged in the scoping of the project and the decisions regarding alternatives to be evaluated in detail in the NEPA analysis. In accordance with the SAFETEA-LU Section 6002, FHWA is in the process of identifying local, state, and federal agencies that may have an interest in the project. This same guidance is in the Memorandum of Understanding for Implementing One Federal Decision (issued April 9, 2018), as well as the One Federal Decision Working Agreement.

The FHWA would like to take this opportunity to formally invite you to become a Participating Agency in the development of the EIS. Areas of concern to be emphasized in the EIS will include potential environmental impacts upon existing ecological resources, wetlands, water resources,

historic and archaeological resources, parks and recreation facilities, noise and air, social and community character, hazardous/contaminated materials, cumulative and indirect impacts, and potential impacts due to project construction.

Your involvement in the proposed project would entail those areas under its jurisdiction or area of expertise. No direct writing or analysis by your agency will be necessary for this document unless you request to do so. We suggest that your agency's role in the development of the above project should include the following as they relate to your area of expertise:

- 1. Participate in coordination meetings as appropriate.
- 2. Consultation on any relevant technical studies that may be required for the project.
- 3. Timely review and comment on the environment document to reflect the views and concerns of your agency on the adequacy of the document, alternatives considered, and the anticipated impacts and mitigation.

To become a Participating Agency with the FHWA, please respond to this office in writing with an acceptance or denial of the invitation within 30 days. If you accept, please identify the appropriate contact person(s) within your organization for coordination. If your agency declines, please provide a written response that states your reason for declining the invitation, such as:

- Has no jurisdiction or authority with respect to the project;
- · Has no expertise or information relevant to the project; and
- Does not intend to submit comments on the project.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss in more detail the project or each agency's respective roles and responsibilities during the preparation of the EIS, please contact Ms. Michelle Herrell at 803-765-5460 or by email at <a href="mailto:michelle.herrell@dot.gov">michelle.herrell@dot.gov</a>; or Mr. J. Shane Belcher at 803-253-3187 or by e-mail at <a href="mailto:jeffrey.belcher@dot.gov">jeffrey.belcher@dot.gov</a>.

Sincerely

Emily O. Lawton
Division Administrator

#### Enclosures

ec: Ms. LeeAnne Wendt, Muscogee (Creek) Nation

Mr. Chad Long, SCDOT Environmental Division Manager

Mr. David Kelly, SCDOT RPG 1 NEPA Coordinator

Mr. Will McGoldrick, SCDOT Design-Build NEPA/Permitting Coordinator

Ms. Joy Riley, SCDOT Program Manager



July 27, 2020

Ms. Elizabeth Johnson Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer South Carolina Department of Archives and History 8301 Parklane Road Columbia, SC 29223-4905

Subject: Cultural Resources Survey for Section 6(f)(3) Partial Land Conversion (2401

Richardson Drive) on the Proposed I-526 West Lowcountry Corridor Improvements Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) in Charleston County, South

Carolina; Federal Project Number P027507

Dear Ms. Johnson:

The South Carolina Department of Transportation (the Department) seeks to convert a portion of the Highland Terrace-Liberty Park Community Center, a Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) Section 6(f) resource located at 2401 Richardson Drive in North Charleston, from its current recreational use to permanent right-of-way as part of the proposed I-526 Lowcountry Corridor (LCC) WEST project. The proposed replacement property, located at 5260 Deacon Street, is shown in the attached mapping.

An Environmental Assessment (EA) is being prepared to evaluate impacts associated with replacing the impacted Section 6(f) resource. The properties at Richardson Drive and Deacon Street have been surveyed for historic resources as part of the studies conducted for the proposed I-526 LCC WEST project. The I-526 LCC WEST Cultural Resources report is attached for reference. Based on the results of background research and field survey, there are no historic resources recommended eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places at 2401 Richardson Drive or 5260 Deacon Street. Neither the 2401 Richardson Drive nor the 5260 Deacon Street tracts warranted archaeological survey, as soils at both tracts are defined as Urban land and located within the Filbin Creek drainage. Therefore, **no historic properties or archaeological resources would be affected** by construction of the proposed replacement recreational facilities.

In accordance with the memorandum of agreement approved by the Federal Highway Administration, March 16, 1993, the Department is providing this information as agency official designee, as defined under 36 CFR 800.2, to ensure compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.





Per the terms of the Section 106 Programmatic Agreement, the Department is providing this information on behalf of the Federal Highway Administration. It is requested that you review the enclosed material and, if appropriate, indicate your concurrence with the Department's findings, thus completing the Section 106 consultation process. Please respond within 30 days if you have any objections or if you have need of additional information.

Sincerely,

Tracy Martin

Chief Archaeologist

may Man

CCL:ccl Enclosure

I (do not) concur in the above determination.

Golf M. John Date: 7/27/2020 ec:

Mr. J. Shane Belcher, FHWA Environmental Coordinator

Mr. David Kelly, SCDOT RPG 1 NEPA Coordinator

Mr. Will McGoldrick, SCDOT Design-Build Environmental Coordinator

Ms. Joy Riley, SCDOT Program Manager

Ms. LeeAnne Wendt, Muscogee (Creek) Nation

Mr. Brett Barnes, Eastern Shawnee

Ms. Wenonah G. Haire, Catawba Nation cc.

Mr. Keith Derting, SCIAA

 From:
 Wray, Michael

 To:
 Wray, Michael

 Subject:
 ESA Concurrence

**Date:** Friday, July 31, 2020 5:24:40 PM

From: Caldwell, Mark < mark caldwell@fws.gov>

**Sent:** Tuesday, July 28, 2020 2:11 PM **To:** Long, Chad C. < LongCC@scdot.org > **Cc:** Ledwin, Jane < Jane ledwin@fws.gov >

**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] 526 Lowcountry Corridor 6f ESA Consultation

\*\*\* This is an EXTERNAL email. Please do not click on a link or open any attachments unless you are confident it is from a trusted source. \*\*\*

#### Chad,

I have no concerns with SCDOT's determination of no effect for this particular 6(f) conversion associated with the I-526 LCC project (attached).

#### Mark

Mark A. Caldwell
Deputy Field Supervisor
US Fish and Wildlife Service
South Atlantic-Gulf Region
South Carolina Ecological Services
176 Croghan Spur Road, Suite 200
Charleston, SC 29407
843-300-0426 (direct line)
843-870-0041 (cell)
843-300-0189 – facsimile

This email correspondence and any attachments to and from this sender is subject to the Freedom of Information Act and may be disclosed to third parties.

From: Long, Chad C. < LongCC@scdot.org>
Sent: Tuesday, July 28, 2020 1:49 PM

To: Caldwell, Mark < mark caldwell@fws.gov>

Cc: Belcher, Jeffery - FHWA < Jeffrey.Belcher@dot.gov>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] 526 Lowcountry Corridor 6f ESA Consultation

#### opening attachments, or responding.

#### Mark,

We are preparing an environmental assessment for the proposed Section 6(f) conversion associated with the 526 WEST Lowcountry Corridor project. Our consultant recently conducted an endangered species survey for the proposed community center replacement property (see attached).

Please review and let me know if you have any comments/questions regarding the "no effect" determination.

#### Regards,

#### Chad C. Long | Director

Environmental Services Office
South Carolina Department of Transportation
955 Park Street | Room 509
Columbia, South Carolina 29201
Phone 803.737.1396 (office) | 803.420.8115 (mobile)



Safety 1<sup>st</sup> – Live By It! Let 'em Work, Let 'em Live!



July 27, 2020

Ms. Elizabeth Johnson Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer South Carolina Department of Archives and History 8301 Parklane Road Columbia, SC 29223-4905

Subject: Cultural Resources Survey for Section 6(f)(3) Partial Land Conversion (2401

Richardson Drive) on the Proposed I-526 West Lowcountry Corridor Improvements Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) in Charleston County, South

Carolina; Federal Project Number P027507

Dear Ms. Johnson:

The South Carolina Department of Transportation (the Department) seeks to convert a portion of the Highland Terrace-Liberty Park Community Center, a Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) Section 6(f) resource located at 2401 Richardson Drive in North Charleston, from its current recreational use to permanent right-of-way as part of the proposed I-526 Lowcountry Corridor (LCC) WEST project. The proposed replacement property, located at 5260 Deacon Street, is shown in the attached mapping.

An Environmental Assessment (EA) is being prepared to evaluate impacts associated with replacing the impacted Section 6(f) resource. The properties at Richardson Drive and Deacon Street have been surveyed for historic resources as part of the studies conducted for the proposed I-526 LCC WEST project. The I-526 LCC WEST Cultural Resources report is attached for reference. Based on the results of background research and field survey, there are no historic resources recommended eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places at 2401 Richardson Drive or 5260 Deacon Street. Neither the 2401 Richardson Drive nor the 5260 Deacon Street tracts warranted archaeological survey, as soils at both tracts are defined as Urban land and located within the Filbin Creek drainage. Therefore, **no historic properties or archaeological resources would be affected** by construction of the proposed replacement recreational facilities.

In accordance with the memorandum of agreement approved by the Federal Highway Administration, March 16, 1993, the Department is providing this information as agency official designee, as defined under 36 CFR 800.2, to ensure compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.





Per the terms of the Section 106 Programmatic Agreement, the Department is providing this information on behalf of the Federal Highway Administration. It is requested that you review the enclosed material and, if appropriate, indicate your concurrence with the Department's findings, thus completing the Section 106 consultation process. Please respond within 30 days if you have any objections or if you have need of additional information.

Sincerely,

Tracy Martin

Chief Archaeologist

may Man

CCL:ccl Enclosure

I (do not) concur in the above determination.

Golf M. John Date: 7/27/2020 ec:

Mr. J. Shane Belcher, FHWA Environmental Coordinator

Mr. David Kelly, SCDOT RPG 1 NEPA Coordinator

Mr. Will McGoldrick, SCDOT Design-Build Environmental Coordinator

Ms. Joy Riley, SCDOT Program Manager

Ms. LeeAnne Wendt, Muscogee (Creek) Nation

Mr. Brett Barnes, Eastern Shawnee

Ms. Wenonah G. Haire, Catawba Nation cc.

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Mark A. Caldwell
Deputy Field Supervisor
US Fish and Wildlife Service
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176 Croghan Spur Road, Suite 200
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Please review and let me know if you have any comments/questions regarding the "no effect" determination.

#### Regards,

#### Chad C. Long | Director

Environmental Services Office
South Carolina Department of Transportation
955 Park Street | Room 509
Columbia, South Carolina 29201
Phone 803.737.1396 (office) | 803.420.8115 (mobile)



Safety 1<sup>st</sup> – Live By It! Let 'em Work, Let 'em Live! From: Belcher, Jeffrey (FHWA)

To: Kelly, David P. (KellyDP@scdot.org); Herrell, Michelle (FHWA)

Cc: <u>Heather Robbins</u>

**Subject:** FW: Consulting Party for I-526 West and US 278

**Date:** Monday, May 6, 2019 7:18:35 AM

For your files. Since the Catawba Indian Nation did not provide a letter please keep this e-mail for your official record for both projects.

Thanks,

#### J. Shane Belcher

Environmental Coordinator Federal Highway Administration 1835 Assembly Street, Suite 1270 Columbia, SC 29201

Phone: 803-253-3187
Fax: 803-253-3989

**From:** Caitlin Rogers [mailto:caitlinh@ccppcrafts.com]

Sent: Friday, May 03, 2019 2:35 PM

To: Belcher, Jeffrey (FHWA) < Jeffrey. Belcher@dot.gov>

**Subject:** Consulting Party

Mr. Belcher,

The Catawba wish to be a consulting party for the Proposed I-526 West Lowcountry Corridor Improvements and the Proposed US 278 Corridor Improvements. If you need anything else from us let me know. Thanks

Caitlin

--

Caitlin Rogers
Catawba Indian Nation
Tribal Historic Preservation Office
1536 Tom Steven Road
Rock Hill, SC 29730

803-328-2427 ext. 226 Caitlinh@ccppcrafts.com

<sup>\*</sup>Please Note: We CANNOT accept Section 106 forms via e-mail, unless requested. Please send us hard copies. Thank you for your understanding\*



South Carolina

1835 Assembly Street, Suite 1270 Columbia, South Carolina 29201 803-765-5411 803-253-3989

March 29, 2019

In Reply Refer To: HDA-SC

Ms. Wenonah Haire Tribal Historic Preservation Officer Catawba Indian Nation 1536 Tom Steven Road Rock Hill, SC 29730

Subject:

Invitation to Become a Participating Agency for the Preparation of an

Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Proposed I-526 West Lowcountry

Corridor Improvements Project in Charleston County, South Carolina;

Federal Project Number P027507

Dear Ms. Haire:

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), in cooperation with the South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT), is preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the I-526 West Lowcountry Corridor Improvements Project. The proposed project would make improvements to the I-526 corridor from Virginia Avenue to Paul Cantrell Boulevard in Charleston County, South Carolina. The purpose of the proposed project is to increase capacity and improve operations at the I-26/526 interchange and along the I-526 mainline from Virginia Avenue to Paul Cantrell Boulevard (see study area map on enclosed project information sheet). The Ashley River bridge crossing would be widened to accommodate the improvements on the I-526 mainline. Since this is a major infrastructure project that is starting after August 15, 2017, it will adhere to the One Federal Decision guidance and tracked on the federal permitting dashboard.

Pursuant to Section 6002 of SAFETEA-LU, as amended by Section 1304 of the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act, cooperating and participating agencies are responsible for identifying, as early as possible, any issues of concern regarding the project's potential environmental, social, or economic impacts. Section 6002 is intended to assure that agencies are fully engaged in the scoping of the project and the decisions regarding alternatives to be evaluated in detail in the NEPA analysis. In accordance with the SAFETEA-LU Section 6002, FHWA is in the process of identifying local, state, and federal agencies that may have an interest in the project. This same guidance is in the Memorandum of Understanding for Implementing One Federal Decision (issued April 9, 2018), as well as the One Federal Decision Working Agreement.

The FHWA would like to take this opportunity to formally invite you to become a Participating Agency in the development of the EIS. Areas of concern to be emphasized in the EIS will include potential environmental impacts upon existing ecological resources, wetlands, water resources,

historic and archaeological resources, parks and recreation facilities, noise and air, social and community character, hazardous/contaminated materials, cumulative and indirect impacts, and potential impacts due to project construction.

Your involvement in the proposed project would entail those areas under its jurisdiction or area of expertise. No direct writing or analysis by your agency will be necessary for this document unless you request to do so. We suggest that your agency's role in the development of the above project should include the following as they relate to your area of expertise:

- 1. Participate in coordination meetings as appropriate.
- 2. Consultation on any relevant technical studies that may be required for the project.
- 3. Timely review and comment on the environment document to reflect the views and concerns of your agency on the adequacy of the document, alternatives considered, and the anticipated impacts and mitigation.

To become a Participating Agency with the FHWA, please respond to this office in writing with an acceptance or denial of the invitation within 30 days. If you accept, please identify the appropriate contact person(s) within your organization for coordination. If your agency declines, please provide a written response that states your reason for declining the invitation, such as:

- Has no jurisdiction or authority with respect to the project;
- Has no expertise or information relevant to the project; and
- Does not intend to submit comments on the project.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss in more detail the project or each agency's respective roles and responsibilities during the preparation of the EIS, please contact Ms. Michelle Herrell at 803-765-5460 or by email at <a href="mailto:michelle.herrell@dot.gov">michelle.herrell@dot.gov</a>; or Mr. J. Shane Belcher at 803-253-3187 or by e-mail at <a href="mailto:jeffrey.belcher@dot.gov">jeffrey.belcher@dot.gov</a>.

Sincerely,

Emily O. Lawton
Division Administrator

#### Enclosures

ec: Ms. Caitlin Totherow, Catawba Indian Nation

Mr. Chad Long, SCDOT Environmental Division Manager

Mr. David Kelly, SCDOT RPG 1 NEPA Coordinator

Mr. Will McGoldrick, SCDOT Design-Build NEPA/Permitting Coordinator

Ms. Joy Riley, SCDOT Program Manager

## **APPENDIX B**

#### **TECHNICAL REPORTS**

#### Proposed Section 6(f) Conversion of the Highland Terrace-Liberty Park Community Center, Biological Survey

North Charleston, SC Prepared by Amanda Harris July 24, 2020

#### THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES

Pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act a field survey was conducted on the proposed project study area (PSA) to include the tract identified as TMS 472-110-0048 near Filbin Creek in North Charleston, SC. The following list of protected species for Charleston County was obtained from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (see Appendix A). This includes endangered (E), threatened (T), proposed (P), and species protected under the Bald and Gold Eagle Protection Act (BGEPA).

#### **ANIMALS**

Frosted flatwoods salamander - *Ambystoma cingulatum* – (T)

American wood stork – *Mycteria americana* – (T)

Bachman's warbler – *Vermivora bachmanii* – (E)

Bald eagle – *Haliaeetus leucocephalus* – (BGEPA)

Eastern black rail - Laterallus jamaicensis jamaicensis- (P)

Piping plover - Charadrius melodus - (T)

Red-cockaded woodpecker - Picoides borealis - (E)

Red knot - *Calidris canutus rufa* – (T)

Shortnose sturgeon –  $Acipenser\ brevirostrum$  – (E)

Atlantic sturgeon –  $Acipenser\ oxyrinchus$  – (E)

Finback whale - Balaenoptera physalus - (E)

Humpback whale - Megaptera novaengliae (E)

Northern long-eared bat - *Myotis septentrionalis* (T)

Right whale – *Balaena glacialis* (E)

Sei whale - Balaenoptera borealis (E)

Sperm whale - *Physeter macrocephalus* (E)

West Indian manatee - Trichechus manatus (T)

Green sea turtle - Chelonia mydas (T)

Kemp's ridley sea turtle - *Lepidochelys kempii* (E)

<u>Leatherback sea turtle</u> - *Dermochelys coriacea* (E)

Loggerhead sea turtle - Caretta caretta (T)

#### **PLANTS**

American chaffseed - *Schwalbea americana* - (E)

Canby's dropwort -  $Oxypolis\ canbyi - (E)$ 

Pondberry – *Lindera melissifolia* (E)

Seabeach amaranth – *Amaranthus pumilus* (T)

#### **METHODS**

A reconnaissance survey of the approximate 5.5-acre PSA was conducted on July 23, 2020. The project area is a residential parcel in a developed area of Charleston County, SC. Habitats surveyed were determined by the species ecological requirements. Habitat types within the study corridor include maintained herbaceous vegetation (mix of lawn grasses including *Paspalum* and *Digitaria* species). and urban pine/mixed-hardwood forests (*Liquidambar styraciflua*, *Pinus taeda*, *Ligustrun sinense*, and *Toxicodendron radicans*).

#### Frosted flatwoods salamander

The frosted flatwoods salamander is a small salamander containing variable coloration, ranging from dark brown to black bodies with grayish specks or lines that resemble a frosted or lichen-like reticulated pattern. Habitat consists of wet pine flatwoods and pine savannas in the southern U.S. Traditionally, habitat consisted of sandy, seasonally wet longleaf pine communities but many of these areas have been replaced with slash pine or destroyed altogether. Adult flatwood salamanders are subterranean, living mainly underground in root channels or crayfish burrows. These salamanders are typically found under logs near small cypress ponds. There is no suitable habitat for frosted flatwoods salamander within the PSA, therefore it is anticipated that the proposed project would have no effect on this species.

Frosted flatwoods salamander Biological Conclusion: No Effect

#### **American Wood Stork**

The American wood stork is a large wading bird that is highly colonial, usually nesting in large rookeries and feeding in flocks. The nesting season typically extends from February 15 to September 1. Wood storks are typically associated with freshwater and brackish wetlands. Most nesting colonies in the southeast are located in woody vegetation, such as bald cypress, over standing water, or on islands surrounded by open water. Foraging habitat may include freshwater marshes, flooded pastures, and flooded ditches. Foraging sites are often in areas of high fish concentrations. There is no suitable habitat for American wood stork within the PSA, therefore it is anticipated that the proposed project would have no effect on this species.

American wood stork Biological Conclusion: No Effect

#### Bachman's warbler

The Bachman's warbler is a small bird with olive-green upperparts, yellow forehead, throat, and underparts, and a faint white eye-ring and black crown and bib. The bird was last observed in the U.S. in 1962 near Charleston, South Carolina. This species of warbler is presumed to be extinct, historically occurring in the southeastern U.S. during its breeding season. Historically, the bird inhabited seasonally flooded swamp forests, especially with cane thickets and containing variable amounts of water, but usually with some permanent water. There is no suitable habitat for Bachman's warbler within the PSA, therefore it is anticipated that the proposed project would have no effect on this species.

Bachman's warbler Biological Conclusion: No Effect

#### Eastern black rail

The Eastern black rail is a small rail species that is usually grey or black-grey in color. It breeds in a wide diversity of habitats such as fresh and saline marshes, wet meadows, and savannas. Eastern black rail habitat can be tidally or non-tidally influenced, and range in salinity from salt to brackish to fresh. Its natural history is the best known in its genus due to work in temperate North America where it primarily feeds on small aquatic and terrestrial invertebrates. Suitable habitat for the black rail is not present within the PSA, therefore it is anticipated that the proposed project would have no effect on this species.

Eastern black rail Biological Conclusion: No Effect

#### **Bald eagle**

The bald eagle is a large raptor with a white head and dark brown body. The breeding season begins in December or January and the typical diet includes fish and some birds. Habitat for the bald eagle primarily consists of mature forest in proximity to large bodies of open water for foraging. Large dominant trees are utilized for nesting sites, typically within 1.0 mile of open water. According to SC Department of Natural Resources (SCDNR), the closest known bald eagle nesting site (N823-Y2020) is located approximately 3.25 miles north of the PSA on the Goose Creek reservoir. Suitable habitat for the bald eagle is not present within the PSA, therefore it is anticipated that the proposed project would have no effect on this species.

Bald eagle Biological Conclusion: No Effect

#### **Piping plover**

The piping plover is a small and stocky sparrow sized bird that is pale or sandy white with a black breast band and yellow bill and legs. Breeding birds have a prominent black collar and black band that runs across the forehead. The piping plover inhabits sandy beaches, mudflats and sandbars along rivers and lakes. In South Carolina, the piping plover occurs from August to April and generally overwinters in the southern United States from North Carolina to the Gulf of Mexico. There is no suitable habitat for piping plover within the PSA, therefore it is anticipated that the proposed project would have no effect on this species.

Piping plover Biological Conclusion: No Effect

#### Red-cockaded woodpecker

The red-cockaded woodpecker (RCW) is approximately seven inches long with a wingspan of about 15 inches. Its black cap and nape encircle large white cheek patches. The RCW typically occupies open, mature stands of southern pines, particularly longleaf pine, for foraging and nesting/roosting habitat. The RCW excavates cavities for nesting and roosting in living pine trees, aged 60 years or older, and which are contiguous with pine stands at least 30 years of age to provide foraging habitat. The foraging range of the RCW is typically no more than 0.5 miles. No pine stands greater than 60 years of age are located within the PSA and pine species in the study corridor have high basal areas. Suitable habitat for the RCW is not present within the PSA, therefore it is anticipated that the proposed project would have no effect on this species.

Red-cockaded woodpecker Biological Conclusion: No Effect

#### Red knot

The red knot is a fairly large sandpiper with a medium sized bill and rufous colored plumage in the breeding season. Red knots breed in the tundra of the high Arctic and a portion of the species spends the winter on the southeastern coast of the U.S. including South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida. South Carolina provides habitat for both migrating and wintering birds. Red knot flocks roost on inlets of barrier beaches and islands in South Carolina. Suitable habitat for red knot is not present within the PSA, therefore it is anticipated that the proposed project would have no effect on this species.

Red knot Biological Conclusion: No Effect

#### Northern long-eared bat

The northern long-eared bat is a medium-sized bat that is medium to dark brown on the back and tawny to pale-brown on the underside. The species is distinguished by its long ears. During the winter months, the northern long-eared bat can be found hibernating in caves and mines. They use areas in various sized caves or mines with constant temperatures, high humidity, and no air currents. During the summer, northern long-eared bats roost underneath bark and in cavities or in crevices of both live trees and dead trees. Individuals of the species have also been found rarely roosting in structures, like barns and sheds. Habitat conducive to seasonal occupation for northern long-eared bat is located within the PSA. The PSA contains potentially suitable summer roosting and foraging habitat for this species within forested areas. The preferred winter hibernation habitat for this species does not exist within the PSA or its immediate vicinity. While the forested areas onsite could be considered suitable habitat, the developed nature and small size of these areas is a limiting factor for the suitability of this habitat. No northern long-eared bats were identified during pedestrian field surveys and there are no known populations or hibernacula within the PSA.

Northern long-eared bat Biological Conclusion: No Effect

#### **American chaff seed**

American chaff seed is a perennial herbaceous plant with erect, densely hairy, unbranched stems up to 24 inches tall. The flowers are yellowish or purplish and grouped in a long terminal cluster. American chaffseed typically grows in open, moist pine flatwoods, firemaintained pine savannas, ecotone areas between peaty wetlands and xeric sandy soils, and other open grass and sedge dominant areas. This plant is dependent on factors such as mowing, fire, and fluctuating water tables for survival. There is no suitable habitat for this species within the PSA.

American chaffseed Biological Conclusion: No Effect

#### Canby's dropwort

Canby's dropwort has been found in a variety of coastal plain habitats, including natural ponds dominated by pond cypress, grass-sedge dominated Carolina bays, wet pine savannas, shallow pineland ponds and cypress-pine swamps or sloughs. The largest populations have been found in open bays or ponds that are wet throughout most of the year but which have little or no canopy cover. There is marginal habitat available in the PSA, surrounding the small pond, however there are no open canopy areas where Canby's dropwort could occur and no specimens were documented. Surveys were conducted during the flowering period and this species was not observed.

Canby's dropwort Biological Conclusion: No Effect

#### **Pondberry**

Pondberry is a deciduous shrub that grows up to six feet tall and spreads by underground stolons. The leaves are ovately to elliptically shaped, thin, membranaceous and drooping and have a strong sassafras-like odor when brushed. The flowers are pale yellow and bloom in the spring before the appearance of leaves. Fruits are bright red and oval-shaped and mature in the fall. Pondberry generally occupies wetland habitats that are normally flooded or saturated during the dormant season, but infrequently flooded during the growing season for extended periods. The plant is typically associated with bottomland hardwoods in the inner coastal plain, and margins of sinks, ponds, and other depressions in the outer coastal plain. Marginally suitable habitat for pondberry exists along the margins of the pond located within the PSA. Surveys were conducted during the flowering period and this species was not observed.

Pondberry Biological Conclusion: No Effect

#### Seabeach amaranth

Seabeach amaranth is an annual herbaceous plant found on Atlantic barrier island beaches, where its primary habitat consists of overwash flats and the lower foredunes of beaches. The plant is intolerant of competition and does not occur in densely vegetated areas. The stems of seabeach amaranth are fleshy and reddish in color, while the leaves are small and round and approximately one inch in diameter. Flowering occurs in early summer, and fruits are produced in late summer. There is no suitable habitat for this species within the PSA.

Seabeach amaranth Biological Conclusion: No Effect

#### **RESULTS**

The only aquatic habitat observed within this site is an approximately one-half acre freshwater pond. Therefore, brackish and saltwater aquatic species were not surveyed as there is no potential habitat. These species include Atlantic sturgeon, shortnose sturgeon, finback whale, humpback whale, right whale, sei whale, sperm whale, West Indian manatee, green sea turtle, Kemp's Ridley sea turtle, leatherback sea turtle, loggerhead sea turtle.

According to the S.C. Department of Natural Resources Heritage Trust Program records, none of the federally-protected species have been documented within one mile of the proposed action (see attached report in Appendix B).

Based on the lack of suitable habitats and no observations of the listed species during the field surveys, the proposed action would not affect any threatened, endangered, or federally protected species. There is no potential to harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot wound, kill, trap, capture, collect, or to otherwise "Take" or attempt to "Take" any threatened or endangered species as a result of the proposed section 6(f) conversion of the Highland Terrace-Liberty Park Community Center Project.

#### **APPENDICES**

A: USFWS list of federally protected species for Charleston County

B: SC Department of Natural Resources - Natural Heritage Trust Program Report for Species of Concern near the PSA.

## Appendix A:

# **USFWS** list of federally protected species for Charleston County

### **CHARLESTON COUNTY**

CATEGORY	COMMON NAME/STATUS	SCIENTIFIC NAME	SURVEY WINDOW/ TIME PERIOD	COMMENTS		
Amphibians	Frosted flatwoods salamander (T, CH)	Ambystoma cingulatum	January 1-April 30	Larvae present in breeding ponds		
	Gopher frog (ARS)	Lithobates capito	Breeding: October-March	Call survey: February-April		
	American wood stork (T)	Mycteria americana	February 15-September 1	Nesting season		
	Bachman's warbler (E)	Vermivora bachmanii	May 1-June 15	Breeding		
	Bald eagle (BGEPA)	Haliaeetus leucocephalus	October 1-May 15	Nesting season		
	Black-capped petrel (ARS)	Pterodroma hasitata	April-October	Offshore water primarily		
Birds	Eastern black rail (P)	Laterallus jamaicensis jamaicensis	April-June	Minimum of five surveys/survey point		
	Piping plover (T, CH)	Charadrius melodus	July 15-May 1	Migration and wintering		
	Red-cockaded woodpecker (E)	Picoides borealis	March 1-July 31	Nesting season		
	Red knot (T)	Calidris canutus rufa	August 1-May 31	Migration and wintering		
	Saltmarsh sparrow (ARS)	Ammospiza caudacuta	Fall/winter	Fall/winter surveys		
Crustaceans	None Found					
Fishes	Atlantic sturgeon* (E)	Acipenser oxyrinchus*	February 1-April 30	Spawning migration		
1131163	Shortnose sturgeon* (E)	Acipenser brevirostrum*	February 1-April 30	Spawning migration		
	Frosted elfin (ARS)	Callophrys irus	March - June			
Insects	Monarch butterfly (ARS)	Danaus plexippus	August-December	Overwinter population departs: March- April		
	Finback whale* (E)	Balaenoptera physalus*	November 1-April 30	Off the coast		
	Humpback whale * (E)	Megaptera novaengliae	January 1-March 31	Migration off the coast		
	Northern long-eared bat (T)	Myotis septentrionalis	Year round	Winter surveys not as successful		
	Right whale* (E)	Balaena glacialis	November 1-April 30	Off the coast		
Mammals	Sei whale* (E)	Balaenoptera borealis				
	Sperm whale* (E)	Physeter macrocephalus				
	Tri-colored bat (ARS)	Perimyotis subflavus	Year round	Found in mines and caves in the winter		
	West Indian manatee (T)	Trichechus manatus	May 1-November 15	In coastal waters		
Mollusks	None Found					

#### **CHARLESTON COUNTY**

CATEGORY	COMMON NAME/STATUS	SCIENTIFIC NAME	SURVEY WINDOW/ TIME PERIOD	COMMENTS
SI	American chaffseed (E)	Schwalbea americana	May-August	1-2 months after a fire
	Boykin's lobelia (ARS)	Lobelia boykinii	May-July/August	
	Canby's dropwort (E)	Oxypolis canbyi	Mid-July-September	
Plants	Ciliate-leaf tickseed (ARS)	Coreopsis integrifolia	August-November	
	Pondberry (E)	Lindera melissifolia	February-March	
	Seabeach amaranth (T)	Amaranthus pumilus	July-October	
	Eastern diamondback rattlesnake (ARS)	Crotalus adamanteus	Most of the year	Peak: April-November
	Green sea turtle ** (T)	Chelonia mydas **	May 1-October 31	Nesting and hatching
	Kemp's ridley sea turtle ** (E)	Lepidochelys kempii**	May 1-October 31	In coastal waters
Reptiles	Leatherback sea turtle ** (E)	Dermochelys coriacea **	May 1-October 31	Nesting and hatching
	Loggerhead sea turtle ** (T, CH)	Caretta caretta **	May 1-October 31	Nesting and hatching
	Southern hognose snake (ARS)	Heterodon simus	Most of the year	
	Spotted turtle (ARS)	Clemmys guttata	February-mid April	

\* Contact National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) for more information on this species.

\*\* The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) and NMFS share jurisdiction of this species.

ARS Species that the FWS has been petitioned to list and for which a positive 90-day finding has been issued (listing may be warranted); information

is provided only for conservation actions as no Federal protections currently exist.

ARS\* Species that are either former Candidate Species or are emerging conservation priority species.

BGEPA Federally protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act

C FWS or NMFS has on file sufficient information on biological vulnerability and threat(s) to support proposals to list these species.

CH Critical Habitat

E Federally Endangered

P or P – CH Proposed for listing or critical habitat in the Federal Register

S/A Federally protected due to similarity of appearance to a listed species

T Federally Threatened

These lists should be used only as a guideline, not as the final authority. The lists include known occurrences and areas where the species has a high possibility of occurring. Records are updated as deemed necessary and may differ from earlier lists.

For a list of State endangered, threatened, and species of concern, please visit <a href="https://www.dnr.sc.gov/species/index.html">https://www.dnr.sc.gov/species/index.html</a>.

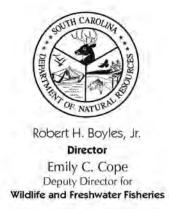
## **Appendix B:**

## SCDNR – NHTP Report for Species of Concern near PSA

## South Carolina Department of

## Natural Resources

PO Box 167 Columbia, SC 29202 (803) 734-1396 speciesreview@dnr.sc.gov



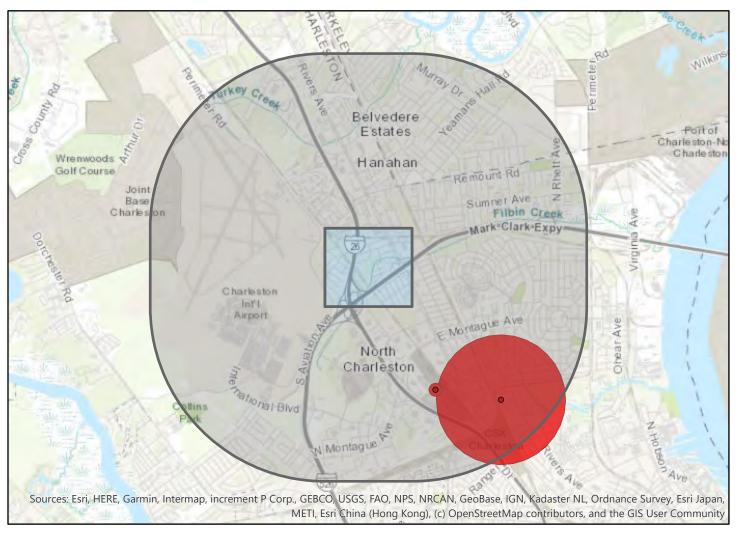
Requested on Wednesday, July 22, 2020 by Amanda Harris.

Re: Request for Threatened and Endangered Species Consultation

SCDOT - 6f Properties associated with I-526 - Development (Commercial/Residential)

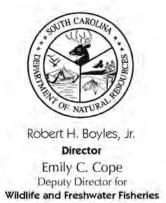
Charleston County, South Carolina

The South Carolina Department of Natural Resources (SCDNR) has received your request for threatened and endangered species consultation of the above named project in Charleston County, South Carolina. The following map depicts the project area and a 2 mile buffer surrounding:



## South Carolina Department of

## Natural Resources



This report includes the following items:

- A A report for species which intersect the project area
- B A report for species which intersect the buffer around the project area
- C A list of best management practices relevant to species near to or within the project area
- D A list of best management practices relevant to the project type
- E Instructions to submit new species observation records to the SC Natural Heritage Program

The technical comments outlined in this report are submitted to speak to the general impacts of the activities as described through inquiry by parties outside the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources. These technical comments are submitted as guidance to be considered and are not submitted as final agency comments that might be related to any unspecified local, state or federal permit, certification or license applications that may be needed by any applicant or their contractors, consultants or agents presently under review or not yet made available for public review. In accordance with its policy 600.01, Comments on Projects Under Department Review, the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources, reserves the right to comment on any permit, certification or license application that may be published by any regulatory agency which may incorporate, directly or by reference, these technical comments.

Interested parties are to understand that SCDNR may provide a final agency position to regulatory agencies if any local, state or federal permit, certification or license applications may be needed by any applicant or their contractors, consultants or agents. For further information regarding comments and input from SCDNR on your project, please contact our Office of Environmental Programs by emailing environmental@dnr.sc.gov or by visiting <a href="https://www.dnr.sc.gov/environmental">www.dnr.sc.gov/environmental</a>. Pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, requests for formal letters of concurrence with regards to federally listed species should be directed to the USFWS.

Should you have any questions or need more information, please do not hesitate to contact our office by email at speciesreview@dnr.sc.gov or by phone at 803-734-1396.

Sincerely,

Joseph Lemeris, Jr. Heritage Trust Program

SC Department of Natural Resources

### A. Project Area - Species Report

There are 0 tracked species records found within the project foot print. The following table outlines occurrences found within the project footprint (if any), sorted by listing status and species name. Please keep in mind that this information is derived from existing databases and do not assume that it is complete. Areas not yet inventoried may contain significant species or communities. You can find more information about global and state rank status definitions by visiting Natureserve's web page. Please note that certain sensitive species found on site may be listed in this table but are not represented on the map. Please contact speciesreview@dnr.sc.gov should you have further questions related to sensitive species found within the project area.





Map Credits: Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, Intermap, increment P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, GeoBase, IGN, Kadaster NL, Ordnance Survey, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community



No records for species of concern are found within the project area

### B. Buffer Area - Species Report

The following table outlines rare, threatened or endangered species found within 2 miles of the project footprint, arranged in order of protection status and species name. Please keep in mind that this information is derived from existing databases and do not assume that it is complete. Areas not yet inventoried may contain significant species or communities. You can find more information about global and state rank status definitions by visiting Natureserve's web page. Please note that certain sensitive species found within the buffer area may be listed in this table but are not represented on the map.





Map Credits: Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, Intermap, increment P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, GeoBase, IGN, Kadaster NL, Ordnance Survey, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community

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Joint Base	3/7	Hanahan	
Charlesto	Charleston Int'l Airport	North Charleste	526
		· ·	
	1	- 2	

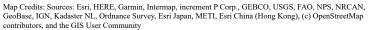
Common Name	Scientific Name	Federal Protection Status	State Protection Status	G Rank	S Rank	SWAP Priority	<b>Last Observation Date</b>
Tiger Salamander	Ambystoma tigrinum	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	G5	S2S3	Highest	1933-02-01
Least Tern	Sterna antillarum	Not Applicable	ST: State Threatened	G4	S2	Highest	2000

#### C. Species Best Management Practices (1 of 1)

SCDNR offers the following comments and best management practices (BMPs) regarding this project's potential impacts to species of concern which may be found on or near to the project area. Please contact speciesreview@dnr.sc.gov should you have further questions with regard to survey methods, consultation, or other species-related concerns.









Cavity- and tree-roosting bat species including the federally threatened northern long-eared bat (Myotis septentrionalis), state-endangered Rafinesque's big-eared bat (Corynorhinus rafinesquii), and the federally at-risk tricolored bat (Perimyotis subflavus) have been known to occur in the county of the proposed site. As a conservation measure, it is recommended that any tree clearing activities be conducted during the inactive season for Northern long-eared bat (November 15th through March 31st) to avoid negative impacts to the species. If any of the above species are found on-site, please contact the USFWS and SCDNR.

Species in the above table with SWAP priorities of High, Highest or Moderate are designated as having conservation priority under the South Carolina State Wildlife Action Plan (SWAP). SWAP species are those species of greatest conservation need not traditionally covered under any federal funded programs. Species are listed in the SWAP because they are rare or designated as at-risk due to knowledge deficiencies; species common in South Carolina but listed rare or declining elsewhere; or species that serve as indicators of detrimental environmental conditions. SCDNR recommends that appropriate measures should be taken to minimize or avoid impacts to the aforementioned species of concern.

#### D. Project Best Management Practices (1 of 2)

SCDNR offers the following comments and best management practices (BMPs) regarding this project's potential impacts to natural resources within or surrounding the project area. Please contact our Office of Environmental Programs at <a href="mailto:environmental@dnr.sc.gov">environmental@dnr.sc.gov</a> should you have further questions with regard to best management practices related to this project area.





Map Credits: Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, Intermap, increment P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, GeoBase, IGN, Kadaster NL, Ordnance Survey, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community



Review of available data, National Wetlands Inventory and hydric soils, indicate that wetlands or waters of the United States are present within your project area. These areas may require a permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), as well as a compensatory mitigation plan. SCDNR advises that you consult with the USACE Regulatory to determine if jurisdictional wetlands are present and if a permit and mitigation is required for any activities impacting these areas. For more information, please visit their website at www.sac.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory. Additionally, a 401 Water Quality Certification may also be required from the SC Department of Health & Environmental Control. For more information, please visit their website at https://www.scdhec.gov/environment/water-quality/water-quality-certification-section-401-clean-water-act.

- All necessary measures must be taken to prevent oil, tar, trash and other pollutants from entering the adjacent offsite areas/wetlands/water.
- Once the project is initiated, it must be carried to completion in an expeditious manner to minimize the period of disturbance to the environment.
- Upon project completion, all disturbed areas must be permanently stabilized with vegetative cover (preferable), riprap or other erosion control methods as appropriate.
- The project must be in compliance with any applicable floodplain, stormwater, land disturbance, shoreline management guidance or riparian buffer ordinances.
- Prior to beginning any land disturbing activity, appropriate erosion and siltation control measures (e.g. silt fences or barriers) must be in place and maintained in a functioning capacity until the area is permanently stabilized.
- · Materials used for erosion control (e.g., hay bales or straw mulch) will be certified as weed free by the supplier.
- Inspecting and ensuring the maintenance of temporary erosion control measures at least:
  - a. on a daily basis in areas of active construction or equipment operation;
  - b. on a weekly basis in areas with no construction or equipment operation; and
  - c. within 24 hours of each 0.5 inch of rainfall.
- Ensuring the repair of all ineffective temporary erosion control measures within 24 hours of identification, or as soon as conditions allow if compliance with this time frame would result in greater environmental impacts.
- Land disturbing activities must avoid encroachment into any wetland areas (outside the permitted impact area). Wetlands that are unavoidably impacted must be appropriately mitigated.
- Your project may require a Stormwater Permit from the SC Department of Health & Environmental Control, please visit https://www.scdhec.gov/environment/water-quality/stormwater
- If clearing must occur, riparian vegetation within wetlands and waters of the U.S. must be conducted manually and low growing, woody vegetation and shrubs must be left intact to maintain bank stability and reduce erosion.
- Construction activities must avoid and minimize, to the greatest extent practicable, disturbance of woody shoreline vegetation within the project area. Removal of vegetation should be limited to only what is necessary for construction of the proposed structures.
- Where necessary to remove vegetation, supplemental plantings should be installed following completion of the project. These plantings should consist of appropriate native species for this ecoregion.

#### D. Project Best Management Practices (2 of 2)

SCDNR offers the following comments and best management practices (BMPs) regarding this project's potential impacts to natural resources within or surrounding the project area. Please contact our Office of Environmental Programs at <a href="mailto:environmental@dnr.sc.gov">environmental@dnr.sc.gov</a> should you have further questions with regard to best management practices related to this project area.





Map Credits: Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, Intermap, increment P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, GeoBase, IGN, Kadaster NL, Ordnance Survey, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community



- Residential and commercial development has grown exponentially in recent years. Activities associated with these developments can have detrimental impacts on wildlife and aquatic resources such as habitat fragmentation, loss of available habitats and pollution, especially stormwater pollution. The result of these impacts causes the displacement of species and increases wildlife and human interactions. However, properly planned and sited development activities may allow for economic expansion with minimal negative impacts.
- Where appropriate, particularly adjacent to wetlands and water bodies, drainage plans and construction measures for residential and commercial development should be designed to control erosion and sedimentation, water quality degradation and other negative impacts on adjacent water and wetlands utilizing the best available design research. Developers proposing development activities should contact and work closely with local community development planning entities.
- Developments should be planned where growth is most compatible with natural resources utilizing residential and commercial cluster development methods, maximizing green spaces which can both be beneficial to protect natural resources and provide recreational opportunities for outdoor enthusiasts.
- Developments should be designed and constructed to avoid impact to wetland and stream areas whenever possible and to minimize unavoidable wetland and stream impacts to the maximum extent possible. Aquatic habitats and other sensitive natural areas should be identified in the initial planning stages of the project and incorporated in their natural state into the overall development plan.
- Developments should be designed to maintain the integrity and contiguity of wetland and stream systems and their associated riparian corridors, including the establishment of protective upland buffers around and between undisturbed aquatic systems whenever possible. Projects should be designed to minimize habitat fragmentation, including the construction of a limited number of road and utility crossings through streams and wetlands.
- Your project boundary lies within a coastal county in South Carolina which means you may also need a Coastal Zone Consistency Certification for your project from the SC Department of Health and Environmental Control. For more information, visit: https://www.scdhec.gov/environment/your-water-coast/ocean-coastal-management/beach-management/coastal-permits/coastal-zone
- If your project could affect coastal waters, tidelands, beaches and beach/dune systems, you may also need a critical area permit from the SC Department of Health and Environmental Control. For more information, visit:
- https://www.scdhec.gov/environment/your-water-coast/ocean-coastal-management/beach-management/coastal-permits/critical-1

## E. Instructions for Submitting Species Observations

The SC Natural Heritage Dataset relies on continuous monitoring and surveying for species of concern throughout the state. Any records of species of concern found within this project area would greatly benefit the quality and comprehensiveness of the statewide dataset for rare, threatened and endangered species. Below are instructions for how to download the SC Natural Heritage Occurrence Reporting Form through the Survey123 App.

Map Credits: Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, Intermap, increment P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, GeoBase, IGN, Kadaster NL, Ordnance Survey, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community



#### Instructions for accessing the SC Natural Heritage Occurrence Reporting Form

For use in a browser (on your desktop/PC):

- 1) Follow https://bit.ly/sc-spp-obs-form.
- 2) Select 'Open in browser'
- 3) The form will open and you can begin entering data!

This method of access will also work on a browser on a mobile device, but only when connected to the internet. To use the form in the field without relying on data/internet access, follow the steps below.

For use on a smartphone or tablet using the field app:

- 1) Download the Survey123 App from the Google Play store or the Apple Store. This app is free to download. Allow the app to use your location.
- 2) No need to sign in. However, you will need to provide the app with our Heritage Trust GIS portal web address. You will only need to do this once: (this is a known bug with ESRI's software, and future releases of the form should not require the below steps. Bear with us in the meantime!).
  - a. Tap 'Sign in'
  - b. Tap the settings (gear symbol) in the upper right corner
  - c. Tap 'Add Portal'
  - d. After the 'https://', type schtportal.dnr.sc.gov/portal
  - e. Tap 'Add Portal'
  - f. Tap the back-arrow icon (upper left corner) twice to return to the main sign in page.
- 3) Use the camera app (or other QR Reader app) to scan the QR code on this page from your smartphone or tablet. Click on the 'Open in the Survey123 field app'. This will prompt a window to allow Survey123 to download the SC Natural Heritage Occurrence Reporting Form. Select 'Open.'
- 4) The form will automatically open in Survey123, and you can begin entering data! This form will stay loaded in the app on your device until you manually delete it, and you can submit as many records as you like.









July 27, 2020

Ms. Elizabeth Johnson Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer South Carolina Department of Archives and History 8301 Parklane Road Columbia, SC 29223-4905

Subject: Cultural Resources Survey for Section 6(f)(3) Partial Land Conversion (2401

Richardson Drive) on the Proposed I-526 West Lowcountry Corridor Improvements Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) in Charleston County, South

Carolina; Federal Project Number P027507

Dear Ms. Johnson:

The South Carolina Department of Transportation (the Department) seeks to convert a portion of the Highland Terrace-Liberty Park Community Center, a Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) Section 6(f) resource located at 2401 Richardson Drive in North Charleston, from its current recreational use to permanent right-of-way as part of the proposed I-526 Lowcountry Corridor (LCC) WEST project. The proposed replacement property, located at 5260 Deacon Street, is shown in the attached mapping.

An Environmental Assessment (EA) is being prepared to evaluate impacts associated with replacing the impacted Section 6(f) resource. The properties at Richardson Drive and Deacon Street have been surveyed for historic resources as part of the studies conducted for the proposed I-526 LCC WEST project. The I-526 LCC WEST Cultural Resources report is attached for reference. Based on the results of background research and field survey, there are no historic resources recommended eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places at 2401 Richardson Drive or 5260 Deacon Street. Neither the 2401 Richardson Drive nor the 5260 Deacon Street tracts warranted archaeological survey, as soils at both tracts are defined as Urban land and located within the Filbin Creek drainage. Therefore, **no historic properties or archaeological resources would be affected** by construction of the proposed replacement recreational facilities.

In accordance with the memorandum of agreement approved by the Federal Highway Administration, March 16, 1993, the Department is providing this information as agency official designee, as defined under 36 CFR 800.2, to ensure compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.





Per the terms of the Section 106 Programmatic Agreement, the Department is providing this information on behalf of the Federal Highway Administration. It is requested that you review the enclosed material and, if appropriate, indicate your concurrence with the Department's findings, thus completing the Section 106 consultation process. Please respond within 30 days if you have any objections or if you have need of additional information.

you have any objections of if	you have need of additional information.
	Sincerely,
	Chad C. Long Director of Environmental Services

CCL:ccl Enclosure

I (do not) concur in the above determination.

Signed: Date:

cc: J. Shane Belcher, FHWA Environmental Coordinator Mr. David Kelly, SCDOT RPG 1 NEPA Coordinator

Mr. Will McGoldrick, SCDOT Design-Build Environmental Coordinator

Ms. Joy Riley, SCDOT Program Manager

# Cultural Resources Survey of the I-526 Corridor Improvements Project

SEE APPENDIX P



July 24, 2020

Michael G. Wray, PE Transportation Engineer Stantec 801 Jones Franklin Road Suite 300 Raleigh NC 27606-3394

RE: Explanation for not conducting archaeological survey at 2401 Richardson Drive or 5260 Deacon Street, Lowcountry Corridor (I-526) West Project, Charleston County,

South Carolina

Dear Mr. Wray:

Neither the 2401 Richardson Drive or 5260 Deacon Street tracts in North Charleston, South Carolina, warranted archaeological survey. The United States Department of Agriculture defines soils at both tracts as Urban land. Furthermore, the United States Geological Survey (1959, 1980) *Ladson* topographic maps indicate that both tracts (and adjacent parcels) are in the Filbin Creek drainage. Much of the Filbin Creek drainage was reclaimed and filled to facilitate early to mid-twentieth century construction of the nearby railroad and commercial and residential development. These tracts were visited in 2019 and these environmental conditions were confirmed. The lands are heavily disturbed and poorly drained.

Sincerely,

David S. Baluha

Dail S. Behn

CC: Chad Long, RPA

Director of Environmental Services

South Carolina Department of Transportation

# **APPENDIX C**

# **ENVIRONMENTAL SCREENING FORMS**

#### ANDERSON TRACT

A. ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES Indicate potential for adverse impacts. Use a separate sheet to clarify responses per instructions for Part A on page 9.	Not Applicable - Resource does not exist	No/Negligible Impacts - Exists but no or negligible impacts	Minor	Impacts Exceed Minor EA/EIS required	More Data Needed to Determine Degree of Impact EA/EIS required
Geological resources: soils, bedrock, slopes, streambeds, landforms, etc.	Hot exist	X X	Impacts	EA/EI3 Tequiled	EAVEIS required
2. Air quality		x			
3. Sound (noise impacts)		х			
4. Water quality/quantity		х			
5. Stream flow characteristics	х				
6. Marine/estuarine		х			
7. Floodplains/wetlands		х			
Land use/ownership patterns; property values; community livability		х			
9. Circulation, transportation		x			
Plant/animal/fish species of special concern and habitat; state/federal listed or proposed for listing	х				
Unique ecosystems, such as biosphere reserves, World Heritage sites, old growth forests, etc.	x				
12. Unique or important wildlife/ wildlife habitat	x				
13. Unique or important fish/habitat	х				
14. Introduce or promote invasive species (plant or animal)	х				
15. Recreation resources, land, parks, open space, conservation areas, rec. trails, facilities, services, opportunities, public access, etc. Most conversions exceed minor impacts. See Step 3.B	х				
16. Accessibility for populations with disabilities	х				
17. Overall aesthetics, special characteristics/ features		х			
18. Historical/cultural resources, including landscapes, ethnographic, archeological, structures, etc. Attach SHPO/THPO determination.	x				
Socioeconomics, including     employment, occupation, income     changes, tax base, infrastructure	x				
20. Minority and low-income populations	х				
21. Energy resources (geothermal, fossil fuels, etc.)	х				
22. Other agency or tribal land use plans or policies	Х				
23. Land/structures with history of contamination/hazardous materials even if remediated	x				
24. Other important environmental resources to address.	х				

# ANDERSON TRACT

B. Mandatory Criterial  If your LWCF proposal is approved, would it	Yes	No	To Be Determined
Have significant impacts on public health or safety?		х	
2. Have significant impacts on such natural resources and unique geographic characteristics as historic or cultural resources; park, recreation, or refuge lands, wilderness areas; wild or scenic rivers; national natural landmarks; sole or principal drinking water aquifers; prime farmlands; wetlands (E.O. 11990); floodplains (E.O 11988); and other ecologically significant or critical areas.		х	
3. Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources [NEPA section 102(2)(E)]?		х	
4. Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks?		х	
5. Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects?		х	
6. Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant, but cumulatively significant, environmental effects?		х	
7. Have significant impacts on properties listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places, as determined by either the bureau or office. (Attach SHPO/THPO Comments)		х	
8. Have significant impacts on species listed or proposed to be listed on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species, or have significant impacts on designated Critical Habitat for these species.		х	
9. Violate a federal law, or a state, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment?		х	
10. Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (Executive Order 12898)?		х	
11. Limit access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites on federal lands by Indian religious practitioners or significantly adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites (Executive Order 13007)?		х	
12. Contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur in the area, or actions that may promote the introduction, growth, or expansion of the range of		х	

#### **Environmental Reviewers**

The following individual(s) provided input in the completion of the environmental screening form. List all reviewers including name, title, agency, field of expertise. Keep all environmental review records and data on this proposal in state compliance file for any future program review and/or audit. The ESF may be completed as part of a LWCF pre-award site inspection if conducted in time to contribute to the environmental review process for the proposal.

1. Chad Long, Director of Environmental Services, SCDOT

2.

3.

The following individuals conducted a site inspection to verify field conditions.

List name of inspector(s), title, agency, and date(s) of inspection.

- 1. Stuart M. Saunders, Appraiser, Saunders & Associates, Inc., July 6, 2020
- 2. Amanda Harris, Civil Engineering Consulting Services, Inc., July 23, 2020

3.

u.		
State may require signature of		
LWCF sub-recipient applicant here:	Date:	

# **Subject Photographs**



Front view of subject house.



Side view of house.



Northerly view facing subject house.



Rear view of subject house.



Side view of house.



Northerly view along property line/Filbin Creek.

# ANDERSON TRACT



Interior view.



Pond.



Dilapidated shed.



Interior view.



Interior view.

A. ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES Indicate potential for adverse impacts. Use a separate sheet to clarify responses per instructions for Part A on page 9.	Not Applicable - Resource does not exist	No/Negligible Impacts - Exists but no or negligible impacts	Minor Impacts	Impacts Exceed Minor EA/EIS required	More Data Needed to Determine Degree of Impact EA/EIS required
Geological resources: soils, bedrock, slopes, streambeds, landforms, etc.		х			
2. Air quality		х			
3. Sound (noise impacts)		х			
4. Water quality/quantity		х			
5. Stream flow characteristics	х				
6. Marine/estuarine	х				
7. Floodplains/wetlands		х			
Land use/ownership patterns; property values; community livability		Х			
9. Circulation, transportation		x			
Plant/animal/fish species of special concern and habitat; state/federal listed or proposed for listing	х				
11. Unique ecosystems, such as biosphere reserves, World Heritage sites, old growth forests, etc.	х				
12. Unique or important wildlife/ wildlife habitat	x				
13. Unique or important fish/habitat	х				
14. Introduce or promote invasive species (plant or animal)	х				
15. Recreation resources, land, parks, open space, conservation areas, rec. trails, facilities, services, opportunities, public access, etc. Most conversions exceed minor impacts. See Step 3.B			х		
Accessibility for populations with disabilities	Х				
17. Overall aesthetics, special characteristics/ features	х				
18. Historical/cultural resources, including landscapes, ethnographic, archeological, structures, etc. Attach SHPO/THPO determination.	x				
Socioeconomics, including     employment, occupation, income     changes, tax base, infrastructure	х				
20. Minority and low-income populations	х				
21. Energy resources (geothermal, fossil fuels, etc.)	х				
22. Other agency or tribal land use plans or policies	х				
23. Land/structures with history of contamination/hazardous materials even if remediated	х				
24. Other important environmental resources to address.	х				

B. Mandatory Criterial If your LWCF proposal is approved, would it	Yes	No	To Be Determined
Have significant impacts on public health or safety?		х	
2. Have significant impacts on such natural resources and unique geographic characteristics as historic or cultural resources; park, recreation, or refuge lands, wilderness areas; wild or scenic rivers; national natural landmarks; sole or principal drinking water aquifers; prime farmlands; wetlands (E.O. 11990); floodplains (E.O 11988); and other ecologically significant or critical areas.		х	
3. Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources [NEPA section 102(2)(E)]?		х	
4. Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks?		х	
5. Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects?		х	
6. Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant, but cumulatively significant, environmental effects?		х	
7. Have significant impacts on properties listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places, as determined by either the bureau or office. (Attach SHPO/THPO Comments)		х	
8. Have significant impacts on species listed or proposed to be listed on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species, or have significant impacts on designated Critical Habitat for these species.		х	
9. Violate a federal law, or a state, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment?		х	
10. Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (Executive Order 12898)?		х	
11. Limit access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites on federal lands by Indian religious practitioners or significantly adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites (Executive Order 13007)?		х	
12. Contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur in the area, or actions that may promote the introduction, growth, or expansion of the range of		х	

#### **Environmental Reviewers**

The following individual(s) provided input in the completion of the environmental screening form. List all reviewers including name, title, agency, field of expertise. Keep all environmental review records and data on this proposal in state compliance file for any future program review and/or audit. The ESF may be completed as part of a LWCF pre-award site inspection if conducted in time to contribute to the environmental review process for the proposal.

- 1. Chad Long, Director of Environmental Services, SCDOT
- 2.
- 3.

The following individuals conducted a site inspection to verify field conditions.

List name of inspector(s), title, agency, and date(s) of inspection.

- 1. Stuart M. Saunders, Appraiser, Saunders & Associates, Inc., November 5, 2019
- 2. Amanda Harris, Civil Engineering Consulting Services, Inc., July 23, 2020

3.

J.		
State may require signature of		
LWCF sub-recipient applicant here:	Date	<b>)</b> :

# **Subject Photographs**



Front view of subject from across Taylor Street.



Front view of subject building.



Basketball court.



Side view of subject building from parking lot.



Side/rear view of subject building.



Basketball court.



Playground.



Westerly view of subject's frontage on Richardson Drive.



Northerly view of subject's frontage on Taylor Street.



Easterly view of subject's frontage on Richardson Drive.



Southerly view of subject's frontage on Taylor Street.



Westerly view along rear property line.



Southerly view alongside property line.



### DESCRIPTION AND NOTIFICATION FORM Land and Water Conservation Fund



State 45	Grant 0069		А	mend # <mark>XXXX</mark>				Received <mark>(x/xxxx</mark>		Date Approved xx/xx/xxxx					End Date xx/xx/xxxx
			ı												
Grant Name	)	HIGHL	AND TERR	ACE PARK											
Sub-Grante	e Agency														
Sub-grantee	Address							Emai	1 /	Address:					
Co-Sponsor	· Agency							•							
Co-Sponsor	· Address														
	Λ =	A: - !4!		D - Dlama		1						_			
Туре	C $D = R -$	Acquisiti New De Renovat elopmen	velopment ion	P = Planni C = Combi M = Admin S = Stewa	inatio iistra	ition		Sponsor		L = Lc L C = C S = S	County	′	Nun	nbei	r <b>of Parks</b> * 2
					F	ederal	Ac	equisition	Ī	Federal Acqui	sitior	1			
_	Acquired		Donated .			· ·		are		% Share	•				of Match State  Local
X	.XX		X.XX			· ·	XXX	XX		XXXXX			□ reu		
					P	ARK IN	NFC	ORMATION							
Park Name				County Nan	ne		Ci	ity Name				Τ	Zip Code	•	+4 Zip Code
_	errace/Libert	ty Park		Charleston			No	orth Charles	sto	on			29406		
Community	Center														
Park Address 2401 Richa	ss Irdson Drive									Congressional D 06	istric	t	Prior LW		Assistance?
New 6(f) A	cres at Park	Exis	ting 6(f) A	cres at Park	To	otal 6(f	) A	cres at Park		Latitude	<b></b>			Lon	ngitude
	.27		0.8	7			0.0	60		32° 53' 31.4	1448"				9.8256"
							IAL	INDICES							
	land – non-feder land - federal	al		Transferred to fee Sponsored by Trib		agency				onal Historic Landmarks onal Heritage Areas	3				).w. Heritage Rivers
☐ C. Coastal ☐ D. Leased	land - expired			National Historic I National Natural I	-					road R.O.W. onal river					conversion
☐ E. Former	federal surplus p	roperty	☐ L.	Less than fee acc				☐ S. Sc	cho	ool park			Y. Enda	nger	ed Species
F. Flood pl	ain		☐ M.	Mined land		FACII	ITY	CODES	atio	onal trail			Z. Cont	ingen	ncy Reserve
☐ A. 00. CA	MPGROUNDS		☐ D. 00.	GOLF COURSE		IAGIL		☐ H. 00. TI	R/	AILS			N. 00. NATU	JRAL	AREA
_	ent Sites V sites		_	1. 18 hole 2. Par 3				□ 01. □ 02.		· ·			P. 00. PASS Q. 00. SUPF		
□ 03. G	roup campgroun	d	o:	3. Driving range				□ 02. □ 03.				_	<b>⊒</b> . 00. 30FF		
	ay camp			4. 9 hole 5. Miniature golf	☐ 04. Motorized☐ 05. Nature					□ 02. Landscaping □ 03. Utilities			aping		
□ 01. In	ndividual table site		□ 0¢	6. Pitch and putt				☐ 06.	Fit	ness		I	☐ 04. Eq	uipme	ent
	iroup shelter/pavi			SWIMMING FAC I. Pool	ILITII	ES		J. 00. W		TER SPORTS FACILIT	IES		☐ 05. Ro. ☐ 06. Pai		
□ 01. G	ieneral purpose p		□ 02	2. Wading pool				□ 02.	Sk	ki slope		I	☐ 07. Lig	hting	
	aseball/softball ootball/soccer			<ol> <li>Spray playgrou</li> <li>Swimming bea</li> </ol>		plash pa	d	□ 03. □ 04.		ki jump ed/toboggan run			☐ 08. Sig ☐ 09. Re		ms/showers bldg.
☑ 04. T	ot lot/playground		05	5. Bathhouse				□ 05.	Sk	kating rink		[	☐ 10. Co	nces	sion building
	ennis courts asketball/other c	ourts		BOATING FACIL  1. Launch ramp	LITIES	S				ki trails nowmobile trails					ance building
□ 07. R	ifle/pistol range		☐ 02	2. Berths				□ 08.	W	arming huts			R. 00. AMP	НІТН	IEATER
	rap/skeet field rchery range			B. Boat lift FISHING FACIL	ITIES	i		☐ <b>K. 00. E</b> ☐ 01.		CLOSED SHELTER			S. 00. LAK	E IMF	POUNDMENT
	odeo arena rack facility			I.Pier 2.Stream improv	emen	t		□ 02. □ 03.					T. 00. VISIT	OR (	CENTER
	kateboard park			B. Fishing access				<u> </u>	lce	e rink			U. 00. INTE	RPR	ETIVE CENTER
									lUI	NTING			V. 00. OTH	ER:	
1								I							

### DESCRIPTION AND NOTIFICATION FORM Land and Water Conservation Fund

OMB Control No. 1024-0031 Expiration Date 01/31/2020

(Continuation Sheet)

Site #	Gran	nt#							
			PARK INF	ORMATION					
Park Name Anderson Trac	ot		nty Name arleston		City Name North Charleston		<b>Zip Code</b> 29406	<b>4-Digit Zip</b> 6205	
Park Address 5260 Deacon Street				•	Congressional Distr 06	ict	Prior LWCF A	Assistance?	
New 6(f) Acres at Park 4.90	• ,,	Acres at Park 00	` ,	cres at Park 90 32° 53' 14.8122'			Longitude " -80° 1' 0.5514"		
	_			INDICES			I. 00. NATURAL A		
A. 00. CAMPGROUNDS		□ D. 00. GOLF COURSE           □ 01. 18 hole           □ 02. Par 3           □ 03. Driving range           □ 04. 9 hole           □ 05. Miniature golf           □ 06. Pitch and putt           □ C. SWIMMING FACILITIES           □ 01. Pool           □ 02. Wading pool           □ 03. Spray playground/Splash pad           □ 04. Swimming beach           □ 05. Bathhouse           □ F. 00. BOATING FACILITIES           □ 01. Launch ramp		☐ 01. Sk ☐ 02. Sk ☐ 03. Sk ☐ 04. Sk ☐ 05. Sk ☐ 06. Sk ☐ 07. Sn ☐ 08. Wa	ring rse cycle ctorized ture ness TER SPORTS FACILITIES i lift i slope i jump ed/toboggan run ating rink i trails iowmobile trails earming huts	N. 00. NATURAL AREA  P. 00. PASSIVE PARKS  Q. 00. SUPPORT FACILITY  01. Walkways  02. Landscaping  03. Utilities  04. Equipment  05. Roads  06. Parking  07. Lighting  08. Signs  09. Restrooms/Showers bldg.  10. Concession building  11. Maintenance building			
□ 08. Trap/skeet field □ 09. Archery range □ 10. Rodeo arena □ 11. Track facility □ 12. Skateboard park	G. 0	03. Boat lift  0. FISHING FACIL  01. Pier  02. Stream improv  03. Fishing access	ement	K. 00. ENC   01. Po   02. Co   03. Pio   04. los	ourts cnic e rink		S. 00. LAKE IMPO T. 00. VISITOR CE U. 00. INTERPRET V. 00. OTHER:	NTER	

#### **NOTICES**

# Paperwork Reduction Act Statement

In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501), please note the following. This information collection is authorized by the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965 (16 U.S.C. 4601-4 et seq.). Your response is required to obtain or retain a benefit. We use this information to record and track grant projects and to analyze program trends. We may not conduct or sponsor and you are not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid Office of Management and Budget control number. OMB has assigned control number 1024-0031 to this collection.

#### **Estimated Burden Statement**

Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 1 hour per response including the time it takes to read, gather and maintain data, review instructions and complete the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate, or any aspects of this form, to the Information Collection Clearance Officer, National Park Service, 12201 Sunrise Valley Drive, Mail Stop 242, Reston, VA 20192. Please do not send your form to this address.

# INSTRUCTIONS FOR DESCRIPTION AND NOTIFICATION FORM Land and Water Conservation Fund

OMB Control No. 1024-0031 Expiration Date 01/31/2020

The Description and Notification Form (DNF) captures information about LWCF grants and the parks and recreation areas assisted through approval of a new grant, an amendment, to an existing grant, or a Conversion of Use provisions request. This information is used to aid in reporting the performance of the program to Members of Congress and the American people. The following directions are provided to assist you. For amendments only relevant portions are to be completed or as noted below.

For amendments only relevant portions are to be completed or as noted below.

GRANT INFORMATION	Summary information for the entire grant or amendment regardless of number of specific park areas or parcels involved.
State	Enter the appropriate two-digit FIPS State Code (e.g., California = 06)
Grant No.	Enter the five digit number for the Grant, e.g., 00456 (to be verified by NPS)
Amendment No.	Enter the sequential Amendment Number (to be verified by NPS).
Date Received	Enter the date on which an <u>actionable</u> project or amendment is received in the regional office. If the information received is returned to the State as incomplete and subsequently resubmitted, the date the resubmitted project was received shall be entered (to be completed by NPS).
Approval Date	Enter the date the project or amendment was approved as shown on the project agreement or amendment form (to be completed by NPS).
Expiration Date	Enter the grant expiration date as shown on the project agreement or amendment form (to be verified by NPS).
Start Date	Enter the Start Date of the grant Period of Performance. If there is a previously approved Waiver of Retroactivity; the waiver approval date is the Start Date.
End Date	Enter the End Date of the grant Period of Performance.
Grant Name	Enter Project Title from the agreement document in all caps, not to exceed 50 characters.
Element Name	Leave blank unless a consolidated project is being amended; use all caps, not to exceed 50 characters.
Sponsor Name	Enter name of grantee or sub-grantee, as applicable.
Address	Enter address of grantee or sub-grantee, as applicable.
Туре	<ul> <li>Enter the appropriate letter for type of grant. Use the definition below for guidance.</li> <li>A = Acquisition: grants for the acquisition of land or water or interest in land in water.</li> <li>D = New Development: grants where the majority of the assistance is devoted to development of new recreation or eligible support facilities.</li> <li>R = Redevelopment: grants primarily involving renovations, rehabilitation, replacement, or retrofitting of existing recreation and support facilities.</li> <li>P = Planning: grants related to the development of a SCORP document.</li> <li>C = Combination: grants involving both acquisition and development.</li> <li>S = Stewardship: Any post-grant completion action such as a conversion.</li> </ul>
Sponsor	Enter appropriate letter for sponsor type.  L = Local: a local unit of government (including tribes) other than a county or parish  C = County or Parish  S = State
Acreage Acquired	When the project type is either A or C, enter the total numbers of acres to be acquired for the project, rounded to the nearest tenth of an acre, regardless of number of parcels or their location (purchased acres + donated acreage)
Donated Acres	Indicate to the nearest tenth of an acre that portion of the acreage acquired through donation, if any.
Acquisition Assistance	Enter the Fund assistance provided to cover actual cash outlay for real property purchased, including project administration and relocation costs. For C projects, administration costs will be prorated between development and acquisition.  If all the acres acquired are donated, i.e., total acres acquired = donated acres acquired, there is no acquisition cost and this field should remain empty. If the total acres acquired are larger than the donated acres acquired, acquisition assistance is to be entered.
No. of Park Sites	Identify the number of separate park sites (distinct park units) being assisted under this project. Park information for each site is to be completed, using as many continuation sheets as needed.  For conversions, the total number of park sites associated with the grant as a result of a conversion should be entered (e.g., enter 1 for a total conversion and replacement; enter 2 for a partial conversion with one replacement site).
Total Cost	Enter the estimated total cost of project as shown on the grant agreement. For amendments, enter the total cost of the amendment.
Fund Amount	Enter the LWCF dollar share of the total cost, not to exceed 50 percent. For amendments, enter the LWCF dollar share of the amendment.

# INSTRUCTIONS FOR DESCRIPTION AND NOTIFICATION FORM Land and Water Conservation Fund

OMB Control No. 1024-0031 Expiration Date 01/31/2020

# (Continued)

	T
Source of Match	Identify the source of the non-LWCF share of the project cost by selecting the appropriate box. Other federal programs authorized by law to match LWCF grants will be considered "Federal" (e.g., CDBG).
	Note: the application of a negotiated indirect cost rate requires a State contribution and must be so identified.
PARK INFORMATION	Information related to each park or recreation area impacted by the grant (or added through a conversion). For projects involving more than one park/area, attach a Continuation Sheet for each. This information does not apply to planning and program administration grants.
Park Name	Enter the official name of the park or recreation area (XYZ Park, Recreation Area, State Natural Area, Playground, Field, Preserve, etc.). If unknown, enter a generic name as a place holder for subsequent correction. Do not repeat descriptors often found in the Grant Name which are not designated park names such as "development", "improvement", "Phase II," etc. If the funded development is a named facility within a park (e.g., ABC Tennis Courts within XYZ Park), XYZ Park is to be entered.
County Name	Enter the county in which the funded park or recreation area is located. If in more than one county, list all.
City Name	Enter name of city (township, etc.) in which funded park or recreation area is located. For projects not located within a sub-county jurisdiction, enter name of jurisdiction located nearest to actual park site.
Zip & Zip +4 Codes	Enter the 5-digit + 4-digit zip codes in which the funded park or recreation area is located (00000-0000).
Congressional District	Enter the 2-digit number for the Congressional District in which the funded park or recreation area is located. If in more than one district, list all.
Prior LWCF Assistance	Check appropriate box to indicate whether this park or recreation area has ever received LWCF assistance before. If XYZ Park has neither been acquired in total or in part nor previously developed through a prior LWCF grant, enter "No".
Latitude/Longitude	Enter the latitude and longitude coordinates in degrees, minutes, seconds, and direction for the park or recreation area. This coordinate should refer to the approximate center point of the 6(f) area as is feasible. In all cases, the coordinates should correspond to area within the 6(f) boundary. For projects involving linear parks, such as trails, the reference point should relate to the middle section of the trail.
New 6(f) Acres at Park	Enter the total acreage of the 6(f) area that is newly protected under this grant through acquisition, new development, redevelopment, or a combination project. The area should be clearly shown on the 6(f) boundary map and in most cases will include the acreage of the entire park.  For amendments, new acres will only be shown if there is an increase in the Federal share for the purpose of adding
Existing 6(f) Acres at Park	Enter the previously protected 6(f) acreage at the park or recreation area that is receiving assistance through a new development, renovation development or combination project. In other words, the park area is receiving further improvement in addition to what has been received through prior LWCF assistance. The acreage is not limited to the footprint of the development being funded but includes the total acreage previously protected through prior grants and identified on the pre-existing 6(f) boundary map.  For amendments, existing acres will only be shown for amendments which increase the Federal share for the specific purpose of adding new scope items within the 6(f) area.
Total Number of 6(f) Acres at Park	Enter the total number of 6(f) acres (new + existing) now protected as a result of the current and all previous grants or amendments at the site. It is intended to capture the size of the LWCF- protected recreation estate at the facility as a result of both current and past LWCF involvement. This number should reflect changes resulting from conversions.
Special Indices	These indices reflect special/unusual features of a proposal. Select all that are relevant. For amendments which add or delete special indices previously entered, overwrite the special indices originally entered with all those applicable as of the latest amendment.
Facility Codes	Select as many facility codes (Primary plus subcodes) as necessary to describe the specific facilities being developed. For acquisition projects, select only primary codes (A00, B00, etc.) which represent the planned use of the site. For combination projects, select the primary codes plus the appropriate subcodes.  For amendments that add or delete facility codes previously entered, overwrite the facility codes originally entered with all those applicable as of the latest amendment.
Creation of a New Park Or Recreation Area (Reserved)	Indicate whether this LWCF grant will result in the acquisition or development of a facility providing outdoor recreation opportunity that previously did not previously exist. New acres added or new development at a previously existing facility are not included under this definition (this information is currently being collected by NPS and will be added to the next revision of the DNF).

The following documents were also completed as a part of the Section 6(f) Conversion Package submittal:

- Application for Federal Assistance SF-424
- Appraisal Report 2410 Richardson Drive, North Charleston, South Carolina
- Appraisal Report Assembled 4.90 Acres Parcel With Residence Located at Elder Avenue and Deacon Street, North Charleston, South Carolina

For further details regarding these documents, please contact Joy Riley, SCDOT Project Manager, at <a href="mailto:rileyj@scdot.org">rileyj@scdot.org</a>.