



GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
MICHIGAN STRATEGIC FUND
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

QUENTIN L. MESSER, JR.
PRESIDENT

September 5, 2025

LLOYD BALDWIN
MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
SENT ELECTRONICALLY: baldwinl3@michigan.gov

BRENNAH GRACE DONAHUE
CITY OF DETROIT
HISTORIC FORT WAYNE
SENT ELECTRONICALLY: brennahgrace.donahue@detroitmi.gov

RE: ER05-536 Detroit River International Crossing, Detroit, Wayne County (FHWA)

Dear Mr. Baldwin and Ms. Donahue:

In accordance with the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the FHWA and the SHPO, Stipulation C, and in accordance with our easement on Historic Fort Wayne, we have reviewed the proposed parking lot improvement plan. At a high level, the parking lot plan can be achieved and meet the Secretary of the Interior Standards for Rehabilitation, however we have additional guidance as well as requests for additional information as plans develop:

Above-ground Considerations:

- The new fence calls for a 2' wide concrete maintenance strip. Provide photos of a similar installation to illustrate the typical appearance.
- The masonry conditions for repair work at pillars specify brick, but the pillars appear to be made of stone. Please specify if the brick scope is meant to be for the stone, or if different procedures are proposed at the stone.
- Provide additional pictures of the existing gate house and drive (including curbs), parking lot, and fencing. Provide product data on proposed gate house indicating all materials to be used.
- Salvage any historic stone curbs disturbed during driveway/road repair for reinstallation.
- Provide the heights of the existing lamp posts and the proposed lamp posts for comparison.

Archaeological Considerations:

- For archaeologists to consider – the concrete pad for the new entrance sign is called out to be 1' deep, and the bollards and fence posts will all have full depth frost footings. No information has been provided for how much ground will be disturbed for installation or for how below ground resources will be protected.
- Previously, the SHPO had requested archaeological monitoring during the removal and replacement of the fence. After further consideration, we now think that if the following three conditions are met, archaeological monitoring of the removal and replacement of the fence is not necessary:
 1. The 2' wide concrete maintenance strip is not installed
 2. New fence posts are installed using the locations of the previous fence posts.¹

¹ It seems likely that the new fence will not require as many fence post as the current fence.



3. Given the possibility for the inadvertent discovery of human remains and archaeological sites during proposed project activities, the SHPO requests the development of an Unanticipated Discoveries Plan, in case one does not already exist for the project. An Unanticipated Discoveries Plan (UDP) needs to be established prior to any project-related activities. The UDP is a relatively simple document that is intended to serve as a guide if archaeological material or human remains are encountered during project work. The conditions outlined in the UDP should be observed by those involved in the project (e.g., project managers, planners, engineers, landscapers, technicians, etc.).

The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) is not the office of record for this undertaking. You are therefore asked to maintain a copy of this letter with your environmental review record for this undertaking. If the scope of work changes in any way, or if artifacts or bones are discovered, please notify this office immediately.

If you have any questions, please contact Scott Slagor, Cultural Resource Protection Manager, at 517-285-5120 or by email at slagors2@michigan.gov. **Please reference our project number in all communication with this office regarding this undertaking.** Thank you for this opportunity to review and comment, and for your cooperation.

Sincerely,



Scott E. Slagor
Cultural Resource Protection Manager

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