



August 24, 2021

Timothy A. Parsons, Ph.D.
Director, Division of Historical Resources, and
State Historic Preservation Officer
R.A. Gray Building
500 S. Bronough Street
Tallahassee FL 32399-0250

Attention: Alyssa McManus, Transportation Compliance Review Program

Re: Cultural Resource Assessment Survey for the Tampa Hillsborough Expressway Authority (THEA) Whiting Street Project Development & Environment Study (PD&E) Study, Hillsborough County, Florida

Dear Dr. Parsons,

The cultural resource assessment survey (CRAS) of the Tampa Hillsborough Expressway Authority (THEA) Whiting Street PD&E Study in Hillsborough County, Florida, was conducted for the THEA by Janus Research, in association with H.W. Lochner, Inc. (LOCHNER). Fieldwork for this CRAS was conducted in 2021. The CRAS of the project was conducted to identify cultural resources within the project area of potential effect (APE) and to assess their significance in terms of their eligibility for listing in the *National Register of Historic Places* (National Register) according to the criteria set forth in 36 CFR Section 60.4.

This assessment complies with the revised Chapter 267, *Florida Statutes (F.S.)* and the standards embodied in the Florida Division of Historical Resources' (FDHR's) *Cultural Resource Management Standards and Operational Manual* (February 2003) and Chapter 1A-46 (*Archaeological and Historical Report Standards and Guidelines*), *Florida Administrative Code*. In addition, this report was prepared in consideration of the standards set forth in Part 2, Chapter 8 (*Archaeological and Historical Resources*) of the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) *PD&E Manual* (effective July 1, 2020). All work conforms to professional guidelines set forth in the *Secretary of Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archaeology and Historic Preservation* (48 FR 44716, as amended and annotated). Principal Investigators meet the *Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualification Standards* (48 FR 44716) for archaeology, history, architecture, architectural history, or historic architecture.

As a results of the CRAS, one precontact period archaeological site and four historic resources were identified. Due to the density of development and underground utilities, archaeological subsurface testing was feasible only within portions of the archaeological APE within the area of the Florida Avenue loop ramp. No human remains or Fort Brooke period artifacts were identified during the limited testing. Eight shovel tests resulted in the identification and expansion of the boundaries of 8HI537 (Expressway End) throughout

the western end of the current APE. Subsurface testing yielded both precontact period lithic artifacts and historic 20th Century material. Most of the lithic artifacts consisted of non-diagnostic flakes and shatter, but the presence of a fragment of a Florida Archaic Stemmed point suggests an Archaic to Formative period association. The majority of the historic artifacts recovered during the subsurface testing were also non-diagnostic. The two diagnostic artifacts, a solarized glass fragment and a green bottle base fragment suggest a 20th Century component. The artifacts recovered during the testing suggest a similarity to other precontact period lithic scatters and 20th Century artifact scatters in downtown Tampa that have previously been evaluated as National Register–ineligible. However, the extent of this site within the APE is unknown as underground utilities, landscaping, and hardscape prevented additional testing to bound the site and determine if any associated features are present. Based on this, there is insufficient information to evaluate the National Register eligibility of 8HI537 within the archaeological APE

Because subsurface testing was not feasible or limited in identified high and moderate archaeological site potential zones, archaeological monitoring will be conducted in these areas during ground disturbing construction activities. Where feasible, subsurface shovel testing will also be conducted. Examples of conditions allowing for the excavation of shovel tests include the removal of existing hardscape preventing testing or the mechanical stripping of areas of fill down to natural ground levels. This commitment will be added to the project construction plans to ensure that it is acknowledged and addressed during project construction.

Four historic resources were identified within the historic resources APE, three of which are considered National Register–eligible: an unrecorded segment of the Florida Central & Peninsular Railroad (8HI11987), the previously recorded Perry Paint and Glass Company Building (8HI685), and Ardent Mills (8HI15084). The 2,585-foot segment of the Florida Central & Peninsular Railroad (8HI11987) is considered eligible for listing in the National Register under Criterion A in the areas of Community Planning & Development, Industry, and Transportation. The Perry Paint and Glass Company Building (8HI685) is considered National Register–eligible under Criterion A in the areas of Industry and Local History and Criterion C in the area of Architecture. Ardent Mills (8HI15084) is considered National Register–eligible under Criterion A in the areas of Industry and Local History. The fourth resource, 200 S Nebraska Avenue (8HI15083) is considered National Register-ineligible due to its common style and diminished integrity.

Although no human remains were identified during the CRAS, unmarked graves have been previously found near the project area and there remains a potential for unmarked graves throughout the project area. Should any suspected or known remains be identified during this project, the provisions of Chapter 872.05, *F.S.* will apply. Chapter 872.05, *F.S.* states that when human remains are encountered, all activity that might disturb the remains shall cease and may not resume until authorized by the District Medical Examiner or the State Archaeologist. If human remains less than 75 years are encountered, or if they are involved in a criminal investigation, the District Medical Examiner has jurisdiction. If the remains are judged to be more than 75 years old, then the State Archaeologist may assume jurisdiction. It is also recommended the appropriate construction personnel be notified of the provisions of Chapter 872.05, *F.S.*, as well as the need to immediately notify the THEA Project Manager if human remains are encountered, who will take the steps needed to protect the remains and notify the appropriate authorities.

We kindly request that this letter and document are reviewed, and concurrence is provided by your office. This information is provided in accordance with the provisions contained in the revised Chapter 267, F.S. If you have any questions regarding the subject project, please contact me at 813.272.6740, extension 124 or anna.quinones@tampa-xway.com.

Sincerely,



Anna Quiñones, AICP
Project Manager

The Florida Division of Historical Resources finds the attached document complete and sufficient and <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> concurs/ <input type="checkbox"/> does not concur with the recommendations and findings provided in this cover letter for SHPO/FDHR Project File Number <u>2021-5149</u> .	
Comments: Sites 8HI11987, 8HI685, and 8HI15084 are considered eligible for the National Register of Historic Places and should be avoided, or further consultation with the Florida SHPO office is required.	
Alissa Lotane	10/22/2021
for Timothy A. Parsons, Ph.D., Director, and State Historic Preservation Officer Florida Division of Historical Resources	[DATE]

Cc: Bob Frey, AICP, THEA
Bill Howell, PE, HW Lochner
Govardhan Muthyalagari, PE, PTOE, HNTB