



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



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**New Haven-Hartford-Springfield High Speed Intercity Passenger
Rail Program
Annual Programmatic Agreement Report
State Project 170-2296
July 10, 2018**

The Connecticut Department of Transportation (Department) is implementing a program of rail infrastructure and service improvements along the existing 62 mile New Haven-Hartford-Springfield (NHHS) Rail Corridor between New Haven, Connecticut and Springfield, Massachusetts. The Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) is providing partial funding for the project through the High-Speed Intercity Passenger Rail Program and is the lead agency for compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act, Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act of 1966, and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1968 (Section 106).

The FRA, following consultation among the Department, the Federal Transit Administration, the Connecticut State Historic Preservation Office, the Massachusetts State Historic Preservation Office, the National Railroad Passenger Corporation (Amtrak), and interested Native American Tribes, has executed a Programmatic Agreement (PA) for compliance with Section 106 for the five identified phases of the entire NHHS project.

In accordance with Stipulation XVII.C. of the PA, the Department has compiled the below Annual Programmatic Agreement Report and has made it available for public inspection. If you have any questions or need additional information please contact Mandy Ranslow, (860) 594-2929.

Kimberly C. Lesay
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2017 Annual Programmatic Agreement Report

New Haven-Hartford-Springfield High-Speed Intercity Passenger Rail Project

January 2, 2018

In accordance with the “Programmatic Agreement Among the Federal Railroad Administration, the Federal Transit Administration, the Connecticut State Historic Preservation Office, the Massachusetts State Historic Preservation Office, and the Connecticut Department of Transportation Regarding Compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, as it Pertains to the New Haven-Hartford-Springfield High-Speed Intercity Passenger Rail Project” (August 2012) Stipulation XVII.C., the Connecticut Department of Transportation (Department) has prepared this Annual Programmatic Agreement Report. The purpose of this report is to summarize the actions taken under the Programmatic Agreement (PA) and to document its effectiveness.

Summary of Actions from October 2016 to September 2017

- On December 21, 2016 the historic Berlin Train Station caught fire. The building was deemed a total loss and has subsequently been demolished. Items identified by the Berlin Historical Society were salvaged. Items will be delivered to the Town pending Amtrak approval.
- The Connecticut Department of Transportation (CTDOT) and Amtrak continued to plan for the donation of historic rail items to the Danbury Railway Museum, Connecticut Eastern Rail Road Museum, and Vernon Parks and Recreation. Items are offered to the museums as they become available.
- CTDOT is currently working with the Berlin Historical Society who expressed interest in some of the salvaged brownstone. CTDOT will find a place to stockpile the remaining unclaimed brownstone.

Future Actions

- Delivery of additional historic rail items to designated museums.
- Delivery of salvaged items from the Berlin Train Station to the Town of Berlin.
- Additional work on Phase 3B and 4 (new rail stations) will be reviewed in accordance with the PA.
- Finalization of State-level documentation of impacted structures
- Design of historic exhibit panels

Effectiveness

To date the PA is working successfully. Correspondence is mailed to the PA Signatory and Concurring Parties and the Tribes for each phase of proposed work, and the letters include contact information should any questions arise. Letters to the Tribes include FRA contact information should the Tribes request direct government-to-government consultation. There have been no public objections or inadvertent effects or foreclosures on cultural resources.

Recommendations

None