

**FAUQUIER COUNTY**  
**DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**



**ADMINISTRATION**  
Third Floor – Court and Office Building  
29 Ashby Street, Suite 310  
Warrenton, VA 20186  
(540) 422-8200  
Fax: (540) 422-8201

**ZONING & DEVELOPMENT SERVICES**  
Third Floor – Court and Office Building  
29 Ashby Street, Suite 310  
Warrenton, VA 20186

**PLANNING**  
10 Hotel Street, Suite 305  
Warrenton, VA 20186  
(540) 422-8210  
  
Permitting & Building: (540) 422-8230  
Zoning & Development Plans:  
(540) 422-8220

November 9, 2023

Raymond Ezell  
District Archaeologist  
Virginia Department of Transportation  
87 Deacon Road  
Fredericksburg, VA 22405

RE: I-66 EB & WB Superstructure Replacement over Broad Run (0066-030-543 and DHR File 2023-0072)

Dear Mr. Ezell:

Fauquier County is in receipt of your e-mail dated October 10, 2023, regarding the above-referenced undertaking. We appreciate the opportunity to provide comments, as permitted under 36 CFR 800.

According to your e-mail, Ms. Langan, the Virginia State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), has concurred with the definition of the project's Area of Potential Effects (APE) and the identification of historic properties within the APE. Fauquier County agrees with the extent of historic properties identified, which includes but is not limited to, the Broad Run-Little Georgetown Rural Historic District (030-5514), the Thoroughfare Gap Battlefield (030-1016), the Buckland Mills Battlefield (030-5152), Beverley Mill/Chapman Mill (076-0002, 030-5514-0093, 44FQ0271), and the Chapman's/Beverley Mill Historic District (076-5311). All of the resources are either listed in the National Register of Historic Places or have been determined eligible for listing. At this time, determination of effect (DOE) is being assessed.

Setting is the most essential aspect of integrity for these historic properties, especially the Broad Run-Little Georgetown Rural Historic District, Thoroughfare Gap Battlefield, and the Chapman's/Beverley Mill Historic District. In addition to the built environment, natural landforms play a significant role in defining the setting, as noted in the National Register nominations. The landscape surrounding Thoroughfare Gap is very distinct with Bull Run Mountain and Pond Mountain rising on each side of the Gap, and Broad Run and Trapp Branch flowing along I-66 to Beverley's Mill, which can clearly be seen from Interstate 66 and Route 55. It is a cultural landscape that retains ample historic integrity and separates Fauquier County from the more altered lands to the east.

The proposed undertaking has the potential to produce an adverse indirect effect to the historic properties. Due to the noted significance of the properties, the importance of setting to their integrity, and their high visibility, Fauquier County recommends using the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for the Treatment of Historic Properties* when designing and installing the replacement bridges to avoid diminishing the integrity of the historic properties. Standard 9 of the *Standards for Rehabilitation* advises that "new work will be differentiated from the old and will be compatible with the historic materials, features, size, scale and proportion, and massing" of the properties to protect their integrity and environment. The *Guidelines for Rehabilitation* recommend designing adjacent new construction to be compatible with the historic character of the setting. The *Guidelines* also recommend "protecting building and landscape features when undertaking work in the setting."

I-66 EB & WB Superstructure Replacement over Broad Run (DHR File 2023-0072)  
November 9, 2023

With the above-stated *Standards* and *Guidelines* in mind, Fauquier County recommends minimizing the size and scale of the proposed replacement bridges to be no larger than the size and scale of the existing bridges to avoid diminishing the integrity of the resources and creating an adverse effect.

Because stone is a building material and landscape feature representative of the immediate area, Fauquier County proposes to incorporate stone or stamped and pigmented concrete to appear as stone into the bridge superstructures, railings and abutment wing walls. In addition, damage to important resources and landscape features during construction must be avoided.

If you should have any questions, please contact the Fauquier County Community Development Department at (540) 422-8210.

Sincerely,



R. Holder Trumbo, Jr.  
Scott District Supervisor



Wendy Wheatcraft  
Preservation Planner

cc: Samantha Henderson, Virginia Department of Historic Resources  
Holly Meade, Director, Fauquier County Community Development  
Adrienne Garreau, Fauquier County Planning Commission  
Kevin Kask, Piedmont Environmental Council  
Kevin Ramundo, Citizens for Fauquier County  
Alexander M. Nance, Virginia Piedmont Heritage Area  
Turn the Mill Around Campaign