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July 26, 1999
Atlantic Steel Development
17th Street Interchange/Bridge
Fulton County

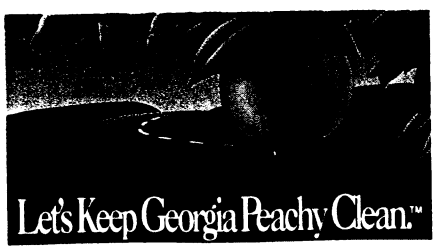
Mr. John A. Mitchener
President, JAMCO Properties, Inc.
Post Office 77068
Atlanta, Georgia 30357-1068

Dear Mr. Mitchener:

Your letter to Commissioner Shackelford has been forwarded to me for a response. In your letter dated July 13, 1999, you expressed concern for the possible impact created by the proposed 17th Street Bridge/Interchange. In particular, your concerns focused on the possible impacts to the Ansley Park neighborhood.

The present project's concept does terminate at the existing intersection of Peachtree and 17th Streets. The utilization of the existing pavement width is proposed. A solution has been defined to cul de sac 17th Street east of Peachtree Street at a location between the existing residential and commercial properties. Not only will this eliminate the threat of traffic utilizing the project to access Ansley Park at this location, but also removes the existing full access at this location.

The project is in its' preliminary stage. While the concept report has been submitted, no approval has been given. To further encourage the public to participate, the NEPA process (Federal Environmental document) has begun. As a part of this process not only is Ansley Park invited to participate, but also all citizens and organizations are desired "stakeholders". The US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), which is the coordinator of Project XL, must analysis the project to be undertaken and the results are included in the document. Also, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) is responsible to contribute to this process by their review and, if acceptable, approval of an Interchange Modification or Interstate Justification Report (IMR/IJR). Thus, a team composed of the Department, City of Atlanta (COA), EPA and FHWA have been working together to further coordinate the design and public impact into our final documents.



As for item 3 and 4, a traffic study has been prepared for the proposed concept. While the study limits ended on the east at Peachtree Street, traffic impacts as a result of this project can be identified. The solution proposed above will address your concerns for this project. If other solutions are identified, the Department, and the other government agencies will review, comment, and if beneficial, implement them, where feasible and prudent within their areas of responsibilities.

In a meeting with some Ansley Park neighbors and in a letter to the neighborhood president, I have committed to meet with the neighborhood and its representatives to discuss the concerns and solutions regarding this project. If I can be of further assistance please contact me at 404-656-5446 or in writing.

Sincerely,

Joseph P. Palladi, P. E.
State Urban Design Engineer

JPP:cl

Cc: Commissioner Michael Dobbins, City of Atlanta
EPA attention Michelle Glenn
Larry Dreihaup, FHWA
Commissioner Shackelford
Frank L. Danchetz, P. E.
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