# NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DOCUMENT

#### GOVERNMENT CENTER PARKWAY EXTENSION

City of Fairfax, Virginia State Project: U000-151-197, C501, UPC 109299

#### **Proposed Project:**

This project will construct the missing link of Government Center Parkway from Stevenson Street in Fairfax County to Jermantown Road in the City of Fairfax. The project will include installation of sidewalks, pedestrian crosswalks, on-road bike lanes, as well as new lighting and landscaping. The project includes approximately 850 feet of new multimodal roadway and turn lanes, storm sewer upgrades, traffic signal modification and miscellaneous improvements.

#### **Environmental Document Review:**

The City of Fairfax is announcing the availability of the Categorical Exclusion (CE) Document completed for this project, with concurrence from VDOT and FHWA. The environmental document is available for public review and comment on the City's website at the following link:

https://www.fairfaxva.gov/government/public-works/transportation-division/current-transportation-projects. This information is also available for review in person at 10455 Armstrong Street, Suite 200, Fairfax, VA 22030. Due to COVID19 an appointment is required to view documents.

#### **Written Request:**

By this notice the City of Fairfax is indicating the availability of the CE Document for public review and comment. You may request additional information or ask questions specific to the CE Document and its supporting information by sending a written request stating your concerns on or before October 20, 2021. Send comments and questions to:

Christina Alexander, Capital Projects Manager, City of Fairfax Public Works Department 10455 Armstrong Street, Suite 200, Fairfax, VA 22030 Christina.Alexander@fairfaxva.gov

#### **Questions or Special Assistance:**

Questions regarding this project should be directed to Christina Alexander at 703-273-3067 or Christina.Alexander@fairfaxva.gov

The City of Fairfax ensures nondiscrimination and equal employment in all programs and activities in accordance with Title VI and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. All City government offices can be contacted by dialing 711 for TTY service

TO: FHWA FROM: John Muse DATE: 08/09/2021

## **CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION (CE)**

Date CE level document approved by VA FHWA Division: 9/05/2017 FHWA Contact: Kevin Jones
Project Name: Government Center Parkway Extension Route: 9999/ Government Center Parkway
Route Type: Major Collector
Project Type: Construction State Project Number: U000-151-197, C501, P101, R201
Federal Project Number: STP-5A01(782) UPC: 109299
From: Stevenson Street To: Jermantown Road
County/City: City of Fairfax and Fairfax County District / Residency: Northern Virginia/Fairfax
Project in STIP: Yes No ☐ Project in Long Range Plan: Yes No ☐ N/A Project Outside of MPO Area ☐ Next Phase of Funding Available: Yes No ☐
<b>Project Description:</b> The proposed project would construct an approximately 850-foot extension of Government Center Parkway from Stevenson Street (Route 1028) to Jermantown Road (Route 655). The project would include one travel lane in each direction with associated turning lanes, pedestrian facilities, traffic signal upgrades, drainage improvements, and landscaping.
<b>CE Category 23 CFR 771.117:</b> (c) (23) <b>Description of CE Category:</b> Federally-funded projects:(i) That receive less than \$5,000,000 of Federal funds; or (ii) With a total estimated cost of not more than \$30,000,000 and Federal funds comprising less than 15 percent of the total estimated project cost.
USGS Map Attached Yes ⊠
Logical Termini and Independent Utility:  Yes N/A (For Non-highway construction only, explain in
comments below)  Purpose and Need Statement: The purpose of the project is to provide an alternative east-west route to improve multimodal connectivity and reduce congestion on the local intraregional transportation network between Fairfax County and the the City of Fairfax(City)

#### Comments:

Extension of Government Center Parkway is component of the City's Comprehensive plan to reduce congestion and improve multi-modal mobility throughout the City. The addition to the City grid system provided by this project serves a need and is a reasonable expenditure of funds, even if no additional improvements are made. Therefore, the project has independent utility. The project termini, at connections to existing roadways, are rational end points for environmental review that are considered logical.

The proposed project has been planned to provide improved traffic movement and increase pedestrian facilities in the area. The 2021 average daily traffic (ADT) is approximately 8,930 and is expected to increase 1% annually over the 20 year duration until 2038.

**Typical Section:** The project typical section varies to include turn lanes, splitter islands, and bicycle lanes; the general section includes two 11' travel lanes (one in each direction) with curb and gutter, and a 5' sidewalk on both sides of the centerline. The cross slope of the road slopes 2% from the center of the road to existing conditions where developed or to planned Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) CG-6 Curb and Gutter

Construction of the proposed road surface would require both fill and excavation to obtain level grade.

**Structures:** No structures are proposed with this project.

	PRESENT		ESENT IMPA	
SOCIO-ECONOMIC	YES	NO	YES	NO
Minority/Low Income Populations	$\boxtimes$			$\boxtimes$
Disproportionate Impacts to Minority/Low Income Populations: Yes  No				
Existing or Planned Public Recreational Facilities		$\boxtimes$		$\boxtimes$
Source: US Census Bureau, EJScreen				
Community Services		$\boxtimes$		$\boxtimes$
Source: City of Fairfax Comprehensive Plan, and City of Fairfax Fire Dept., Police De	pt, & S	chools		
Consistent with Local Land Use: Yes No				
Source: City of Fairfax Comprehensive Plan				
Existing or Planned Bicycle/Pedestrian Facilities:				
Source: City of Fairfax Comprehensive Plan				

**Comments:** The project is set in a primarily commercial area along the boundary between Fairfax County and the City of Fairfax. The project is located within three (3) Census Block Groups; City of Fairfax 2010 Census Tract 3004 Block Group and Fairfax County 2010 Census Tract 4612.02 Block Groups 2 & 3. These Block Groups define the Environmental justice Study Area.

The environmental justice analysis is based on whether the percentage of minority or low-income populations within a specific Census Tract Block Group are impacted at a greater rate than the average population. The Environmental Justice Study Area has a minority population of 39.81%, and therefore an Environmental Justice (EJ) evaluator factor of 43.79%. If the percentage of minority population in a specific Block Group in the study area exceeds 50% or is higher than the EJ evaluator factor, the tract has the potential to contain an EJ population which may be affected by the project. The only individual Block Group within the study area which meets exceeds the criterion identified above is in 2010 Census Tract 4612.02 Block Group 3 in Fairfax County (with a minority population of 50.41%). Therefore, an EJ population is present within the project area.

In addition, the median household income in the study area ranges from \$116,250 to \$133,708 and exceeds the median household income for the 48 Contiguous States and the District of Columbia considered at poverty level from 2017 Health and Human Service Guidelines.

Although EJ populations exist, these populations will not be disproportionately and/or adversely impacted by the proposed project since there are no relocations, displacements, disruption of community, or disruption of emergency services. As such, in accordance with the provisions of E.O. 12898 and FHWA Order 6640.23A, no further EJ analysis is required.

The nearest existing recreational area is Kutner Park, which is located 0.25 mi northeast of the project area. The proposed project would not impact the park and would improve access to the park from minority housing areas.

Coordination has been conducted with the City of Fairfax Fire and Police Departments, the City of Fairfax Superintendent of Schools, along with Fairfax County Fire and Rescue and Fairfax County Public Schools Transportation Services. No project related concerns were stated by the City of Fairfax and Fairfax County Police Departments and City of Fairfax Fire and Rescue. Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department requests information on any proposed changes to the location of fire hydrants, however no fire hydrants are proposed to be relocated. The Fairfax County Public Schools Office of Transportation, Routing & Planning does not "see any negative impacts for this project." In fact, FCPS expects the project to be beneficial in the long run by shortening several routes.

This project is consistent with the City of Fairfax Comprehensive Plan, adopted April 10, 2012, and the City of Fairfax 2035 Comprehensive Plan, first draft dated May 9, 2018. In addition, the City's Multimodal Transportation Plan specifically identifies this proposed roadway.

Pedestrian facilities currently exist along portions of Government Center Parkway, and the proposed project will extend these facilities through the entire length of the project corridor.

	(1)	CVISC	u 12/11/20)
SECTION 4(f) and SECTION 6(f)	YE	S	NO
Use of 4(f) Property:			
Acres of use: N/A			
Name of Resource: N/A			
Type of Resource:			
Individually Eligible Historic Property:			
Contributing Element to Historic District			
Public Recreation Area:			
Public Park:			
Public Wildlife/Waterfowl Refuge:			
Planned Public Park, Recreation Area, Wildlife or Waterfowl Refuge:			
Source: Fairfax County GIS, City of Fairfax GIS, Virginia Department of Historic Reso	urces		
De Minimis:			
Type of Use:			
Permanent:			
Temporary:			
*Constructive:			
*Temporary Non 4(f) Use			
Section 4(f) Evaluation Attached:			
Conversion of 6(f) Property:			
Acres of Conversion: N/A			
Source: City of Fairfax GIS, Fairfax County GIS			
<b>Comments:</b> No Section 4(f) resources are present at the project site, nor would the presources. The nearest 4(f) resource is Kutner Park, which is located 0.25 miles to the site. Information obtained from Fairfax County and the City of Fairfax regarding public the presence of any public facilities in the project area.	north	east o	f the project
Furthermore, the State Historic Preservation Office at the Virginia Department of Historic properties would be affected by the proposed project.			
Therefore, there are no publicly-owned parks, recreational areas, wildlife and waterfor historical sites on the project area.	vl refuç	ges, o	r significant

CULTURAL RESOURCES	COMPLETE	N/A
Source:		
"No historic properties present or affected in accordance with the 2016 Federal PA"		
Phase I Architecture Conducted		$\boxtimes$
Phase II Architecture Conducted		$\boxtimes$
Phase I Archaeology Conducted		
Phase II Archaeology Conducted		$\boxtimes$
Section 106 Effect Determination: No Effect		

<sup>\*</sup>Note that a Constructive Use and a Temporary Non 4(f) Use do not apply with a De Minimis finding.

Form EQ-104 (Revised 12/17/20)

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DHR Concurrence on Effect: Yes				
MOA Attached: Yes N/A Execution Date: /	1			
Name of Historic Property: N/A				
Comments: Section 106 consultation with the Virginia State Historic Preservat	ion Offic	e dated	12/19/20	)17
found that no historical properties would be affected by the project. As such, Se				
complete and no additional documentation is necessary.				
	PRESE	ENT	IMP <i>A</i>	CTS
NATURAL RESOURCES	YES	NO	YES	NO
Surface Water (Name: N/A)		$\square$		$\boxtimes$
Source: USGS 2016 Fairfax Quadrangle	· <del></del>	, <del>–</del>	<u> </u>	, <del></del>
Federal Threatened or Endangered Species:				
Terrestrial: Northern Long-eared Bat (Myotis septentrionalis)				$\boxtimes$
Aquatic: None				
Plants: None				
Source: USFWS, IPaC, VDWR-VaFWIS, DCR-DNH		· —		
100 Year Floodplain:				
If "Yes" then identify the regulatory floodway zone:				
Source: Flood Insurance Rate Map #5155240001D, effective June 2, 2006, Fl	ood Insu	irance R	ate Map	•
#51059C0255E, effective date 9/17/2010, City of Fairfax Floodplain Mapper				
Tidal Waters/Wetlands: None				
Wetlands: None				$\square$
Course LICENIC NIMI Man Cita increation by DIMC				
Source: USFWS NWI Map, Site inspection by PWS	1/2		1 47	
D " D ' I	Ye	es	No	
Permits Required	L			<u> </u>
Source: N/A				
Comments: According to the USGS 2016 Fairfax Quadrangle, there is no surf	ace wate	er preser	nt on the	site. A
project site visit verified the absence of jurisdictional waters on the site.		·		
Coordination for threatened and endangered species has been conducted at the	ne state	and fede	ral level	S.
USFWS indicated one species, the Northern Long-eared Bat (Myotis septentric	onalis) h	owever,	there is	a lack
of suitable habitat for this species.				
Flood Insurance Rate Map #5155240001D indicates the absence of regulatory		,		tidal
water/wetlands or wetlands present on the site, and no permits are anticipated	to be ne	ecessary	in the	
execution of this project.				
	ı		1	
		SENT	IMPA	CTS
AGRICULTURAL/OPEN SPACE		1 110		NO
	YES	NO	YES	NO
Open Space Easements	YES	NO 🖂	YES	NO 🖂
Open Space Easements  Source: VA Outdoors Foundation	YES		YES	

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			'irginia	
Department of Forestry		م مناطلان		
<b>Comments:</b> No open space easementsor agricultural or forestal districts are project limits.	resent w	illin or	near the	
project illinits.				
FARMLAND	YES		NO	
NRCS Form CPA-106 Attached:	$\boxtimes$			
Rating: N/A– No raiting was given				
Alternatives Analysis Required:			$\boxtimes$	
If Form CPA-106 is not attached check all that are applicable:				
Land already in Urban use:				
Entire project in area not zoned agriculture:				
NRCS responded within 45 days:				
NRCS Determined no prime or unique farmland in the project area.				
Source: - US Department of Agricultue - Natural Resources Conservation Sel	vice (NR	RCS)		
Comments: The entire project corridor is designated for urban use. Per 2010 (TIGERweb, the entirety of the project area is set within the Washington Urban subject to the Farmland Protection Policy Act (FPPA). NRCS Form CPA-106 v concurrence that 0 acres of the project area are farmland, as defined in FPPA. the corridor contain prime, unique, statewide or local important farmland' on NF given.	Area and vas returi 'No' was	I therefoned on 2 checke	re is not 2/5/2018 d for 'Do	with
		PRES		
INVASIVE SPECIES	YES	NO	UNKN	OWN
Invasive Species in the project area:				7
There is potential for invasive species to become established along the limits of during and following construction. Section 244.02(c) of VDOT's Road and Brid includes provisions intended to control noxious weeds (which includes non-national While rights-of-ways are at risk from invasive species colonization from adjacent above provisions would reduce or minimize potential for introduction, proliferating species. Additionally, the implementation of Best Management Practices (BMF control and abatement of pollutant loading would minimize indirect impacts to a habitat by reducing excess nutrient loads that could encourage invasive species.  Comments: The Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) has a construction of the control and recreation (DCR) in the control and abatement of the control and recreation (DCR) in the control and recreation in the control and recreation (DCR) in the control and recreation in	ge Specive and in proper on, and so or, and	ifications nvasive ties, imp spread cosion/se commun ration.	s (2016) species plementi of invasivediment nities an	ng the ve

AIR QUALITY		
Carbon Monoxide (CO)	Yes	No
This project is located in a CO 🔀 Attainment Area 🗌 Maintenance Area	<u>,                                      </u>	
CO Hotspot Analysis Required? (if "Yes", please attach analysis)  If "No", indicate which exemption it falls under:  Exempt project under 40 CFR 93.126.  Exempt project based on traffic volumes below thresholds in the current VDC Air Quality Studies Agreement with FHWA/EPA.	T Project Le	evel
Ozone		
This project is located in an Ozone  Attainment Area  Maintenance  Nonattainment Area  Early Action		\rea
Only projects located in ozone nonattainment or maintenance areas must comple  Exempt from regional emissions requirements under 40 CFR 93.126 or 40 CI  Properly programmed in the CLRP and FY - TIP.  The project is not regionally significant and/or is not of a type that would norm regional transportation model.  This project is regionally significant; however the project was not modeled, or not consistent with what was modeled in the currently conforming CLRP and	FR 93.127.  nally be incluted the scope of	
Fine Particulate Matter (PM2.5)	Yes	No
This project is located in a PM <sub>2.5</sub> Nonattainment Area  Maintenan Attainment Area (if checked, do not f		elow)
<ul> <li>PM<sub>2.5</sub> Hotspot Analysis Required? (If "Yes", Please Attach Analysis)</li> <li>Check all that apply;</li> <li>A. Exempt project under 40 CFR 93.126, Table 2.</li> <li>B. Not a project of air quality concern under 40 CFR 93.123(b)(1)(i) thru (v).</li> <li>C. Properly programmed in the CLRP and FY - TIP.</li> <li>D. This project is regionally significant; however the project was not modeled consistent with what was modeled, in the currently conforming CLRP and TIF</li> </ul>		e is not
If "B" is checked above, please indicate the following for highway projects;		
Design Year , Peak AADT , Peak Diesel Truck %  Mobile Source Air Toxics (MSAT)		
Some Source Air Toxics (MSAT)		
Check all that apply;  ⊠ Exempt project under 40 CFR 93.126, or qualifies as a CE under 23 CFR 771  □ Project with no meaningful impact on traffic volumes or vehicle mix.	l.117(c).	
If a qualitative MSAT analysis is required, please indicate the following for highwad Design Year: Peak AADT:	ay projects;	
Source: EPA Greenbook, Resource Document and VDOT/FHWA Project Level A	_	
<b>Comments:</b> The project is located in CO and PM2.5 Attainment Areas and an Oz This project qualifies as a CE project under 23 CFR 771.117, and therefore under		

Administration (FHWA) guidance (Updated Interim Guidance on Mobile Source Air Toxic Analysis in NEPA Documents, October 12, 2016), neither a qualitative nor a quantitative analysis is needed for MSATs. Similarly, as the project qualifies for a CE, a greenhouse gas analysis is not indicated per "FHWA Implementation of CEQ Guidance on Consideration of Greenhouse Gas Emissions and the Effects of Climate Change in NEPA" (September 30, 2016 webinar presentation, slide 4). Additionally, under the 2020 Programmatic Agreement with FHWA, a CO analysis is not required for NEPA.

The proposed improvements were assessed for potential air quality impacts and compliance with applicable air quality regulations and requirements. All models, methods/protocols and assumptions applied in modeling and analyses were made consistent with those provided or specified in the VDOT Resource Document. The assessment indicates that the project would meet all applicable air quality requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and federal and state transportation conformity regulations. As such, the project will not cause or contribute to a new violation of the NAAQS established by EPA. See Air Quality Analysis Memo.

NOISE	YES	NO
Type I Project:		
Source: VDOT Environmental		
Noise Analysis Attached:		
Barriers Under Consideration:		$\boxtimes$
Source: VDOT Noise Memo		
Comments: Per the Federal Noise Regulation and State Noise Policy, the project since it is a project on new alignment. A qualitative noise analysis was conduct. The proposed project is not predicted to result in overall noise levels approaching NAC levels. In addition, there are no highway traffic noise-related public controv construction noise impacts associated with this project. Therefore, a detailed quantity not required.	ed by VDOT .  ng or exceeding versies or subtar	the applicable
RIGHT OF WAY AND RELOCATIONS	YES	NO

RIGHT OF WAY AND RELOCATIONS	YES	NO
Residential Relocations:		
If "Yes", number:		
Source: Project Design Plans, City of Fairfax GIS		
Commercial Relocations:		$\boxtimes$
If "Yes", number:		
Source: Project Design Plans, City of Fairfax GIS		
Non-profit Relocations:		$\boxtimes$
If "Yes", number:		
Source: Project Design Plans, City of Fairfax GIS and Site Visits 07/10/2017		
Right of Way required:	$\boxtimes$	
If "Yes", acreage amount: Approximately 1.30 Acres		
Source: Project Design Plans, City of Fairfax GIS		

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		(17641960		20)
	PRESI	ENT	IMPACT	
	YES	NO	YES	NO
Septic Systems, Wells, or Public Water Supplies				
Source: Existing Conditions Plan				
Hazardous Materials:		$\boxtimes$		$\boxtimes$
Source: Field survey, site inspection				
<b>Comments:</b> The Site is located in a developed commercial area, though the carea is undeveloped. No families, businesses, or non-profit groups would be do of approximately 1.11 acres of fee-taking right-of-way would need to be secure. Field survey was conducted for this project and certified by registered Land Science.	isplaced ed for this	by this ps project	oroject	A total
no septic systems, wells, public water supplies or other facilities within the pro No environmental risks were identified in association with the Subject Property based on distance from project construction, status of the reviewed federal an groundwater flow direction.	ject bour / and adj	ndaries. oining pi	roperties	
CUMULATIVE AND INDIRECT IMPACTS		PRE	SENT	
OSMOLATIVE AND INDIRECT IMI ACTO	YES	NO		/A
Present or reasonably foreseeable future projects (highway and non-highway) in the area:				
Impact same resources as the proposed highway project (i.e. cumulative impacts):				
Indirect (Secondary) impacts:				7
Source: City of Fairfax and Fairfax County Comprehensive Plan				
<b>Comments:</b> Per EM-NEPA-715, the indirect and cumulative effects of the proconsidered as part of this document. The impact causing activities proposed as in limited indirect effects to the surrounding area. These impacts could be min appropriate erosion and sediment controls, stormwater management, and add Indirect impacts to socioeconomic resources would be mitigated and minimize locality, individual property owners, and the surrounding business community contribute negligible increments the cumulative effects of past, present and reprojects.	as part of imized an ering to ed throug	the project the pr	ect could ated thro onditions s taken t roject wo	ough s. by the ould
PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT	Y	ES	N	10
Substantial Controversy on Environmental Grounds:				$\leq$
Source: City of Fairfax Department of Public Works -Transportation Division, City of FaDevelopment and Planning, and Fairfax County Department of Transportation		partmen		
Public Hearing: If "Yes", type of hearing:		] 		$\leq$
Other Public Involvement Activities: If "Yes", type of Involvement: Citizen Information Meetings, Willingness to hold a Public Hearing				

#### Source:

City of Fairfax Department of Public Works -Transportation Division, City of Fairfax Department of Community Development and Planning , and Fairfax County Department of Transportation

**Comments:** As this project has minimal impact, a Willingness to Hold a Public Hearing was posted and advertised in March 2021. The Willingness period closed on March 31, 2021 with no comments or concerns raised therefore no public hearing will be held. A 15-day public notice of the CE's availability for public review and comments will be published in three locally available newspapers.

### **COORDINATION**

The following agencies were contacted during development of this study:

- City of Fairfax Council
- City of Fairfax Community Development and Planning Department (
- City of Fairfax Fire Department
- City of Fairfax Police Department
- City of Fairfax Schools
- Fairfax County Board of Supervisors
- Fairfax County Department of Transporation
- Fairfax County Fire Department
- Fairfax County Police Department
- Fairfax County Public Schools
- Federal Emergency Management Agency
- United States Census Bureau
- United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS)
- United States Environmental Protection Agency
- United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) (
- Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources (VDWR)
- Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation Natural Heritage (DCR-NH)
- Virginia Department of Forestry (DOF)
- Virginia Department of Historic Resources (DHR)
   Virginia Outdoors Foundation (VOF)

This project meets the criteria for a Categorical Exclusion pursuant to 40 CFR 1508.4 and 23 CFR 771.117 and will not result in significant impacts to the human or natural environment.