

Programmatic Categorical Exclusion (PCE)

Project Information

Project Name: George T. Snyder Trail

Federal Project#: CMAQ-5A01 (955)

Project Number: U000-151-216, C501, P101, R201

Project Type: Construction

UPC: 112816

Charge Number: 112816 Series 600

Route Number: N/A

Route Type: Primary

Project Limit--From: Route 123 @ 3521 Chain Bridge Road

To: Wilcoxon Trail @ 9725 Fairfax Blvd.

Project Description: This project will construct a proposed shared use path on Chain Bridge Road (Route 123) to the Wilcoxon Trail, south of Fairfax Boulevard (Route 50). The trail will be 10-15 feet wide and ADA compliant with five pedestrian bridges spanning small tributaries and Accotink Creek. The trail is primarily along the southern side of Accotink Creek, with some portions within Fairfax City Parks.

Additional Project Description: Lighting, landscaping, retaining walls, stormwater management are included in the project design. A total of five (5) boardwalks will be constructed. An 8" water main will be relocated under Accotink Creek to resolve a conflict with a pedestrian bridge.

Purpose and Need: The purpose and need of this project is to provide improved pedestrian and bicycle access, safety, and connectivity to the existing regional network.

District: Northern Virginia

City/County: City of Fairfax

Residency: Fairfax

The subject project meets the criteria for a Programmatic Categorical Exclusion in accordance with:

x 23 CFR 771.117

Description of PCE Category:

C-3 Construction of bicycle and pedestrian lanes, paths, and facilities.

UNUSUAL CIRCUMSTANCES (YES/NO):

- NO** Significant environmental impacts
Determination: Based on a review of the project scope and preliminary plans dated 04/12/2022, no significant environmental impacts are anticipated as a result of this project.
- NO** Substantial controversy on environmental grounds
Determination: Based on a review of the project scope, location, and consultation with the Project Manager (PM), no substantial controversy on environmental grounds is anticipated.
- NO** Significant impact on properties protected by Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act or Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act
Determination: There are no significant impacts on properties protected by Section 4(f) based on the Virginia Department of Historic Resources (VDHR) determination on 10/07/2021 that the project will have no effect on historic properties and on the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) determination on 06/14/2022 that the project scope within multiple public parks qualifies as a Section 4(f) exception pursuant to 23 CFR 774.13(g).
- NO** Inconsistencies with any Federal, State, or local law, requirement or administrative determination relating to the environmental aspects of the action.
Determination: All Federal, State, and local laws, requirements, or administrative determinations will be adhered to throughout the lifespan of this project to preclude any inconsistencies.

IMPACTS (YES/NO):

- NO** Involves acquisition of more than minor amounts of temporary or permanent right of way acquisition
Determination: Based on a review of the preliminary right of way (RW) Data Sheet dated 03/07/22, the project does not involve more than minor amounts of temporary or permanent RW acquisition.
- NO** Involves acquisitions that result in more than limited residential and non-residential displacements, based on the context and intensity of the impact.
Determination: Based on the preliminary plans, there are no residential or non-residential displacements.
- NO** Results in capacity expansion of a roadway by addition of through lanes.
Determination: The project scope does not include the construction of through lanes.
- NO** Involves the construction of temporary access, or the closure of an existing road, bridge, or ramps, that would result in major traffic disruptions, based on the context and intensity of the impact
Determination: Based on a review of the project scope and location, there would be no major traffic disruptions.
- NO** Results in a determination of adverse effect on historic properties pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (54 U.S.C. §306108)
Determination: VDHR determined on 10/07/2021 that the project will have no effect on historic properties.
- NO** Requires the use of properties protected by Section 4(f) (49 U.S.C. § 303/23 U.S.C. § 138) that cannot be documented with an FHWA *de minimis* determination, or a programmatic Section 4(f) evaluation signed by FHWA.
Determination: Based on VDHR's determination on 10/07/21, the project will have no effect on historic properties protected by Section 4(f) and the FHWA's determination on 06/14/2022 that the project scope within multiple public parks qualifies as a Section 4(f) exception pursuant to 23 CFR 774.13(g).
- NO** Requires the acquisition of lands under the protection of Section 6(f) of the Land and Water Conservation Act of 1965 (54 U.S.C. § 200305) or other unique areas or special lands that were acquired in fee or easement with federal public-use-money and have deed restrictions or covenants on the property.
Determination: Based on correspondence with the City's Park Manager on 05/01/2020, there are no Section 6(f) properties or other unique or special lands acquired or developed using Land and Water Conservation Funds (LWCF) grants.
- NO** Requires a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Section 404 (33 U.S.C. § 1344 permit other than a Nationwide or a General Permit)
Determination: Based on the Preliminary Jurisdictional Determination dated 12/10/2019, no U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Section 404 permit other than Nationwide #23 permit is required.
- NO** Requires a U.S. Coast Guard bridge permit (33 U.S.C. § 401).
Determination: The project scope and preliminary plans do not include bridges over navigable waterways; therefore, a U.S. Coast Guard bridge permit is not required.
- NO** Requires work that will cause an increase of the flood level by more than one foot within a regulatory floodway of water courses or water bodies or work affecting the base floodplain (100-year flood) elevations of a water course or lake, pursuant to 23 CFR §650 subpart A.
Determination: Based on preliminary plans and the City of Fairfax Floodplain Manager letter dated 04/27/2022, there will be no increase of the flood level by more than one foot within a regulatory floodway of water courses or water bodies or work affecting the base floodplain (100-year flood) elevations of a water course or lake.
- NO** Is defined as a "Type I project" per 23 CFR §772.5 and the VDOT noise manual for purposes of a noise analysis
Determination: This project does not meet any of the criteria for a Type I project designation under 23 CFR 772 and the VDOT noise manual.
- NO** Is likely to adversely affect federally listed species or designated critical habitat, with the exception of a "may affect, likely to adversely affect" (MALAA) determination for the Northern Long-Eared Bat or Indiana Bat when the project is within the scope of the Section 7 range-wide programmatic consultation for those species
Determination: Based on the species conclusion table in the self-certification packet submitted to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) on 05/23/2022, the project will have no effect on proposed or listed species or designated critical habitat.
- NO** Involves any known or potential hazardous materials issues that represent a substantial liability or require substantial regulatory negotiation to resolve. Sites representing substantial liability would not include minor issues such as low-level petroleum impacts or minimal solid waste.
Determination: Based on documentation dated 12/17/2021 from the PM, no hazardous materials issues of substantial liability or regulatory negotiation are anticipated.

NO Does not meet the provisions of the “Planning Documents and NEPA Approvals” document. In accordance with 23 CFR §450 and the FHWA/VDOT/Federal Transit Administration/Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation MOA Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) Procedures MOA, actions listed in 23 CFR §771.117(c) and 23 CFR §771.117(d) may be grouped.

Determination: The project is included in the STIP Grouping for “Construction: Transportation Enhancement/Byway/Non-traditional.”

NO Causes disproportionately high and adverse effects on any minority or low-income populations.

Determination: Based on the project scope and preliminary plans and consultation, the PM determined the project would not cause disproportionately high adverse effects on any minority or low-income populations.

NO Involves consideration of multiple NEPA alternatives.

Determination: Based on the qualifying actions, the project scope of work, and no significant environmental impacts, the PM determined this project does not require the consideration of multiple NEPA alternatives.

NO Is an action listed in 23 CFR §771.115(a)?

Determination: The PM determined this project does not involve the construction of any of the roadway types or projects listed in 23 CFR§771.115(a).

NO Involves unusual circumstances, pursuant to 23 CFR §771.117(b).

Determination: The PM determined this project does not meet any of the criteria for unusual circumstances, as noted in 23 CFR §771.117(b).

06/17/2022

Environmental Manager, CE Determination

Date