

IOWA | DOT Countersigned Categorical Exclusion

County:
 Phase Number:
 Project Name:
 Project Location:
 NEPA ID:

Commented [ND1]: Iowa DOT will provide this information

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

Commented [ND2]: Enter a short project description that includes the road(s) route number or street name(s), the county or counties included, the project termini and a short description of the planned improvements. Also attach a map that clearly illustrates street names or route numbers, project termini and areas affected by increased right of way (ROW).

TYPE OF PROJECT:

Categorical Exclusion (CE), as described in 23 CFR 771 Part 117

CFR Citation:

Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) concurred that this project meets the criteria of a Categorical Exclusion (CE); and that this project may not be processed under the FHWA and Iowa DOT Programmatic Agreement regarding the processing of certain categorical exclusion actions due to not meeting one or more of the constraints described in 23 CFR 771 Part 117 (e).

Commented [ND3]: Iowa DOT will provide this information

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT:

Projects meeting the CE classification do not have a public involvement requirement. Early coordination with the public aids in determining the type of environmental review documents an action requires, the scope of the document, the level of analysis, and related environmental requirements. The table will list the public involvement opportunities provided for this project.

Commented [ND4]: Public involvement is not required for a project classified as a CE. Therefore, public meetings are generally not held for CE projects. If there was no PI, enter NA under date and add a comment that no meetings were held. If there was a PI meeting, add the information in the table and provide details in the comment.

Date	Location	Invited	Attended	Media	City	Type	Date Printed

Comment:

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RIGHT-OF-WAY (ROW) AND DISPLACEMENT:

A review was completed to determine if acquisitions and relocations of real property would be required. If it is determined that acquisitions and relocations are required, they will be conducted in accordance with the Federal Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970 (42 U.S. Code (USC) 4601 et seq.).

Estimated ROW:	
Estimated Temporary Easement:	
Estimated Permanent Easement/Fee Title:	
Comment:	
Number of homes displaced:	
Is there replacement housing for the displacements?	
Number of businesses displaced:	
Is there replacement property for the displaced businesses?	
Comment:	

Commented [ND5]: If ROW is needed, indicate if there are any displacements and include the information listed below.

1. If available, provide a map that identifies which residences/businesses will be displaced.
2. Summarize the number of business and residential displacements and include the total number of acres affected. If there are more than 3 potential displacements, this may elevate this project to an environmental assessment (EA). Discuss this with the NEPA Manager.
3. Discuss adequate replacement housing. If there isn't adequate replacement housing, this may require an EA. Discuss this with the NEPA Manager.

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE (EJ) AND EQUITY:

A review was completed to identify and address disproportionately high and adverse effects on minority and low-income populations to achieve the equitable distribution of benefits and burdens in accordance with Executive Order 12898, FHWA EJ Order 6640.23A and Executive Order 13985.

Is this an environmental justice community?	
Is there an adverse impact?	
Comment:	

Commented [ND6]: Provide the results of your review

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CULTURAL RESOURCES:

A review was completed in accordance with the current Programmatic Agreement among the Federal Highway Administration, the Iowa Department of Transportation, the Iowa State Historic Preservation Officer, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation Regarding Implementation of Federal-Aid Transportation Projects in the State of Iowa. This agreement complies with the National Historic Preservation Act as amended, and as codified in 36 CFR Part 800.

Cultural Determination:	
Cultural Conditions:	
Dated:	
Comment:	
The following historic sites were considered for Section 4(f) use in accordance with FHWA's Section 4(f) regulations as codified in 23 CFR Part 774 and the Section 4(f) Decision Process as outlined in the Iowa Division Office Procedures for Review and Approval.	

Commented [ND7]: *If an Archaeology Survey or a Historical Survey was conducted, enter the results of the surveys, and attach the State Historical Preservation Office (SHPO) concurrence letters. Identify all sites that are adversely affected by the project and efforts to avoid or minimize the impacts.*

Consultation with tribal nations will be conducted by the Iowa DOT if necessary. If consultation with tribal nations was conducted, describe the results of the coordination.

Historic Site	Section 4(f) Determination

Commented [ND8]: Results of FHWA coordination on Section 4(f) Historic properties

PARKS, RECREATION, WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA (WMA) AND REFUGE AREAS:

A review was completed to determine if park, recreational, WMA/WPA, or Refuge lands are present in the project area. The following properties were considered for Section 4(f) use in accordance with FHWA's Section 4(f) regulations as codified in 23 CFR Part 774.

Property Name	Type	Determination	FHWA Concurrence	Note

Commented [ND9]: *If the proposed project will temporarily or permanently incorporate parkland (or other recreational or refuge facilities) for ROW, contact the Iowa DOT NEPA Section prior to completing this CE to determine what 4(f) documentation may be necessary.*

If there are Land and Water Conservation fund (LWCF) or other similar recreational sport funds used in the park, contact the Iowa DOT NEPA Section prior to completing the CE to determine what 6(f) review and documentation is necessary.

Comment for Park:
Comment for Refuge:

Commented [ND10]: *Use form 760005 (Determination of Effect for Threatened & Endangered Species For Local Public Agencies) to determine if there is a presence of a listed species within the same county as the project, the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (IADNR) data sources should be reviewed to determine: 1) if any species are likely to occur at the project site, 2) if the project will affect critical habitat for the listed species and 3) to determine efforts to avoid or minimize impacts.*

List the potentially impacted species

Include the determination: no effect, no effect by following recommendations, not likely to adversely affect, or likely to adversely affect.

Provide the coordination and consultation dates with FWS

THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES:

A review was completed in accordance with Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (ESA). This review is to ensure the action taken will not jeopardize the continued existence of a listed species or result in the destruction or adverse modification of critical habitat.

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Potentially Impacted Species:	
Determination of Effect:	
USFWS Concurrence Date:	
Iowa DNR Concurrence Date:	
Mitigation Type:	
Comment:	

WOODLANDS:

A review was completed to determine if woodlands meeting the criteria of Iowa Code 314.23 were present in the project area. Woodland removed shall be replaced by plantings as close as possible to the initial site, or by acquisition of an equal amount of woodland in the general vicinity for public ownership and preservation, or by other mitigation deemed to be comparable to the woodland removed, including, but not limited to, the improvement, development, or preservation of woodland under public ownership.

Woodland meeting criteria:	
Is mitigation required?	
Comment:	

Commented [ND11]: Iowa State Code 314.23 requires the replacement or preservation of woodland for woodland removed for a highway purpose. This does not include woodlands required as mitigation for the Endangered Species Act (ESA). LEB considers woodland impacts to occur under the following circumstances:

The area to be impacted consists of 2 acres or greater of forested land having at least 200 trees (3" diameter at breast height (dbh) or greater) per acre.

LEB does not consider woodland impacts to occur if the area of impact is less than 2 acres.

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WATER RESOURCES:

A review was completed to determine if potential wetlands and streams are within the project area. Waters of the U.S., including wetlands, waterways, lakes, natural ponds, and impoundments, are regulated by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, which requires a permit to authorize the discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the U.S. (33 USC 1251 et seq.). Executive Order 11990, Protection of Wetlands, requires Federal agencies (including FHWA) to implement “no net loss” measures for wetlands (42 Federal Register (FR) 26951).

Commented [ND12]: Review the National Wetland Inventory (NWI) list, the National Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) County Soil Surveys, and the County Hydric Soil List; if there are no NWI wetlands listed in the project area, the Soil Survey maps show no hydric soils, then the determination is that the project will likely have “no wetland impacts.”

 If it is determined that a permit is required, provide the anticipated permit type

Is a 404 Permit Required?	
Anticipated Permit:	
Review Date:	
Comment:	

WATER QUALITY:

A review was completed and determined that no significant water quality impacts or issues are expected to result from the action discussed in this document. Standard construction specifications provide for erosion control to limit sedimentation of drainage ways and water courses and no mitigation or remedial efforts are planned.

Commented [ND13]: Provide comment if needed.

Comment:	
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FLOODPLAINS:

A review was completed to determine if a floodway/floodplain is present in the project area and would require a permit in accordance with 567 Iowa Code Chapter 71.

Commented [ND14]: Address the length of the crossing, as well as impacts to the floodplain that occur as a result of the proposed project in as much detail as possible.

 Indicate that during final design, an IADNR Flood Plain Construction Permit, and potentially a Section 404 Permit, will be required.

Floodway or Floodplain present:	
Amount of Acres Present:	
Is a LOMR/CLOMR Required?	
Comment:	

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FARMLAND PROTECTION:

A review was completed to determine if farmland is present in the study area and if it is subject to the Farmland Protection Policy Act requiring the Farmland Conversion Impact Rating form NRCS-CPA-106.

Farmland impacts:	
Is it in an urban area?	
Is it a designated water storage?	
NRCS-CPA-106 consultation required?	
Mitigation:	
Comment:	

Commented [ND15]: Land that is already in or committed to urban development or water storage does not qualify as farmland and is therefore not subject to the FPPA. As per 7 CFR 658.2(a), land that meets any one the following criteria is considered already committed to urban development or water storage:

1. Land with a density of 30 structures or more per 40-acre area.
2. Land identified as an "urbanized area" (UA) on the Census Bureau Map.
3. Land mapped as an urban area using the tint-overprint on the USGS topographical maps.
4. Land shown as "urban-built-up" on the USDA Important Farmland Maps.
5. Land that receives a combined score of 160 points or less for the Land Evaluation (Part V) and Site Assessment (Part VI) criteria on the Farmland Conversion Impact Rating form.

If the project does not meet the urban development criteria, fill out form NRCS-CPA-106 (Farmland Conversion Impact Rating). You may find a form NRCS-CPA-106 online through the United States Department of Agriculture's website.

If there is impact to farmland, state why it is necessary to complete form NRCS-CPA-106 per the guidance above, what the results of completing the form were, and any further action that is necessary.

REGULATED MATERIAL SITES:

A review was completed to determine known and potentially contaminated properties in the project study area. Properties in the study area where hazardous materials have been generated or stored may present a future risk if accidental or intentional releases have occurred. Contaminated or potentially contaminated properties are of concern for transportation projects because of the associated liability of acquiring the property through ROW purchase, the potential cleanup costs, and safety concerns related to exposure to contaminated soil, surface water, or groundwater.

The results of the review are in the following table:

Name of Site	Acres

Potential REC:	
Known REC:	
Mitigation:	
Comment:	

Commented [ND16]: Summarize the results of the Phase I study or if a Phase I was not required summarize your regulated material review.

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NOISE:

A review was completed to determine if the project will need to be considered for noise analysis and abatement in accordance with 23 CFR Part 772 and Iowa DOT noise policy PPM 500.07.

23 CFR 772 Noise Type:	
Noise abatement recommended:	
Type of abatement:	
Comment:	

Commented [ND17]: The following project types are considered Type I projects and require a noise analysis:

- *new construction*
- *major reconstruction defined as substantial horizontal or vertical alteration*
- *addition of auxiliary lanes*
- *addition of lanes to complete an existing partial interchange*
- *restriping to add traffic lanes*
- *addition of weigh stations/rest stops/ride-shares/toll plazas.*

If a noise analysis was not required, it is considered to be a Type III and does not require a noise analysis.

AIR QUALITY:

A review was completed and determined the project complies with both Iowa’s current State Implementation Plan for attaining the national ambient air quality standards (which contains no transportation control measures), and with the conformity requirements for the Clean Air Act (CAAA) Amendments of 1990. Short-term air quality impacts associated with dust and equipment emissions during construction are controlled by standard contract and equipment specifications.

MOBILE SOURCE AIR TOXICS (MSATS):

This project will not result in changes in traffic volumes, vehicle mix, basic project location, or any other factor that would cause an increase in MSAT impacts of the project from that of the no-build alternative. As such, this project has been determined to generate minimal air quality impacts for CAAA criteria pollutants and has not been linked with any special MSAT concerns.

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulations for vehicle engines and fuels will cause overall MSAT emissions to decline significantly over the next several decades. Based on regulations now in effect, an analysis of national trends with EPA’s MOBILE6.2 model forecasts a combined reduction of 72 percent in the total annual emission rate for the priority MSAT from 1999 to 2050 while vehicle-miles of travel are projected to increase by 145 percent. This will likely reduce the background level of MSATs and likely reduce the contribution of MSAT emissions from this project.

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GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS:

Transportation is the largest emitter of greenhouse gases (GHGs) in the United States, as well as one of the fastest-growing sources. National inventories suggest the transportation sector generates approximately 29 percent of the Nation's GHG emissions, and roadway vehicles account for about 83 percent of that amount. Integrating the consideration of GHG emissions into transportation planning and decision-making is a critical step toward meeting national reduction goals and reducing their climate impact.

The Iowa DOT is implementing projects that can reduce GHG emissions from motor vehicles and life-cycle emissions from construction and embodied carbon of materials. Integrating the consideration of GHG emissions into procedures and decision-making is leading to better transportation program and project decisions.

CONSTRUCTION/DETOUR IMPACTS:

Commented [ND18]: Provide construction and or detour impacts

CUMULATIVE IMPACTS:

The overall cumulative impact of the proposed action and the consequences of subsequent related actions have been evaluated and are not considered to be collectively significant.

CONSISTENCY:

The proposed project will be consistent with federal, state, or local law or administrative determination relating to the environment and with community plans.

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Attachments:

Attachment	Name	Included
1	Location Map	
2	SHPO Coordination	
3	USFWS Coordination	
4	Farmland Coordination	
5	Section 4(f) Document	

Signature:	
Angela L. Poole, Director Location and Environment Bureau	
Signature:	
Federal Highway Administration	Concur Date