

Engineers & Architects

NW REGION LOCAL PROGRAM MANAGEMENT CONSULTANT Knight E/A Inc. KL Engineering Inc.



- *Date:* August 29, 2016
- *To:* Erik Meyer Westbrook Project Engineer
- *From:* Ryan McKane, P.E. Project Manager (608) 519-1455 ext. #2
- Subject: Project I.D. 8357-01-02 T Russel, Little Sand Bay Road Old CTH K to Termini Local Street Bayfield County

Categorical Exclusion Checklist Report Review

We have reviewed and have the following comments for the Categorical Exclusion Checklist dated August 24, 2016. Please address the comments and send three (3) revised copies for approval. Include a copy of this review letter with your actions for each comment. Please contact me if you have any questions.

General Comments

CEC Comments

- Revise these labels on front page:
 - Estimate Project Costs: Include (R/W costs)
 - Update CE Preparation date to revised date
- Description of Proposed Action
 - This section of the report should be written as if it was being submitted as an ER. Please consult the blue sheets for guidance. The following are some typical section headings that should be covered
 - Project Location and Existing Facility
 - NHS route or Long Truck Route?
 - Surrounding land use classification
 - Project duration
 - Condition of existing facilities
 - Summary of alternatives:
 - State the No-Build is: *This alternative is a baseline for comparison against the other alternatives considered.*

- Proposed Action
 - Bicycle and Pedestrian accommodations: Follow the example provided. Update section in red with project specific information.

The Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) is required to provide oversight of the proposed action because federal transportation program dollars are being incorporated into this local project through WisDOT's STP Rural program.

Because of this oversight role, WisDOT invokes its policy to incorporate safe and convenient walking and bicycling accommodations and/or facilities into transportation projects when prudent and feasible.

Department policy (Complete Streets), in conformance with Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) policy, State Statute 84.01(35), Wis. Admin. Code and Connection 2030, requires due consideration be given to bicycle and pedestrian accommodations while evaluating all new construction and reconstruction highway projects, funded in whole or in part from state or federal funds.

According to the FHWA Bicycle and Pedestrian Policy Statement: "In rural areas, paved shoulders should be included in all new construction and reconstruction projects on roadways used by more than 1,000 vehicles per day, as in States such as Wisconsin." Although paved shoulders can accommodate bicycles, CTH X currently has only 790 vehicles per day, therefore paved shoulders are not required. Bicycles will have the opportunity to share use of this low volume roadway with other vehicles. For pedestrians, the roadway travels through an outlying district or rural area where on each side of the roadway within any 1,000 feet along the roadway the buildings fronting thereon average more than 200 feet apart and there is no significant development, based on an official land use plan, within the next 10 years.

There are no bike routes, local plans, recreational areas or other bicycle/pedestrian trip generators within several miles of this Project. The closest recreational area is the Clark County Forest approximately 15 miles south of Thorp, WI. Although the forest and its parks accommodate camping, fishing, hiking, and horseback riding, it is known more for motorized recreational use such as ATV's, UTV's and snowmobiles.

Attachments

Include the following appropriate exhibits with the CEC

- Include Factor Sheet C1. Details that coordination is complete.
- Exhibit C: Correspondences add Native American Tribal coordination to the title
 Native American Tribal correspondences: include the appropriate letter
- Exhibit E: HMA site summary update Real Estate Requirements section ROW is now impact?
- Exhibit F: Provide Signed Section 106 Review Form when available
- Exhibit G: Attach approved by WisDOT Wetland information