December 20, 2021

Sarah Toomsen, Manager of Planning & Development
Milwaukee County Parks
9480 Watertown Plank Road
Wauwatosa, WI 53226

VIA EMAIL: sarah.toomsen@milwaukeecountywi.gov

Subject: ID 2030-10-01(71)
WIS 100 N. Mayfair Road – N. Lover’s Lane
Cities of Milwaukee and Wauwatosa
Milwaukee County

Dear Ms. Toomsen,

Thank you for meeting with us on April 20, 2021, August 2, 2021, and September 17, 2021, to discuss WisDOT’s proposed improvements to WIS 100 and potential work required along Currie Park and the Upper Menomonee River Parkway. As a publicly owned park and recreational resource and historic property, the park and parkway are subject to Section 4(f) considerations in accordance with FHWA’s Department of Transportation Act of 1966. This letter is to inform Milwaukee County Parks, as an official with jurisdiction, that FHWA intends to make a Section 4(f) *de minimis* impacts determination for effects to Bubba’s Woods Mountain Bike Trail and the Oak Leaf Trail. FHWA intends to use the Section 4(f) Net Benefit Programmatic evaluation to address project effects to the Upper Menomonee River Parkway historic site, including effects to the contributing resources: WIS 100 bridges over the Menomonee River and Currie Park (Golf Course and Dog Park).

The purpose of the project is to address deteriorating pavement and structural conditions to maintain safe and efficient vehicular movement along WIS 100 within the project limits. The project purpose is also to address existing design deficiencies and conditions to provide efficient bicycle and pedestrian travel. To meet this purpose, the project would resurface the roadway pavement, replace two bridges crossing the Menomonee River (B-40-339 and B-40-340) and complete minor concrete surface repairs on the underdeck of the two bridges over the Little Menomonee River (B-40-344 and B-40-345). Resurfacing would involve milling off four inches of the existing asphaltic surface, base patch concrete as-needed, and overlay with a four-inch HMA pavement. Additional work would upgrade curb ramps, replace guardrail, and install connecting sidewalks. Connecting sidewalks would be installed along the western side of WIS 100 between Capitol Drive and Townsend Street and along the southern side of Capitol Drive between WIS 100 and N 110th Street. At the request of both the City of Wauwatosa and Milwaukee County Parks, the project would add a trail connection under WIS 100, along the north side of the Menomonee River as alternative access across WIS 100.

To the west of WIS 100, the project would require 2.51 acres of temporary impact via right of entry permit and 0.50 acres of fee acquisitions to Currie Park. To the east of WIS 100, the project would require 1.20 acres of temporary impact via right of entry and 0.19 acres of fee acquisition to the Upper Menomonee River Parkway. Additionally, Bubba’s Wood Mountain Bike Trail and the Oak Leaf Trail will be temporarily closed during construction. The attached project location and plan maps show the specific locations and impacts to Section 4(f) properties.

Impacts to these properties were discussed and shown at a Public Involvement Meeting on September 2, 2021. The public was provided an opportunity to comment on the impacts. One comment was received requesting a detour route during temporary closure of the Oak Leaf Trail. WisDOT has not yet established the feasibility of a detour but will continue to coordinate with MCP to minimize the disruption to trails during construction. No other public comments were received regarding Section 4(f) impacts.

WisDOT anticipates that project improvements will not permanently adversely affect the Oak Leaf Trail or Bubba’s Woods Mountain Bike Trail; the trails will be affected only during construction and will be restored through re-grading and re-vegetation. Furthermore, WisDOT anticipates that the impacts to the Upper Menomonee River Parkway and its contributing resources will result in a net benefit to the Section 4(f) property.

FHWA’s *de minimis* determination and Net Benefit Programmatic evaluation will be based on written concurrence from the officials with jurisdiction that the project will not adversely affect the activities, features, and attributes that qualify the property for protection under Section 4(f). This concurrence must be in writing; so, for your use and convenience, we have prepared the enclosed sample letter that would satisfy these requirements. We would appreciate your expediency in providing a signed concurrence letter. If you have questions regarding the project, please don’t hesitate to contact me at 262-521-4428, JamesD.Schumacher@dot.wi.gov, or 141 N.W. Barstow Street, P.O. Box 798, Waukesha, WI 53187-0798.

Sincerely,

James Schumacher
WisDOT Project Manager

Attachments: Project maps

 Sample Section 4(f) concurrence letter from Milwaukee County Parks