

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION CHECK LIST

FOR 23 CFR 771.117(c) ACTIONS
Wisconsin Department of Transportation
Revised July 2015

WisDOT Design and Construction IDs 2440-09-00	Federal Project IDs (if available)	Legal Description (Township, Range, Section) Sec. 13, T3N, R22E Sec. 18, T3N, R23E Sec. 17, T3N, R23E	County Racine
Project Name Washington Avenue (WIS 20)		Project Termini/ Location Roosevelt Avenue to West Boulevard	
Name of Route or Facility to be Improved WIS 20	Facility Classification Urban principal arterial	Improvement Type Reconstruction	
Estimated Project Cost in Year of Expenditure \$ (include R/W Cost) \$11.5 million		Funding Source(s) (check all that apply) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Federal <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local	
23 CFR 771.117(c) Project Type Number and Text (26) Modernization of a highway by resurfacing, restoration, rehabilitation, reconstruction, adding shoulders, or adding auxiliary lanes (including parking, weaving, turning, and climbing lanes), if the action meets the constraints in paragraph (e) of this section.			
Section 4(f) <input type="checkbox"/> None <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> De Minimis <input type="checkbox"/> Bikeway/ Walkway <input type="checkbox"/> Minor Park/ Rec <input type="checkbox"/> Minor Historic <input type="checkbox"/> Historic Bridge <input type="checkbox"/> Net Benefit <input type="checkbox"/> Exception			
Right of Way Acquisition 2.14 Total Acres 0.14 Fee Simple Acres 0.0 Permanent Easement Acres 2.0 Temporary Easement Acres			
Number of Buildings Acquired <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None Vacant Buildings Occupied Buildings			
Name of Individual/ Firm Preparing this Form Luke T. Hellermann, Strand Associates, Inc.®		CE Preparation Date April 29, 2016	Environmental Process Start Date May 2015

WisDOT Region Environmental Coordinator or Local Program Management Consultant

I certify that I meet the requirements for staff who review and recommend approval of Categorical Exclusion (CE) actions, specified in the FHWA – WisDOT CE Agreement. I further certify that I have reviewed this document, and agree with the determination that the proposed project and resultant impacts meet the definition of a CE as described in 23 CFR 771.117(a) & (b), and will not result in significant environmental impacts. I recommend this CE for approval.

(Signature)

Scott G. Lee

(Print Name)

8-29-16

(Date)

WisDOT Region, Central Office, or Local Program Project Manager

I certify that I am familiar with this proposed project and its impacts and that the information contained in this document is accurate and can be relied upon for documentation decisions. I further certify that the mitigation measures and commitments proposed herein will be incorporated into the project plans and contract documents. I approve this CE.

(Signature)

Traci Gengler

(Print Name)

8/29/16

(Date)

A determination that this project satisfies the criteria for an FHWA (c)-listed Categorical Exclusion (CE) does not relieve the applicant of the requirement to comply with other laws and regulations including, but not limited to, Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, and Section 4(f) of the US Department of Transportation Act. Coordination to comply with these other laws may require FHWA involvement. Furthermore, designation of this project as a (c)-listed CE does not relieve the requirement for WisDOT to coordinate with WDNR under the Cooperative Agreement. Any correspondence or documentation used to comply with Federal, State, or Local laws or regulations should be maintained in the project file and provided with this checklist upon request.

Indian Tribes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	On April 28, 2015 the initial notification letter was sent to 11 Indian Tribes. A response from the Forrest County Potawatomi dated June 2, 2016 requested the results of archival review, cultural resource investigation studies, and archaeological reports. No other responses were received. Refer to the Agency Correspondence in Attachment I.
LOCAL			
City of Racine	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	Resolution 0149-16 was issued April 18, 2016 indicating that the Common Council for the City of Racine, Wisconsin approves that this project meets the requirements to authorize WisDOT to include bicycle and pedestrian accommodations for the project located at STH 20 (Washington Avenue) from Roosevelt Avenue to West Boulevard and pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 84.01(35)(d)2 authorizes the WisDOT to establish the bikeway and pedestrian way. Refer to the Agency Correspondence in Attachment I.

VII. Mitigation & Commitments – List any environmental mitigation measures or commitments that will be incorporated into the project. Any items listed below must be incorporated into the project plans and contract documents. *Attach a copy of this page to the design study report (DSR) and the plans, specifications, and estimate (PS&E) submittal package.*

Environmental Factor	Commitment (If none, include 'No special or supplemental commitments required.')
General Economics	Access will be maintained at all times to property owners located within the project limits. The project manager ensures that the Special Provisions address these requirements. The construction engineer fulfills the commitment during construction.
Business	Access will be maintained at all times to property owners located within the project limits. The project manager ensures that the Special Provisions address these requirements. The construction engineer fulfills the commitment during construction.
Agriculture	No special or supplemental commitments required.
Community or Residential	Access will be maintained at all times to property owners located within the project limits. The project manager ensures that the Special Provisions address these requirements. The construction engineer fulfills the commitment during construction.
Indirect Effects	No special or supplemental commitments required.
Cumulative Effects	No special or supplemental commitments required.
Environmental Justice	No special or supplemental commitments required.
Historic Resources	<p>With the current design, sites with historic structures and historic districts will be avoided. The WisDOT design engineer will be responsible for communicating the boundaries of historic resources and the design aspects (including typical section, and vertical and horizontal alignments) utilized during preliminary design/environmental documentation phase to avoid impacting the historic resources. The historic resources include the following: the Washington Avenue Residential Historic District, the West Racine Commercial Historic District, Racine Fire Station No. 7, the Walker House, and the Capital Theater. The WisDOT construction engineer will ensure that any design changes proposed in the field within the limits of these historic resources are first fully coordinated with the WisDOT environmental coordinator and design engineer, the WisDOT Cultural Resources Team, and the Wisconsin Historical Society. If the scope or activities of the undertaking should change the project will need to be re-evaluated for effects to historic properties and further consultation with WisDOT Cultural Resources is required.</p> <p>The WisDOT regional environmental coordinator and WisDOT design engineer will notify WisDOT Cultural Resources when the project is within one year of construction starting. WisDOT Cultural Resources will then petition the Wisconsin Historical Society to work within the boundaries of the burial sites.</p>

Archaeological/Burial Sites	No special or supplemental commitments required.
Tribal Coordination/Consultation	No special or supplemental commitments required.
Section 4(f) and 6(f) or Other Unique Areas	<p>As specified in the approved Finding of De Minimis Impact for Erskine Park:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12th Street will be shifted approximately 85 feet east on new alignment, resulting in an impact to Erskine Park. • The new alignment of 12th Street will cut between the Howitzer Cannon and the 2 memorials. • Approximately 325 feet of the sidewalk bordering Erskine Park along Washington Avenue will be replaced. • Approximately 250 feet of the replaced sidewalk will be narrowed from an approximate width of 5 to 6 feet to a width of approximately 5 feet. • A total of approximately 0.55 acres will be acquired from Erskine Park, transferred in fee title, and resulting in a change to the park boundary. • One park feature, the Howitzer Cannon, will be relocated south of the new 12th Street alignment to position the cannon with the 2 park memorials. <p>The WisDOT design engineer and construction engineer will fulfill the commitments during construction.</p>
Aesthetics	Gateway features will be included in the median at Roosevelt Avenue intersection near the western end of the project. The "Gateway" features will include character panels, central landscaping, and a light towers. Trees will be added wherever possible. Decorative street lighting will be provided between Blaine Avenue and West Boulevard.
Wetlands	No special or supplemental commitments required.
Rivers, Streams and Floodplains	No special or supplemental commitments required.
Lakes or other Open Water	No special or supplemental commitments required.
Groundwater, Wells and Springs	No special or supplemental commitments required.
Upland Wildlife and Habitat	No special or supplemental commitments required.
Coastal Zones	No special or supplemental commitments required.
Threatened and Endangered Species	No special or supplemental commitments required.
Air Quality	No special or supplemental commitments required.
Construction Stage Sound Quality	WisDOT Standard Specification 107.8(6) and 108.7.1 will apply.
Traffic Noise	No special or supplemental commitments required.
Hazardous Substances or Contamination	<p>Phase 1 Hazardous Materials Assessment found that further investigation is warranted at 14 sites along the project corridor. The Phase 1 recommended 9 Phase 2 investigations and 5 Phase 2.5 investigations.</p> <p>Subsurface soil and/or groundwater contamination at these sites could impact construction excavation and dewatering activities and contamination may extend into the existing right of way. Approximately 18-20 months prior to the PS&E, Phase 2 to Phase 2.5 investigations will be completed. If construction or real estate requirements change from what was presented at the time the Phase 1, an update to the Phase 1 may be required and recommendations for Phase 2 or Phase 2.5 investigations may be revised.</p> <p>Where avoidance of contaminated sites and materials is not possible, the design team shall work with all concerned parties to ensure that the disposition of any petroleum contamination is resolved the satisfaction of the WDNR, WisDOT Bureau of Technical Services, and FHWA before acquisition of any questionable site, and before advertising the project letting. Nonpetroleum sites will be handled on a case-by-case basis with detailed documentation and coordination with the FHWA, as needed. The WisDOT environmental coordinator and design engineer will ensure fulfillment of this commitment.</p>

Storm Water	No special or supplemental commitments required.
Erosion Control	<p>Standard WisDOT measures for erosion control precautions during construction will be implemented according to the current Wisconsin Standard Specifications for Highway and Structure Construction. The WisDOT, as per the WisDOT/WDNR Cooperative Agreement, will contact the WDNR liaison and will coordinate with the WDNR prior to performing any construction activities. Construction site erosion and sediment control procedures will be followed as set forth in TRANS 401 and the WisDOT/WDNR Cooperative Agreement. During design, an erosion control plan will be developed in consultation with WDNR. The contractor's ECIP will be provided at least 14 days prior to the preconstruction meeting for this project. The ECIP will become part of the contract and will be submitted to the WisDOT for approval and the WDNR for concurrence by the contractor. The construction engineer shall ensure that all commitments will be implemented and has jurisdiction to ensure fulfillment of each commitment. The project manager ensures that the Special Provisions address these requirements. The construction engineer will fulfill the commitment during construction.</p>
Other	<p>An e-mail response dated May 5, 2015 was received and coordination is ongoing with the Bureau of Aeronautics and the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). The FAA's Obstruction Evaluation Website will be checked and a notice of construction will be submitted, if required. The 'Notice Criteria Tool' should be used to see if any equipment will require study: https://oeaaa.faa.gov/oeaaa/external/gisTools/gisAction.jsp?action=showNoNoticeRequiredToolForm.</p> <p>Filing with the FAA is required at least 45 days prior to the start of construction and determinations last a year and a half. The Bureau of Aeronautics recommended filing with the FAA once the project is closer to construction.</p> <p>Due to the project's close proximity to the John H Batten International Airport, the Bureau of Aeronautics also recommends notifying the airport of the project.</p>