

TO: FHWA
FROM: John Muse
DATE: 09/19/2023

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION (CE)

Date CE level document approved by VA FHWA Division: 10/25/2022
FHWA Contact: John Simkins
Project Name: Route 294 and Old Bridge Road Intersections Improvement Project
Route: 294
Route Type: Primary
Project Type: Construction
State Project Number: 0294-076-327, P101
Federal Project Number: NHPP-5B01(277)
UPC: 119073
From: Laurel Hill Drive
To: Troupe Street
County/City: Prince William County
District / Residency: Northern Virginia

Project in STIP: Yes No
Project in Long Range Plan: Yes No N/A Project Outside of MPO Area
Next Phase of Funding Available: Yes No

Project Description: This project will realign Prince William Parkway (Rte. 294) as a 6-lane roadway and realign Old Bridge Road (Route 641) as a 4-lane roadway to meet at a T-intersection. The Prince William Parkway realignment will be the primary thru movement with 11-12-foot lanes, a variable-width raised median, a 5-foot sidewalk along the eastbound lanes, and a 10-foot shared use path (SUP) along the westbound lanes. The Old Bridge Road realignment will be the secondary movement with 11-12-foot lanes, a 4-foot raised median, and 5-foot sidewalks on both sides of the roadway. The project includes access management, turn lanes, intersection improvements, and a signal modification at the main T-intersection. A Service Road will be provided along the eastbound lanes of Prince William Parkway to reduce driveway entrances. In addition, new pedestrian crossings, ROW acquisition, utility relocations, storm drainage, and SWM facilities will be provided.

CE Category 23 CFR 771.117: C (26)
Description of CE Category: Modernization of a highway by resurfacing, restoration, rehabilitation, reconstruction, adding shoulders, or adding auxiliary lanes (e.g. parking, weaving, turning, climbing lanes).

USGS Map Attached Yes

Logical Termini and Independent Utility:
Yes N/A (For Non-highway construction only, explain in comments below)

Purpose and Need Statement: The purpose of this project is to address operational and safety concerns associated with peak period high traffic volumes.

Comments: The project will be an overall benefit to the area in terms of both safety and traffic.

Typical Section: Yes

Structures: No

SOCIO-ECONOMIC	PRESENT		IMPACTS	
	YES	NO	YES	NO
Minority/Low Income Populations	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Disproportionate Impacts to Minority/Low Income Populations: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
Existing or Planned Public Recreational Facilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<i>Source: Prince William County Department of Transportation, EPA's EJ Screen Tool</i>				
Community Services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<i>Source: Prince William County Department of Transportation</i>				
Consistent with Local Land Use: Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>				
<i>Source: Prince William County GIS, Prince William County Comprehensive Plan</i>				
Existing or Planned Bicycle/Pedestrian Facilities:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<i>Source: Prince William County Department of Transportation</i>				
<p>Comments: The project will not involve major traffic disruptions, however there will traffic shifting and lane narrowing to accommodate construction. There will be permanent Right-of-Way acquired, but no displacements. The project will not cause community disruption, construction staff will place Portable Changeable Message Signs (PCMS) on all sides of the intersection notifying the community for the beginning of construction activities. The project will not disrupt emergency services.</p> <p>This project will not have disproportionately high and (or) adverse effects on Minority or Low-Income Populations. See Appendix 1.</p>				

SECTION 4(f) and SECTION 6(f)	YES	NO
Use of 4(f) Property: Acres of use: N/A	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Name of Resource: N/A		
Type of Resource:		
Individually Eligible Historic Property:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Contributing Element to Historic District	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Public Recreation Area:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Public Park:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Public Wildlife/Waterfowl Refuge:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Planned Public Park, Recreation Area, Wildlife or Waterfowl Refuge:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<i>Source: Prince William County GIS, Land and Water Conservation Fund Mapper</i>		

De Minimis: N/A	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Type of Use:		
Permanent: N/A	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Temporary: N/A	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Section 4(f) Evaluation Attached: N/A	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Conversion of 6(f) Property: N/A	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Acres of Conversion:		
Source: Prince William County Department of Transportation (project plans), Prince William County GIS		
<p>Comments: There is no use of 4(f) resources within the project area. Section 4(f) refers to the original section within the U.S. Department of Transportation Act of 1966 which provided for consideration of significant publicly owned public parks, recreation areas, and wildlife or waterfowl refuges, or any publicly or privately owned historic site listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.</p> <p>The project does not impact any Section 6(f) properties within or directly adjacent to the project limits. Under Section 6(f) of the Land and Water Conservation Act, conversion of lands or facilities acquired with Land and Water Conservation Act funds under the State Assistance program are to be coordinated with the National Park Service. See Appendix 2.</p>		

CULTURAL RESOURCES	COMPLETE	N/A
Source: Phase I Cultural Resource Survey – Dovetail Cultural Resource Group		
"No historic properties present or affected in accordance with the 2016 Federal PA"	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Phase I Architecture Conducted	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Phase II Architecture Conducted	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Phase I Archaeology Conducted	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Phase II Archaeology Conducted	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Section 106 Effect Determination: No Adverse Effect		
DHR Concurrence on Effect: Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Date: 9/1/2023	
MOA Attached: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Execution Date: / /	
Name of Historic Property: N/A		
<p>Comments: The cultural resource survey consisted of limited background research including historic map review, archaeological pedestrian and shovel test pit (STP) surveys, and an architectural survey. The archaeological survey included the excavation of 53 STPs following pedestrian reconnaissance of the entire project area and a completed assessment of the disturbances within the project area. The majority of the project area consisted of roadside shoulders including buried utility corridors and other roadside disturbances. One isolated find (IF 1) was recovered from a single STP. Isolated finds do not constitute an archaeological site and, by definition, are not eligible for National Register of Historic Places listing; therefore, no further work is recommended.</p> <p>During the architectural reconnaissance-level survey, 53 resources were identified within the architectural project area, all of which are previously unrecorded resources. The architectural project area is identified as</p>		

the project area plus a 300-foot (91.4-m) buffer. As a result of this survey, all 53 previously unrecorded architectural resources (076-6119–076-6158 and 076-6161–076-6173) were determined ineligible for listing in the NRHP.

Department of Historic Resources concluded that the project would have No Adverse Effect on historic resources on September 1, 2023.

Further details associated with the archaeological and architectural reviews can be found in Appendix 3.

NATURAL RESOURCES	PRESENT		IMPACTS	
	YES	NO	YES	NO
Surface Water (Name:) N/A	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Source: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) confirmed Approved Jurisdictional Determination (AJD) and No Permit Required Letter (NAO-2022-02584) issued 11/22/2022				
Federal Threatened or Endangered Species:				
Terrestrial: Northern Long-eared Bat, Tricolored Bat	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Aquatic:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Plants:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Source: Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) coordination dated 6/19/2023 – U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Coordination Letter dated 7/25/2023				
100 Year Floodplain: If "Yes" then identify the regulatory floodway zone:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Source: FEMA National Flood Hazard Layer Viewer				
Tidal Waters/Wetlands: N/A	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Wetlands: N/A	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Source: USACE confirmed AJD and No Permit Required Letter (NAO-2022-02584) issued 11/22/2022				
	Yes		No	
Permits Required	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Source: USACE confirmed AJD and No Permit Required Letter (NAO-2022-02584) issued 11/22/2022				
Comments: Per coordination with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), the project will experience a Time of Year Restriction of June 1 – July 31 for tree removal pertaining to the northern long-eared and tricolored bats. DWR and DCR coordination did not result in the identification of any threatened or endangered species within the project area. A wetland delineation for the entirety of the site was conducted in August of 2022. Data points were taken throughout the project area to represent the site's characteristics, no jurisdictional features were identified. This was confirmed by USACE in the above referenced Approved Jurisdictional Determination and No Permit Required Letter. Sources referenced in this section can be seen in Appendix 4.				

AGRICULTURAL/OPEN SPACE	PRESENT		IMPACTS	
	YES	NO	YES	NO
Open Space Easements	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Source: Prince William County GIS, Virginia Outdoors Foundation (VOF)				
Agricultural/Forestal Districts	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Source: Prince William County GIS, VOF				
Comments: No Agricultural, designated Open Space, or Conservation Land will be affected by this project. See Appendix 5.				

FARMLAND	YES	NO
NRCS Form CPA-106 Attached: Rating:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Alternatives Analysis Required:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If Form CPA-106 is not attached check all that are applicable:		
Land already in Urban use:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Entire project in area <i>not</i> zoned agriculture:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
NRCS responded within 45 days:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
NRCS Determined no prime or unique farmland in the project area.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Source: Department of Conservation and Recreation Farmland Conservation Map		
Comments: No farmland will be affected by this project, see Appendix 6.		

INVASIVE SPECIES	PRESENT		
	YES	NO	UNKNOWN
Invasive Species in the project area:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<p>There is potential for invasive species to become established along the limits of disturbance of the project during and following construction. Section 244.02(c) of VDOT's Road and Bridge Specifications (2020) includes provisions intended to control noxious weeds (which includes non-native and invasive species).</p> <p>While rights-of-ways are at risk from invasive species colonization from adjacent properties, implementing the above provisions would reduce or minimize potential for introduction, proliferation, and spread of invasive species. Additionally, the implementation of BMPs for erosion/sediment control and abatement of pollutant loading would minimize indirect impacts to adjoining communities and habitat by reducing excess nutrient loads that could encourage invasive species proliferation.</p>			
<p>Comments: Based on general knowledge of Northern Virginia and maintained lands within VDOT's right of way, invasive species are likely present in the project area. The Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) has only general information about the distribution of invasive species. Many invasive species are adapted to take advantage of soil disturbances and poor soil conditions. Nonnative invasive plants are found throughout Virginia; therefore, the potential exists for some VDOT projects to further the establishment of invasive species. Minimizing soil disturbance will help to inhibit the establishment of invasive species.</p>			

AIR QUALITY		
Carbon Monoxide (CO)	Yes	No
This project is located in a CO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Attainment Area <input type="checkbox"/> Maintenance Area		
CO Hotspot Analysis Required? (if "Yes", please attach analysis) <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
If "No", indicate which exemption it falls under:		
<input type="checkbox"/> Exempt project under 40 CFR 93.126.		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Exempt project based on traffic volumes below thresholds in the current VDOT Project Level Air Quality Studies Agreement with FHWA		
Ozone		
This project is located in an Ozone <input type="checkbox"/> Attainment Area <input type="checkbox"/> Maintenance Area <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nonattainment Area <input type="checkbox"/> Early Action Compact Area		
Only projects located in ozone nonattainment or maintenance areas must complete this box		
<input type="checkbox"/> Exempt from regional emissions requirements under 40 CFR 93.126 or 40 CFR 93.127.		
<input type="checkbox"/> Properly programmed in the CLRP and FY - TIP.		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The project is not regionally significant and/or is not of a type that would normally be included in the regional transportation model.		
<input type="checkbox"/> This project is regionally significant; however the project was not modeled, or the scope of the project is not consistent with what was modeled in the currently conforming CLRP and TIP.		
Fine Particulate Matter (PM2.5)	Yes	No
This project is located in a PM _{2.5} <input type="checkbox"/> Nonattainment Area <input type="checkbox"/> Maintenance Area <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Attainment Area		
PM _{2.5} Hotspot Analysis Required? (If "Yes", Please Attach Analysis) <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Check all that apply;		
<input type="checkbox"/> A. Exempt project under 40 CFR 93.126, Table 2.		
<input type="checkbox"/> B. Not a project of air quality concern under 40 CFR 93.123(b)(1)(i) thru (v).		
<input type="checkbox"/> C. Properly programmed in the CLRP and FY - TIP.		
<input type="checkbox"/> D. This project is regionally significant; however the project was not modeled, or its scope is not consistent with what was modeled, in the currently conforming CLRP and TIP.		
If "B" is checked above, please indicate the following for highway projects; Design Year _____, Peak AADT _____, Peak Diesel Truck % _____		
Mobile Source Air Toxics (MSAT)		
This project <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> is exempt with no meaningful potential MSAT effects		
<input type="checkbox"/> is one with low potential MSAT effects (attach qualitative MSAT analysis)		
<input type="checkbox"/> is one with high potential MSAT effects (attach quantitative MSAT analysis)		
Check all that apply;		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Exempt project under 40 CFR 93.126, or qualifies as a CE under 23 CFR 771.117(c).		
<input type="checkbox"/> Project with no meaningful impact on traffic volumes or vehicle mix.		
If a qualitative MSAT analysis is required, please indicate the following for highway projects; Design Year: _____ Peak AADT: _____		
Source: Air Quality Analysis Protocol Document and Air Quality Technical Memo		
Comments: VDOT approved both the Air Quality Analysis Protocol Document and the Air Quality Technical Memo. See Appendix 7.		

NOISE	YES	NO
Type I Project:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Source:		
Noise Analysis Attached:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Barriers Under Consideration:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Source: VDOT Noise Form		
Comments: See VDOT accepted Noise Form for the project in Appendix 8.		

RIGHT OF WAY AND RELOCATIONS	YES	NO
Residential Relocations: If "Yes", number:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Source: Project Design Plans, GIS and Site Visits (need dates).		
Commercial Relocations: If "Yes", number:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Source: Project Design Plans, GIS and Site Visits (need dates).		
Non-profit Relocations: If "Yes", number:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Source: Project Design Plans, GIS and Site Visits (need dates).		
Right of Way required: If "Yes", <0.60 AC of fee take, <0.40 AC of permanent easements, and <1.5AC of temporary easements.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Source: Prince William County Department of Transportation (project plans) ROW Datasheet. See Appendix 9.		

	PRESENT		IMPACTS	
	YES	NO	YES	NO
Septic Systems, Wells, or Public Water Supplies	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Source: Prince William County Department of Transportation (project plans) ROW Datasheet.				
Hazardous Materials:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Source: Phase I ESA Report completed by DMY 5/26/2023.				
Comments: The project will have no affect on Hazardous Materials per the Phase I ESA Report completed by DMY 5/26/2023. The findings of the Phase I ESA identified no current recognized environmental conditions (RECs), controlled RECs (CRECs), de minimis conditions, business environmental risks (BERs), or non-ASTM scope findings conditions associated with the Project Area. See Appendix 10.				

CUMULATIVE AND INDIRECT IMPACTS	PRESENT		
	YES	NO	N/A
Present or reasonably foreseeable future projects (highway and non-highway) in the area:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Impact same resources as the proposed highway project (i.e. cumulative impacts):	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Indirect (Secondary) impacts:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Source: <i>Prince William County Department of Transportation (project plans), VDOT</i>			
<p>Comments: The indirect and cumulative effects of the proposed action have been considered as part of this document. The impact causing activities proposed as part of the project could result in limited indirect effects to the surrounding area. These impacts could be minimized and mitigated through appropriate erosion and sediment controls, stormwater management, and adhering to Time of Year Restrictions. Indirect impacts to socioeconomic resources would be mitigated and minimized through actions taken by the locality, individual property owners, and the surrounding business community. The proposed project is identified in Prince William County's Comprehensive Plan (Appendix 1) and would contribute negligible increments to the cumulative effects of past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future projects.</p> <p>The project's purpose and need is associated with operational and safety improvements; the intensity of impacts to any present or future projects is considered relatively small and would not rise to a level that would cause substantial cumulative or indirect impacts. Per EM-NEPA-715, these project impacts as well as their cumulative effects are considered relatively minor in nature and acceptable for Categorical Exclusion level NEPA documentation.</p>			

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT	YES	NO
Substantial Controversy on Environmental Grounds:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Source: <i>Prince William County DOT</i>		
Public Hearing: If "Yes", type of hearing: Willingness	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other Public Involvement Activities: If "Yes", type of Involvement: A design Public Hearing is scheduled for 10/24/2023.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Source: <i>Prince William County DOT</i>		
<p>Comments: See Appendix 11 for the draft Public Hearing advertisement to be published in the Washington Post, The Prince William Times, and Publication El Tiempo Latino.</p>		

COORDINATION

The following agencies were contacted during development of this study:

VDOT
USFWS
DWR
DCR
EPA
DHR
DOF
VOF
NRCS
USACE
PWC DOT
PWC GIS

This project meets the criteria for a Categorical Exclusion pursuant to 40 CFR 1508.4 and 23 CFR 771.117 and will not result in significant impacts to the human or natural environment.