

APPENDIX A

AGENCY COORDINATION

List of Agency Correspondence

Date	Agency
11/23/04	State Historical Society of Iowa
11/24/04	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers - Environment, Economics, and Cultural Section, Omaha District
11/30/04	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers - Environment, Economics, and Cultural Section, Omaha District
11/30/04	Federal Transit Administration
11/30/04	Iowa Department of Natural Resources - Conservation & Recreation Division
12/01/04	U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
12/03/04	Siouxland Interstate Metropolitan Planning Council
12/06/04	Iowa Department of Natural Resources - Air Quality Division
12/08/04	Federal Aviation Administration
12/14/04	U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service - Rock Rapids District
12/15/04	National Resource Conservation Service
12/15/04	U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service - Rock Island District
12/20/04	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers - Regulatory Office, Omaha District
12/27/04	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers - Environment, Economics, and Cultural Section, Rock Island District
01/03/05	National Park Service
01/19/05	State Historic Society of Iowa
01/19/05	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service - Rock Island District
01/26/05	U.S. Coast Guard
08/20/05	State Historical Society of Iowa
10/02/05	State Historical Society of Iowa Concurrence on Historic Architectural Survey Report
03/06/07	City of Sioux City
10/22/07	Federal Highway Administration
11/16/07 & 12/13/07	Iowa Department of Transportation & State Historical Society of Iowa
01/24/08	City of Sioux City

November 23, 2004

In reply refer to:
R&C#: 041197039

DeeAnn L. Newell, NEPA Document Manager
Office of Location & Environment
Iowa Department of Transportation
800 Lincoln Way
Ames, IA 50010

RE: FHWA – WOODBURY COUNTY – IM-29-6(149)147—13-97 – I-29 SIOUX CITY
INTERSTATE STUDY IN SIOUX CITY – ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT
PREPARATION NOTIFICATION

Dear Ms. Newell,

Thank you for notifying our office about the above referenced proposed project. We understand that this project will be a federal undertaking and will need to comply with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and with the National Environmental Policy Act. We look forward to consulting with you agency and the Federal Highway Administration on the Area of Potential Effect for this proposed project and whether this project will affect any significant historic properties under 36 CFR Part 800.4. We will need the following types of information for our review:

- The Area of Potential Effect (APE) for this project needs to be adequately defined (36 CFR Part 800.16 (d)).
- Information on what types of cultural resources are or may be located in the APE (36 CFR Part 800.4).
- The significance of the historic properties in the APE in consideration of the National Register of Historic Places Criteria.
- A determination from the responsible federal agency of the undertaking's effects on historical properties within the APE (36 CFR Part 800.5).

Also, the responsible federal agency will need to identify and contact all potential consulting parties that may have an interest in historic properties within the project APE (36 CFR 36 Part 800.2 (c)).

Please reference the Review and Compliance Number provided above in all future submitted correspondence to our office for this project. We look forward to further consulting with you and the Federal Highway Administration on this project. Should you have any questions please contact me at the number below.

Sincerely,



Douglas W. Jones, Archaeologist
State Historic Preservation Office
State Historical Society of Iowa
(515) 281-4358

NOV 29 2004



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
CORPS OF ENGINEERS, OMAHA DISTRICT
106 SOUTH 15TH STREET
OMAHA NE 68102-1618

OFFICE OF LOCATION & ENVIRONMENT

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

November 24, 2004

Planning, Programs and Project Management Division

Ms. DeeAnn L. Newell
Iowa Department of Transportation
800 Lincoln Way
Ames, Iowa 50244

Dear Ms. Newell:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Omaha District, Corps, reviewed your letter dated November 3, 2004 regarding the proposed ten mile Interstate 29 improvements for the Sioux City, Iowa, IM-29-6(149)147—13-97, and offers the following comments.

Once specific designs have been developed, comments regarding potential impacts to the regulatory floodway and 100-year flood plain will be made. If U.S. waters are involved, according to Section 404 permit of the Clean Water Act, prior approval is necessary for the discharge of dredged or fill materials for U.S. waters including adjacent wetlands or impoundments. Wetlands, characterized by certain types of vegetation, include surface areas flooded some part of most years, or areas saturated during a portion of the growing season. In the absence of wetlands, the landward regulatory water limit is the ordinary high water mark. If any construction meets the above conditions a permit must first be obtained from the Corps. More information regarding Section 404 permits in Colorado can be found at: <https://w3.nwo.usace.army.mil/html/od-tl/tri-lakes.html>. For a detailed review of permit requirements, final project plans should be sent to:

The environmental assessment appears to address most concerns thoroughly; however, you may want to consider impacts occurring during construction of the plan. Your plans should be coordinated with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, which is currently involved in a program to protect groundwater resources. If you have not already done so, it is recommended you consult with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Iowa Division of Wildlife regarding fish and wildlife resources. In addition, the Iowa State Historic Preservation Office should be contacted for information and recommendations on potential cultural resources in the project area.

If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Erin Wilson at (402) 221-4882.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Candace Gorton".

Candace Gorton, Chief, Chief
Environmental, Economics and
Cultural Resources Section
Planning Branch

cc **Mike La Pietra, FHWA**
Randall Faber, Office of Environmental Services, IDOT, Ames
Dakin Schultz, Iowa DOT, District 3 Office
Mike Fisher, Howard R. Green Company

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DEC - 2 2004



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
CORPS OF ENGINEERS, OMAHA DISTRICT
106 SOUTH 15TH STREET
OMAHA NE 68102-1618
November 30, 2004

OFFICE OF LOCATION & ENVIRONMENT

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

Planning, Programs, and Project Management Division

Ms. DeeAnn L. Newell
Iowa Department of Transportation
800 Lincoln Way
Ames, Iowa 50244

Dear Ms. Newell

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Omaha District, (Corps) reviewed your letter dated November 3, 2004 regarding the proposed ten mile Interstate 29 improvements for the Sioux City, Iowa, IM-29-6(149)147-13-97, and offers the following comments:

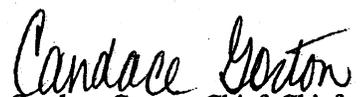
Once specific designs have been developed, comments regarding potential impacts to the regulatory floodway and 100-year flood plain will be made. If U.S. waters are involved, according to Section 404 permit of the Clean Water Act, prior approval is necessary for the discharge of dredged or fill materials into U.S. waters including adjacent wetlands or impoundments. Wetlands, characterized by certain types of vegetation, include surface areas flooded some part of most years, or areas saturated during a portion of the growing season. In the absence of wetlands, the landward regulatory water limit is the ordinary high water mark. If any construction meets the above conditions a permit must first be obtained from the Corps. More information regarding Section 404 permits in Iowa can be found at: <http://www.mvr.usace.army.mil/Regulatory/RegulatoryDivisionHomePage.htm>. For a detailed review of permit requirements, final project plans should be sent to:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Rock Island District
Regulatory Branch
Clocktower Building P.O. 2004
Rock Island, Illinois 61204-2004

The environmental assessment appears to address most concerns thoroughly; however, you may want to consider impacts occurring during construction of the plan. Your plans should be coordinated with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, which is currently involved in a program to protect groundwater resources. If you have not already done so, it is recommended you consult with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Iowa Department of Natural Resources regarding fish and wildlife resources. In addition, the Iowa State Historic Preservation Office should be contacted for information and recommendations on potential cultural resources in the project area.

If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Erin Wilson at (402) 221-4882.

Sincerely,


Candace Gorton, Chief, Chief
Environmental, Economics and
Cultural Resources Section
Planning Branch



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Transit
Administration**

REGION VII
Iowa, Kansas,
Missouri, Nebraska

901 Locust Street
Suite 404
Kansas City, MO 64106
816-329-3920
816-329-3921 (fax)

RECEIVED

DEC 03 2004

November 30, 2004

OFFICE OF LOCATION & ENVIRONMENT

Ms. DeeAnn Newell
NEPA Document Manager
Iowa Department of Transportation
800 Lincoln Way
Ames, Iowa 50244

Re: I-29 Sioux City Interstate Study
EIS – IM-29-6 (149)147-13-97

Dear Ms. Newell:

We have reviewed the documentation included with your request for review of the I-29 Sioux City Interstate Study EIS. We encourage your agency to continue to work with the MPO staff and with Sioux City Transit staff in order to maximize opportunity for safe and efficient transit inter-face with the proposed project.

If you have any questions or would like additional information, please contact Joni Roeseler of my staff at (816) 329-3936.

Sincerely,

Mokhtee Ahmad
Regional Administrator

Cc: SIMPCO
Sioux City Transit



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DEC 2 2004

STATE OF IOWA

THOMAS J. VILSACK, GOVERNOR
SALLY J. PEDERSON, LT. GOVERNOR

OFFICE OF LOCATION & ENVIRONMENT

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
JEFFREY R. VONK, DIRECTOR

November 30, 2004

Ms. DeeAnn L. Newell
Iowa Department of Transportation
800 Lincoln Way
Ames, IA 50244

RE I-29 Sioux City Interstate Study, EIS IM-29-6(149)147—13—97; your letter dated 11-03-2004

Dear Ms. Newell

Thank you for inviting our comments on the impact of the above referenced study. There are prairie remnants on loess bluffs located near the South Dakota border on the north side of I-29 near War Eagle Park. The Department has records for the Ottoe Skipper (*Hesperia ottoe*, Iowa listed special concern) and the Olympia White (*Euchloe Olympia*, Iowa listed special concern) on nearby prairie remnants. It is suggested that a survey be conducted for butterflies on any prairie remnants that may be impacted by this project. Also, there are records for the Pallid Sturgeon (*Scaphirhynchus albus*, federal and Iowa listed endangered) in this reach of the Missouri River. If there will be changes to the river, please contact the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for further review.

This letter is a record of review for protected species, rare natural communities, state lands and waters in the project area, including review by personnel representing state parks, preserves, recreation areas, wetlands, fisheries and wildlife but does not include any potential comment from the Environmental Services Division of this Department. This letter does not constitute a permit and before proceeding with this project, permits may be needed from this Department or from other state or federal agencies.

If you have any questions about this letter or if you require further information, please contact Keith Dohrmann at (515) 281-8967.

Sincerely,

DIANE FORD-SHIVVERS, SUPERVISOR
POLICY AND COORDINATION
CONSERVATION AND RECREATION DIVISION

DFS:kd

CC: Christine Schwake, Water Quality Bureau, Iowa DNR (by email)

FILE COPY: Keith L. Dohrmann



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DEC - 6 2004

OFFICE OF LOCATION & ENVIRONMENT

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

KANSAS/MISSOURI STATE OFFICE
Gateway Tower II, Room 200
400 State Avenue
Kansas City, KS 66101-2406
HUD Home Page: www.hud.gov

December 1, 2004

Ms. DeeAnn L. Newell
NEPA Document Manager
Iowa Department of Transportation
800 Lincoln Way
Ames, IA. 50244

Dear Ms. Newell

SUBJECT: I-29 Sioux City Interstate Study in Sioux City, Iowa – Environmental Impact Statement
IM-29-6(149)147—13-97

In response to your letter of November 3, 2004, we have contacted the two housing authorities that administer our programs in and around Sioux City. Each authority was provided with copies of your letter and the enclosures. Neither of the housing authorities foresees any impact on their programs resulting from the proposed I-29 improvements.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. Should you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Paul Bilski, of my staff at (913) 551-6988.

Sincerely,

Karen Schleper
Director
Public Housing Division

SIouxland INTERSTATE METROPOLITAN PLANNING COUNCIL

is Action

507 - 7TH STREET, SUITE 401
P.O. BOX 447
SIOUX CITY, IOWA 51102-0447
TELEPHONE (712) 279-6286
FAX (712) 279-6920
E-MAIL simpco@simpco.org

December 3, 2004

DeeAnn Newell
NEPA Document Manager
Iowa Department of Transportation
800 Lincoln Way,
Ames, IA 50244

Re: I-29 Sioux City Interstate Study in Sioux City, Iowa – Environmental Impact Statement Comments
IM-29-6(149)147—13-97

Dear Ms./ Mrs. Newell,

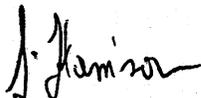
In response to your letter dated November 3, 2004, the following are our comments. The Siouxland Interstate Metropolitan Planning Council more commonly referred to as SIMPCO is in full support of the I-29 improvements along the corridor. It is the agency's position that any adverse environmental impact will be minimal and the benefits to traffic flow, safety and general maintenance will be worth the cost.

Specifically, the agency's position from a long term planning perspective is that the improvements are compatible with the anticipated traffic developments during the planning horizon to 2030. The improvements are projected to enhance the downtown I29 capacity and eliminate unsafe vehicular movements like weaving and tight on/ off ramps bringing the Sioux City portion of I-29 into modern engineering design compliance. The improvements will also be complementary to planned improvements to other Siouxland area arterial facilities like the NE 35 four-laning and the US 20 four-laning across the breadth of Iowa.

The principal environmental concerns regard the effect on the nearby Missouri and its associated biota both short term (construction) and long term. Given that the corridor being affected is relatively narrow, SIMPCO does not anticipate that such environmental concerns will be unmanageable. Other minor concerns involve underground storage tanks, utilities etc.

The only other concern regards the paucity of adequate alternative emergency routes in this area and the associated environmental/ other effects of heavy semi-trucks etc. rumbling down roads ill suited for such purposes. This concern is raised given that construction work on I-29 increases the probability of such detours having to be made. The agency however believes that such inconvenience is worth the long term improvements associated with the project and thus recommends that the project be initiated without delay.

Sincerely,



Sheldon A. Harrison
Transportation Planner/Modeler
Siouxland Interstate Metropolitan Planning Council

cc:
Dakin Shultz – Iowa DOT, District 3 Office



STATE OF IOWA

THOMAS J. VILSACK, GOVERNOR
SALLY J. PEDERSON, LT. GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
JEFFREY R. VONK, DIRECTOR

CERTIFIED MAIL

December 6, 2004

DeeAnn L. Newell, NEPA Document Manager
Iowa Department of Transportation
800 Lincoln Way
Ames, Iowa 50244

Re: Environmental Impact Statement– I-29 Sioux City, Iowa, Interstate study

Dear Ms. Newell

The Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Air Quality Bureau received your letter of November 3, 2004, requesting information for an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for proposed improvements for Interstate 29 (I-29) in Sioux City, Iowa. Your letter has been forwarded to other areas within the DNR for review and comment.

The DNR is the regulatory authority for the air quality programs described below. These programs may or may not apply to the proposed I-29 improvements in Sioux City.

- **Construction Permitting Requirements**

DNR issues construction permits for new and modified sources of air pollutants. If the project includes any new air emission units, including portable asphalt plants or batch concrete plants, they may be subject to these construction-permitting requirements. You may wish to visit our website at www.iowadnr.com/air/prof/const/const.html for more information, or contact our permit hotline at 1-877-AIR-IOWA. You may also wish to review the rules for permitting contained in 567 Iowa Administrative Code (IAC) Chapter 22 (455B). The IAC is available on-line at www.legis.state.ia.us/IAC.html.

- **Asbestos**

Building renovations, demolitions and training fires are potentially subject to the asbestos release prevention efforts under the National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP) for asbestos [40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 61, subpart M]. The DNR has been delegated the authority to administer and enforce this program.

The asbestos NESHAP rules apply **before** renovation or demolition begin, and often require a thorough inspection and lab analysis of suspect asbestos containing material, notification to the DNR and, in some cases, proper removal and disposal.

For more information, please contact the DNR Asbestos NESHAP Coordinator, Marion Burnside, at 515-281-8443.

- **Open Burning**

The DNR regulates open burning. "Open burning" is the burning of combustible materials where the products of combustion are emitted into the open air without passing through a chimney or stack. In general, open burning is prohibited, except for the specific exemptions listed in the state open burning rules. The open burning rules are contained in 567 IAC rule 23.2(455B). In addition, there are a number of definitions in 567 Chapter 20 that are applicable to open burning. The IAC is available on-line at www.legis.state.ia.us/IAC.html.

Fugitive Dust

The DNR administers regulations that pertain to fugitive dust. In general, owners or operators must take reasonable precautions to prevent fugitive dust from becoming airborne and crossing the property line. These regulations, which may be applicable to this project, are contained in 567 IAC paragraph 23.3(2)"c", and can be found at the website indicated above.

- **Opacity**

The DNR administers regulations that pertain to opacity (visible emissions). In general, visible emissions in excess of 40 percent opacity are not allowed unless specifically exempted under rule. The rules for opacity, which may pertain to this project, are under paragraph 567 IAC 23.3(2)"d", and are available on-line at the link indicated above.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 515 242-5154 or by e-mail at christine.paulson@dnr.state.ia.us.

Sincerely,



Christine M. Paulson
Senior Environmental Specialist - Program Development Section
Air Quality Bureau

c: Scott VanderHart – DNR



U.S. Department
Of Transportation

Federal Aviation
Administration

Central Region
Iowa, Kansas
Missouri, Nebraska

901 Locust
Kansas City, Missouri 64106-2325

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DEC 13 2004

OFFICE OF LOCATION & ENVIRONMENT

December 8, 2004

Ms. DeeAnn L. Newell
Iowa Department of Transportation
800 Lincoln Way
Ames, IA 50244

Dear Ms. Newell:

The FAA (Federal Aviation Administration) reviews other federal Agency environmental documents from the perspective of the FAA's area of responsibility; that is, whether the proposal will have affects on aviation and other FAA responsibilities. We generally do not provide comments from an environmental standpoint. Therefore, we have reviewed your letter dated November 3, 2004, concerning the I-29 Interstate Study in Sioux City, Iowa, and have no comments regarding environmental matters.

However, we remind you that you will need to consider whether or not the project will require formal notice and review from an airspace standpoint. The requirements for this notice may be found in Federal Aviation Regulations (FAR) Part 77, Objects Affecting Navigable Airspace. This regulation is contained under Subchapter E, Airspace of Title 14 of the Code of Federal Regulations. We would like to remind you that if any part of the project exceeds notification criteria under FAR Part 77, notice should be filed at least 30 days prior to the proposed construction date. Questions concerning this matter should be directed to Ms. Brenda Mumper at (816) 329-2524.

Sincerely,

Mark H. Schenkelberg, P.E.
Environmental Specialist

From: Fisher, Mike
Sent: Tuesday, December 14, 2004 8:33 AM
To: Woodson, Stacy
Cc: Thompson, Carrie; McCaslin, Ted
Subject: FW: EC Response

-----Original Message-----

From: Newell, DeeAnn [DOT] [mailto:DeeAnn.Newell@dot.iowa.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, December 14, 2004 7:56 AM
To: Fisher, Mike
Subject: EC Response

Mike, I received a phone call from Mr. Bob Harms of the USFWS, Rock Rapids Office. He said that he does not have any comments on the Sioux City Study and he would refer all inquiries to the Rock Island Office. He would like to be copied on everything. There we have it. Rock Island will take the lead.

DeeAnn Newell
NEPA Section
515.239.1364
deeann.newell@dot.iowa.gov

United States Department of Agriculture

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DEC 16 2004



Natural Resources Conservation Service
210 Walnut Street
693 Federal Building
Des Moines, IA 50309-2180

OFFICE OF LOCATION & ENVIRONMENT

December 15, 2004

RE: I-29 Sioux City Interstate in Sioux City, Iowa -
Environmental Impact Statement
IM-29-6(149)147--13-97

Ms. DeeAnn L. Newell
NEPA Document Manager
Iowa Department of Transportation
800 Lincoln Way
Ames, IA 50244

Dear Ms. Newell:

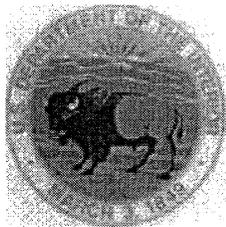
Thank you for the opportunity to provide early input in the referenced project. The USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is concerned that all the resources you addressed will be fully considered when evaluating project alternatives. For site specific information, please contact Jerry Sindt, NRCS District Conservationist at 206 1st Street, Sergeant Bluff, Iowa 51054 or 712/943-6727.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Richard Van Klaveren".

Richard Van Klaveren
State Conservationist

cc: Astor Boozer, ASTC-FO, NRCS, Sioux City, IA
Jerry Sindt, DC, NRCS, Sergeant Bluff, IA



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Rock Island Field Office
4469 48th Avenue Court
Rock Island, Illinois 61201
Phone: (309) 793-5800 Fax: (309) 793-5804



IN REPLY REFER
TO:
FWS/RIFO

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DEC 22 2004

December 15, 2004

OFFICE OF LOCATION & ENVIRONMENT

Ms. DeeAnn L. Newell
NEPA Document Manager
Iowa Department of Transportation
800 Lincoln Way
Ames, Iowa 50244

Dear Ms. Newell:

This letter responds to your November 3, 2004, request for technical assistance for the environmental impact statement being prepared for proposed improvements to 10 miles of I-29 in Sioux City, Woodbury County, Iowa. We have the following comments.

To facilitate compliance with Section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, Federal agencies are required to obtain from the Fish and Wildlife Service information concerning any species, listed or proposed to be listed, which may be present in the area of a proposed action. Therefore, we are furnishing you the following list of species which may be present in the concerned area:

<u>Classification</u>	<u>Common Name</u>	<u>Scientific Name</u>	<u>Habitat</u>
Threatened	Bald eagle	<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>	Wintering
Endangered	Least Tern	<i>Sterna antillarum</i>	Bare alluvial and dredged spoil islands; sand/gravel areas around fly ash ponds
Threatened	Piping Plover	<i>Charadrius melodus</i>	Bare alluvial and dredged spoil islands; sand/gravel areas around fly ash ponds
Endangered	Pallid sturgeon	<i>Scaphirynchus albus</i>	Large rivers

The threatened bald eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) is listed as wintering along large rivers, lakes, and reservoirs in Woodbury County, Iowa. During the winter, this species feeds on fish in the open water areas created by dam tailwaters, the warm water effluents of power plants and municipal and industrial discharges, or in power plant cooling ponds. The more severe the winter, the greater the ice coverage and the more concentrated the eagles become. They roost at night in groups in large trees adjacent to the river in areas that are protected from the harsh winter elements. They perch in large shoreline trees to rest or feed on fish. There is no critical habitat designated for this species. The eagle may not be harassed, harmed, or disturbed when present nor may nest trees be cleared.

The least tern (*Sterna antillarum*) is listed as endangered in Pottawattamie and Woodbury Counties, Iowa (along the Missouri River). It nests on bare alluvial or dredged spoil islands and sand/gravel bars in or adjacent to rivers, lakes, gravel pits, and cooling ponds. It nests in colonies with other least terns and sometimes with the piping plover. There is no critical habitat designated for this species. It must not be harmed, harassed, or disturbed when present.

The piping plover (*Charadrius melodus*) is listed as threatened in Iowa where it nests on sandy beaches, bare alluvial, and dredged spoil islands adjacent to rivers, streams, lakes, and gravel pits. It nests in colonies with other piping plovers and sometimes with least terns. Potential habitat can be found along the Missouri River in Woodbury County. No Critical Habitat has been designated. The birds must not be harmed, harassed, or disturbed when present.

The endangered pallid sturgeon (*Scaphirhynchus albus*) is found in the Mississippi River downstream of its confluence with the Missouri River. Currently, the only known site is Randolph County, but the entire stretch of river is considered potential habitat. In Iowa, it is known from the Missouri River in Woodbury County and may potentially occur in Lyon, Plymouth, and Sioux Counties. Little is known of its habitat preferences, however, it is suspected that sand/gravel bars may be utilized for spawning.

The Corps of Engineers is the Federal agency responsible for wetland determinations, and we recommend that you contact them for assistance in delineating any wetland types and acreages within the project boundary. Priority consideration should be given to avoid impacts to any wetland areas. Any future activities in the study area that would alter wetlands may require a Section 404 permit. Unavoidable impacts will require a mitigation plan to compensate for any losses of wetland functions and values. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Clock Tower Building, P.O. Box 2004, Rock Island, Illinois 61204-2004, should be contacted for information about the permit process.

These comments provide technical assistance only and do not constitute the report of the Secretary of the Interior on the project within the meaning of Section 2(b) of the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, do not fulfill the requirements under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, nor do they represent the review comments of the U.S. Department of the Interior on any forthcoming environmental statement.

Ms. DeeAnn L. Newell

3

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments early in the planning process. If you have any additional questions or concerns, please contact Heidi Woeber of staff at 309/793-5800, extension 209.

Sincerely,


for Richard C. Nelson
Field Supervisor

S:\Office Users\Heidi\woodburyal29dot.doc



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
CORPS OF ENGINEERS, OMAHA DISTRICT
NEBRASKA REGULATORY OFFICE-WEHRSPANN
8901 SOUTH 154TH STREET, SUITE 1
OMAHA, NEBRASKA 68138-3621

RECEIVED

JAN 5 2005

OFFICE OF LOCATION & ENVIRONMENT

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

December 20, 2004

Ms. DeeAnn Newell
Iowa Department of Transportation
800 Lincoln Way
Ames, Iowa 50244

RE: I-29 Sioux City Interstate Study IM-29-6(149)147—13-97

Dear Ms. Newell

The Corps of Engineers received a letter on November 18, 2004 requesting comments on the above referenced project. The Corps of Engineers is responsible for administering Federal laws that regulate certain activities in waters of the United States. The authority applicable to this responsibility is Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344), which prohibits the discharge of dredged or fill material into lakes, streams or wetlands without authorization in the form of a Department of the Army permit and Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 which regulates all work or structures in or affecting the course, condition, or capacity of navigable waters of the United States.

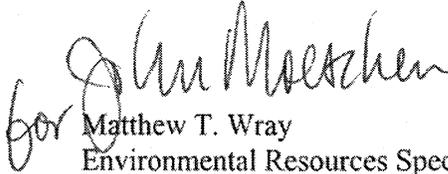
After reviewing the provided information, the Corps of Engineers has the following comments:

- 1) Wetland Delineation—A complete wetland delineation will be required to be completed for the project. The wetland delineation shall be completed using the Corps of Engineers 1987 wetland delineation manual.
- 2) Avoidance and Minimization—To the maximum extent practicable impacts to Water of the U.S. should be avoided and minimized for each structure.
- 3) Unavoidable Impacts—If impacts are unavoidable, a permit application shall be submitted to the Corps of Engineers for review of Section 404 and Section 10 requirements.
- 4) Mitigation—Provided the project(s) is deemed permissible unavoidable impacts to wetland and stream areas that occur due to the construction of the project may require mitigation to replace the wetland or stream area that was impacted. Each impact site will need to be evaluated for primary and secondary impacts and proper mitigation to offset those impacts.

- 5) The Omaha District—Nebraska Regulatory Office Wehrspann will be the lead Corps of Engineers district for commenting during the NEPA\404 merger process.

If you have any questions regarding any comments listed above, please contact me at (402) 896-0896 and reference file number NE 2004-11452.

Sincerely,


for Matthew T. Wray

Environmental Resources Specialist

CF: _____

USACE - Rock Island District (Neal Johnson)



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
ROCK ISLAND DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
CLOCK TOWER BUILDING - P.O. BOX 2004
ROCK ISLAND, ILLINOIS 61204-2004

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DEC 29 2004

OFFICE OF LOCATION & ENVIRONMENT

December 17, 2004

Planning, Programs, and
Project Management Division

Ms. DeeAnn Newell
NEPA Document Manager
Iowa Department of Transportation
800 Lincoln Way
Ames, Iowa 50244

Dear Ms. Newell:

I received your letter dated November 3, 2004, concerning early coordination of improving 10 miles of Interstate 29 in Sioux City, Iowa. Rock Island District staff reviewed the information you provided and have the following comments:

a. The lands involved are outside the geographic boundaries of the Rock Island District. You must coordinate with the Omaha District to determine if your project involves any Corps administered lands. The address is as follows:

District Engineer
U.S. Army Engineer District, Omaha
106 S 15th Street
Omaha, Nebraska 68102

b. Based on information included in your letter and our experience with similar projects, this project will likely require authorization under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. More information is required before we can determine what form of Section 404 authorization is appropriate. A complete application for the project should be submitted as soon as possible. An application packet is included. The application should include wetland delineations, details of impacts to wetlands and other water of the United States, and types and relative functions of any wetlands to be impacted.

Before completing the public interest review process for this project, in compliance with the Clean Water Act Section 404(b)(1) Guidelines, we may also require an alternatives analysis, a list of steps taken to minimize impacts, and a plan to compensate for any unavoidable impacts to wetlands, streams, or both. If you have any questions regarding permit requirements under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, please contact Mr. Neal Johnson of our Regulatory Branch.

You may reach Mr. Johnson by writing to our address above, ATTN: Regulatory Branch (Neal Johnson), or by telephoning 309/794-5379.

c. The Responsible Federal Agency should coordinate with Ms. Maria Pandullo, Iowa Historic Preservation Agency, ATTN: Review and Compliance Program, State Historical Society of Iowa, Capitol Complex, Des Moines, Iowa 50319 to determine impacts to historic properties.

d. The Rock Island Field Office of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service should be contacted to determine if any federally listed endangered species are being impacted and, if so, how to avoid or minimize impacts. The Rock Island Field Office address is: 4469 - 48th Avenue Court, Rock Island, Illinois 61201. Mr. Rick Nelson is the Field Supervisor. You can reach him by calling 309/793-5800.

No other concerns surfaced during our review. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on your proposal. If you need more information, please call Dr. Sandra Brewer of our Economic and Environmental Analysis Branch, telephone 309/794-5171.

You may find additional information about the Corps' Rock Island District on our web site at <http://www.mvr.usace.army.mil>. To find out about other Districts within the Corps, you may visit web site: <http://www.usace.army.mil/divdistmap.html>.

Sincerely,



Kenneth A. Barr
Chief, Economic and Environmental
Analysis Branch

Enclosure



United States Department of the Interior

National Park Service

Midwest Region
601 Riverfront Drive
Omaha, Nebraska 68102-4226

RECEIVED

JAN 07 2005



OFFICE OF LOCATION & ENVIRONMENT

JAN 3 2005

ER-04/0883

Mr. Philip Barnes, Division Administrator
Federal Highway Administration
105 Sixth Street
Ames, Iowa 50010-6337

Dear Mr. Barnes:

As requested in your Federal Register notice of November 18, the National Park Service (NPS) has reviewed the notice of intent to prepare an environmental impact statement for the I-29 Corridor Study in Sioux City, from Sioux Gateway Airport/Sergeant Bluff interchange to the South Dakota state border, Woodbury County, Iowa. The NPS offers the following comments for your consideration:

The NPS has reviewed this project in relation to any possible conflicts with the properties enhanced with monies from the Land and Water Conservation Fund (L&WCF) and the Urban Park and Recreation Recovery programs. We recommend you consult directly with the official who administers the L&WCF program in the State of Iowa to determine any potential conflicts with section 6(f)(3) of the L&WCF Act (Public Law 88-578, as amended). This section states: "No property acquired or developed with assistance under this section shall, without the approval of the Secretary [of the Interior], be converted to other than public outdoor recreation uses. The Secretary shall approve such conversion only if he finds it to be in accord with the then existing comprehensive statewide outdoor recreation plan and only upon such conditions as he deems necessary to assure the substitution of other recreation properties of at least equal fair market value and of reasonably equivalent usefulness and location."

We note the Sioux City Riverfront Trail, L&WCF project 19-00332, and War Eagle Park, L&WCF project 19-00076, may be affected by this project. The administrator for the L&WCF program in Iowa is Ms. Kathleen Moench, Federal Aid Coordinator, Budget and Finance Bureau, Department of Natural Resources, Wallace State Office Building, East Ninth Street and Grand Avenue, Des Moines, Iowa 50319.

The NPS has a continuing interest in working with the Federal Highway Administration and the Iowa Department of Transportation to ensure impacts to resources of concern to the Department of the Interior are adequately addressed. For matters directly related to section 6(f)(3) of the L&WCF, please contact Roger A. Knowlton, Outdoor Recreation Planner, National Park

TAKE PRIDE
IN AMERICA 

Mr. Philip Barnes

2

Service, Midwest Regional Office, 601 Riverfront Drive, Omaha, Nebraska 68102, telephone 402-661-1558.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide these comments.

Sincerely,



Ernie Quintana
Regional Director

cc:

Ms. Kathleen Moench
Federal Aid Coordinator
Budget and Finance Bureau
Department of Natural Resources
Wallace State Office Building
East Ninth Street and Grand Avenue
Des Moines, Iowa 50319

James P. Rost, Director
Office of Location and Environment
Iowa Department of Transportation
800 Lincoln Way
Ames, Iowa 50010

Department of the Interior
Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance
Attn: Ethel Smith
Main Interior Building, MS 2342
1849 C Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20240

January 19, 2005

In reply refer to:
R&C#: 041197039

James P. Rost, Director
Office of Location and Environment
Iowa Department of Transportation
800 Lincoln Way
Ames, IA 50010

RE: FHWA – WOODBURY COUNTY – IM-29-6(104)142—13-97 – I-29 SIOUX CITY
INTERSTATE STUDY IN SIOUX CITY – ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT –
PLANNING STUDY FROM SERGEANT BLUFFS TO SOUTH DAKOTA STATE LINE
AND SCOPING MEETING 1/26/05

Dear Mr. Rost,

Thank you for notifying our office about the above referenced proposed project. We understand that this project will be a federal undertaking and will need to comply with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. We look forward to consulting with you and the Federal Highway Administration on the Area of Potential Effect for this proposed project and whether this project will affect any significant historic properties under 36 CFR Part 800.4. We will need the following types of information for our review:

- The Area of Potential Effect (APE) for this project needs to be adequately defined (36 CFR Part 800.16 (d)).
 - Information on what types of cultural resources are or may be located in the APE (36 CFR Part 800.4).
 - The significance of the historic properties in the APE in consideration of the National Register of Historic Places Criteria.
- A determination from the responsible federal agency of the undertaking's effects on historical properties within the APE (36 CFR Part 800.5).

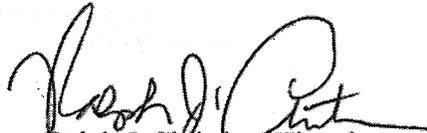
We sincerely appreciate the invitation to participate in the scoping meeting planned for January 26, 2005. Unfortunately, due to other current commitments, we will be unable to attend the meeting. However, we look forward to further consulting with you and the Federal Highway Administration on this undertaking.

Please reference the Review and Compliance Number provided above in all future submitted correspondence to our office for this project. Should you have any questions please contact me at the number below.

Sincerely,



Douglas W. Jones, Archaeologist
State Historic Preservation Office
State Historical Society of Iowa
(515) 281-4358



Ralph J. Christian, Historian
State Historic Preservation Office
State Historical Society of Iowa
(515) 281-8697

cc: Mike LaPietra, FHWA
Kris Reisenberg, NEPA Coordinator, IaDOT, Ames
Randall Faber, OLE, IaDOT, Ames
DeeAnn Newell, OLE, IaDOT, Ames
Mike Fisher, Howard R. Green Company
Rich Michaelis, IaDOT, District 3 Office
Dakin Schultz, IaDOT, District 3 Office



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Rock Island Field Office
4469 48th Avenue Court
Rock Island, Illinois 61201
Phone: (309) 793-5800 Fax: (309) 793-5804



RECEIVED

JAN 24 2005

OFFICE OF LOCATION & ENVIRONMENT

IN REPLY REFER
TO:

FWS/RIFO

January 19, 2005

Mr. James P. Rost, Director
Office of Location and Environment
Iowa Department of Transportation
800 Lincoln Way
Ames, Iowa 50010

Dear Mr. Rost:

This responds to your December 23, 2004, request for technical assistance regarding the presence of federally listed endangered species within the project area of the proposed I-29 Sioux City Interstate Study in Sioux City, Woodbury County, Iowa. We have the following comments for inclusion in the Environmental Impact Statement, IM-29-6(104)142--13-97.

To facilitate compliance with Section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, Federal agencies are required to obtain from the Fish and Wildlife Service information concerning any species, listed or proposed to be listed, which may be present in the area of a proposed action. Therefore, we are furnishing you the following list.

<u>Classification</u>	<u>Common Name</u>	<u>Scientific Name</u>	<u>Habitat</u>
Threatened	Bald eagle	<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>	Wintering
Endangered	Least Tern	<i>Sterna antillarum</i>	Bare alluvial and dredged spoil islands; sand/gravel areas around fly ash ponds
Threatened	Piping Plover	<i>Charadrius melodus</i>	Bare alluvial and dredged spoil islands; sand/gravel areas around fly ash ponds
Endangered	Pallid Sturgeon	<i>Scaphirynchus albus</i>	Large rivers

Threatened	Prairie bush clover	<i>Lespedeza leptostachya</i>	Dry to mesic prairies with gravelly soil
Threatened	Western prairie fringed orchid	<i>Platanthera praeclara</i>	Mesic to wet prairies

The threatened bald eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) is listed as wintering along large rivers, lakes, and reservoirs in Woodbury County in Iowa. During the winter, this species feeds on fish in the open water areas created by dam tailwaters, the warm water effluents of power plants and municipal and industrial discharges, or in power plant cooling ponds. The more severe the winter, the greater the ice coverage and the more concentrated the eagles become. They roost at night in groups in large trees adjacent to the river in areas that are protected from the harsh winter elements. They perch in large shoreline trees to rest or feed on fish. There is no critical habitat designated for this species. The eagle may not be harassed, harmed, or disturbed when present nor may nest trees be cleared.

The least tern (*Sterna antillarum*) is listed as endangered in Woodbury County, Iowa (along the Missouri River). It nests on bare alluvial or dredged spoil islands and sand/gravel bars in or adjacent to rivers, lakes, gravel pits, and cooling ponds. It nests in colonies with other least terns and sometimes with the piping plover. There is no critical habitat designated for this species. It must not be harmed, harassed, or disturbed when present.

The piping plover (*Charadrius melodus*) is listed as threatened in Iowa where it nests on sandy beaches, bare alluvial and dredged spoil islands adjacent to rivers, streams, lakes, and gravel pits. It nests in colonies with other piping plovers and sometimes with least terns. Potential habitat can be found along the Missouri River in Woodbury County. No critical habitat has been designated. The birds must not be harmed, harassed, or disturbed when present.

The endangered pallid sturgeon (*Scaphirhynchus albus*) is found in Iowa, and is known to occur in the Missouri River in Woodbury County. Little is known of its habitat preferences, however, it is suspected that sand/gravel bars may be utilized for spawning.

The prairie bush clover (*Lespedeza leptostachya*) is listed as threatened and it is considered to potentially occur statewide in Iowa based on historical habitat. It occupies dry to mesic prairies with gravelly soil. There is no critical habitat designated for this species. Federal regulations prohibit any commercial activity involving this species or the destruction, malicious damage, or removal of this species from Federal land or any other lands in knowing violation of State law or regulation, including State criminal trespass law. This species should be searched for whenever prairie remnants are encountered.

The western prairie fringed orchid (*Platanthera praeclara*) is listed as threatened. It is considered to potentially occur statewide based on historical records and habitat distribution. It occupies wet grassland habitats. There is no critical habitat designated for this species. Federal regulations prohibit any commercial activity involving this species or the destruction,

Mr. James P. Rost, Director

3

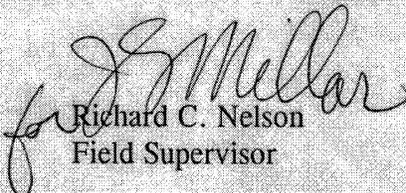
malicious damage, or removal of this species from Federal land or any other lands in knowing violation of State law or regulation, including State criminal trespass law. This species should be searched for whenever wet prairie remnants are encountered.

The Corps of Engineers is the Federal agency responsible for wetland determinations, and we recommend that you contact them for assistance in delineating any wetland types and acreages within the project boundary. Priority consideration should be given to avoid impacts to any wetland areas. Any future activities in the study area that would alter wetlands may require a Section 404 permit. Unavoidable impacts will require a mitigation plan to compensate for any losses of wetland functions and values. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Clock Tower Building, P.O. Box 2004, Rock Island, Illinois 61204-2004, should be contacted for information about the permit process.

These comments provide technical assistance only and do not constitute the report of the Secretary of the Interior on the project within the meaning of Section 2(b) of the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, do not fulfill the requirements under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, nor do they represent the review comments of the U.S. Department of the Interior on any forthcoming environmental statement.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments early in the planning process. If you have any additional questions or concerns, please contact Heidi Woeber of my staff.

Sincerely,


for Richard C. Nelson
Field Supervisor

U.S. Department of
Homeland Security

United States
Coast Guard



Commander
Eighth Coast Guard District

RECEIVED

FEB 2 2005

OFFICE OF LOCATION & ENVIRONMENT

1222 Spruce Street
St. Louis, MO 63103-2832
Staff Symbol: obr
Phone: (314)539-3900, x2379
Fax: (314)539-3755
Email:

16591.1/Floyd River,
Woodbury County, Iowa

January 26, 2005

Ms. DeeAnn L. Newell
NEPA Document Manager
Iowa Department of Transportation
800 Lincoln Way
Ames, IA 50244

Subj: I-29 SIOUX CITY INTERSTATE STUDY IN SIOUX CITY, IOWA -
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

Dear Ms. Newell:

Please refer to your letter of November 3, 2004. We have determined that pursuant to the Coast Guard Authorization Act of 1982, the subject project does not involve bridges over navigable waters of the United States. Therefore, a Coast Guard bridge permit is not required for this project.

We appreciate the opportunity to comment on the project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "DKL" followed by a stylized flourish.

ROGER K. WIEBUSCH

Bridge Administrator

By direction of the District Commander



A Division of the Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs

Your request for comment by the State Historic Preservation Officer has been received.

Date Received: 7/21/2005 End of 30 Day Period: 8/20/2005

Agency: FHWA SHPO R&C #: 041197039

IM-29-6(104)142-13-97 - I-29 SIOUX CITY INTERSTATE STUDY IN SIOUX CITY - ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT - BCA #1229 - PHASE I ARCHAEO SUR OF PROP IMPROVEMENTS TO US INTERSTATE 29 AND CORSP

In accord with federal regulations, our office will respond **ONLY** when:

- The SHPO has received incomplete information or inadequate documentation under 36CFR800.11(a), (d), and (e) **OR**
- The SHPO **objects** to your definition of the Area Potential Effect (APE) for the undertaking **OR**
- The SHPO **objects** to your finding of whether a property is or is not eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places **OR**
- The SHPO **objects** to your finding of the project's effect on an historic property **OR**
- The project is proposed to have a "No Adverse Effect," with or without conditions, and where the SHPO disagrees with the finding **OR**
- The project is determined to have an "Adverse Effect" on an historic property and the federal agency is consulting with SHPO on how to resolve such "Adverse Effects"

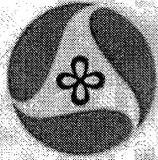
Otherwise, after 30 days from the above referenced date you should consider that your obligations to consult with the SHPO have been concluded and the State agrees with your finding.

Be advised the successful conclusion of consultation with the SHPO does not fulfill the agency's responsibility to consult with other parties who may have an interest in properties that may be affected by this project. Nor does it override the sovereign status of federally recognized American Indian Tribes in the Section 106 consultation process.

We have made these comments and recommendations according to our responsibility defined by Federal law pertaining to the Section 106 process. The responsible federal agency does not have to follow our comments and recommendations to comply with the Section 106 process. It also remains the responsible federal agency's decision on how you will proceed from this point for this project.

Should you have any questions please contact me at the number or email below, **referencing the R&C number above.**

Lavon Grimes
SHPO Review & Compliance Coordinator
(515) 281-8743
lavon.grimes@iowa.gov



Iowa Department of Transportation

800 Lincoln Way, Ames, Iowa 50010-6993 515/239-1215, FAX 239-1726

August 31, 2005

Ref. IM-29-6(104)142-13-97
Woodbury County
Primary Road

RC# 041197039

Mr. Ralph Christian
Bureau of Historic Preservation
State Historical Society of Iowa
600 East Locust
Des Moines, IA 50319-0290

SEP - 2 2005

Dear Ralph:

Enclosed for your review is the Historic Architectural Survey Report for a project to improve the operational characteristics along eight miles of Interstate 29 in Sioux City from Singing Hills Boulevard (Interchange south of US20) to the Big Sioux River on the South Dakota border. The greatest potential for impacts is from changes to ramps and connecting roads at the interchanges. The survey corridor was narrow between interchanges because we anticipate that little additional right of way will be acquired in those sections.

The survey consisted of inspection and documentation of property characteristics, archival/record searches, and 35 mm photographs of the properties. A total of 91 properties are listed in the report. Twenty-six have structures more than 50 years old. Site inventory forms were completed for 30 properties over 40 years old.

Four properties in or near the project area were previously listed or found eligible for listing on the National Register: the Sergeant Floyd riverboat (97-04880)(a National Historic Landmark), the Bruguer Cabin in Riverside Park, the Municipal Auditorium (97-02774), and the Gordon Drive/Grand Avenue viaduct (97-02775).

Four additional properties were evaluated in this study as eligible for the National Register: the Hobson School (97-02695), the Wall Street Mission/Hobson Hall (97-02696), the Prospect Hill octagonal house (97-03083), and the Simmons Hardware Co. Building (97-04077).

The Bruguer Cabin, the Prospect Hill octagonal house (97-03083), and the Gordon Dr./Grand Ave. viaduct (97-02775) should be outside of areas of construction impacts. Therefore, we believe a finding of No Historic Properties Affected is applicable. (For your information, a separate project concept for improvements to the viaduct has been initiated.)

Mr. Ralph Christian
August 31, 2005

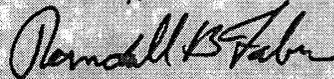
IM-29-6(104)142--13-97
Page 2

The project will require improvements at interchange ramps and connecting streets for Wesley Parkway and Floyd Boulevard in the vicinity of the several historic properties. But construction should not cause changes to characteristics that make these properties eligible for the National Register.

Therefore, the project should have No Adverse Effect upon: the Simmons Hardware building (97-04077), the Hobson School (97-02695), the Wall Street Mission (97-02696), the Municipal Auditorium (97-02774), and the Sergeant Floyd Riverboat (97-04880).

If you can agree with these findings and conclusions, please sign the concurrence line below, add any comments you wish to make, and return this letter.

Sincerely,



Randall B. Faber
Office of Location and Environment
randall.faber@dot.iowa.gov

RBF:
Encl.

cc: Mike LaPietra, Federal Highway Administration

Concur _____

Date

10/2/05

Comments:



Sioux City

May 9, 2006

Rich Michaelis P.E.
District Engineer
2800 Gordon Drive
Sioux City, Iowa 51102

Subject: Interstate 29 Floyd Valley Interchange

Dear Mr. Michaelis,

The City of Sioux City would like to express our appreciation regarding your assistance with the progress made to date on the Sioux City Interstate 29 Reconstruction Study. As you are aware, the City of Sioux City has contracted with your Interstate 29 reconstruction consultant to perform a Local Network Study in conjunction with the Interstate 29 Study. The Local Network Study will allow us to plan for the necessary local improvements to ensure consistency with the reconstruction of Interstate 29. The Local Network Study was also commissioned to assist the City on determining the feasibility of a proposed Floyd Valley Interchange.

Recently the City of Sioux City has received the findings of the proposed interchange located in the area commonly know as the "Stockyards". Upon review of those findings, the City of Sioux City will no longer be requesting the consideration of an interchange in the Stockyards area. To further assist the City with understanding the Interstate 29 reconstruction project, we ask that you or your staff present the three alternatives for Segment 2 to the City Council and staff during a City Council closed session.

Due to the local and regional importance of this project, the City of Sioux City will continue our commitment to provide needed resources and timely responses to any requested assistance to move this important project forward on schedule. We look forward to working with you and all other stakeholders on the Sioux City Interstate 29 reconstruction project.

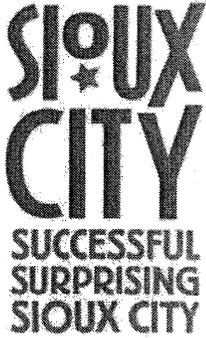
Sincerely,

Craig Berenstein
Sioux City Mayor

Paul Eckert
City Manager

cc: Dakin Schultz, Iowa DOT

Office of the Mayor
405 6th St.
P.O. Box 447
Sioux City, IA 51102



January 10, 2007

Dakin Schultz
Iowa Department of Transportation
District 3 Office
2800 Gordon Drive
Sioux City, IA 51102-0987

RE: I-29 Reconstruction Segment 2 Public Meeting November 30, 2006

Dear Dakin:

The City of Sioux City sincerely appreciates the IDOT's efforts to consider and incorporate public input of the selection of the different configurations of Interstate 29 through Sioux City's downtown riverfront area. Thank you also for the additional time to consider the options, discuss them internally in the City and coordinate with other agencies including the Chamber of Commerce.

We appreciate the incorporation of the changes to the options between Hamilton Blvd and Wesley Parkway, and acknowledge the movement of the Floyd interchange on both Alternative A and Alternative B.

In comparing both Alternative A and B, between Wesley Parkway and Floyd Blvd, both are still very different. The City Council and City Staff consider Alternative B provides the most characteristics that we would like to see in this project. The characteristics include driver safety, maintaining connectivity of Gordon Drive and the City transportation network, limiting the footprint of the interstate and the impacts to property and utilities outside of the IDOT right-of-way especially the Tyson Events Center and safe pedestrian access to the riverfront.

The Primary characteristic that Alternative A has over B is that it maximizes the access to the downtown business district through direct ramps. If Alternative B could be modified to include additional dedicated access ramps to the downtown area while minimizing impacts to the existing layout of Alternative B (footprint, Gordon Drive alignment), the City would be in support that modification.

Aesthetics of the bridges and the location of signature bridge structure are also important characteristics that need to be considered when an alternative is selected. The City appreciates your efforts so far with the aesthetics committee and incorporating the City's suggestions.

The City of Sioux City looks forward to continued development of these plans and opportunities to comment further on the alignment and aspects such as aesthetics and downtown connections.

Sincerely,



Paul A. Eckert



RECEIVED

MAR 12 2007

OFFICE OF LOCATION & ENVIRONMENT

March 6, 2007

Dakin Schultz
Iowa Department of Transportation
District 3 Office
2800 Gordon Drive
Sioux City, IA 51102-0987

RE: I-29 Reconstruction Segment 2 Public Meeting November 30, 2006
Follow-up

Dear Dakin:

On March 5th, City Staff had the opportunity to formally update the Sioux City City Council in a study session on the Modified Alternative B for the reconstruction of Segment 2 of Interstate 29 through downtown Sioux City. The advantages that the Modified Alternative B has over Alternative A and the existing Alternative B were explained to the council along with the additional impacts (larger footprint and more cost than existing Alternative B). The Council understands that this is a compromise of A and B and that most of the desirable qualities of both have been incorporated into the modification.

The City, along with Downtown Partners Board of Directors and the Siouxland Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, supports the Modified Alternative B as the best alignment for Segment 2.

The City of Sioux City looks forward to continued public input on the I-29 Reconstruction and opportunities to help develop items such as pedestrian access to the riverfront, aesthetics of the corridor, and a possible signature bridge.

Sincerely,



Paul A. Eckert
City Manager

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER
405 6th Street
P.O. Box 447
Sioux City, IA 51102

PH 712-279-6102
FAX 712-279-6105
WEB www.sioux-city.org

Woodson, Stacy

From: Newell, Deeann [DOT] [DeeAnn.Newell@dot.iowa.gov]
Sent: Monday, October 22, 2007 7:55 AM
To: Woodson, Stacy
Cc: Fisher, Mike
Subject: FW: Section 4(f) Decision Process - Amended Step 1 and Steps 2-5 - I29 Sioux City Downtown

FHWA has concurred with our Section 4(f) Decision Process. We may proceed.

Dee

DeeAnn Newell
NEPA Section

From: Rold, Lisa [mailto:Lisa.Rold@fhwa.dot.gov]
Sent: Monday, October 22, 2007 7:43 AM
To: Newell, Deeann [DOT]
Subject: RE: Section 4(f) Decision Process - Amended Step 1 and Steps 2-5 - I29 Sioux City Downtown

Dee Ann
FHWA concurs.

Lisa Rold, PE
105 6th Street
Ames, Iowa 50010-6337
Phone: (515)233-7307
e-mail: lisa.rolld@fhwa.dot.gov
fax: 515-233-7499

From: Newell, Deeann [DOT] [mailto:DeeAnn.Newell@dot.iowa.gov]
Sent: Monday, October 15, 2007 12:14 PM
To: Rold, Lisa
Subject: FW: Section 4(f) Decision Process - Amended Step 1 and Steps 2-5 - I29 Sioux City Downtown

Lisa

Looks like I sent this to the wrong person. Do you concur?

DeeAnn Newell
NEPA Section

From: Newell, Deeann [DOT]
Sent: Friday, September 21, 2007 12:46 PM
To: 'Mike LaPietra (mike.lapietra@fhwa.dot.gov)'
Subject: Section 4(f) Decision Process - Amended Step 1 and Steps 2-5 - I29 Sioux City Downtown

A memo was prepared on September 18, 2007 to address the Section 4(f) Decision Process for the I29 Sioux City Study. Based on the attached memo, the 5 step process has been

completed. The IA DOT is asking for concurrence for each step.

STEP 1: Is it 4(f)?

FHWA provided concurrence on 7/27/06 that the following properties meet Step 1:

Park and Recreational Properties

Lewis and Clark Trail (Gateway 2000 River's Edge Trail) (only parcels owned by the City of Sioux City)
Chris Larson Park (only parcels owned by the City of Sioux City)

Historic Structures

Wall Street Mission - 304 S. Floyd Boulevard
Hobson School - 222 S. Floyd Boulevard
Gordon Drive Viaduct
Municipal Auditorium - 401 Gordon Drive
Battery Building - 232 Water Street
Octagonal House - 108 Kansas Street
Sergeant Floyd River Museum & Welcome Center - 1000 Larsen Park Road

Two additional properties have been identified since that concurrence:

Park and Recreational Properties

Floyd River Trail (entire trail on DOT ROW) – Is it 4(f)? - No
Perry Creek Trail (trail on publicly own property) – Is it 4(f)? – Yes

Your concurrence is requested

Step 2: Is There a Use of the 4(f) Property?

Park and Recreational Properties

Lewis and Clark Trail (Gateway 2000 River's Edge Trail) – No (impact will be temporary)
Chris Larson Park - Yes
Perry Creek Trail – No (impact will be temporary)

Historic Structures

Wall Street Mission - 304 S. Floyd Boulevard - No
Hobson School - 222 S. Floyd Boulevard - No
Gordon Drive Viaduct - No
Municipal Auditorium - 401 Gordon Drive - No
Battery Building - 232 Water Street - No
Octagonal House - 108 Kansas Street - No
Sergeant Floyd River Museum & Welcome Center - 1000 Larsen Park Road - No

Your concurrence is requested

Step 3: Can the 4(f) property be avoided?

Park and Recreational Properties

Chris Larson Park – No

Your concurrence is requested

Step 4: Can the Impacts to the 4(f) Property be Minimized?

Park and Recreational Properties

Chris Larson Park – the impacts will be in parts of the park that do not contain recreational features. The trail that

is in the area, be me moved or temporarily closed during construction.

Your concurrence is requested

Step 5: What Documentation is Needed?

Recommend that we follow the de minimis finding requirements.

Your concurrence is requested.

DeeAnn L. Newell
Iowa Department of Transportation – NEPA Section
Phone: 515.239.1364 Fax: 515.817.6635
deeann.newell@dot.iowa.gov

NOV 20 2007



Iowa Department of Transportation

800 Lincoln Way, Ames, Iowa 50010

515-239-1097

515-239-1726 FAX

November 16, 2007

Ref. No: IM-29-6(104)142—13-97

Woodbury

Primary

Mr. Douglas W. Jones
 Review and Compliance
 Bureau of Historic Preservation
 State Historical Society of Iowa
 600 East Locust
 Des Moines, IA 50319-0290

R&C: 041197039

Dear Doug:

**RE: Phase I Investigation for proposed Borrows 24 and 54 in association with I-29
 Improvements, Woodbury County
 Section 31, T89N, R46W and Section 13, T89N, R 47W**

Enclosed for your review and concurrence is the Phase I Cultural Resources Investigation for proposed borrow areas 24 and 54. This Phase I investigation was conducted as part of the I-29 improvements near Sioux City, Iowa.

Both proposed borrows are located in the Loess Hills region. The area of potential effect for both Borrow 24 and Borrow 54 is approximately 24.3 ha. (60 ac) each. Thus, the area of potential effect for both borrows is 48.6 ha. (120 ac.)

The evaluation was conducted using extensive archival research and landform evaluations in addition to a pedestrian reconnaissance survey and subsurface testing. No cultural materials were recovered at either borrow site.

Based on the conclusions reached by this Phase I investigation, the determination is that **No Historic Properties Effected**. If you concur, please sign the concurrence line below, add your comments and return this letter. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Libby Wielenga
 Office of Location and Environment
 Libby.Wielenga@dot.iowa.gov

LJCW
 Enclosure

cc: Dee Ann Newell- NEPA / OLE
 Rich Michaelis - District 3 Engineer
 Richard Storm- Woodbury County Engineer
 Branden K. Scott - Project Archaeologist - BCA

Concur

Douglas W. Jones
 SHPO Archaeologist

Date

12/13/2007

Comments:



January 24, 2008

Stacy Woodson
Howard R. Green Company
PO Box 9009
Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52409

Re: I-29 /Downtown Impacts to Parkland

Dear Stacy:

I have reviewed the impact statement for the I-29 /Downtown Impacts to Parkland Study Project. It is the opinion of the Sioux City Parks and Recreation Department that the proposed I-29/Downtown improvements would not adversely affect the activities, features, and attributes of the area in Chris Larsen Park.

I look forward to working with Howard R. Green and the Iowa DOT on the project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Terry Hoffman". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Terry Hoffman
Parks and Recreation Manager

Cc: Paul Eckert
Dave Dorsett
Chris Payer
Kelly Bach