

TO: Mr. Roberto Fonseca-Martinez  
 FROM: John Muse  
 DATE: 01/24/2005

## CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DOCUMENTATION

Date CE level document approved by VA Division FHWA: 08/05/03

FHWA Contact: Ed Sundra

Route: 29 (Lee Highway); 650 (Gallows Road)

Project Number: 0029-029-119, P101, R208, C508

From: 0.009 Mile West Merrilee Drive (VA Rt. 6065)

To: I-495 (Capital Beltway)

Federal Project: PE Phase: STP-5401 (620); CN Phase STP-5401 ( )

County/City: Fairfax

PPMS/UPC ID: 11395

CE Category 23 CFR 771.117: (d)(1) **Description of Category:** Modernization of a highway by resurfacing, restoration, rehabilitation, reconstruction, adding shoulders, or adding auxiliary lanes (e.g., parking, weaving, turning, climbing).

**Description:** Widen to 5- and 6-lanes divided with 28-foot median. The proposed project will widen both Rt. 29 (Lee Highway) and Rt. 650 (Gallows Road) between the termini specified above. The project length along Rt. 29 is approx. 0.6 mile; the length along Rt. 650 is approx. 0.8 mile. The total project length is 1.4 miles. The intersection of Rt. 29 and Rt. 650 will remain at-grade.

Location Map   
 Logistical Termini: Yes

USGS Map   
 N/A  (For Non-highway construction only)

Independent Utility: Yes  No

**Typical Section:** The current proposed typical section consists of 6 through travel lanes (of widths ranging between 12 – 14 feet), 3 in each direction; the far-right travel lane is 14-foot wide to serve as a multi-use (automobile/bicycle) lane. The median is proposed to be 28-feet to accommodate dual left turn lanes at the intersection and will not be less than 8 feet at any point to accommodate landscaping and facilitate pedestrian refuge. Multi-purpose trails are planned for both sides of the roadway in accordance with the Fairfax County Trails Plan. The total proposed right-of-way width is 140 feet.

**Structures:** No bridges or box culverts are currently planned for this project, according to the Location & Design project manager. Retaining walls may be utilized, where necessary, to minimize property takes.

SOCIO-ECONOMIC	PRESENT		IMPACTS	
	YES	NO	YES	NO
Minority/Low Income Populations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 none <i>Source: Coordination with Fairfax County DOT - response to questionnaire dated 02/05/04.</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

<p>Community Services Schools, bus routes, fire and police services, and churches exist in, or adjacent to, the project corridor. However, delays and detours related to project construction are not anticipated to be significant.</p> <p><b>Source: Coordination with Fairfax County DOT &amp; Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS), including FCPS - Office of Transportation Services (OTS).</b></p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<p>Consistent with Local Land Use: Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><b>Source: Coordination with Fairfax County DOT - response to questionnaire dated 02/05/04</b></p>				

Comments: FCPS-OTS indicated concerns that detours or delays related to road construction could impact bus travel times and has requested that any restriction of traffic flow be held to a minimum during construction. This concern has been forwarded to the project management team for planning maintenance of traffic during the length of the construction period.

**SECTION 4(f)**

Use of 4(f) Property: Yes  No  Acres

Individually Eligible Historic Property: Yes  No

Contributing Element to Historic District: Yes  No

*Source: VDOT Cultural Resources staff determined on 08/18/04 that this project will have no effect on historic properties.*

Public Recreation Area: Yes  No

Wildlife/Waterfowl Refuge: Yes  No

*Source:* Review of the Department of Conservation & Recreation's 2002 Virginia Outdoors Plan indicates that no wildlife or waterfowl refuges are located within or in proximity to the project area.

Constructive Use: Yes  No

4(f) Evaluation Attached: Yes  No

Comments: No Section 4(f) protected property will be utilized for this project.

CULTURAL RESOURCES	COMPLETE	N/A
<i>Source: Letter from VDHR to VDOT Cultural Resources staff dated 04/13/04.</i>		
"No Effect" Pursuant to 1999 DHR Agreement	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Phase I Architecture Conducted	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Phase II Architecture Conducted	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Phase I Archaeology Conducted	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Phase II Archaeology Conducted	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Effect on Historic Properties: No Effect

DHR Concurrence on Effect: Yes

MOA Attached: Yes  N/A  Pending

**Comments:** The National Register-eligible Luther P. Jackson School is located within the project area. However, the Department of Historic Resources concurred on 04/14/04 with the Department's determination that the project will have No Effect on this historic property, or any other known historic properties.

NATURAL RESOURCES	PRESENT		IMPACTS	
	YES	NO	YES	NO
Surface Water (Name: none) <i>Source: VDOT Natural Resources staff determined on 09/02/03 that this project will not require any permits because no streams or wetlands are involved.</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

<p>Federal Threatened or Endangered:  Terrestrial: None  Aquatic: None  Plants: None  <b>Source: VDOT Wildlife Biologist memorandum dated 11/24/03 indicates no terrestrial species/impacts in the project corridor. DGIF database search indicates no aquatic T&amp;E species within project area.</b></p>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<p>Natural Heritage Resources No natural heritage resources have been documented in the project area.  <b>Source: Coordination/memorandum with the Department of Conservation &amp; Recreation - Division of Natural Heritage dated 09/26/03.</b></p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<p>100 Year Floodplain  <b>Source: FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Map Panel #515525-0079-D</b></p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<p>Wetlands none  <b>Source: VDOT Natural Resources staff determined on 09/02/03 that this project will not require any permits because no streams or wetlands are involved.</b></p>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Acres Imp.	

Permit Type: None  SPGP  NW23  LOP-1  VWPP   
 Standard  VGP-1  TVA  Regional Permit   
 NW

**Source: VDOT Natural Resources staff determined on 09/02/03 that project will not require any permits because no streams or wetlands are involved.**

Comments:

AGRICULTURAL/OPEN SPACE	PRESENT		IMPACTS	
	YES	NO	YES	NO
Open Space Easements <i>Source: Coordination with Virginia Outdoors Foundation on 10/02/03 indicated that the project will not affect any open space easements currently held by VOF.</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Agricultural/Forestal Districts <i>Source: Coordination with Fairfax County DOT &amp; Office of Comprehensive Planning dated 09/25/03.</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

NRCS Form CPA-106 Attached: Yes  No  Rating:  
**Source: Coordination with Gilbert Guerrero, USDA - Natural Resources Conservation Service response dated 10/01/03**

IF NO:

Land already in urban development: Yes   
 Entire project in area *not* zoned agriculture: Yes   
 NRCS did not respond within 45 days: Yes   
 Alternatives Analysis Required: Yes  No

Comments:

**INVASIVE SPECIES**

Invasive Species in the project area: Yes  No  Unknown

Potential impact of the disturbances caused by construction on the spread of invasive species: The Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation indicated that the potential exists for some VDOT projects to further the establishment of invasive species.

Discussion of preventive measures or eradication measures that will be taken on this project: All seeds used by the Department are tested in accordance with the Virginia Seed Law and the Department's standards and specifications to ensure that there are not Prohibited Noxious Weed-Seeds in our seed mixes. Per its "Road and Bridge Specifications" (January 2002), the Department will seed within 48 hours of reaching a grading increment. Seeding will also be performed if a contractor suspends operations for more than 15 days or if he opens more than he can actively work in a 15-day period. The contractor will also inspect erosion controls before, during, and after rainfall events and make necessary repairs. Erosion controls will be inspected weekly when there is no rainfall. To minimize the potential for infestation of disturbed sites, revegetation with desirable species will be conducted at the earliest opportunity following

any disturbance. These revegetation efforts will minimize the potential for establishment of invasive species.

Comments:

### AIR QUALITY

>30,000 VPD: Yes  No

Air Study Attached: Yes  No

**Source:** *Air Quality Analysis dated 02/02/04 prepared by Samuel F. Curling, VDOT Environmental Division*

In Long Range Plan & TIP: Yes  No  N/A

**Source:** *The project is listed in the FY2004-2009 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The project is listed in the 2003 CLRP and FY2004-2009 TIP Air Quality Conformity Inputs as Project ID VP7ab (primary portion) and VSF37 (secondary portion).*

Comments: The project conforms to the State Implementation Plan for air quality and is not expected to interfere with the attainment or maintenance of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS).

### NOISE

Type I Project: Yes  No

**Source:** *Highway Noise Study Analysis dated 01/30/04, prepared by Tom Aigner, C.O. Noise Abatement Engineer.*

Noise Study Attached: Yes  No

Barriers Under Consideration: Yes  No

**Source:** *Above-referenced noise study concluded that noise abatement measures are not feasible along the project corridor of Route 29 (Lee Highway) and Route 650 (Gallows Road) due to access requirements.*

Comments:

### RIGHT OF WAY & RELOCATION

Number of Residential Relocations: None

**Source:** *NOVA District Right-of-Way Section Stage I Relocation Report dated 10/22/04*

Number of Commercial Relocations: Approx. eighteen (18)

**Source:** *NOVA District Right-of-Way Section Stage I Relocation Report dated 10/22/04*

Right of Way To Be Acquired: Approx. 10.33 acres of fee simple acquisition; 5.16 acres of permanent (utility & drainage) easements; and 1.92 acres of temporary (grading) easements will be required for this project.acres

**Source:** *NOVA District L&D Project Manager (from Preliminary Right-of-Way Data Sheets)*

Comments: The majority of the businesses being affected by this project are tenant-occupied properties. Approximately seven (7) personal property (i.e., personal property in leased facilities) moves are anticipated as a result of the project. There may be an additional four (4) to eight (8) business relocations required because of loss of parking, improper ingress/egress and/or utility easements. No farms or non-profit organizations will be displaced by the proposed project.

**CUMULATIVE IMPACTS**

Present or reasonably foreseeable

future projects (highway and non-highway) in the area: Yes  No

*Source: The FY2004-2009 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) indicates that the widening of US29 (Lee Highway) to six lanes from Nutley Street to I-495 (Capital Beltway) has been broken into three segments. The segment from Merrilee Drive to I-495 is being evaluated with this CE. It can be reasonably foreseen that further widening and/or improvements will take place within this corridor.*

Impact same resources as the proposed highway project (i.e. cumulative impacts):

Yes  No  N/A   
 Cumulative impacts significant: Yes  No  N/A

Comments:

OTHER	PRESENT		IMPACTS	
	YES	NO	YES	NO
Septic Systems or Public Water Supplies <i>Source: Coordination with Fairfax County Health Department - Division of Environmental Health - memorandum dated 09/11/03.</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
State Scenic Byways <i>Source: Virginia Outdoors Plan - 2002 Edition</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Hazardous Materials <i>Source: Phase I &amp; Phase II hazardous materials studies dated 10/30/03 and 03/18/04 respectively - see additional comments below</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Lands Developed with 6(f) LWC Funds <i>Source: List of 6(f) Properties (updated December 2004) on C.O. Environmental Division website</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Substantial Controversy on Environmental Grounds: Yes  No

**Source: *Coordination with Fairfax County DOT***

Type of Public Hearing: Location/Design

Comments: The Regional Hazardous Materials Manager (RHMM) conducted both a Preliminary Site Assessment and a Subsurface Investigation Report to determine if hazardous materials are present within the project corridor. Initially, some areas of concern were identified. A special provision for handling petroleum contaminated soil during construction will be drafted and submitted for inclusion in the project contract. The RHMM determined that no further hazardous materials investigation is required.

In addition, a subsurface investigation was conducted on 09/22/04 to determine if an underground storage tank (UST) was located (as reported) below the existing roadway of Gallows Road (Rt. 650). However, the investigation found no evidence of a UST within the roadway. No further UST investigation at this location is necessary.

## **COORDINATION**

The following agencies were contacted during development of this study:

### **FAIRFAX COUNTY**

Department of Transportation  
Department of Planning and Zoning  
Fairfax County Public Schools - Office of the Superintendent  
Fairfax County Public Schools - Office of Transportation Services  
Department of Health  
Department of Public Works and Environmental Services  
Department of Housing and Community Development  
Fairfax County Park Authority

### **REGIONAL**

Northern Virginia Regional Commission

### **COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA**

Department of Historic Resources  
Department of Conservation & Recreation  
Department of Game & Inland Fisheries  
Department of Forestry  
Department of Environmental Quality - Air, Water & Waste Divisions  
Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services  
Department of Health  
Department of Mines, Minerals & Energy  
Virginia Outdoors Foundation

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

U.S. Department of Agriculture - Natural Resources Conservation Service

OTHER

First Baptist Church of Merrifield

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.