

## Categorical Exclusion (CE)

Project Information			
<b>Project Name:</b>	Widen E Elden St from Van Buren St to Fairfax County Parkway	<b>Federal Project#:</b>	HPT-5401( )
<b>Project Number:</b>	U000-235-110, C501, P101, R201	<b>Project Type:</b>	Construction
<b>UPC:</b>	50100	<b>Charge Number:</b>	
<b>Route Number:</b>		<b>Route Type:</b>	Urban
<b>Project Limit--From:</b>	VAN BUREN STREET	<b>To:</b>	ECL OF HERNDON
<b>Additional Project Description:</b>	Widen E Elden St from Van Buren St to Fairfax County Parkway. Between Monroe St and Van Buren St, E Elden St will transition from a four lane undivided to the proposed four lane divided section. Between Van Buren St and Herndon Parkway, E Elden St will be widened from four lanes undivided to four lanes divided with up to sixteen ft raised median to include streetscaping and median enhancements. Between Herndon Parkway and the Fairfax County Parkway, E Elden St will be widened by adding one lane in each direction, from four to six lanes. Access management control will be implemented between Van Buren St and Herndon Parkway. Driver access to E Elden St will be combined/closed for better movement operation on E Elden St. Signalized intersections will be improved along E Elden St. A path or sidewalk separated from but along the street is planned. Utilities will be placed underground within the project limits. Acquisition of fee simple Right of Way, permanent, and temporary easements are anticipated.		
<b>District:</b>	<b>City/County:</b>	<b>Residency:</b>	
Northern Virginia	Herndon	Fairfax	

**Date CE level document approved by VA Division FHWA:** 05/15/2013

**FHWA Contact:** Simkins, John A.

**Project in STIP:** Yes

**In Long Range Plan?** Yes

**CE Category 23 CFR 771.117:** d

**Description of Category:** Additional actions which meet the criteria for a CE in the CEQ regulations (40 CFR 1508.4) and paragraph (a) of this section may be designated as CEs only after Administration approval.

**Logical Termini and Independent Utility:** Yes

**Next Phase of Funding Available?** Yes

**Comments:** The project includes widening E Elden St from 4 to 6 lanes to enhance capacity to accommodate greater Annual Average Daily Traffic (AADT). Total network forecasted AADT increases from 56,100 in existing 2013 conditions to 63,808 in 2039 build and no build conditions at an annual growth rate at 0.5%. The E Elden St improvements are justifiable and are a reasonable expenditure of funds even if no additional transportation improvements are made. Therefore, the project has independent utility. The project termini are rational end points to environmental review and are logical.

**Typical Section:** In general, east of Monroe St and west of Herndon Parkway, the typical section for E Elden St will be a normal crown, 4 lane curb section. Eleven foot lanes are proposed. There will be a 16 foot standard MS-2 median and 4 foot bike lanes on the outside within the curb and gutter. 6 foot sidewalks are proposed outside the curb and gutter except where they exist already. East of Herndon Parkway and west of Fairfax County Parkway, the typical section for E Elden St is a normal crown, 6 lane curb section. 11 to 12 foot lanes are proposed. The existing raised median will be maintained. 4 foot bike lanes are proposed on the outside within the curb and gutter. 6 foot sidewalks are proposed outside the curb and gutter. Left and right turn lanes are added to the typical section throughout the project at cross streets.

**Structures:** This project will require several substantial changes to existing drainage structures. There is an existing quadruple box culvert underneath E Elden St at Sugarland Run, several hundred feet east of the Herndon Parkway intersection. This box culvert will be removed and a bridge will be installed on E Elden St as part of this project. Channel adjustments will be required on Sugarland Run for installation of the bridge and removal of the existing box culvert. Several other large culverts will require extensions as part of this roadway widening. All other proposed drainage on the project is local drainage for the roadway. The majority of the proposed drainage pipes and inlets will be located along the proposed curb and underneath the proposed curb and sidewalk. There will be three proposed pipe crossings that will run from one side of E Elden St to the other side. No drainage structures are proposed in the proposed median on E Elden St.

**SOCIO-ECONOMIC**

**Minority/Low Income Populations:** Present with no impact    **Disproportionate Impacts to Minority/Low Income Populations:** No

**Source:** US Census Bureau - American Fact Finder, Right of Way - Relocation Assistance Report

**Existing or Planned Public Recreational Facilities:** Present with impacts

**Community Services:** Present with impacts

**Consistent with Local Land Use:** Yes

**Source:** Fairfax County Park Authority, Town of Herndon

**Existing or Planned Bicycle/Pedestrian Facilities** Present with impacts

**Source:** Town of Herndon

**Socio-Economic Comments:** Although an Environmental Justice (EJ) population is present there are no impacts to the EJ population. No minority or low income populations have been identified that would be adversely impacted by the proposed project as determined above. Therefore, in accordance with the provisions of EO 12898 and FHWA Order 6640.23, no further EJ analysis is required. EJ analysis attached. Four parcels along Sugarland Run bordering E Elden St are listed as parks and dedicated open space in Herndon's 2030 Comprehensive Plan. See Section 4(f) section. Sugarland Stream Valley Park is 1,500 feet downstream from the project area. Sugarland Run Trail crosses E Elden St at Herndon Parkway. The project will improve transit use in the corridor. Project will facilitate access by pedestrians and bicyclists. A more pleasant environment will be created for pedestrians and bicyclists with distinctive paver crosswalks, street lighting, street trees, and appropriate amenities such as benches and planters.

**SECTION 4(f) and SECTION 6(f)**

**Use of 4(f) Property:** Yes

**4(f) Evaluations:**

Selected Evaluation(1):

**Acres of Use:** 0.76

**Type of Use:** Permanent

**Type of Resource:** Public Recreation Area

**Name of Resource:** Town of Herndon property

**Comments:** Section 4(f) use is from four parcels listed in Chapter III (Land Use Plan) of the 2030 Comprehensive Plan and the town's Existing Land Use Map as "Parks and Dedicated Open Space."

**De Minimis:** Yes

- The officials with jurisdiction have concurred that the transportation use of the Section 4(f) resource, together with any impact avoidance, minimization, and mitigation or enhancement measures incorporated into the project, does not adversely affect the activities, features, and attributes that qualify the resource for protection under Section 4(f).
- Based on this FHWA intends to make a De minimis impact finding.

**Source:** Town of Herndon, VDOT Right of Way Data Sheet,

**6(f) Conversion:** No      **Acres of Conversion:** 0

**4(f) and 6(f) Comments:** All of the parcels are part of the same resource. The Town of Herndon has given its preliminary concurrence for de minimis and temporary occupancy non-Section 4f use. After the Public Hearing there will be a public review period and then the Town of Herndon may concur with the de minimis and temporary occupancy non-Section 4f use, and FHWA may make a Section 4f finding of de minimis impact and a determination on the temporary occupancy non-Section 4f use. Currently there is 0.32 acres temporary occupancy non-Section 4f use from the same parcels as listed above. There is no 6(f) conversion.

**CULTURAL RESOURCES**

**Section 106 Effect Determination:** None

**Name of Historic Property:** none

**DHR Concurrence date:** None

**A Section 106 effect determination of No Effect has been concluded pursuant to Stip. 2 of the 1999 Programmatic Agreement between VDOT and DHR:**

**Stip. 2 Determination Date:** 06/24/2014

**MOA/PA Execution Date:** None

**Cultural Resource Comments:** No Historic Properties Present or Affected.

## NATURAL RESOURCES

**Are Waters of the U.S. present?** Yes

**Linear Feet of Impact:** 305

**Federal Threatened or Endangered Species:**  
None

**100 Year Floodplain:** Present with no impact

**Regulatory Floodway Zone:** Not Present

**Public Water Supplies:** Not Present

**Are any tidal waters/wetlands present?** No

**Wetlands:** Present with impacts

**Wetlands: Acres of Impact:** 0.18

**Wetland Type:** Forested

**Are any non-tidal wetlands present?** Yes

**If yes, type of non-tidal wetland impacts:** Forested

**Are water quality permits required?** Yes

**Natural Resource Comments:** Sugarland Run crosses E Elden St east of Herndon Parkway. Impacts to Sugarland Run will be mitigated by the purchase of stream credits from an approved mitigation bank. Wetland impacts are associated with the proposed bioretention filter facility in the northeast section of the Sugarland Run floodplain. Wetland impacts will be mitigated by the purchase of wetland credits from an approved mitigation bank. A US Army Corps of Engineers Nationwide 23 Permit is required. Increased stormwater flows resulting from new construction will be detained and treated with best management practices prior to entering Sugarland Run.

## AGRICULTURAL/OPEN SPACE

**Open Space Easements:** Not Present

**Agricultural/Forestal Districts:** Not Present

**Source:** Project Definition Form

**Agricultural/Open Space Comments:** No agricultural/forestal or open space easements are present in the project area based on a VDOT CEDAR GIS database search. VOF does not currently hold any open-space easements within the project vicinity.

## FARMLAND

**NRCS Form CPA-106 Attached?** No

**NRCS Form CPA-106 not attached because:**

**Land already in Urban use.**

**Alternatives Analysis Required?** No

**Source:** Natural Resource Conservation Service

**Farmland Comments:** Per NRCS, this area is committed to urban use. There are no concerns regarding soil and water conservation in connection with this project.

## INVASIVE SPECIES

**Invasive Species in the project area?** Unknown

**VDCR indicated that the potential exists for some VDOT projects to further the establishment of invasive species. All seeds used will be tested in accordance with the Virginia Seed Law to ensure there are not prohibited Noxious Weed-Seeds in the seed mixes.**

**Invasive Species Comments:** Based on site visits by VDOT, invasive species are likely present in the project area. DCR has only general information about the distribution of invasives. Many invasive plant species are adapted to take advantage of soil disturbance and poor soil conditions. Non native 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.

## AIR QUALITY

### Carbon Monoxide

This project is located in: A Carbon Monoxide Attainment Area

CO Microscale Analysis Required for NEPA? No

- ✓ The design year 24-hour forecasted traffic does not exceed the thresholds contained in VDOT's Project-Level Carbon Monoxide Air Quality Studies Agreement with FHWA dated February 27, 2009, and therefore does not require a project-level CO air quality analysis.

Design year ADT are well under the thresholds established in the 2009 FHWA-VDOT Agreement. Forecasts are presented in the 10/15/2013 VDOT memo re "Route 606, Elden Street Widening, Town of Herndon Project# U000-235-110, P101, R201, C501 & UPC# 50100/Act. 616". Additionally, the project also may be considered exempt under 40 CFR 93.126, Table 2, Safety - Projects that correct, improve, or eliminate a hazardous location or feature, as the project purpose posted on IPM (accessed 2/6/2015) includes safety as follows: "To reduce traffic congestion, Improve safety..."

### Ozone

This project is located in: An 8-hour Ozone Nonattainment Area

- ✓ Federal conformity requirements apply since the project is located, at least in part, in an air quality nonattainment or maintenance area. Accordingly, there must be a currently conforming transportation plan and program at the time of project approval, and the project must come from a conforming plan and program (or otherwise meet criteria specified in 40 CFR 93.109(b)).

The project may also qualify as exempt as noted above.

### Particulate Matter

This project is located in: A PM2.5 Maintenance Area

- ✓ Federal conformity requirements apply since the project is located, at least in part, in an air quality nonattainment or maintenance area. Accordingly, there must be a currently conforming transportation plan and program at the time of project approval, and the project must come from a conforming plan and program (or otherwise meet criteria specified in 40 CFR 93.109(b)).

PM Hotspot Analysis Required for NEPA? No

A PM2.5 hot-spot analysis is not required for this project since it is not an air quality concern. The Clean Air Act and 40 CFR 93.116 requirements were met without a hot-spot analysis, since this project has been found not to be of air quality concern under 40 CFR 93.123(b)(1).

The project may also qualify as exempt as noted above.

### Mobile Source Air Toxics

This project requires: A qualitative MSAT analysis

- ✓ This project is proposed to be located in proximity to populated areas.
- ✓ The project potentially expands intermodal centers or impacts diesel truck traffic only to the extent that requires a qualitative assessment.

Although the project may be considered exempt as noted above, a qualitative analysis is provided for completeness.

VDEQ Comments (August 2013): This project is located within a Moderate 8-hour Ozone Nonattainment area, a Fine Particulate Matter (PM2.5) Nonattainment area\*, and a volatile organic compounds (VOC) and nitrogen oxides (NOx) Emissions Control Area. As such, all reasonable precautions should be taken to limit the emissions of VOC, NOx, and particulate matter. In addition, the following VDEQ air pollution regulations must be adhered to during the construction of this project: 9 VAC 5-130, Open Burning restrictions; 9 VAC 5-45, Article 7, Cutback Asphalt restrictions; and 9 VAC 5-50, Article 1, Fugitive Dust precautions.\* Redesignated by EPA to maintenance for PM2.5 effective 11/5/2014.

## NOISE

**Noise Scoping Decision:** Type I - Noise study required

**Barriers Under Consideration?** No

**Noise Comments:** A noise study, included as an attachment, was completed through a qualitative screening. Impacts due to noise levels approaching the Noise Abatement Criteria (NAC) were predicted for parts of the Sugarland Run Trail in the design year (2037) build scenario. However, placement of a noise barrier at this location was determined to be not feasible due to engineering constraints as it would be a physical obstacle blocking water flowing over the roadway at the culvert. This would violate the Hydrology and Hydraulic Analysis (H&HA) regulations for overflow in the case of a major storm event. Noise study is attached.

**RIGHT OF WAY AND RELOCATIONS**

**Residential Relocations:** No  
**Commercial Relocations:** No  
**Non-Profit Relocations:** No  
**Right of Way required?** Yes      **Amount of Right of Way Acreage:** 1.51  
**Septic Systems or Wells:** Not Present      **Hazardous Materials:** Not Present  
**Source:** Virginia Department of Health, Town of Herndon

**ROW and Relocations Comments:** No families, persons, businesses, farms or non-profit organizations will be displaced by this project. There are no buildings and no personal property located within the proposed right of way. The project has been cleared for advertisement and construction by the Regional Hazmat Manager.

**CUMULATIVE AND INDIRECT IMPACTS**

**Present or reasonably foreseeable future projects (highway and non-highway) in the area:** No

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

**Indirect (Secondary) impacts:** Yes

**Source:** VDOT Transportation Planning

**Cumulative and Indirect Impacts Comments:** Review of Comprehensive Plans for Town of Herndon and Fairfax County, Constrained Long Range Plan, State Transportation Improvement Program, and Six-Year Transportation Improvement Program showed no present of reasonably foreseeable future projects within one mile. Indirect impacts include increased local economic growth due to greater local business patronage from increased capacity on E Elden St.

**PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT**

**Substantial Controversy on Environmental Grounds:** No

**Source:** Town of Herndon

**Public Hearing:** Yes    **Type of Hearing:** Design Public Hearing

**Other Public Involvement Activities:** No

**Public Involvement Comments:** Design Public Hearing is scheduled for 03/31/15.

**COORDINATION**

**State Agencies:**

Department of Conservation and Recreation  
DEQ - Air Division  
DEQ - Waste Division  
DEQ - Water Division  
Department of Forestry  
Department of Game and Inland Fisheries  
Department of Health  
Department of Historic Resources  
VA Marine Resources Commission  
Virginia Outdoors Foundation

**Federal Agencies:**

NRCS

**Local Entity:**

Fairfax Office of Transportation  
Fairfax County Health Department  
Northern Virginia District Wid Regional Park Authority  
Fairfax Parks and Recreation  
Herndon Town/City Manager

**Other Coordination Entities:**

First Baptist Church of Herndon

**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.**