

**Davis, Fred R**

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**From:** Marisel.lopez-cruz@dot.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, June 06, 2011 2:35 PM  
**To:** Davis, Fred R  
**Cc:** Kapitanov, Martha C.  
**Subject:** RE: Project # 0581-128-109, P101, R201, C501, B627; UPC # 16595; Interstate 581 - Valley View Boulevard Interchange; Reevaluation of Categorical Exclusion

Fred,

Thanks for discussing my questions over the phone. I talked with Martha, our Salem's Area Engineer, and she indicated that the IMR is very close to being approved. Based in the updated information, I agree that the CE determination still valid for this project. This approval is made with the understanding that FHWA still need to approve the changes to the Interstate Access Control.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Thanks,  
Marisel

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**From:** Davis, Fred R [mailto:Fred.Davis@VDOT.Virginia.gov]  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 02, 2011 4:23 PM  
**To:** Lopez-Cruz, Marisel (FHWA)  
**Subject:** Project # 0581-128-109, P101, R201, C501, B627; UPC # 16595; Interstate 581 - Valley View Boulevard Interchange; Reevaluation of Categorical Exclusion

Merisel,

A Categorical Exclusion (CE) was completed for the subject project on May 4, 2010. However, several items reported in the CE have changed, so we are submitting a Written Reevaluation of the CE so that the CE is up-to-date for the Public Hearing (to be held June 7, 2011).

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**Project Information:** The project limits identified in the CE were for a previously programmed version of UPC # 16595 [From: 0.881 Mile North Interstate Rte 581 MP 144.5; To: Hershberger Road (Exit 3)]. The current termini for the Interstate 581 – Valley View Boulevard Interchange are as follows:

From: 0.240 Mi. S. Route 101 (Hershberger Road)

To: 1.561 Mi. S. Route 101 (Hershberger Road)

The original CE included evaluation of proposed right-of-way and construction activities for the current project limits.

This project is included in the current Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP), and is included in the current 2025 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) under a line item for Interstate 581 corridor improvements. An update to the LRTP is scheduled for adoption by the Roanoke Valley Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (RVAMPO) on June 23, 2011. This LRTP update (2035) will specifically include the Interstate 581 – Valley View Boulevard Interchange project.

6/6/2011

Minor changes have also been made to descriptions for both the Typical Section and Structures, as follows:

- **Typical Section:** Northbound ramps will be in a diamond configuration at Valley View Boulevard; the northbound entry ramp includes two, 12-foot lanes tapering into a single acceleration lane; the northbound exit ramp includes two, 12-foot right turn lanes and one, 12-foot left turn lane. Southbound ramps will be in a "T" configuration at Valley View Boulevard; the southbound exit loop ramp includes one, 12-foot right turn lane and two, 12-foot lanes (for future use); the southbound entry ramp includes two, 12-foot lanes tapering into a single acceleration lane; the acceleration lane will be extended; the southbound exit and entrance ramps will be separated by a variable width raised median. Valley View Boulevard includes two, 12-foot through lanes and two, 12-foot left turn lanes in both directions, separated by a variable width raised median.
- **Structures:** The bridge structure carrying Valley View Boulevard over I-581 will be widened to accommodate the new lanes and both northbound and southbound ramp intersections with Valley View Boulevard.

**Socio-Economic:** The number of families that will be displaced has been increased from three (3) reported in the CE to five (5). An updated Stage 1 Relocation Assistance Report (dated April 28, 2011) states there to be five (5) families that will be displaced and relocated.

**Section 4(f) and Section 6(f):** No change.

**Cultural Resources:** No change.

**Natural Resources:** Potential impacts to Waters of the U.S. have increased from 800 linear feet reported in the CE to 935 linear feet. These continue to be preliminary impact estimates only. All proposed construction activities in Waters of the U.S. will be identified during final design and addressed through the permit acquisition process. Also, threatened and endangered species coordination will continue throughout project development and will be concluded prior to or during the permit acquisition process and final design.

**Agricultural/Open Space:** No change.

**Farmland:** No change.

**Invasive Species:** No change.

**Air:** No change.

**Noise:** No change.

**Right of Way and Relocations:** The number of residential relocations has increased from three (3) reported in the CE to five (5). However, the amount of right of way acreage has decreased from 16 acres reported in the CE to approximately 11.8 acres (this figure includes 9.6 acres of fee right-of-way, 0.7 acre of permanent easements and 1.5 acres of temporary easements).

**Cumulative and Indirect Impacts:** No change.

**Public Involvement:** VDOT elected to move directly to a Design Public Hearing. The Design Public Hearing has been scheduled for this project on June 7, 2011.

**Coordination:** No change.

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Please review this updated information and provide a determination regarding the sufficiency of the existing CE.

Please contact me if you have questions.

**Fred R. Davis**

**Environmental Planner**

6/6/2011

Phone: (540) 378-5043

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## Categorical Exclusion (CE)

Project Information		
<b>Project Name:</b>		<b>Federal Project#:</b> NH-581-5(035)
<b>Project Number:</b>	0581-128-109, P101	<b>Project Type:</b> Construction
<b>UPC:</b>	16595	<b>Charge Number:</b>
<b>Route Number:</b>	581	<b>Route Type:</b> Interstate
<b>Project Limit--From:</b>	0.881 MILE NORTH INTERSTATE RTE 581 MP 144.5	<b>To:</b> HERSHBERGER ROAD (EXIT 3)
<b>Additional Project Description:</b>	The project involves the completion of the existing I-581/Valley View Boulevard partial interchange by constructing ramps to accommodate all directional movements to and from Interstate 581. The project will also involve the addition of a northbound and a southbound 12-foot auxiliary lane on I-581 from the Hershberger Road interchange southern ramps to the Valley View Boulevard interchange northern ramps.	
<b>District:</b>	<b>City/County:</b>	<b>Residency:</b>
Salem	Roanoke (City)	Salem

**Date CE level document approved by VA Division FHWA:** 08/10/2009

**FHWA Contact:** Lopez-Cruz, Marisel

**Project in STIP:** Yes                      **In Long Range Plan?** No

**CE Category 23 CFR 771.117:** d01

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

**Logical Termini and Independent Utility:** Yes

**Comments:** This project involves the completion of the existing I-581/Valley View Boulevard partial interchange. The proposed auxiliary lanes are of appropriate lengths to address Interstate Access Modification. The project does have independent utility.

**Typical Section:** Northbound ramps will be in a diamond configuration at Valley View Boulevard; the northbound entry ramp includes two, 12-foot lanes tapering into a single acceleration lane; the northbound exit ramp includes two, 12-foot right turn lanes and one, 12-foot left turn lane. Southbound ramps will be in a "T" configuration at Valley View Boulevard; the southbound exit loop ramp includes one, 12-foot right turn lane and two, 12-foot lanes (for future use); the southbound entry loop ramp includes two, 12-foot lanes tapering into a single acceleration lane; the acceleration lane will be extended; the southbound exit and entrance ramps will be separated by a variable width raised median. Valley View Boulevard shows two, 12-foot through lanes and two, 12-foot left turn lanes in both directions, separated by a variable width raised median.

**Structures:** The bridge structure carrying Valley View Boulevard over I-581 will be widened to accommodate the new lanes and both northbound and southbound interchanges.

**SOCIO-ECONOMIC**

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

**Source:** Right of Way - Stage I Relocation Assistance Report

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

**Community Services:** Not Present

**Consistent with Local Land Use:** Yes

**Source:** Lick Run Greenway Coordinator and City of Roanoke

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

**Source:** Lick Run Greenway Coordinator and City of Roanoke

**Socio-Economic Comments:** Three families/properties will be displaced due to the proposed relocation of Lick Run, and the relocation of the Lick Run Greenway. Each of the three properties is located immediately west of the "T" intersection between Valley View Boulevard and the southbound ramps of I-581. Each of the three families is African American. This neighborhood is composed of mostly minority families. However, displacements of the families do not constitute disproportionate impacts to minority/low income populations. The Lick Run Greenway will be open to the public during construction and the segment of the greenway that would be impacted will be relocated. This has been coordinated with the authorities having jurisdiction over the trail and they are in agreement that this action will not have an adverse effect on the greenway.

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

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

**4(f) Evaluations:**

Selected Evaluation(1):

**Acres of Use:** 0.71

**Type of Use:** Permanent

**Type of Resource:** Public Recreation Area

**Name of Resource:** Lick Run Greenway

**Comments:** This project requires the use of property currently supporting the greenway. However, the greenway will remain open during construction.

**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:** Lick Run Greenway Coordinator and City of Roanoke Transportation Office.

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

**4(f) and 6(f) Comments:** A Section 4(f) de minimis impact finding for the permanent use of 0.71 acre of the Lick Run Greenway was issued on April 13, 2010.

**CULTURAL RESOURCES**

**Section 106 Effect Determination:** NO EFFECT

**Name of Historic Property:** None

**DHR Concurrence date:** 03/30/2010

**MOA Execution Date:** None

**Cultural Resource Comments:** None

## NATURAL RESOURCES

**Waters of the U.S.:** Present with impacts

**Linear Feet of Impact:** 800

**Federal Threatened or Endangered Species:**

Roanoke Logperch (*Percina rex*)-Federal:FE-Present with no impact

Based upon a review of the DGIF database search and DCR Natural Heritage Conservation Site Maps for the project area, **Threatened or Endangered species collections/records are within the required search distance for the project.** ✓ 11/05/2009 B Willis

**100 Year Floodplain:** Present with impacts

**Regulatory Floodway Zone:** Present with impacts

**Zone Code:** AE,X

**Public Water Supplies:** Present with no impact

**Tidal Waters/Wetlands:** Not Present

**Wetlands:** Not Present

**Wetlands: Acres of Impact:** 0

**Wetland Type:** None

**Permits Required:** Yes

**Natural Resource Comments:** Water quality permits will be obtained prior to advertisement of the project for construction. All threatened and endangered species issues will be concluded during the water quality permit acquisition process. Impacts to the 100-year Floodplain and Regulatory Floodway Zone are anticipated due to the proposed relocation of Lick Run and the placement of fill material in the floodplain/floodway zone. The placement of fill material in the floodplain/floodway zone is necessary in order to complete construction of the I-581 Valley View Boulevard Interchange. No increases in base flood elevations are anticipated to result from the proposed construction. However, it will be necessary to complete the Conditional Letter of Map Revision (CLOMR) and the Letter of Map Revision (LOMR) process so that the floodway model accurately reflects the changes resulting from this project, i.e., the placement of fill material within the floodplain/floodway zone.

## AGRICULTURAL/OPEN SPACE

**Open Space Easements:** Not Present

**Agricultural/Forestal Districts:** Not Present

**Source:** CEDAR GIS

**Agricultural/Open Space Comments:** None

## FARMLAND

**NRCS Form CPA-106 Attached?** Yes

**Rating:** 0

**Alternatives Analysis Required?** No

**Source:** USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

**Farmland Comments:** No prime, state or local important farmland is located in the project area.

## 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:** None

## AIR QUALITY

### Carbon Monoxide

This project is located in: A Carbon Monoxide Attainment Area

CO Microscale Analysis Required for NEPA? Yes

- ✓ The design year 24-hour forecasted traffic exceeds the thresholds contained in VDOT's Project-Level Carbon Monoxide Air Quality Studies Agreement with FHWA dated February 27, 2009, and therefore a project-level CO air quality analysis is required.

### Ozone

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

### Particulate Matter

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

PM Hotspot Analysis Required for NEPA?

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).

### 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 truck traffic only to the extent that requires a qualitative assessment.

The requisite air study was completed 12/17/09 and concluded that "The project has been assessed for potential air quality impacts and conformity with applicable air quality regulations and requirements. The assessment indicates that the project would meet all applicable air quality requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the federal transportation conformity regulation."

## NOISE

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

**Barriers Under Consideration?** Yes

**Noise Comments:** A Noise Impact Analysis Technical Report has been completed for this project. Two noise barriers are under consideration. Barrier A-B and Barrier C-D would each be located on I-581 between Valley View Boulevard and Liberty Street.

## RIGHT OF WAY AND RELOCATIONS

**Residential Relocations:** Yes      **Number of Residential Relocations:** 3

**Commercial Relocations:** No

**Non-Profit Relocations:** No

**Right of Way required?** Yes      **Amount of Right of Way Acreage:** 16

**Septic Systems or Wells:** Not Present

**Hazardous Materials:** Not Present

**Source:** Right of Way - Stage I Relocation Assistance Report; and Salem District Hazmat staff

**ROW and Relocations Comments:** This project would not adversely affect the neighborhood as replacement properties are available within a five mile radius of the project. All relocations will be in accordance with the Uniform Relocation and Real Property Acquisition Act, January 2005. Approximately 1.0 acre of the Round Hill Montessori Primary School would be acquired; Section 4(f) is not applicable to the school property as only select groups are permitted visitation.

## 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):** No

**Indirect (Secondary) impacts:** No

**Source:** Assistant District Preliminary Engineering Manager

**Cumulative and Indirect Impacts Comments:** The future I-73 project is proposed to be located along this section of the I-581 corridor. Funding has not been identified for I-73, and detailed design has not taken place; therefore, cumulative and indirect impacts associated with the I-73 project are unknown at this time.

**PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT**

**Substantial Controversy on Environmental Grounds:** No

**Source:** City of Roanoke

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

**Other Public Involvement Activities:** Yes

**Type of Public Involvement:** A Citizen Information Meeting will be held after approval of the Interchange Modification Report. A Design Public Hearing will be held after plans are further developed.

**Public Involvement Comments:**

**COORDINATION**

**State Agencies:**

Department of Conservation and Recreation  
Department of Forestry  
Department of Health  
Department of Historic Resources  
Virginia Outdoors Foundation  
Department of Game and Inland Fisheries

**Federal Agencies:**

NRCS  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

**Local Entity:**

Roanoke (City) Parks and Recreation  
Roanoke (City) Office of Transportation  
Roanoke (City) Town/City Manager  
Roanoke (City) Superintendent of Schools  
Roanoke (City) County/City Planner  
Roanoke (City) Public Works

**Other Coordination Entities:**

Roanoke Valley Greenway Commission

**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.**

## Davis, Fred R

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**From:** Marisel.lopez-cruz@dot.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 13, 2010 12:00 PM  
**To:** Davis, Fred R  
**Subject:** RE: 0581-128-109, P101; UPC # 16595; Valley View Interchange; de minimis finding

Fred,

Thanks for the coordination to clarify my question regarding the permanent use of only 0.71 acres. I just wanted to ensure that none of the two alternatives that VDOT is currently proposing would avoid the use of the Section 4(f) property. I agree that the permanent use of 0.71 acres of the Lick Run Greenway meet the requirements for a finding of De Minimis impacts to the Section 4(f) resource.

Thanks,  
Marisel

Marisel López Cruz

Environmental Protection Specialist

Federal Highway Administration

Virginia Division

400 North 8th Street, Suite 750

Richmond, Virginia 23219

Phone: (804) 775-3338

Fax: (804) 804-775-3356

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

From: Davis, Fred R [mailto:Fred.Davis@VDOT.Virginia.gov]  
Sent: Wednesday, March 31, 2010 2:22 PM  
To: Lopez-Cruz, Marisel (FHWA)  
Subject: RE: 0581-128-109, P101; UPC # 16595; Valley View Interchange; de minimis finding

Marisel,

Following up on Chris Decker's earlier coordination efforts regarding Section 4(f) de minimis finding for the subject project, I have included two attachments:

First - DHR concurrence that no historic properties are present, and

Second - verbal comments following publication of a Public Notice

Concurrence from the Department of Historic Resources (DHR) was obtained through coordination efforts by Bruce Penner, Salem District Cultural Resources Manger.

Verbal comments on potential impacts to the Lick Run Greenway were obtained by Chris Decker and/or Phillip Hammack, VDOT's Project Manager.

As you may remember, proposed improvements to the Valley View Interchange with Interstate Route 581 will result in the

reconstruction and relocation of a short segment of the Lick Run Greenway, a multi-use trail developed by the City of Roanoke utilizing Transportation Enhancement funds. The City of Roanoke has stated that the improvements will not create an adverse impact on activities, features or attributes that qualify this resource for protection under Section 4(f). The project requires the permanent use of 0.71 acres of the property supporting the Lick Run Greenway. As such, VDOT will reconstruct the trail and secure additional right of way to support it

Please respond to this e-mail with your agreement in a Section 4(f) de minimis finding. Call me if you have questions or need additional information.

Fred R. Davis  
Environmental Planner  
Phone: (540) 378-5043  
Fax: (540) 387-5258  
e-mail: Fred.Davis@VDOT.Virginia.gov

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

From: Marisel.lopez-cruz@dot.gov [mailto:Marisel.lopez-cruz@dot.gov]  
Sent: Monday, November 09, 2009 2:48 PM  
To: Decker, Chris D  
Subject: RE: 0581-128-109, P101 UPC: 16595 Valley View Interchange

Chris,

Per our conversation, in order to move forward with the Public Notice I could do a preliminary determination of Section 4(f) de Minimis finding for this project. Once you receive final comments from the public and has completed the Section 106 coordination, then I could make an official De Minimis Impact determination. Attached are some minor comments regarding to the Public Notice. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have questions.

Regards,  
Marisel

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

From: Decker, Chris D [mailto:Chris.Decker@VDOT.Virginia.gov]  
Sent: Friday, November 06, 2009 10:37 AM  
To: Lopez-Cruz, Marisel (FHWA)  
Subject: FW: 0581-128-109, P101 UPC: 16595 Valley View Interchange  
Importance: High

Good Morning Marisel,

This is a follow up on our de minimis finding for this project (Lick Run Greenway) at Valley View interchange, City of Roanoke. The project meets all the criteria for de minimis and the jurisdiction (Roanoke City) has agreed that the project will not have an adverse affect on the activities, feature, and attributes that qualify the resource for protection. To make this official, I need you to make a statement agreeing with the de minimis finding.

I am nearing the point that we will put a public notice in the paper for two weeks offering the public an opportunity to comment. Take a look at this draft advertisement and let me know if you have any comments. Once the final date for comments has passed, I will let you know if we received any comments. FHWA can then make the official de minimis finding so I can use it in the CE document.

Thanks for your help.

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

From: Marisel.lopez-cruz@dot.gov [mailto:Marisel.lopez-cruz@dot.gov]  
Sent: Tuesday, August 11, 2009 7:48 AM  
To: Decker, Chris D

Subject: RE: 0581-128-109, P101 UPC: 16595 Valley View Interchange

Chris,

Please find attached the NEPA Concurrence Form signed. Please let me know if you need assistance.

Thanks,  
Marisel

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

From: Chris.Decker@Vdot.Virginia.Gov  
[mailto:Chris.Decker@Vdot.Virginia.Gov]  
Sent: Monday, August 10, 2009 2:55 PM  
To: Lopez-Cruz, Marisel (FHWA); Simkins, John (FHWA)  
Subject: 0581-128-109, P101 UPC: 16595 Valley View Interchange

Please find attached the NEPA Concurrence Form for this project. The project may also meet the criteria for a de minimus impact determination. John has been involved with this project and the meetings/discussions regarding the de minimus impact to the Lick Run Greenway.

If you have any questions, give me a call.