



State Revolving Fund Loan Programs Drinking Water, Wastewater, Nonpoint Source

PRELIMINARY DECISION OF CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION

TO ALL INTERESTED CITIZENS, ORGANIZATIONS AND GOVERNMENT AGENCIES:

**TOWN OF PALMYRA
CATCH BASINS AND LIFT STATION IMPROVEMENTS
SRF # WW 15 09 31 01**

Date: May 6, 2015

Pursuant to IC 4-4-11, the State Revolving Fund (SRF) Loan Program has determined that the project described here and in the town's Preliminary Engineering Report will have no substantial negative environmental impact. Therefore, the SRF is issuing a preliminary decision of Categorical Exclusion from the requirements of substantive environmental review.

How were environmental issues considered?

The National Environmental Policy Act requires agencies disbursing Federal funds to include environmental factors in the decision making process. A summary of the project is attached for your review. The SRF's preliminary review has found that the proposed project does not require the preparation of either an Environmental Assessment or an Environmental Impact Statement.

Why is additional environmental review not required?

Our environmental review has concluded that significant environmental impacts will not result from the proposed action.

How do I submit comments?

Comments can be submitted to:

April Douglas,
Senior Environmental Manager
SRF Programs
317-234-7294; adouglas@ifa.in.gov

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION

I. PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

Project Name and Address: **Catch Basins and Lift Station Improvements**
Town Council of Palmyra
765 Main Street NE
Palmyra, IN 47164-0332

SRF Project Number: WW 15 09 31 01

Authorized Representative: Virginia Kirkham, Town Council President

II. PROJECT LOCATION

Palmyra's proposed project is located in Morgan Township in Harrison County in the Palmyra USGS Quadrangle, Township 1S, Range 4E, Sections 19 and 30.

III. PROJECT NEED AND PURPOSE

Palmyra's proposed project consists of improvements to the wastewater collection and stormwater system including disconnecting four drainage structures (catch basins), as well as adding cellular dialers to eleven lift stations to monitor various conditions. These improvements are part of a larger project whose purpose is to address the town's sanitary sewer system, which has been experiencing excessive infiltration and inflow problems and causing surcharges throughout the sewer system along with sanitary sewer overflows.

IV. ESTIMATED PROJECT COSTS, AFFORDABILITY AND FUNDING

Total construction cost of this project is estimated to be approximately \$106,000. Palmyra will finance the project with a loan from the SRF Loan Program for a 20-year term at an annual fixed interest rate to be determined at loan closing, and potentially a grant from U.S. HUD/Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs Community Development Block Grant. Monthly user rates and charges may need to be analyzed to determine if adjustments are required for loan repayment.

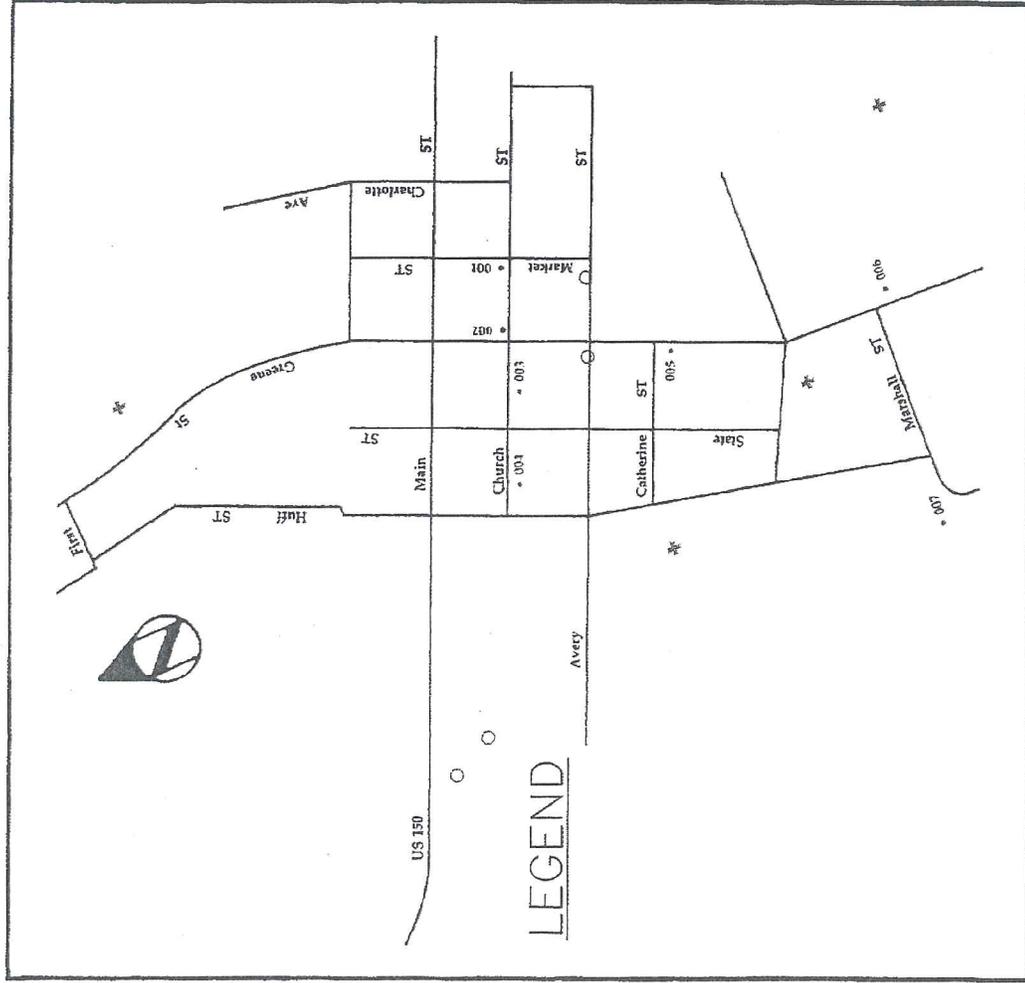
V. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS OF THE FEASIBLE ALTERNATIVES

Construction and operation of the project will not alter, demolish or remove historic properties. If any visual or audible impacts to historic properties occur, they will be temporary and will not alter the characteristics that qualify such properties for inclusion in or eligibility for the National Register of Historic Places. The SRF's finding pursuant to Section 106 of the National Preservation Act is: "no historic properties affected."

VI. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A properly noticed public hearing was held on October 22, 2014 at 9:00 am at the Palmyra Town Hall, 765 Main Street NE. There were no questions during the hearing. No written comments were received in the 5-day period following the hearing.

Figure 1: from the Harrison County Interim Report Historic Sites and Structures inventory.
Palmyra Scattered Sites (01001-007)



- 4 ○ SEPARATE CATCH BASIN
- LIFT STATION MONITORING IMPROVEMENT

The town of Palmyra can trace its beginnings back to the days when Indians, and the buffalo they hunted, roamed northern Harrison County. In 1804, Hays McCallen migrated from Kentucky and purchased 1000 acres southeast of present-day Palmyra. At that time numerous Indian camps existed in that area known as Buffalo Trace, so named for the herds of buffalo which made a path later used by settlers.

In 1810, McCallen established a tavern at the junction of the Vincennes Trail and Mauck's Ferry Road; the small settlement was known as McCallen's Cross Roads. At that time, Cross Roads was one of only four permanent settlements between New Albany and Vincennes. It is said that the Yellow Jackets, a military unit from Harrison County who fought the Indians with William Henry Harrison, camped at the tavern in 1811 on their way to Vincennes.

Although the settlement flourished during this time, McCallen did not plat the town until 1836. He named it Carthage, but the name was changed to Palmyra in 1839. In 1841, the New Albany-Vincennes Turnpike was constructed and passed through Palmyra. John Hunt Morgan, during his famed raid through southern Indiana, rode through the town in July of 1863.

None of the architecture of Palmyra's early years survive, except for a log house (002) built c.1840 and moved to make way for a new church. Otherwise, most of the surviving houses date from the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Notable examples include two Carpenter-Builder houses (003,005). Because Palmyra was the largest town in Morgan

