

FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

For

Indiana Project  
Des. No. 1400918

US 421 New Roadway Construction  
Jefferson County, Indiana

On January 18, 2018, the Environmental Assessment for this project was Authorized by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and released for public involvement. A public hearing was held February 20, 2018. The proposed project is located within Jefferson County, Indiana in the City of Madison and located through a portion of the Madison National Historic Landmark (NHL) Historic District and the Madison National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) Historic District. The proposed corridor improvements, located on the Indiana border of the Ohio River, are immediately adjacent to the Milton-Madison Bridge, providing approach access from the north.

The preferred alternative is an at grade alignment (Alternative 6). The proposed project will include maintaining US 421 on the existing Harrison Street alignment north of the Milton-Madison bridge. North of the Second Street intersection, US 421 will follow a new alignment on horizontal curve to the north and west tying into Main Street at Roosevelt Street. A signalized intersection will be provided at the intersection of Second Street/SR 56 and US 421. A 15 to 20-foot grade change between Second Street and Sering/US 421 will require retaining walls of varying location and height. Second Street will be redesignated as SR-56 between Sering Street and US 421/Main Street, and then continue on a shared alignment with US 421 to Jefferson Street, consistent with the existing route designations. The proposed cross section along US 421 consists of two 11-foot travel lanes, one each northbound and southbound. The project will include the construction of a pedestrian bridge with a 16-foot clear width. This pedestrian structure will connect to the walkway on the bridge carrying US 421 over the Ohio River.

It is estimated that 2.0 acres of permanent right-of-way will need to be acquired as part of this project. This project will require the acquisition of six structures. Land uses along the

project corridor are primarily commercial and residential. No streams or wetlands will be impacted by the proposed project.

The affected use of Section 4(f) resources by the proposed action were addressed through a Section 4(f) Analysis. The Madison NRHP Historic District and Madison NHL Historic District are located within the project limits. Both resources are considered Section 4(f) properties. Historic properties are the only Section 4(f) properties identified within the project area. The Indiana State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), National Park Service (NPS) and Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) are the officials with jurisdiction over these properties. A Section 4(f) evaluation was completed for this project in August 2017. FHWA has concluded there are no feasible and prudent alternative to the use of land from the Madison NRHP Historic District and the Madison NHL Historic District. The proposed action includes all possible planning to minimize harm to each of the districts resulting from such use. A Section 106 Memorandum of Agreement has been executed which supports implementation of the proposed improvements.

The FHWA has determined that this project, as identified in the Environmental Assessment, will have no significant impact on the natural and human environment. This Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) is based on the environmental assessment and Public Hearing transcript that have been independently evaluated by the FHWA and determined to adequately and accurately discuss the environmental issues and impacts of the proposed project. These documents provide sufficient evidence and analysis for determining that an environmental impact statement is not required. The FHWA takes full responsibility for the accuracy, scope and content of these documents.

April 12, 2018

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for Mayela Sosa  
Division Administrator