## Type I Categorical Exclusion Action Classification Form

STIP Project No.	I-5943
WBS Element	45886.1.1
Federal Project No.	0040107

#### A. <u>Project Description:</u>

This project is an Interstate Maintenance project in Raleigh located on I-40 from SR 1728 (Wade Avenue) to I-440/US1 in Wake County. The proposed work will include pavement rehabilitation, shoulder widening, guardrail replacement, bridge preservation, pavement markings, signing and ITS. See attached plan vicinity map showing project location and limits of work.

#### B. <u>Description of Need and Purpose:</u>

The primary purpose of the project is to rehabilitate pavement and drainage along I-40 and interchange ramps and loops within the project area. Paved shoulders, guardrail, pavement markings, signing and ITS cameras will be replaced as needed. Bridge preservation work is proposed on bridge numbers 910553, 910554 and 910552.

#### C. Categorical Exclusion Action Classification:

#### Type I(A) - Ground Disturbing Action

#### D. <u>Proposed Improvements:</u>

8. Installation of fencing, signs, pavement markings, small passenger shelters, traffic signals, and railroad warning devices where no substantial land acquisition or traffic disruption will occur.

21. Deployment of electronics, photonics, communications, or information processing used singly or in combination, or as components of a fully integrated system, to improve the efficiency or safety of a surface transportation system or to enhance security or passenger convenience. Examples include, but are not limited to, traffic control and detector devices, lane management systems, electronic payment equipment, automatic vehicle locaters, automated passenger counters, computer-aided dispatching systems, radio communications systems, dynamic message signs, and security equipment including surveillance and detection cameras on roadways and in transit facilities and on buses.

22. Projects, as defined in 23 U.S.C. 101, which would take place entirely within the existing operational right-of-way. Existing operational right-of-way refers to right-of-way that has been disturbed for an existing transportation facility or is maintained for a transportation purpose. This area includes the features associated with the physical footprint of the transportation facility (Including the roadway, bridges, interchanges, culverts, drainage, fixed guideways, mitigation areas, etc.) and other areas maintained for transportation purposes such as clear zone, traffic control signage, landscaping, any rest areas with direct access to a controlled access highway, areas maintained for safety and security of a transportation facility, parking facilities with direct access to an existing transportation facility, transit power substations, transit venting structures, and transit maintenance facilities. Portions of the right-of-way that have not been disturbed or that are not maintained for transportation purposes are not in the existing operational right-of-way.

26. Modernization of a highway by resurfacing, restoration, rehabilitation, reconstruction, adding shoulders, or adding auxiliary lanes (including parking, weaving, turning, and climbing lanes), if the action meets the constraints listed in 23 CFR 771.117(e)(1-6).

28. Bridge rehabilitation, reconstruction, or replacement or the construction of grade separation to replace existing at-grade railroad crossings, if the actions meet the constraints in 23 CFR 771.117(e)(1-6).

E. <u>Special Project Information:</u>

#### 2021 Cost Estimates

Construction: \$13,700,000 Right of Way: N/A Utility: N/A

Total Cost: \$13,700,000

All estimates are preliminary.

The project will take place entirely within existing maintained Right of Way. Traffic will be maintained on site during construction. The public will be notified through message boards of any lane closures.

A Natural Resource and Protected Species Memo (September 30, 2021) has been completed for the project. Biological Conclusions of No Effect have been provided for Bald Eagle, Michaux's Sumac, Red-cockaded woodpecker, Neuse River waterdog, Carolina Madtom, Atlantic Pictoe, Dwarf Wedgemussel, Tar River Spinymussel, Cape Fear Shiner and Yellow Lance. The Biological Conclusion for the Northern-long eared bat is May Affect, Likely to Adversely Affect.

A Cultural Resources Programmatic Agreement Screening Checklist dated October 27, 2021, for Section 106 has been completed for the project.

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#### F2. Ground Disturbing Actions – Type I

Proposed improvement(s) that fit Type I Actions (NCDOT-FHWA CE Programmatic Agreement, Appendix A) including 2, 3, 6, 7, 9, 12, 18, 21, 22 (ground disturbing), 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, &/or 30; &/or Type II Actions (NCDOT-FHWA CE Programmatic Agreement, Appendix B) answer the project impact threshold questions (below) and questions 8 – 31.

- If any question 1-7 is checked "Yes" then NCDOT certification for FHWA approval is required.
  - If any question 8-31 is checked "Yes" then additional information will be required for those questions in Section G.

PROJECT IMPACT THRESHOLDS (FHWA signature required if any of the questions 1-7 are marked "Yes".)		Yes	No
1	Does the project require formal consultation with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) or National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)?		$\mathbf{\overline{A}}$
2	Does the project result in impacts subject to the conditions of the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (BGEPA)?		$\mathbf{\nabla}$
3	Does the project generate substantial controversy or public opposition, for any reason, following appropriate public involvement?		$\checkmark$
4	Does the project cause disproportionately high and adverse impacts relative to low- income and/or minority populations?		V
5	Does the project involve a residential or commercial displacement, or a substantial amount of right of way acquisition?		$\checkmark$
6	Does the project require an Individual Section 4(f) approval?		$\mathbf{\nabla}$
7	Does the project include adverse effects that cannot be resolved with a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) or have an adverse effect on a National Historic Landmark (NHL)?		V
If any question 8-31 is checked "Yes" then additional information will be required for those questions in Section G.			
Othe	Other Considerations Yes N		No
8	Is an Endangered Species Act (ESA) determination unresolved or is the project covered by a Programmatic Agreement under Section 7?	V	
9	Is the project located in anadromous fish spawning waters?		$\mathbf{\nabla}$
10	Does the project impact waters classified as Outstanding Resource Water (ORW), High Quality Water (HQW), Water Supply Watershed Critical Areas, 303(d) listed impaired water bodies, buffer rules, or Submerged Aquatic Vegetation (SAV)?		V
11	Does the project impact Waters of the United States in any of the designated mountain trout streams?		$\mathbf{\nabla}$
12	Does the project require a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Individual Section 404 Permit?		V
13	Will the project require an easement from a Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) licensed facility?		$\mathbf{V}$

Other Considerations for Type I and II Ground Disturbing Actions (continued)		Yes	No
14	Does the project include a Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) effects determination other than a No Effect, including archaeological remains?		Ň
15	Does the project involve GeoEnvironmental Sites of Concerns such as gas stations, dry cleaners, landfills, etc.?		A
16	Does the project require work encroaching and adversely affecting a regulatory floodway or work affecting the base floodplain (100-year flood) elevations of a water course or lake, pursuant to Executive Order 11988 and 23 CFR 650 subpart A?		V
17	Is the project in a Coastal Area Management Act (CAMA) county and substantially affects the coastal zone and/or any Area of Environmental Concern (AEC)?		
18	Does the project require a U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) permit?		$\checkmark$
19	Does the project involve construction activities in, across, or adjacent to a designated Wild and Scenic River present within the project area?		$\mathbf{N}$
20	Does the project involve Coastal Barrier Resources Act (CBRA) resources?		$\checkmark$
21	Does the project impact federal lands (e.g. U.S. Forest Service (USFS), USFWS, etc.) or Tribal Lands?		$\mathbf{N}$
22	Does the project involve any changes in access control or the modification or construction of an interchange on an interstate?		$\mathbf{N}$
23	Does the project have a permanent adverse effect on local traffic patterns or community cohesiveness?		$\mathbf{N}$
24	Will maintenance of traffic cause substantial disruption?		M
25	Is the project inconsistent with the STIP, and where applicable, the Metropolitan Planning Organization's (MPO's) Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)?		V
26	Does the project require the acquisition of lands under the protection of Section 6(f) of the Land and Water Conservation Act, the Federal Aid in Fish Restoration Act, the Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act, Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA), Tribal Lands, or other unique areas or special lands that were acquired in fee or easement with public-use money and have deed restrictions or covenants on the property?		Ŋ
27	Does the project involve Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) buyout properties under the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)?		V
28	Does the project include a <i>de minimis</i> or programmatic Section 4(f)?		$\mathbf{\Sigma}$
29	Is the project considered a Type I under the NCDOT Noise Policy?		$\mathbf{N}$
30	Is there prime or important farmland soil impacted by this project as defined by the Farmland Protection Policy Act (FPPA)?		$\mathbf{N}$
31	Are there other issues that arose during the project development process that affected the project decision?		N

**Response to Question 8: Northern Long-Eared Bat:** The NLEB PBO states that activities covered under the PBO are MA-LAA, the following is verbiage utilized in other NCDOT environmental assessment reports: Northern Long-Eared Bat: The US Fish and Wildlife Service has revised the previous programmatic biological opinion (PBO) in conjunction with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), and NCDOT for the northern long-eared bat (NLEB) (Myotis septentrionalis) in eastern North Carolina. The PBO covers the entire NCDOT program in Divisions 1-8, including all NCDOT projects and activities. Although this programmatic covers Divisions 1-8, NLEBs are currently only known in 19 counties, but may potentially occur in 11 additional counties within Divisions 1-8. NCDOT, FHWA, and USACE have agreed to two conservation measures which will avoid/minimize mortality of NLEBs. These conservation measures only apply to the 30 current known/potential counties shown on Figure 2 of the PBO at this time. The programmatic determination for NLEB for the NCDOT program is May Affect, Likely to Adversely Affect. The PBO will ensure compliance with Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act for ten years (effective through December 31, 2030) for all NCDOT projects with a federal nexus in Divisions 1-8, which includes the county where this project is located.

### H. Project Commitments

# NCDOT PROJECT COMMITMENTS

STIP Project No. **I-5943** I-40 From Sr 1728 (Wade Avenue) to I-440/US 1 In Raleigh Wake County Federal Aid Project No. 0040107 WBS Element 45886.1.1

I. No project commitments.

STIP Project No.	I-5943
WBS Element	45886.1.1
Federal Project No.	0040107

Prepared By:

. ,	CocuSigned by:
10/28/2021	Allison White
Date	Allison K. White, Senior Project Manager North Carolina Department of Transportation, Project Management Unit
Reviewed By:	DocuSigned by:
10/28/2021	Pamela K. Williams
Date	Pamela R. Williams, Team-Lead, Divisions 5 & 8 North Carolina Department of Transportation, Project Management Unit
Approve	<ul> <li>If NO grey boxes are checked in Section F (pages 2 and 3), NCDOT approves the Type I or Type II Categorical Exclusion.</li> </ul>
Certifie	<ul> <li>If classified as Type III Categorical Exclusion.</li> </ul>
10/29/2021	DocuSigned by:
Date	Tracy 1. Passatt Tracy Parrott, PE, Division 5, Deputy Division Engineer North Carolina Department of Transportation
FHWA Approved: F	For Projects Certified by NCDOT (above), FHWA signature required.

Date

for John F. Sullivan, III, PE, Division Administrator Federal Highway Administration



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