

# Type I and II Ground Disturbing Categorical Exclusion Action Classification Form

STIP Project No.	EB-5878
WBS Element	47273.3.1
Federal Project No.	TAP-1007 (037)

A. Project Description:

The City of Greensboro is planning to improve approximately 0.4 miles of sidewalk at the north and south sides of the Meadowview Road from Randleman Road to S. Elm-Eugene Street including 1,528.5 feet of 5'-concrete sidewalk and 779 feet of 6'-concrete sidewalk. (See Attachment A – Location Maps and Photographs).

B. Description of Need and Purpose:

The purpose of this project is to facilitate and improve pedestrian access along Meadowview Road by construction of new sidewalk and reconstruction of existing sidewalk between Elm-Eugene Street and Randleman Road. The sidewalk will be constructed adjacent to existing roadways in areas that have been identified as lacking pedestrian accommodations or needing improved pedestrian accommodations. The project will provide safe and convenient pedestrian access, and will improve access and connectivity for underserved areas by extending sidewalk and by filling in key gaps in the sidewalk system. All sections of sidewalk included in this project are identified in the 2040 Metropolitan Transportation Plan for the Greensboro Urban Area MPO and are included in the adopted Greensboro Urban Area Bicycle, Pedestrian, and Greenway Master Plan Update 2016.

C. Categorical Exclusion Action Classification: (Check one)

- TYPE IA  
 TYPE II

D. Proposed Improvements – Delete Action Classifications that do not apply.

- 3. Construction of bicycle and pedestrian lanes, paths, and facilities.
- 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.
- 23. Federally-funded projects:
  - a) That receive less than \$5,000,000 (as adjusted annually by the Secretary to reflect any increases in the Consumer Price Index prepared by the Department of Labor) of Federal funds.

E. Special Project Information:

Threatened and Endangered Species:

Threatened and Endangered Species reviews were performed on April 23, 2019 and October 21, 2019 by an environmental scientist with WithersRavenel (WR). The reviews included a pedestrian survey to assess vegetative communities and identify potential habitat for, or occurrences of, federally listed species within or immediately adjacent to the review area. The current federally listed species known to occur in Guilford County are the Cape Fear shiner (Endangered), the Roanoke logperch (Endangered), Schweinitz's sunflower (Endangered), small whorled pogonia (Threatened) and the bald eagle (Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act). Also, the Atlantic pigtoe is listed as an At Risk Species (Proposed Threatened).

The survey for federally listed threatened and endangered species resulted in a biological conclusion that activities within the review area will have "No Effect" on the Cape Fear shiner, the Roanoke logperch, Schweinitz's sunflower, small whorled pogonia, the bald eagle, and the Atlantic pigtoe due to either a lack of habitat or the lack of presence of the species.

The US Fish and Wildlife Service has developed a 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) in eastern North Carolina. The PBO covers the entire NCDOT program in Divisions 1-8, including all NCDOT projects and activities. The programmatic determination for NLEB for the NCDOT program in Divisions 1-8 is "May Affect, Likely to Adversely Affect." The PBO will provide incidental take coverage for NLEB and will ensure compliance with Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act for five years for all NCDOT projects with a federal nexus in Divisions 1-8, which includes Guilford County, where the Project is located. This level of incidental take is authorized from the effective date of final listing through April 30, 2020.

Wetlands, Streams, and Buffers:

The site review did not identify any wetlands within the review area.

The site review identified one intermittent stream (Stream 1) within the review area.

If proposed activities will result in either temporary or permanent impacts to Stream 1, authorization from the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and NC Division of Water Resources (NCDWR) will be required through Section 404/401 permitting.

The project is located within the Jordan Lake drainage basin (Haw River sub basin) and is subject to the Jordan Lake Riparian Buffer Rules. Since the proposed project is a City of Greensboro project, enforcement of the Jordan Lake Buffer Rules would default to NCDWR. Per the Jordan Lake Riparian Buffer Rules, any intermittent or perennial streams depicted on the USGS Quadrangle Maps or Guilford County Soil Survey are subject to 50' riparian buffers.

There are two depicted features within the review area, consisting of a stream and a pond. Based on the site review the two depicted features were determined "not present" in the field, and therefore are not subject to riparian buffers.

Stream 1 is not depicted on either the USGS Quadrangle or the Guilford County soil survey and therefore is not subject to riparian buffers.

Since there are depicted features within the review area, a buffer determination by NCDWR will be required to formally determine that these features are not present and therefore are not subject to Jordan Lake Riparian Buffers.

National Historic Preservation Act:

The project does not propose to rehabilitate, alter, remove, or demolish any historic property, and there is no proposed sale, transfer, or lease of historic properties within the project area. The NC Department of Cultural Resources, State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) has reviewed the proposed project. In their response letter dated October 19, 2018 (see attachment B), SHPO stated that they are aware of no historic resources which would be affected by the project and, therefore, have no comment on the project as proposed.

Right of Way/ Easements, Section 4(f) and Section 6(f):

The project does not require the relocation of any residence or business, nor are any parking spaces being eliminated from any parking lots. The proposed sidewalk will be located adjacent to the existing roadway, resulting in minimal impact to any front yard or commercial property. The project only requires the acquisition of 0.2 AC in ROW and 0.13 AC in TCE. The project does not use land from any 4(f) resource. There are no Section 6(f) resources located within the project limits.

Environmental Screening

A Transaction Screen Assessment (TSA) was performed for this project that included site reconnaissance and review of ownership documents, aerial photographs, historical property uses, public records, the Environmental Data Resources (EDR) Report and the construction plans provided by the City of Greensboro. Based on the results of this environmental review and the scope of the proposed sidewalk improvements, one environmental concern was identified at the Citgo Pit Stop located on the southwest corner of the intersection of Meadowview Road and S. Elm-Eugene Street. Active petroleum underground storage tanks are present on the north side of the property adjacent to the proposed sidewalk improvements. WR recommends that a ground-penetrating radar (GPR) survey be performed in this area to determine if any tanks are located within the sidewalk construction area.

Permits Required

NCDWR Buffer Determination (and Authorization, if applicable)

Estimated Costs

Right of Way	\$ 175,000
Construction	\$ 435,000
Total	\$ 610,000

F. Project Impact Criteria Checklists:

<u>Type I &amp; II - Ground Disturbing Actions</u>				
<u>FHWA APPROVAL ACTIVITIES THRESHOLD CRITERIA</u>				
If any of questions 1-7 are marked "yes" then the CE will require FHWA approval.			Yes	No
1	Does the project require formal consultation with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) or National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
2	Does the project result in impacts subject to the conditions of the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (BGPA)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
3	Does the project generate substantial controversy or public opposition, for any reason, following appropriate public involvement?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
4	Does the project cause disproportionately high and adverse impacts relative to low-income and/or minority populations?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
5	Does the project involve a residential or commercial displacement, or a substantial amount of right of way acquisition?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
6	Does the project require an Individual Section 4(f) approval?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
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)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
If any of questions 8 through 31 are marked "yes" then additional information will be required for those questions in Section G.				
<u>Other Considerations</u>			Yes	No
8	Does the project result in a finding of "may affect not likely to adversely affect" for listed species, or designated critical habitat under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (ESA)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
9	Does the project impact anadromous fish?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
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)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
11	Does the project impact waters of the United States in any of the designated mountain trout streams?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
12	Does the project require a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Individual Section 404 Permit?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
13	Will the project require an easement from a Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) licensed facility?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
14	Does the project include a Section 106 of the NHPA effects determination other than a no effect, including archaeological remains?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

15	Does the project involve hazardous materials and/or landfills?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
18	Does the project require a U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) permit?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
19	Does the project involve construction activities in, across, or adjacent to a designated Wild and Scenic River present within the project area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
20	Does the project involve Coastal Barrier Resources Act (CBRA) resources?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
21	Does the project impact federal lands (e.g. U.S. Forest Service (USFS), USFWS, etc.) or Tribal Lands?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
22	Does the project involve any changes in access control?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
23	Does the project have a permanent adverse effect on local traffic patterns or community cohesiveness?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
24	Will maintenance of traffic cause substantial disruption?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
25	Is the project inconsistent with the STIP or the Metropolitan Planning Organization's (MPO's) Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) (where applicable)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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), 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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
27	Does the project involve Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) buyout properties under the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
28	Does the project include a <i>de minimis</i> or programmatic Section 4(f)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
29	Is the project considered a Type I under the NCDOT's Noise Policy?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
30	Is there prime or important farmland soil impacted by this project as defined by the Farmland Protection Policy Act (FPPA)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
31	Are there other issues that arose during the project development process that affected the project decision?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

G. Additional Documentation as Required from Section F

None.

## H. Project Commitments

Guilford  
Meadowview Sidewalk Improvements  
Federal Project No. TAP-1007(037)  
WBS No. 47273.3.1  
TIP No. EB-5878

### **City of Greensboro – Engineering and Inspections Department**

- The project is located within the Jordan Lake drainage basin and is subject to the Jordan Lake Riparian Buffer Rules. If it is determined that a Buffer Authorization is required for the project, it will be obtained and the City of Greensboro will coordinate with the NCDEQ Division of Water Resources (NCDWR) during design and construction.
- After project completion, the contract administrator for construction must submit the actual amount of tree clearing reported in tenths of acres. This information should be submitted at:  
<https://connect.ncdot.gov/site/construction/biosurveys/Lists/Northern%20Long%20Eared%20Bat/AllItems.aspx> Please contact ([cdmanley@ncdot.gov](mailto:cdmanley@ncdot.gov)), Environmental Analysis Unit- Biological Surveys Group with any questions.
- At the Citgo Pit Stop located on the southwest corner of the intersection of Meadowview Road and S. Elm-Eugene Street, active petroleum underground storage tanks are present on the north side of the property adjacent to the proposed sidewalk improvements. A ground-penetrating radar (GPR) survey will be performed in this area to determine if any tanks are located within the sidewalk construction area. Based on the survey results, construction in this area will be evaluated in accordance with NCDEQ standards and regulations.
- The construction plans and specifications will include notes and special provisions requiring the contractor to handle any contaminated soil and groundwater encountered in accordance with NCDEQ standards and regulations.

I. Categorical Exclusion Approval

STIP Project No. EB-5878  
WBS Element 47273.3.1  
Federal Project No. TAP-1007(037)

The City of Greensboro is planning to construct approximately 0.8 miles of sidewalk at two locations in the City of Greensboro on New Garden Road and College Road.

**Prepared By:**

3-11-20

Date

Tyler Meyer  
Tyler Meyer, AICP  
City of Greensboro

3-12-2020

Date

Frances S. Gallagher  
Frances S. Gallagher, PE, Sr. Project Manager  
WithersRavenel

**Prepared For:**

John Fersner, PE, City of Greensboro, NC  
Local Government Agency

**Reviewed By:**

7/27/2020

Date

DocuSigned by:  
John Jamison  
CA084B4A6412432...  
John Jamison, Western Regional Lead  
NCDOT Environmental Policy Unit



**Approved**

If all of the threshold questions (1 through 7) of Section F are answered "no," NCDOT approves this Categorical Exclusion.



**Certified**

If any of the threshold questions (1 through 7) of Section F are answered "yes," NCDOT certifies this Categorical Exclusion.

7/28/2020

Date

DocuSigned by:  
J. M. Mills/P. D. Wilson for  
2232BC18A448466...  
Mike Mills, PE, Division Engineer  
NCDOT Division 7

FHWA Approved: For Projects Certified by NCDOT (above), FHWA signature required.

Date

N/A  
John F. Sullivan, III, PE, Division Administrator  
Federal Highway Administration

**ATTACHMENT A: PROJECT LOCATION MAPS AND PHOTOGRAPHS**



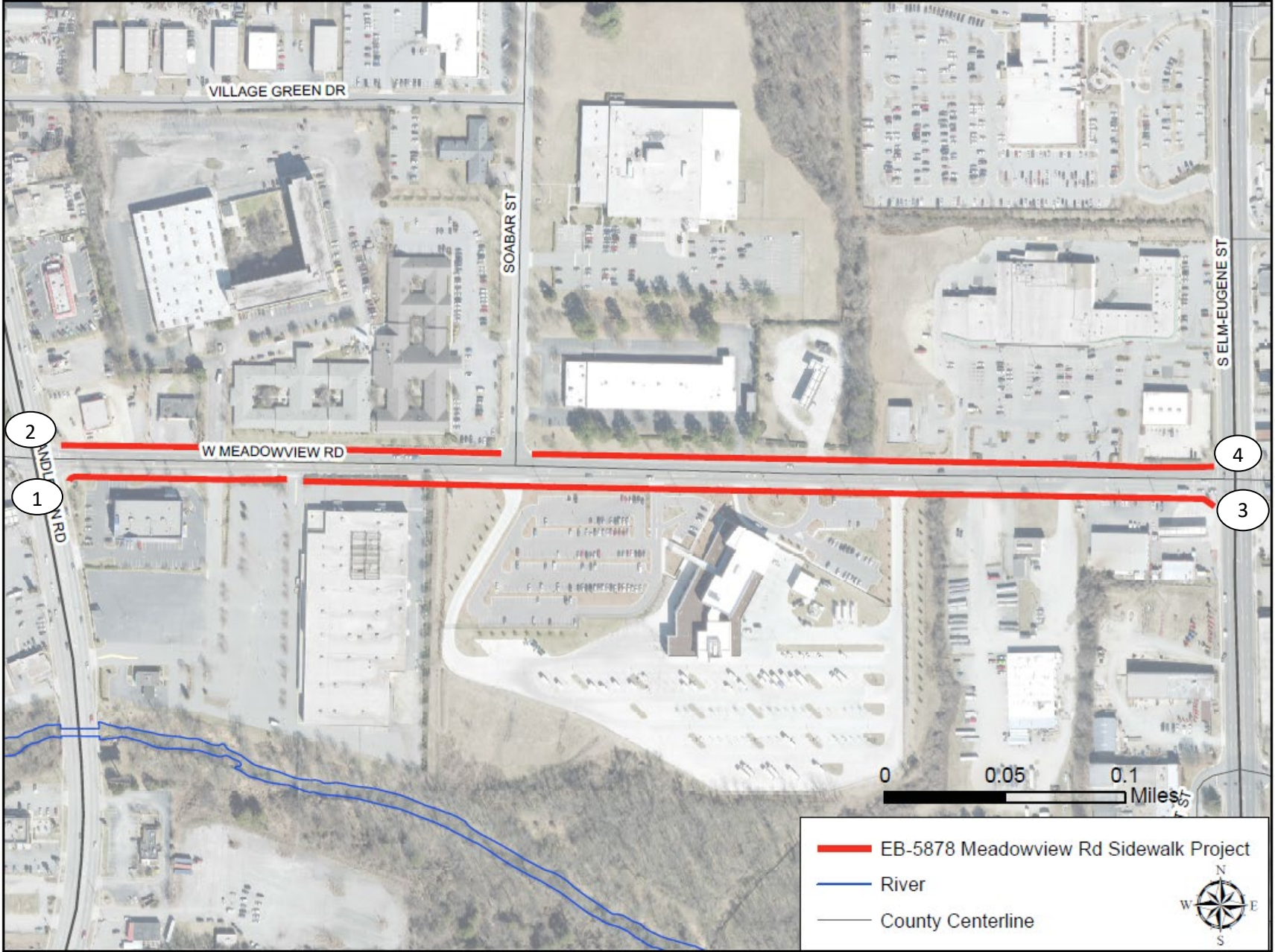




Photo 1: View looking east on south side of Meadowview Road from the intersection of Randleman Road and Meadowview Road.



Photo 2: View looking east on north side of Meadowview Road from the intersection of Randleman Road and Meadowview Road.



Photo 3: View looking west on south side of Meadowview Road from the intersection of S. Elm-Eugene Street and Meadowview Road.



Photo 4: View looking west on north side of Meadowview Road from the intersection of S. Elm-Eugene Street and Meadowview Road.

Attachment B



**North Carolina Department of Natural and Cultural Resources**  
**State Historic Preservation Office**

Ramona M. Bartos, Administrator

Governor Roy Cooper  
Secretary Susi H. Hamilton

Office of Archives and History  
Deputy Secretary Kevin Cherry

October 19, 2018

Tram Truong  
City of Greensboro  
PO Box 3136  
Greensboro, NC 27402

Re: Meadowview Road Improvements from Randleman Road to South Elm Eugene Street, Greensboro, EB-5878, Guilford County, ER 18-3134

Dear Ms. Truong:

Thank you for your email of October 5, 2018, concerning the above project.

We have conducted a review of the project and are aware of no historic resources which would be affected by the project. Therefore, we have no comment on the project as proposed.

The above comments are made pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation's Regulations for Compliance with Section 106 codified at 36 CFR Part 800.

Thank you for your cooperation and consideration. If you have questions concerning the above comment, contact Renee Gledhill-Earley, environmental review coordinator, at 919-807-6579 or [environmental.review@ncdcr.gov](mailto:environmental.review@ncdcr.gov). In all future communication concerning this project, please cite the above referenced tracking number.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Renee Gledhill-Earley".

for Ramona M. Bartos