

Highway 112/Garland Ave. Improvements Environmental Summary

The Arkansas Department of Transportation (ARDOT) Environmental Division reviewed the Highway 112/Garland Avenue Improvements (Project) and has determined it falls within the definition of a Tier 3 Categorical Exclusion. A summary of the basis of this determination is below.

Waters of the United States

A stream and wetland assessment was submitted to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Little Rock District on September 10, 2020. The project will fill approximately 114 linear feet of Hamestring Creek and an intermittent tributary to Hamestring Creek. A Section 404 permit authorizing this activity under National Permit 14 was issued on April 14, 2021.

Threatened and Endangered Species

Review of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Information for Planning and Consultation was conducted on July 15, 2020 and reconfirmed on June 7, 2021. While the project lies within the range of federally protected species, no critical habitat for any threatened or endangered species has been identified in the project area.

Traffic Noise

A noise analysis was conducted for the project utilizing FHWA's Traffic Noise Model 2.5 to identify potential noise impacts based on ARDOT Noise Policy. Because noise levels in the project area are already dominated by traffic noise from the existing roadway, the impacts caused by the project would be minor (e.g., noise levels not exceeding a 1 to 2 dBA increase). Because of the presence of driveways and intersections within the project footprint and the sight distances required for safe operation, construction of noise walls or barriers was determined to not be feasible or prudent, and noise abatement is not considered for this project.

Farmland

Coordination with the U.S. Department of Agriculture National Resources Conservation Service indicated that because the project is located within the Fayetteville municipal boundary, "this activity will not affect prime farmland or farmland of statewide importance."

Cultural Resources

Cultural resources surveys as required under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act identified two resources that qualify for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places. The resources include Agri-Park and Oak Grove Landscape and the Barton Pavilion. The project would use a minimal amount of land from within the boundary of the Agri-Park and Oak Grove Landscape and would not affect Barton Pavilion. In a letter dated April 10, 2021, the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program concurred with the determination of "no adverse effect" to historic properties.

Section 4(f)/6(f) Resources

The project would result in the use of two recreational resources protected under Section 4(f): the Agri-Park and the Meadow Valley Trail. Approximately 0.26 acre, most of which is encumbered by existing trail and utility easements, would be acquired from the 7.85-acre park. Sections of Meadow Valley Trail impacted by the project will be relocated, and the full function of the Meadow Valley Trail will be maintained. The tunnel carrying the trail under Garland Avenue will be temporarily closed during construction for the safety of the public. The use of a minor amount of land from Agri-Park and relocation/reconstruction of limited sections of Meadow Valley Trail qualify as a *de minimis* effect under Section 4(f) for both recreational properties.



Legend

- Construction Limits
- Agri Park
- - - Meadow Valley Trail

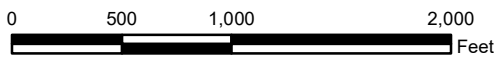








Figure 1 - Project Limits
 Highway 112 - Garland Avenue Widening
 Fayetteville, AR


Date: 12/16/2020
 Drawn by: TH
 Checked by: LR



	New Trail
	Physical APE
	Meadow Valley Trail
	Site 3WA1583
	Structure WA1038



0 90 180



Feet



Figure 3
 3WA1583 Site Boundary
 Highway 112 Widening Project
 City of Fayetteville
 Washington County, Arkansas