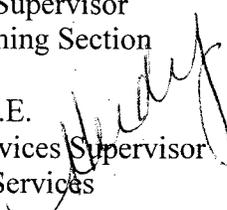




Montana Department of Transportation
PO Box 201001
Helena, MT 59620-1001

Memorandum

To: Dawn Stratton, Supervisor
Fiscal Programming Section

From: Heidi Bruner, P.E. 
Engineering Services Supervisor
Environmental Services

Date: March 16, 2011

Subject: SF079 Delineators – Columbia Falls
HSIP 15(79)
Control Number: 6428 000

Environmental Services has determined that this proposed project will not involve unusual circumstances as described under 23 CFR 771.117(b). It therefore qualifies as a Categorical Exclusion under the provisions of 23 CFR 771.117(c), part (8). The proposed project is a Safety Engineering Improvement Program to install delineation and winding road sign on 0.5 miles of River Road in Flathead County south of Columbia Falls. A February 14, 2011 Project Report describing the project in more detail is attached and includes a location map. A Work at Agreed Price Agreement will be executed between MDT and Flathead County. Plans will be sent to Flathead County for installation. This proposed action also qualifies as a Categorical Exclusion under the provisions of ARM 18.2.261 (Sections **75-1-103** and **75-1-201, M.C.A.**).

In accordance with the Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA) letter of March 29, 1999, please notify FHWA that the proposed action is being processed in accordance with 23 CFR 771.117(c).

Attachment

cc: Doug Moeller District Administrator- Missoula
Paul F. Ferry, P.E. Highways Engineer
LeRoy Wosoba Project Design Manager
Suzy Price, P.E. Contract Plans Supervisor
Tom Martin, P.E. Environmental Services Bureau Chief
Susan Kilcrease Missoula Project Development Engineer
Gene Kaufman, P.E. Operations Engineer-FHWA
Environmental Quality Council
File



Montana Department of Transportation
 PO Box 201001
 Helena, MT 59620-1001

RECEIVED

FEB 16 2011

ENVIRONMENTAL

Memorandum

To: Distribution

From: Duane Williams, PE
 Traffic and Safety Engineer

Date: February 14, 2010

Subject: HSIP 15(79)
 SF079 Delineators-Columbia Falls
 6428000
 411-Signing, Pavement Markings, Chevrons, Etc

Attached is the Project Report (SOW) which was approved on 2-11-10. We request that those on the distribution review this report and submit your concurrence within two weeks of the approval date. Due to the limited scope of this project, MD1 desires to deliver this safety project by Spring of 2011. this report only addresses necessary features specific to this project.

This report also includes a preliminary design; any comments regarding this design should be made at this time. The plans will be finalized when the Project Report (SOW) is approved.

Your comments and recommendations are also requested if you do not concur or concur subject to certain conditions. When all personnel on the distribution list have concurred, and the environmental documentation is approved, we will submit this report to the Chief Engineer for approval.

Distribution:

- Doug Moeller, Missoula District Administrator
- Tom Martin, Environmental Services Bureau Chief

CC:

- Dave Jensen, Fiscal Programming Section Supervisor
- LeRoy Wosoba, Project Design Manager

ccopies:

- Bonnie Gundrum, Env. Bureau Resources Section
- Pat Basting, District Biologist
- Susan Kilerese, District Project Development Engineer
- Danielle Bolan, Traffic Engineer

Environmental Services					
Att	Info	Comm	Date	Appr	Notes
			3/1		
			Routing		

/ Susan
 / PAT
 / JON
 / BRIAN

Project Report (SOW)

LPN 6428000

Project Manager: LeRoy Wosoba

Page 1

Introduction

The field review for the subject project was held on October 16, 2008 with the following personnel in attendance. No personnel from Flathead County were able to attend the field review.

James Freyholtz – Kalispell Traffic
LeRoy Wosoba – Helena Traffic
Pam Aldridge – Helena Traffic
Dan Cunningham – Helena Electrical

A meeting was held on site to discuss this project with Flathead County on October 6, 2010 with the following personell in attendance.

James Freyholtz – Kalispell Traffic
LeRoy Wosoba – Helena Traffic
David Prunty – Flathead County Roads Supervisor

Proposed Scope of Work

The proposed project has been nominated through the Safety Engineering Improvement Program to install delineation on River Road in Flathead County south of Columbia Falls. In addition to the delineation a winding road sign will be installed at the south end of the road segment. There is currently a winding road sign at the north end.

Flathead County will install the sign through a Work at Agreed Price agreement.

Project Location and Limits

The project is a roadway locally known as River Road (Departmental route L-15-25) located in Flathead County. The project is between reference post (RP) 0.00 and RP 0.5. The TIS Roadlog currently has the following information on L-15-25:

Functionally classified as a rural minor collector.

River Road was built under county construction with an unknown date or project. L-15-25 has two 11-foot driving lanes and no shoulder.

Work Zone Safety and Mobility

At this time, Level 1 construction zone impacts are anticipated for this project as defined in the Work Zone Safety and Mobility (WZSM) guidance. The work will have a minimal impact to the traveling public.

Crash Analysis

The Safety Management Section analysis of this roadway segment determined that there were 12 reported crashes occurring at this location during the ten year period 1999 through 2008. 7 of the 12 crashes were run off the road crashes are considered to be addressable by the proposed improvement. Of the seven run off the road crashes five occurred during hours of darkness.

This location has experienced no fatal crash, five injury crashes and seven property damage only crashes.

Project Report (SOW)

UPN 6428000

Project Manager: LeRoy Wosoba

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Major Design Features

- a. **Design Speed.** The design speed for this project is 50 mph.
- b. **Horizontal Alignment.** No changes to the horizontal alignment are proposed with this project.
- c. **Vertical Alignment.** No changes to the vertical alignment are proposed with this project.
- d. **Typical Sections and Surfacing.** No surfacing work is planned for this project
- e. **Geotechnical Considerations.** Not applicable to this project.
- f. **Hydraulics.** Not applicable to this project.
- g. **Bridges.** No bridges are impacted by this project
- h. **Traffic.** This project will add a northbound winding road warning sign and standard delineation. The existing southbound sign will be replaced.
- i. **Pedestrian/Bicycle/ADA.** No additional pedestrian, bicycle or ADA features are proposed for this project.
- j. **Miscellaneous Features.** Not applicable to this project.
- k. **Context Sensitive Design Issues.** No context sensitive design elements are proposed.

Public Involvement

The level of public involvement for this project will be level A. A news release will be sent to the local media. A draft news release is included:

MDT proposes a signing project on River Road

Columbia Falls - The Montana Department of Transportation would like to notify the public and seek comments on a proposal to add delineation and signing on River Road from MP 0.0 to MP 0.5. This work has been proposed to address a correctable crash trend identified on this roadway.

The design is anticipated to be completed in the fall of 2010.

No new right-of-way or utility relocations are anticipated.

For more information, please contact Missoula District Administrator Doug Moeller at (406) 523-5802 or Project Design Engineer LeRoy Wosoba at (406) 444-1280. For the hearing impaired, the TTY number is (406) 444-7696 or 1-800-335-7592, or call the Montana Relay at 711. People may submit written comments to the Montana Department of Transportation Butte office at PO Box 7039, Missoula, MT 59807-7039, or online at www.mdt.mt.gov/mdt/comment_form.shtml noting comments are for project UPN 6683. Alternative accessible formats of this information will be provided upon request.

Environmental Considerations

The level of Environmental Document is expected to be Categorical Exclusion. When the Environmental Document is completed the plans will be finalized based on comments received, the appropriate programming will be requested, a Work at Agreed Price Agreement will be executed between MDT and Flathead County, and the plans will be sent to Flathead County for installation of the improvements.

Preliminary Cost Estimate

Cost Estimate	w/o IDC	w/ IDC (13.35%)
Signing	\$ 531.00	\$ 601.88
Total	\$ 531.00	\$ 601.88

Project Report (SOW)

UPN 6428000

Project Manager: LeRoy Wosoba

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Ready Date

This project will not be going down an OPX-2 project schedule and no ready date will be established. When the Environmental Document is completed the plans will be finalized based on comments received, the appropriate programming will be requested, a Work at Agreed Price Agreement will be executed between MDT and Flathead County, and the plans will be sent to Flathead County for installation of the improvements.

Site Map

The project site map is attached.

Project Report (SOW)

UPN 6428000

Project Manager: LeRoy Wosoba

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