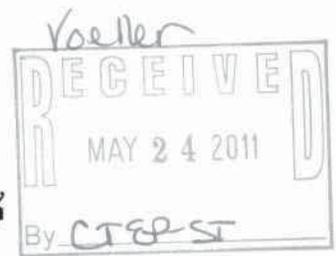


**Office of
The Board of County Commissioners
Granite County**



Post Office Box 925, Philipsburg, Montana 59858-0925
Office Telephone 406-859-7022 Office Fax 406-859-3817 Web Site www.co.granite.mt.us

Clifford Nelson, Chairman
25 Nelson Lane
Philipsburg MT 59858

Maureen Connor, Commissioner
P O Box 6
Philipsburg MT 59858

Scott C. Adler, Commissioner
750 Frontage Road West
Drummond MT 50932

May 17, 2011

Gene Kaufman, Operations Engineer
Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)
585 Shepard Way
Helena, MT 59601

Subject: **Categorical Exclusion Group (d) Action Letter**

Reference: Federal-aid Project Number: STPE 20(24)
 Federal-aid Project Name: GRANITE CO CRTHSE - PHILIPSBURG
 MDT Uniform Project Number: 7341

This is a request for FHWA concurrence that the proposed project meets the criteria for classification as a Categorical Exclusion under the provisions of 23 CFR 771.117(d). This proposed action also qualifies as a Categorical Exclusion under the provisions of ARM 18.2.261 (MCA Sections 75-1-103 and 75-1-201). A project location map is attached.

This proposed project is a historical preservation of the Granite County Courthouse. The Courthouse is a contributing component of the Philipsburg Historic District (24GN0546).

The location of the proposed project is Philipsburg, Montana.

The intent of the proposed project is to repair flashings on the spire/cupola, repainting of exterior galvanized metal flashings, modification of roof membrane, and restoration and painting of the wood casings and trim on the dome.

The proposed project has been evaluated for, and does not have any adverse effect on the following environmental areas of concern:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stormwater Runoff | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Noise |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Prime and Unique Farmlands | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Section 404 – <i>Clean Water Act</i> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Floodplains (EO 11988/FEMA) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social/Economic |

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hazardous Waste | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stream Preservation/Water Quality |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Historical/Cultural Resources | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Threatened/Endangered Species |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Changes in Land Use | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wetlands (EO 11990) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> USDOT – 4(f)/NL&WCF – 6(f) Acts | |

PROJECT IMPACTS

The proposed project will have a minor effect on the following environmental area(s):

Historic/Cultural Resources – The Granite County Courthouse, in Philipsburg, Montana, is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). A Section 106 Determination of Effect has resulted in a finding of “No Adverse Effect,” which has been reviewed and concurred with by the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) on May 5, 2011. A copy of their concurrence letter is attached.

Section 4(f) – It has been determined that Section 4(f) does not apply to restoration, rehabilitation or maintenance of historic facilities when there is a “No Adverse Effect” determination, and when SHPO and the advisory council have been consulted and have not objected to this finding.

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

Public Involvement – A public hearing was conducted by Granite County on May 3, 2010. This hearing was to obtain proposals in regard to transportation enhancement funding. The hearing was intended to allow for presentation of proposals by all Granite County residents. The only proposal presented and thus accepted was exterior historic restoration of the Granite County Courthouse.

CONCLUSION

The project will not induce significant land use changes or promote unplanned growth. There will be no significant affects on access to adjacent properties or present traffic patterns. The project will not create disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects on minority and low-income populations (EO 12898) and complies with Title VI of the *Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 USC 2000d)*. In accordance with 23 *CFR 771.117(a)*, this action will neither individually nor cumulatively, have any significant environmental impacts. Therefore, we are requesting FHWA’s concurrence that the proposed project is properly classified as Categorical Exclusion.

“ALTERNATIVE ACCESSIBLE FORMATS OF THIS DOCUMENT WILL BE PROVIDED ON REQUEST”



Signature of Environmental Certifying Official or Chief Elected Official

Mike Kahoe, Granite County Administrative Assistant

Type Name and Title

Concur: 
CTEP Section Supervisor

MAY 19, 2011
Date

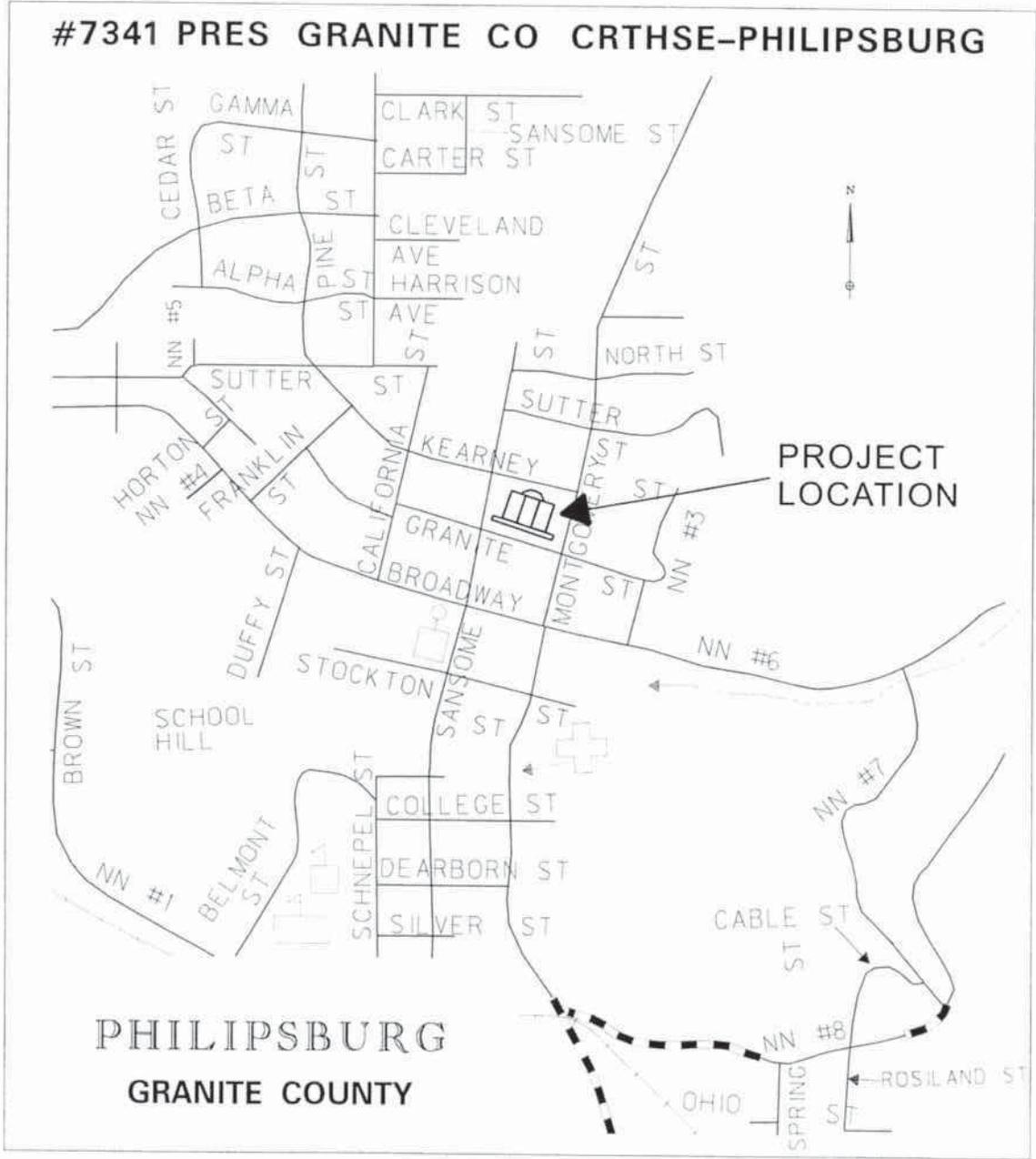
Concur: 
Federal Highway Administration

5/23/11
Date

Attachments: Project Location Map
No Adverse Effect finding

cc: Doug Moeller, MDT, District Administrator – Missoula
Tim Conway, MDT, Consultant Design Engineer
Tom Martin, MDT, Bureau Chief – Environmental Services Bureau
Brad Burns, MDT, Fiscal Planning
Mike Wherley, MDT, CTEP Section Supervisor
Maureen Theisen, Environmental Quality Council
Mike Kahoe, Granite County CTEP Administrator
Jim McDonald, A&E Architects

#7341 PRES GRANITE CO CRTHSE-PHILIPSBURG





Montana Department of Transportation

2701 Prospect Avenue
PO Box 201001
Helena, MT 59620-1001

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MAY 04 2011

Jill Lynch, Director
Brian Schweitzer, Governor

S-PO

Pete
CTEP
Granite Co
Courthouse
Philipsburg

May 4, 2011

Mark Baumler, Ph.D.
State Historic Preservation Office
1410 8th Avenue
P O Box 201202
Helena, MT 59620-1202

5/5/11
[Signature]

Subject: STPE 20(24)
Granite County Courthouse – Philipsburg
UPN 7431

RECEIVED
MAY - 9 2011
ENVIRONMENTAL

Dear Mark:

Enclosed are the preliminary plans for the Granite County Courthouse in Philipsburg prepared by A & E Architects of Missoula. The courthouse is a contributing component of the Philipsburg Historic District (24GN0546) and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The CTEP project would include the repair of flashings on the spire/cupola, the repainting of exterior galvanized metal flashings, the restoration and painting of damaged wall historic wall plaster and historic ornamental plaster, the modification of the roof membrane, and the restoration and painting of the wood casings and trim on the dome. Based on our review of the preliminary plans, we have determined that the proposed CTEP project would have **No Adverse Effect** to the Granite County Courthouse. We request your concurrence.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 444-6258.

[Signature: Jon Axline]
Jon Axline, Historian
Environmental Services

Enclosures

copies: Mike Wherley, P.E., Consultant Design
Terry Voeller, P.E., CTEP
Bonnie Gundrum, Resources Section