



Montana Department of Transportation

2701 Prospect Avenue  
PO Box 201001  
Helena MT 59620-1001

Jim Lynch, Director  
Brian Schweitzer, Governor

February 24, 2006

**RECEIVED**

FEB 27 2006

Environmental Quality Council  
Legislative Environmental Policy Office  
P.O. Box 201704  
Helena MT 59620-1704

LEGISLATIVE ENVIRONMENTAL  
POLICY OFFICE

Subject: Project No.: STPE 37(22)  
Project Name: Transportation Museum - Conrad  
Control No.: 4990

Attached is one (1) copy of the Categorical Exclusion group (d) environmental document for this proposed project for your files.

This document complies with the provisions of **75-1-103** and **75-1-201 M.C.A.** (see ARM 18.2.261, MEPA "Actions that qualify for a Categorical Exclusion" as applicable to the Montana Department of Transportation).

David C. Larson, P.E.  
CTEP Project Engineer

DCL:

Attachment

copy: Project File

S:\CTEP\_PROJECTS\327\_CONRAD\4990-TRANS-MUSEUM-CONRAD\ENV-DOC\4990EQC DIST LTR.DOC

Larson

# CITY OF CONRAD

JOHN SHEVLIN  
Mayor

AGNES FOWLER  
Finance Officer

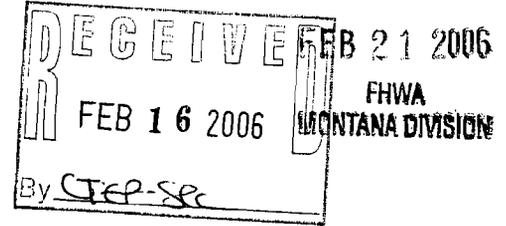
SHANNEN ROSSMILLER  
City Judge

GARY DENT  
Police Chief  
February 15, 2006

411 1/2 SOUTH MAIN  
CONRAD, MONTANA 59425  
PHONE: 406-271-3623 FAX 406-271-5602

GARY BROWN  
SANDY SYVERTSON  
WALLY McHENRY  
WENDY JUDISCH  
Alders **RECEIVED**

Janice W. Brown, Division Administrator  
Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)  
2880 Skyway Drive  
Helena, MT 59602



Subject: Categorical Exclusion Group (d) Action Letter

Federal-aid Project Number: STPE 37(22)  
Federal-aid Project Name: Transportation Museum Restoration - Conrad  
MDT Control Number: 4990

This is a request for the FHWA's concurrence that this 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 (Sections **75-1-103** and **75-1-201 MCA**). A project location map is attached.

This proposed project is the renovation of exterior elements of the future Conrad Transportation Museum located at 402 South Virginia, Conrad, Montana. Work includes repairing, restoring, and improving the exterior walls of the building, replacing the asphalt paving, replacing deteriorated concrete sidewalks, and improving handicapped access.

The location of this proposed project is located at 402 South Virginia, Conrad, Montana 59425.

The intent of this proposed project is to provide historically compliant exterior repairs to the old N & A Chevrolet Company Building (24PN135), commonly referred to as the Wright Motors building. The City of Conrad intends to renovate the building and convert it to a Transportation Museum.

This 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 & Unique Farmlands        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Section 404 - Clean Water Act |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Floodplains(E.O. 11988/FEMA)    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social/Economic               |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hazardous Waste                 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stream Preserv./Water Quality |
| <input 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(E.O. 11990)          |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> USDOT - 4(f)/NL&WCF - 6(f) Acts |   |

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

Historic/Cultural Resources - The N & A Chevrolet Company Building (24PN135) is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) in August 12, 2005. 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 August 30, 2005. A copy of their concurrence letter is attached.

Americans with Disabilities Act – Parking area sidewalks and building access facilities will be installed in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (**PL 101-336**).

Public Involvement – At the May 12, 1999 regular City Council Meeting, the Community Needs Assessment Committee reviewed and rated the various 2001 CTEP projects. Attached is a copy of the public meeting assessment summary. Note that the assessment is included in the applicant's original CTEP application document

Air Quality - This proposed project is located in an "unclassifiable"/ attainment area of Montana for air quality under 40 CFR 81.327, as amended. As such, this proposed project is not covered under the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's **Final Rule** of September 15, 1997 on Air Quality conformity. Therefore, this proposed project complies with Section 176(c) of the *Clean Air Act* as amended (**42 USC 7521(a)**).

Cumulative Impacts – The City of Conrad currently has no active or proposed projects in the vicinity of this proposed project. Therefore, the proposed project will have any significant cumulative environmental impacts.

This 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. This project will not create disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects on minority and low-income populations (**E.O. 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 this proposed project is properly classified as Categorical Exclusion.

*Shuhd*

Steve Ruhd, Public Works Director  
Environmental Certifying Official  
City of Conrad

Concur *Mike Wherley*  
Michael Wherley, P.E.  
CTEP Engineer  
Consultant Design Bureau

*FEB. 17, 2006*  
Date

Concur *Robert J. Scherker*  
Federal Highway Administration

*2/22/06*  
Date

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

Attachment: Project Location Map  
MDT/SHPO Concurrence Letter  
Public Meeting Summary

cc: Mick Johnson, MDT, District Administrator – Great Falls District  
Tom S. Martin, P.E., MDT, Consultant Design Engineer  
Jean A. Riley, MDT, Manager - Environmental Services  
David W. Jensen, MDT, Supervisor – Fiscal Programming Section  
Michael Wherley, P.E., MDT, CTEP Engineer  
Environmental Quality Council  
John Pavsek, P.E., Morrison-Maierle, Inc.  
City of Conrad

20050815 (code in)



Montana Department of Transportation

Jim Lynch, Director

2701 Prospect Avenue  
PO Box 201001  
Helena MT 59620-1001

Brian Schweitzer, Governor

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AUG 31 2005

ENVIRONMENTAL

August 12, 2005

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

Subject: STPE 37(22)  
Conrad Transportation Museum - Conrad  
Control No. 4990

Dear Mark:

Enclosed are the preliminary plans and correspondence regarding the above CTEP project in Conrad, Montana. Based on our review of the documentation and a telephone conversation with Gene Davidson, we have determined that the proposed project would have **No Adverse Effect** to the NRHP-eligible N & A Chevrolet Company Building (24PN135). We request your concurrence.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (406) 444-6258.

*Jon Axline*  
Jon Axline, Historian  
Environmental Services

Enclosures

cc: Mike Wherley, P.E., Consultant Design  
Bonnie Steg, Resources Section

CONRAD  
NO PROPERTIES ON OR ELIGIBLE  
FOR NRHP APPEAR LIKELY TO  
EXIST WITHIN PROJECT IMPACT AREA  
MONTANA STATE  
8/30/05 SIGNED [Signature]

RECEIVED  
BY: [Signature]

. PETE  
CTEP - STPE  
CONRAD  
Transportation  
Museum  
N & A CHEV CO  
BLDG (24PN135)

## Attachment G

### CITY OF CONRAD PUBLIC MEETING COMMUNITY NEEDS AND PUBLIC FACILITIES ASSESSMENT

Final ranking of 2001 Community Needs Assessment Committee  
(1 is the highest need and 5 is the lowest need).

Committee members appointed by Mayor Byron Grubb: Helen Elliott of the Fine Arts Council, Ross Moritz of the Jaycees, Greg Jensen of the Lions Club, Llew Jones of the Chamber of Commerce, Ray Hofstad of the Kiwanis and Jerry Riewer of the Park and Recreation Board.

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>NEED</u>	<u>RANK</u>
1.	RESTROOMS AT BALLFIELD - FUNDED	<u>1</u>
2.	MUSEUM - MISSILE PROJECT	<u>3</u>
3.	FINE ARTS - THEATRE RESTORATION	<u>5</u>
4.	LIBRARY - SERVICE AREA 2 <sup>ND</sup> FLOOR	<u>2</u>
5.	RESTROOMS - LEGION PARK	<u>4</u>

**STPE 37(22), Control 4990  
Conrad Transportation Museum - Conrad**

**Project Location**

**LOCATION MAP  
City of Conrad  
Pondera County,  
Montana**

