

U.S. Department of Homeland Security  
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# FEMA

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT  
CORALVILLE PARKS MAINTENANCE AND TRANSIT FACILITY ENVIRONMENTAL  
ASSESSMENT  
CORALVILLE, JOHNSON COUNTY, IOWA  
FEMA-1763-DR-IA

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is working with partners at the local and state levels and with other federal agencies to coordinate the response to the Iowa Flood of 2008 that flooded the city of Coralville, Johnson County, Iowa. Beginning on June 11th 2008, the Coralville Parks Maintenance Facility and Transit Facility experienced extensive damage from the flooding of the Iowa River which flooded most of the City of Coralville. The Coralville Parks Maintenance and Transit facility which operates and stores the cities Transit buses as well as Parks and Transit offices. The current location of the Coralville Transit Facility was at 314 3rd Ave. and the Parks Maintenance Facility was located at 310 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave. in Coralville, Iowa

The Transit Facility and Parks Maintenance each experienced an estimated 5 feet of floodwaters to their respective facilities. Both facilities suffered massive damage to their structural integrity, electrical components, communications, water facilities, and general contents of the buildings. Both building experienced damages greater than 50%. Both facilities are located within the 100 year floodplain, and are susceptible to flooding from the Iowa River.

FEMA was authorized under a Presidential disaster declaration (FEMA-1763-DR-IA) to provide Federal disaster assistance to Coralville Parks Maintenance Facility and Transit Facility, Coralville, Johnson County, Iowa, as a result of damages during incident period beginning on May 25, 2008 and ending August 13, 2008. Section 408 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 42 USC 5121-5206, as amended (Stafford Act, Public Law 93-288. The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requires that Federal agencies evaluate the environmental effects of their proposed and alternative actions before deciding to fund an action. The President's Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) has developed a series of regulations for implementing the NEPA. These regulations are included in Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Parts 1500–1508. They require the preparation of an Environmental Assessment (EA) that includes an evaluation of alternative means of addressing the problem and a discussion of the potential environmental impacts of a proposed Federal action. An EA provides the evidence and analysis to determine whether the proposed Federal action will have a significant adverse effect on the human environment. An EA, related to a FEMA program, must

be prepared according to the requirements of the Stafford Act and 44 CFR, Part 10. This section of the Federal Code requires that FEMA take environmental considerations into account when authorizing funding or approving actions. This EA was conducted in accordance with both CEQ and FEMA regulations for the NEPA to serve as a vehicle to document compliance with applicable state and federal laws and regulations, and to determine whether to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) or a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI).

The Proposed Action would provide FEMA grant funding is applied towards construction of a new Parks Maintenance and Transit Facility. The proposed Parks Maintenance and Transit Facility will be built to all the current codes and standards. Approximately 5.4 acres of land will be purchased for the construction of the Parks Maintenance and Transit Facility.

The EA was evaluated for any potential significant impacts to air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, geology, land use and planning, noise, public health and safety, socioeconomic, traffic, and water quality. It was also evaluated for disproportionately high and adverse effects on minority or low income populations.

#### CONDITIONS

The following conditions are to mitigate this projects potential adverse impact. The Applicant/Sub-applicant must meet these conditions as part of the project. Failure to comply with these conditions may jeopardize Federal funds:

1. A Phase I Archeological Survey needs to be performed on the proposed site to conclude Section 106 NHPA planning and compliance activities.
2. In the event that threatened or endangered species are observed in the project area, the FEMA Regional Environmental Officer shall request a Section 7 consultation with the USFWS (section 4.2.1, Protected Species and Habitats)
3. If cultural resources (particularly human remains) are unexpectedly discovered during construction, activities would cease in the immediate area and the Iowa State Historic Preservation Officer and the FEMA Regional Environmental Officer would be notified before work would continue (section 4.3, Cultural Resources)

FINDING

FEMA makes the following determinations from the information contained in the EA for the proposed action that FEMA grant funding is applied towards construction of a new Coralville Parks Maintenance and Transit Facility.

Construction of the Coralville Parks Maintenance and Transit Facility will not result in any significant adverse impacts related to air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, geology, land use and planning, noise, public health and safety, socioeconomic, transportation, and water quality, and for disproportionately high and adverse effects on minority or low income populations. The proposed action has been reviewed and, to the best of our knowledge, does not have the potential for significant cumulative effects when combined with past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions in accordance with 44 CFR Part 10.8 (d)(3)(x). As a result of this FONSI, an Environmental Impact Statement will not be prepared.



8/6/2009

Kenneth Sessa  
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