

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT (FONSI)
Grand Traverse Metro Emergency Services Authority Station 12
Garfield Township
Grand Traverse County, Michigan
American Recovery and Reinvestment Act – Assistance to Firefighters Grant

The Grand Traverse Metro Emergency Services Authority (GTMESSA) has received funding from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for assistance with the construction of a fire station (Station 12) within Garfield Charter Township to provide emergency services to the surrounding community. FEMA proposes to provide funding assistance for this project through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) – Assistance to Firefighters Grant.

In accordance with 44 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) for FEMA, Subpart B – Agency Implementing Procedures, Part 10.9, an Environmental Assessment (EA) was prepared pursuant to Section 102 of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as implemented by the regulation promulgated by the President’s Council on Environmental Quality (40 CFR Parts 1500 through 1508). The purpose of the EA was to analyze the potential environmental impacts of construction of the fire station and to determine whether to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) or a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSA).

The Proposed Action, as described in the EA, will not result in any significant adverse impacts to geology, seismicity, groundwater, floodplains, aquatic environments, endangered or threatened species, zoning and land use, public services and utilities, public health and safety, hazardous materials, socioeconomic resources, low income or minority populations, or cultural resources. During the construction period, short-term impacts to soils, surface water, transportation, air quality, and noise are anticipated. All short-term impacts require conditions to minimize and mitigate impacts to the proposed project site and surrounding areas. The project was coordinated with the Michigan State Historic Preservation Office and the Michigan Department of Natural Resources.

CONDITIONS

The following conditions were developed to mitigate the potential impacts of this project and must be met as a condition of project approval. Failure to comply with these conditions and the conditions contained in the EA may jeopardize Federal funds:

1. The applicant is responsible for obtaining and complying with all required local, State, and Federal permits and approvals.
2. The applicant will monitor ground disturbance during the construction phase; should human skeletal remains, or historic or archaeological materials be discovered during construction, all ground-disturbing activities on the project site shall cease and the applicant shall notify the coroner’s office (in the case of human remains), FEMA, and the Michigan Historical Society.
3. If deviations from the proposed scope of work result in substantial design changes, the need for additional ground disturbance, additional removal of vegetation, or in any other unanticipated changes to the physical environment, the Grantee must contact FEMA, and a re-evaluation under NEPA and other applicable environmental laws will be conducted by FEMA.

4. Construction vehicles and equipment would be stored on site during project construction and appropriate signage would be posted on affected roadways. All construction activities will be performed using qualified personnel and in accordance with the standards specified in Occupation Safety and Health Administration regulations. Construction would take place only on during normal business hours and all equipment will meet local, State and Federal noise regulations.
5. A Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan is required. A Stormwater Management and Erosion Control Plan and implementation of Best Management Practices, such as the installation of silt fences, must be used to reduce runoff.
6. Any hazardous substances generated, found during construction, or used would be stored, handled, and disposed in accordance with applicable local, State, and Federal regulations.
7. During construction, the applicant will water down construction areas as necessary to control dust. All construction and emergency response vehicles will be properly maintained and vehicle/equipment idle times will be limited.
8. Topsoil will be replaced following completion of construction, and landscaping will mitigate the temporary disruption of the terrestrial environment and provide new habitat.

FINDINGS

Based upon the conditions and information contained in the EA for the GTMESA Fire Station 12, and in accordance with FEMA’s regulations in 44 CFR Part 10 (Environmental Considerations) and Executive Orders 11988 (Floodplain Management), 11990 (Protection of Wetlands), and 12898 (Environmental Justice), FEMA has determined the proposed action would not have any significant adverse impacts on the quality of the natural and human environment. As a result of this FONSI, an Environmental Impact Statement will not be prepared.

APPROVAL

Amanda C. Ratliff
Regional Environmental Officer
FEMA Region V

Date