

FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

**FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT**  
**City of Pueblo Fire Station # 4**  
**American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA)**  
**DHS/FEMA Fire Station Construction Grant**  
**City of Pueblo, Colorado**  
**September 30, 2010**

**BACKGROUND**

The existing fire station (#4) located at 1201 E. Evans Ave. in Pueblo, Colorado is proposed for replacement. The building (nearly 70 years old) has been structurally damaged from years of water intrusion through the roof, basement and foundation. Water intrusion has resulted in extensive growth of mold and mildew, resulting in a building that is unfit to inhabit. The living quarters surround the truck room, which has a poor and dated ventilation system. Although the station is inhabited and functioning, it is not up to current building code standards, as stated there are concerns over proper ventilation, there are makeshift but not equal gender accommodations and there is an on-going termite problem. In summary, the building is functionally obsolete. Expansion and upgrades to this station are not possible due to physical site restrictions, such as adjacent property purchases. Additionally, the station is not centrally located in the proposed new district and accessibility to major traffic intersections is limited. The structural deterioration of the building, potential increases in respiratory problems and illnesses in firefighters attributed to poor indoor air quality in the building, the inability to house modern apparatus and increased response time due to increased call volume and a larger response area has degraded the FD's ability to respond to calls in a timely manner.

**DESCRIPTION**

The proposed fire station on the property located at Lake Ave. and Aqua Ave. This location meets the optimal criterion that was identified by the Pueblo Fire Department. The preliminary design concept consists of a total of 13,359 square feet and a 2.87 acre parcel of land. Because the fire station provides 24 hour emergency response, full living accommodations are required including individual sleeping rooms, gender specific shower and bathroom facilities, a day room, a kitchen, and eating area and a fitness room. The apparatus room will consist of three (3) bays and will be protected with a state of the art vehicle exhaust removal system that is NFPA 1500 compliant. There will be a decontamination room and a workshop room will be provided for maintenance and repair of station equipment. A storage area for gas-powered equipment will be provided with an outside entrance to isolate any possible hazardous fumes from the station. A 600 square foot classroom with storage for teaching materials, as well as two offices, one for the Captain and one for the Battalion Chief are part of the proposed design. The station will be ADA Compliant for personnel and visitors.

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**MITIGATION AND STIPULATIONS**

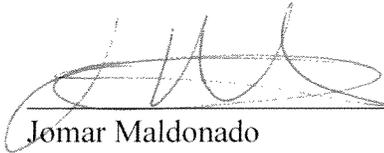
**The following mitigation and stipulations upon which this finding is conditioned must be followed by the grant applicant and/or their contractors:**

The applicant will provide a letter stating that they have no foreseeable plans at the existing location of Fires Station # 4 and that they will continue "routine" maintenance of the structure.

**FINDINGS**

Based upon the information contained in the Final Environmental Assessment completed in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act, FEMA's regulations (44 CFR Part 10) for environmental considerations, and Executive Orders (EO) addressing Floodplains (EO 11988), Wetlands (EO 11990), the Endangered Species Act, and Environmental Justice (EO 12898), it is found that the Proposed Action with the prescribed mitigation measures and stipulations will have no significant adverse impact on the human environment. **As a result in a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI)**, an Environmental Impact Statement will not be prepared, and the Proposed Action with the associated mitigation measures and stipulations as described in the Environmental Assessment may proceed.

**APPROVAL**

  
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Jomar Maldonado  
FEMA Environmental Officer

9/30/10  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date