



FEMA

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

Construct Equipment Shed and Install Deicer Tanks
City of Spokane Street Department, Spokane County, WA
FEMA-1825-DR-WA

The City of Spokane Street Department (City) has applied, through the Washington State Emergency Management Division (EMD), to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for Public Assistance funding for an alternate project. FEMA's action would provide partial funding to the City for construction of an equipment shed and install deicer tanks on an existing City-owned maintenance yard in the City of Spokane. The purpose of the Public Assistance program is to award financial grants to assist state and local governments, federally recognized Tribal governments, and certain private nonprofit entities with their response and recovery from disasters.

During the disaster period of December 12, 2008 through January 5, 2009, heavy snowfall accumulated, and the weight damaged the City's fire station/horse barn. In addition, a paint shed was damaged by the weight of snow and ice. The City has a program that requires sidewalks to be cleared within 24 hours of the end of a storm. In lieu of repair of the two damaged facilities, the City is electing to use federal assistance funds to construct an equipment shed to protect equipment from the elements, purchase snow removal equipment, and purchase deicer tanks. The addition of one sander, one deicer truck, and 63,000 gallons of deicer storage capacity would significantly improve the City's ability to respond to future snow emergencies. No FEMA funding would be provided for the damaged fire station/horse barn or paint shed.

The alternate project is located at the City's "Ranch Facility" maintenance yard, 5200 N. Florida Street, Spokane, Washington. The project's coordinates are the SE quarter of Section 34, Township 26N, Range 43E (latitude 47.705278, longitude -117.350556).

The project site, an existing maintenance yard, is flat and devoid of vegetation. The shed would be constructed from wood pole and steel sheeting, using a "pole barn" method of construction. The floor of the shed would be gravel. Construction is expected to be completed in 40 days. Six deicer storage tanks would be installed at the south end of the maintenance yard next to existing deicer storage tanks. The storage area holds the storage tanks in a lined (impervious) and bermed containment area. Site preparation and installation would be complete in 30 days.

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations implementing NEPA (40 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] Part 1500 through 1508), and FEMA's implementing regulations (44 CFR 10.9), FEMA prepared a Draft EA to identify and evaluate potential environmental impacts resulting from the alternatives presented in the EA, and to determine whether to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) or a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI).

Alternatives evaluated in the EA include: the No Action Alternative, and the Preferred Alternative (which is the Proposed Action) toward which FEMA would contribute funding. The preferred alternative is the proposed action because minimal impact to the human environment is anticipated. The Draft EA was available for public comment for 30 days. FEMA received one comment letter on the Draft EA from the Spokane Tribe, which did not required revision of the EA.

CONDITIONS

The following conditions apply, and failure to comply with these conditions may jeopardize the receipt of Federal funds:

1. The applicant shall obtain all required local, state, and federal permits and approvals prior to implementing the Proposed Action and comply with any and all conditions imposed.
2. Any change to the approved scope of work will require re-evaluation for compliance with NEPA and other laws and Executive Orders.
3. During ground disturbing activities, the applicant will monitor the ground disturbance, and if any potential archaeological resources are discovered, the applicant will immediately cease construction in the area and notify the State Historic Preservation Office and FEMA.

FINDING

Based upon the PA grant application and Final EA; and in accordance with FEMA's regulations in 44 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 10 for environmental consideration, including Executive Orders (EO) addressing floodplains (EO 11988), wetlands (EO 11990), and environmental justice (EO 12898), FEMA determined the proposed project will not significantly affect the quality of the natural and human environment. As a result of this FONSI, an EIS will not be prepared (44 CFR Part 10.8) and the project as described in the PA grant application and Final EA may proceed.

APPROVALS



Mark G. Eberlein
Regional Environmental Officer
FEMA Region 10

4-20-12

Date