Environmental Assessment
Joplin FD Proposed Fire Station No. 4
Joplin, MO
FEMA-1980-DR-MO
January 2013

FEMA Region VII
9221 Ward Parkway, Suite 300
Kansas City, MO 64114

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

PROPOSED FIRE STATION NO. 4
FEMA-1980-DR-MO
3402 SOUTH HEARNES BOULEVARD
JOPLIN, MISSOURI

For Submittal to:

FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY
9221 WARD PARKWAY, SUITE 300
KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI 64114

Prepared for:

CHIEF MITCHELL D. RANDLES
JOPLIN FIRE DEPARTMENT
303 EAST THIRD STREET
JOPLIN, MISSOURI 64801

Prepared by:

NPN ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERS, INC.
1631 HEADLAND DRIVE
ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI 63026

January 2013
Contract C-12237

QUALITY ASSURANCE/QUALITY CONTROL

Project: **Environmental Assessment**
Proposed Fire Station No. 4
FEMA-1980-DR-MO
3402 South Hearnes Boulevard
Joplin, Missouri

Project No.: Contract C-12237

This report has been prepared on behalf of and for the exclusive use of Joplin Fire Department solely for the purpose of documenting the above-titled project. This report and all documents contained herein shall not, in whole or in part, be disseminated or conveyed to any other party, nor used by any other party in whole or in part, without written consent of NPN Environmental Engineers, Inc. and Joplin Fire Department. However, NPN Environmental acknowledges and agrees that the report being submitted to Federal Emergency Management Agency may be conveyed as public information.

As part of NPN Environmental's QA/QC practices and procedures, this report has been reviewed and approved by the following:

Project Manager: Ruth C Mannebach
Ruth C. Mannebach

QA/QC Manager: Kimberly A. Polacek
Kimberly A. Polacek

It is the professional opinion of David B. Rowe, P.E., a Registered Professional Engineer licensed to practice in the State of Missouri, that good environmental engineering practices were employed on this project.

Name: David B. Rowe, P.E.
Title: Principal
Signature: _____
Date: January 11, 2013

Missouri Registration Number
E-24039

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page No.
QUALITY ASSURANCE/QUALITY CONTROL	i
LIST OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS	ii
INTRODUCTION	1
PURPOSE AND NEED	2
ALTERNATIVES	3
No Action Alternative	3
Proposed Action	3
Alternatives Considered and Dismissed	4
AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT AND POTENTIAL IMPACTS	5
Physical Resources	5
Water Resources	8
Biological Resources	9
Cultural Resources	11
Socioeconomic Resources	12
Cumulative Impacts	14
SUMMARY OF IMPACTS	15
PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT	17
MITIGATION MEASURES AND PERMITS	18
AGENCY COORDINATION AND REFERENCES	19
LIST OF PREPARERS	21

TABLE

Table 1 – Summary of Affected Environments and Impacts	15

APPENDIXES

Appendix A	Figures
	Figure 1 – Vicinity Map
	Figure 2 – Site Location
Appendix B	Draft Facility Layout
Appendix C	Site Photographs
Appendix D	Additional Documentation
Appendix E	Agency Consultation Correspondence

LIST OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
CWA	Clean Water Act
EA	Environmental Assessment
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
MDNR	Missouri Department of Natural Resources
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NPDES	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
SHPO	State Historic Preservation Office
USACE	United States Army Corps of Engineers
USEPA	United States Environmental Protection Agency
USDA	United States Department of Agriculture
USFWS	United States Fish and Wildlife Service

INTRODUCTION

The Joplin Fire Department (Joplin FD) serves the corporate limits of the City of Joplin in the southwest corner of Jasper County and the northwest corner of Newton County, as well as providing mutual response/automatic aid to the Carl Junction Fire Protection District. The department previously had seven existing fire stations within their geographic service area until two stations were destroyed during the May 2011 EF-5 tornado.

The two stations impacted by the tornado are currently operating out of portable office trailers and temporary shelters. The proposed new Fire Station No. 4 would replace the existing station located at 2010 East 15th Street that was destroyed by the tornado. The project site acquired by the City of Joplin for the proposed new Fire Station No. 4 is consistent with fire department program priorities and long-term regional planning objectives and will reduce overlaps in firehouse service areas, and significantly increase response capabilities to the community.

NEPA requires that Federal agencies consider the environmental consequences of Proposed Actions before deciding to fund an action. The intent of NEPA is to protect, restore, or enhance the environment through well-informed decision making. The Council on Environmental Quality was established under NEPA to implement and oversee Federal policy in this process and implemented the procedural provisions of NEPA codified at 40 CFR 1500-1508. An Environmental Assessment (EA) related to a FEMA program must be prepared according to the requirements of the Stafford Act and 44 CFR Part 10. This EA has been prepared to evaluate the potential effects to the natural and human environment from relocation and construction of a new fire station.

PURPOSE AND NEED

This EA provides information to support FEMA Region VII's public assistance grant program. The purpose of the Proposed Action is to provide funding for construction of a new fire station under a disaster recovery public assistance grant.

The proposed Fire Station No. 4 is needed to provide effective and timely fire protection and emergency services to the south/central portion of the City of Joplin and surrounding municipalities. The original Fire Station No. 4 was destroyed by a tornado and replaced in the same location with a temporary facility which does not provide adequate quarters for assigned fire station personnel and weatherized shelter for the fire apparatus. The apparatus shelter (essentially a tent) cannot be adequately heated during the winter months and the fire department has struggled with maintaining the equipment in a constant state of readiness due to equipment freezing. Although the original fire station building was adequate for the mission, the property is constrained by size for future expansion and modernization of facilities. Additionally, approximately 85% of the primary response coverage area of the property at 2010 East 15th Street is overlapped by the primary response coverage area of three other fire stations located in close proximity.

The proposed new fire station will replace an existing temporary facility (portable trailer and tent) that is inadequate for housing personnel and apparatus. Critical flaws of the original Fire Station No. 4 property at 2010 East 15th Street cannot feasibly be corrected due to lot size and location constraints. The proposed new fire station location at 3402 South Hearnes Boulevard will significantly improve coverage to underserved areas of the community; reduce significant overlaps with service areas of other fire stations; provide support to redevelopment of South Main Street; provide first response coverage to three hospitals, two elementary schools, and the interstate highway; and enhance the Joplin FD's ability to respond to crises by providing a more optimally located modern facility able to house modern fire apparatus.

ALTERNATIVES

NEPA requires the investigation and evaluation of reasonable project alternatives, including impacts to the natural and human environment as part of the planning process. This EA addresses two alternatives, the No Action alternative and the Proposed Action. Prior to selecting and acquiring the property for the Proposed Action, the Joplin FD informally considered four other alternative locations which were ultimately dismissed due to site access limitations, topographic constraints, infrastructure development costs, prohibitive land values, or failure to align with emergency response goals.

No Action Alternative

The No Action alternative would result in continued operation of the temporary fire station at the 2010 East 15th Street location. This action would leave emergency response times to this area of the community and surrounding areas unchanged and likely to increase with future population growth and development.

As the temporary facility does not provide adequate quarters for assigned fire station personnel or weatherized shelter for the fire apparatus, fire department readiness to respond to emergency situations is hampered. The No Action alternative would result in lower level of overall public safety than the proposed alternative.

Proposed Action

The Proposed Action would result in construction of a new fire station on property currently owned by the City of Joplin at 3402 South Hearnes Boulevard, within the city limits of Joplin, Missouri, as shown on *Figure 1 – Vicinity Map* in *Appendix A – Figures*. The preliminary design calls for an approximately 6790 square foot, 2-story fire station with 2 drive-through vehicle bays (*Appendix B – Draft Facility Layout*). An equipment and gear storage room and decontamination area will be located adjacent to the bay area and vehicle exhaust will be vented to the outdoors with an NFPA 1500 compliant exhaust extraction system. The living quarters will include a kitchen, dining area, day room, restrooms, bedrooms, office, fitness center, mechanical room, and laundry room. An elevator will also be provided. A final design has not been completed; however, the building will incorporate "green design" features to the LEED silver accreditation level, although at this time there are no plans to obtain LEED certification. All utilities are currently available to the site and the building will be tied into existing municipal water and sewer and the local electric utility. A backup generator system will also be installed to support building functions during power outages. The property is located in an area that has been zoned as a commercial district and allows for construction of a fire station with no changes to zoning designation.

Construction of a new Fire Station No. 4 at the 3402 South Hearnes Boulevard location will significantly improve coverage to underserved areas of the community; reduce significant overlaps with service areas of other fire stations; provide support to redevelopment of South Main Street; provide first response coverage to three hospitals, two elementary schools, and the interstate highway; and provide a modern facility able to house modern fire apparatus.

Photographs of the project site and adjacent properties taken on November 7, 2012 are included in *Appendix C – Site Photographs*.

Alternatives Considered and Dismissed

Joplin FD considered the possibility of reconstructing a permanent fire station at the original location (East 15th Street). Due to the small size of the parcel, a new fire station would be limited to the same construction footprint as the station destroyed by the tornado, which would not allow for housing of modern apparatus, future expansion of the building, or acquisition of additional apparatus in response to community development trends. Additionally, utilizing the original location would continue the current situation of significant overlap in coverage area with three nearby stations and lack of coverage to critical areas of redevelopment (including hospitals and schools) following the tornado. Limitations associated with property constraints and emergency response coverage are considered by the Joplin FD to be critical flaws of the original location and this option has been dismissed.

Four other parcels available for construction of the proposed fire station were considered by the Joplin FD and dismissed.

- A parcel at South Hearnes Boulevard and 36th Street owned by the Missouri Department of Transportation was considered and rejected due to steep topography, access limitations, and the presence of a drainage way which prohibits development.
- A parcel at South Hearnes Boulevard and 40th Street was considered and rejected as a residential lot with size constraints.
- A parcel at South Hearnes Boulevard and 42nd Street was considered and rejected due to the prohibitive land value of the commercial lot.
- A parcel at South Hearnes Boulevard and 44th Street was considered and rejected due to steep topography, prohibitive land value, and failure to adequately provide the desired fire response coverage area.

AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT AND POTENTIAL IMPACTS

Joplin is a city located in Jasper and Newton Counties in southwest Missouri. The city has a total land area of 31.5 square miles. The 2010 United States Census Bureau population included 50,150 people, with a population density of 1,448 people per square mile. The surrounding Metropolitan Statistical Area included 175,518 people in 2010. Recent shifts in the metropolitan demographic indicate an increase in population growth and development to the western and southern portions of Joplin.

The proposed Joplin FD Fire Station No. 4 will be located on a 0.49-acre parcel of vacant ground within the city limits, as shown on *Figure 2 – Site Location*. Historically, the project site was developed for approximately 40 years as a coin-operated Laundromat. The Laundromat was demolished in 2012 and the lot is currently vacant with areas of asphalt and gravel paving. The parcel is currently zoned as C-3, Commercial District. A storm water drainage ditch runs along the right-of-way of South Hearnes Boulevard.

Adjacent properties are developed as follows:

- Dalton's Discount Liquor and Tobacco (N, zoned C-3)
- City of Joplin Police substation (NE, zoned C-3)
- Capri Motel (E, zoned C-3, vacant and scheduled for demolition)
- Duplex residence (S, zoned R-1 Residential)
- Duplex residences (W, zoned R-1)

This section discusses the existing environmental conditions at the proposed project site including descriptions of the physical, biological, and socioeconomic resources throughout the general area and the project site. The characterization of existing conditions provides a baseline for assessing the potential environmental impacts from activities associated with the Proposed Action.

Physical Resources

The elevation of the project site is approximately 1020 feet above mean sea level, as depicted on the *2011 Joplin West, MO-KS 7.5 minute Quadrangle Maps*. The project site and surrounding properties slope gently to the northeast. Storm water flow is routed over land by sheet flow to the storm water drainage ditch and culvert adjacent to the east. A copy of this map (*Figure 1*) is included in *Appendix A*.

Geology and Soils

The general stratigraphy of the project site is characterized by the Cherokee Group of the Desmoinesian Series of the Pennsylvanian System in the Paleozoic Era comprised of the Krebs subgroup.

The Krebs subgroup is composed of sandstone, siltstone, shale, clay, limestone, and coal beds. Clastics are predominant as lithologic constituents. In many areas where the Krebs subgroup is located, sandstone composes the greater part of the succession. This subgroup is comprised of the Hartshorne formation (beds of sandstone and shale), Warner formation (conglomerate with coarse-to-fine sandstone), Rowe formation (sandstone, siltstone, underclay, and Rowe coal bed), Drywood formation (fossiliferous limestone, dark gray-to-black shale, fine-grained sandstone, underclay, and Drywood coal bed), Bluejacket formation (dark gray-to-black shale, siltstone, medium- to fine-grained sandstone, underclay, and Bluejacket coal bed), and Seville formation (pinkish-gray to dark gray or black fine crystalline limestone).

The project site is located on Clarksville very cherty silt loam (45F) on the eastern edge and Nixa very cherty silt loam (50C) on the western portion.

The Clarksville very cherty silt loam with 14 to 35 percent slopes is deep, moderately steep to very steep, somewhat excessively drained soil on the sides and tops of upland ridges adjacent to flood plains and intermittent drainageways. Areas are long and narrow or irregular in shape and range from 5 to several hundred acres in size. Typically, the surface layer is dark grayish-brown and grayish-brown, very friable, very cherty silt loam about 5 inches thick. The subsurface layer is light yellowish-brown, very friable, very cherty silt loam about 9 inches thick. The subsoil (extending to a depth of 60 inches or more) is light yellowish-brown and reddish-yellow, very friable, extremely cherty silt loam in the upper part; red and strong brown, friable, extremely cherty, silty clay loam in the next part; and red, dark red, and yellowish-red, friable, extremely cherty, silty clay loam and silty clay in the lower part. Permeability is moderately rapid in the upper part of the Clarksville soil and moderate in the lower part.

The Nixa very cherty silt loam with 3 to 9 percent slopes is deep, gently sloping and moderately sloping, moderately well drained soil on the tops and sides of ridges in the uplands. Individual areas range from 5 to several hundred acres in size. Typically, the surface layer is very dark grayish-brown, friable, very cherty silt loam about 2 inches thick. The subsurface layer is brown, friable, very cherty silt loam about 10 inches thick. The upper part of the subsoil is light yellowish-brown, mottled, friable, very cherty silt loam about 14 inches thick. The next part is a fragipan of strong brown, mottled, firm and brittle, very cherty, silty clay loam about 10 inches thick. The lower part (to a depth of 60 inches or more) is dark red, mottled, firm, very cherty, silty clay and mottled dark red and grayish-brown, firm, extremely cherty clay. In places, the part of the subsoil above the fragipan is silty clay loam. Permeability is moderate above and below the fragipan and very slow in the fragipan. A perched water table is above the fragipan during winter and spring in most years.

The USDA defines prime farmland as land that has the best combination of physical and chemical characteristics for producing food, feed, forage, fiber, and oilseed crops and is available for these uses. It could be cultivated land, pastureland, forestland, or other land, but it is not urban or built-up land or water areas. In accordance with Section 1541 of the

Farmland Protection Policy Act, the proposed alternative was reviewed for impacts to prime farmland. Neither soil type is included on the USDA list of prime farmland in Newton County.

The Proposed Action will not significantly impact geology or soils at the site. All construction activity will incorporate practices to minimize soil erosion during the construction phase, including the use of best management practices such as installation of silt fencing and straw bales and proper staging of construction equipment. Following completion of the construction phase, the project site will be landscaped with decorative and cover vegetation, reducing the potential for soil erosion.

Under the No Action alternative, continuing use of the temporary facility at 2010 East 15th Street would not result in new or significant impacts to geology and soils, as this location has previously been impacted by construction and development.

Air Quality

The USEPA is required under the Clean Air Act to set National Ambient Air Quality Standards for pollutants harmful to public health and the environment. Primary standards protective of human health and secondary standards protective of public welfare have been established for ozone (O_3), carbon monoxide (CO), nitrogen dioxide (NO_2), sulfur dioxide (SO_2), lead (Pb), particulate matter with a diameter of 10 microns or less (PM_{10}), and particulate matter with a diameter of 2.5 microns or less ($PM_{2.5}$).

MDNR does not operate any air quality monitoring stations in Newton County. Two are operated in neighboring Jasper County to the north for primary air pollutants (ozone and particulate matter). Currently, Jasper County, Missouri is considered an attainment/unclassifiable area for ozone and particulate matter (PM_{10}).

The Proposed Action will require short-term construction activities including soil excavation and grading, cutting and filling, and soil placement. Heavy equipment including bulldozers, graders, and backhoes will be used during construction. These activities are likely to create fugitive dust; however, best management practices would be used to minimize dust and construction would be completed within a year. Once construction is complete and the facility is operational, the only anticipated source of air emissions would be from vehicle exhaust. As the Proposed Action is for construction of a replacement fire station and does not include acquisition of new vehicles or apparatus, no net increase of emissions over current local levels would occur.

Under the No Action alternative, continuing use of the temporary facility at 2010 East 15th Street would result in continuation of current, existing impacts to air quality.

Water Resources

The USACE is responsible for administration of functions regarding navigable waters and wetlands of the United States under the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 and Section 404 of the CWA.

A site reconnaissance conducted on November 7, 2012 did not observe any natural surface water bodies (rivers, creeks, ponds, or wetlands) on or adjacent to the project site. The Clarksville and Nixa cherty silt loams present at the property are characterized as well drained soils and neither is classified by the USDA as a hydric soil, one of the three criteria required for determining the presence of wetlands. Therefore, the project site does not contain waters of the United States.

Storm water at the project site drains by surface flow to a drainage swale running along the eastern edge of the property. A concrete culvert in the swale transports flow under South Hearnes Boulevard. No evidence of inadequate drainage was observed during the site reconnaissance.

Water Quality

Disturbance of soils at the project site during construction activity could result in erosion and runoff, which in turn could impact local surface water quality.

As the project site is less than 1 acre in size, it is exempt from MDNR requirements for obtaining a land disturbance permit for construction activities. Although not required, best management practices such as silt fencing and mulching will be utilized during construction of the Proposed Action to minimize water quality impacts from site activities. Following construction, the project site will be landscaped and vegetated to reduce the potential for soil erosion. The Proposed Action will have no significant impacts on water quality of waters of the United States and no Section 404 permitting will be required.

Under the No Action alternative, continuing use of the temporary facility at 2010 East 15th Street would not result in new or significant impacts to water quality as no land disturbance would occur.

Wetlands

Lands subject to regulation as wetlands under Section 404 of the CWA (jurisdictional wetlands) are defined as: "Those areas that are inundated or saturated by surface or groundwater at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions." Typically, lands that exhibit characteristics of hydrology, support predominantly hydrophytic vegetation, and have a substrate that is predominantly undrained hydric soil are classified as jurisdictional wetlands. The USACE is responsible

for administration of Section 404 and the issuance of permits for disturbance of wetlands, including discharge of dredged and fill material. Under Executive Order 11990, Protection of Wetlands, Federal agencies are required to take action to minimize the destruction or modification of wetlands.

The project site is located on Clarksville and Nixa cherty silt loams, which are characterized as well drained, non-hydric soils. A wetlands map for the project site prepared by the USFWS on-line map service was reviewed (*Appendix D – Additional Documentation*). No designated wetlands were identified on or adjacent to the project site. In addition, no areas containing wetland characteristics were observed on or adjacent to the project site during the site investigation; therefore, the Proposed Action would have no impacts to wetlands.

Wetlands will not be impacted by the No Action alternative as the existing Fire Station No. 4 site does not contain designated wetlands.

Floodplains

Floodplains provide numerous beneficial environmental functions including flood abatement, stream flow mediation, filtering, and water quality enhancement. Federal agencies are required to minimize the occupancy and modification of floodplains under Executive Order 11988, Floodplain Management. Under this order, construction within the 100-year floodplain (500-year floodplain for critical facilities) is prohibited from receiving Federal funding unless there are no practical alternatives.

According to FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Map Community Panel 29097C0267D, the project site is located in an area classified as Zone X, outside defined floodplains (*Appendix D*). As such, the Proposed Action would not have an impact on floodplains.

Floodplains will not be impacted by the No Action alternative as the existing Fire Station No. 4 site is not located in a designated floodplain.

Biological Resources

Under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, Federal agencies must review Proposed Actions to ensure they are not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of a listed species or to destroy or adversely modify its critical habitat.

Threatened/Endangered Species and Critical Habitat

The USFWS lists the following species in Newton County, Missouri:

- Gray bat (endangered) – caves
- Indiana bat (endangered) – caves/mines, small stream corridors with well developed riparian woods, upland forests
- Arkansas darter (candidate) – rivers
- Neosho madtom (threatened) – rivers
- Ozark cavefish (threatened) – caves in the Boone and Burlington limestone formations of the Ozark Mountains
- Neosho mucket (proposed as endangered) – rivers
- Rabbitsfoot (proposed as threatened) – rivers

A Heritage Review Report of Federal and State listed species and critical habitats was requested from the Missouri Department of Conservation Policy Coordination Unit. The Heritage Review Report indicated no wildlife preserves, no designated wilderness areas or critical habitats, no Federal or State endangered list species, and no State-ranked species or natural communities are located within one mile of the project site.

The USFWS reviewed the Proposed Action and determined that no Federally listed species, candidate species, or designated critical habitat occurs within the project site. Furthermore, the USFWS determined the Proposed Action will have negligible impacts on wetlands, migratory birds, and other priority fish and wildlife resources. Agency correspondence is included in *Appendix E – Agency Consultation Correspondence*.

Based on agency correspondence, construction of the Proposed Action will have no adverse affect on Federal or state-listed threatened or endangered species or critical habitat.

Under the No Action alternative, continued use of the temporary facility at 2010 East 15th Street would not result in new or significant impacts to biological resources, as this location has previously been impacted by construction and development.

Wildlife and Fish

The project site is a 0.49-acre upland lot located at the southwest intersection of South Hearnes Boulevard and West 34th Street in an area historically and currently developed with commercial and residential buildings. The site was previously developed with a coin-operated laundry for approximately 40 years. The laundry building was demolished in 2012. No habitats conducive to wildlife are present at the site and any wildlife using or crossing the property would be transitory in nature. There are no surface water bodies present so no fish are located on the site. Thus, the Proposed Action will have no adverse affect on wildlife or fish.

Under the No Action alternative, continuing use of the temporary facility at 2010 East 15th Street would not result in new or significant impacts to wildlife or fish, as this location has previously been impacted by construction and development.

Cultural Resources

Under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, Federal agencies must consider the potential effects of their actions on historical properties and cultural resources and consult with the MDNR SHPO to resolve any effects.

Historic Properties

A Section 106 Project Information Form was submitted to the MDNR SHPO to initiate review of the Proposed Action. In a Cultural Resource Assessment dated November 14, 2012, Mr. Mark Miles (Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer) determined that adequate documentation has been provided and there will be "no historic properties affected" by the current project. Agency correspondence is included in *Appendix E*.

Based on the MDNR SHPO review, the Proposed Action will have no adverse effect on cultural or historic resources. Should any evidence of cultural resources (artifacts or human remains) be discovered during construction activities, work would cease and the MDNR SHPO would be notified.

Under the No Action alternative, continuing use of the temporary facility at 2010 East 15th Street would not result in new or significant impacts to historic properties, as this location has previously been impacted by construction and development.

American Indian Cultural/Religious Sites

The State of Missouri does not have a separate Tribal Historic Preservation Officer authorized by the National Park Service. Review of American Indian cultural and religious sites in Missouri is under the purview of the MDNR SHPO.

Based on the MDNR SHPO review, the Proposed Action will have no adverse effect on cultural or historic resources. Should any evidence of cultural resources (artifacts or human remains) be discovered during construction activities, work would cease and the MDNR SHPO would be notified.

Under the No Action alternative, continuing use of the temporary facility at 2010 East 15th Street would not result in new or significant impacts to cultural or religious sites, as this location has previously been impacted by construction and development.

Socioeconomic Resources

The 2010 census indicates the population of Joplin consisted of 87.6% white, 0.03% African American, 0.02% Native American, 0.01% Asian, and 0.04% from two or more races. Hispanic or Latino of any race was 0.04% of the population. The median income for a household was $30,555 and for a family was $38,888. About 10.5% of families and 14.8% of the population were below the poverty line, including 18.8% of those under age 18 and 9.4% of those aged 65 or over.

Environmental Justice

Executive Order 12898 requires that Federal agencies focus on achieving environmental justice by identifying and addressing, as appropriate, disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects of its programs, policies, and activities on minority populations and low-income populations in the United States.

Based on discussions with the Joplin FD, the Proposed Action will result in significant upgrades to and enhancement of the department's ability to respond quickly and effectively to all residents and establishments of the City of Joplin, as well as providing mutual aid to a neighboring fire protection district. As such, the Proposed Action will have no adverse effect on environmental justice.

Under the No Action alternative, continuing use of the temporary facility at 2010 East 15th Street would have no adverse effect on environmental justice, as this location has previously been impacted by construction and development.

Noise

The Noise Control Act (NCA) of 1972 provides federal regulation of noise, which is defined as undesirable sound. The NCA gives the USEPA authority to establish guidelines for acceptable ambient noise levels. Under USEPA guidelines, outdoor sound levels in excess of 55 decibels (dB) are considered "normally unacceptable" for noise-sensitive land uses such as residences, schools, and hospitals.

The project site is located in the South Hearnes Boulevard corridor and is zoned for commercial development. The project site is bordered by commercial businesses and a police substation to the north and east and by duplex residences to the south and west. Temporary short-term impacts due to noise are anticipated during the construction period. To reduce noise levels during this period, construction activities will take place during normal daylight business hours.

The Proposed Action will introduce long-term operational impacts to adjacent residences and school. Fire equipment and station alarms during an emergency can range from approximately 95 to 120 dB. This intermittent elevated noise would be above acceptable levels but would only be sustained for extremely short durations. This impact cannot be

mitigated due to NFPA 1901 and State Fire Marshal requirements for minimum sound-warning requirements for fire equipment when responding to an emergency. The City of Joplin Zoning Regulations contain specific standards for noise limitations and sirens, whistles, bells, etc., maintained and used solely to serve a public purpose (such as fire, ambulance, police and air raid warning sirens) are excluded from these regulations (Section 29A-1816).

Under the No Action alternative, continuing use of the temporary facility at 2010 East 15th Street would also result in short-term impacts from construction activities and continued long-term use of alarms.

Traffic

The project site is located in an area along the South Hearnes Boulevard corridor and is zoned for commercial development. Development of the project site with the new fire station would be compatible with this zoning classification. The Missouri Department of Transportation's (MDOT) 2009 Joplin Urban Area average annual daily traffic volume on this stretch of South Hearnes Boulevard is 14,959 vehicles.

The project site will be located at 3402 South Hearnes Boulevard and would not adversely affect average daily traffic volume on adjacent roads or general area traffic and circulation. The Proposed Action would result in short-term, intermittent effects to traffic on South Hearnes Boulevard and West 34th Street during fire response actions; however, current design plans do not include egress of emergency vehicles directly onto South Hearnes Boulevard. Emergency vehicles will access South Hearnes Boulevard from West 34th Street. Chief Randles indicated the City of Joplin would consider installation of emergency vehicle warning signs on South Hearnes Boulevard but based on traffic volumes and excellent visibility conditions in the vicinity of the proposed fire station, no other warning devices or traffic signals are proposed.

Under the No Action alternative, continuing use of the temporary facility at 2010 East 15th Street would result in continuation of existing impacts to traffic flow during emergency response events.

Public Service and Utilities

The project site is located within an area zoned for commercial development and is surrounded by commercial and residential parcels. All utilities (electric, telephone, water, and sewer) run along South Hearnes Boulevard and/or West 34th Street and are available to the site. A limited amount of trenching and installation of underground lines and connections to the utilities will be required. The Proposed Action will place an additional, limited demand on utilities in the area; however, the utility infrastructure has been designed to accommodate the planned commercial development of the area.

Under the No Action alternative continuing use of the temporary facility at 2010 East 15th Street would result in a continuation of existing demand on local utilities.

Cumulative Impacts

Cumulative impacts represent the impact on either the natural or human environment which results from the incremental impact of the action when added to other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions.

The proposed alternative would occur on a project site zoned for commercial development, which is compatible with construction of the fire station. Other development in this area includes commercial and 2-family residential. Previous development of the project site was as a coin-operated Laundromat, demolished in 2012. Construction of the new fire station represents the replacement of an existing, temporary fire station and would not introduce an additional facility to the community that would potentially result in an increase in cumulative impacts. The new fire station design will incorporate "green building" features that meet stringent environmental standards and energy efficiencies that will lower the overall impact of the new building on the environment.

Under the No Action alternative, continuing use of the temporary facility at 2010 East 15th Street would not result in net increases in cumulative impacts to the community, as this location has previously been impacted by construction and development.

SUMMARY OF IMPACTS

Table 1 – Summary of Affected Environments and Impacts summarizes the potential impacts of the proposed project and, where appropriate, mitigation measures to minimize the impacts. Further discussion of the affected environment is provided in sections following the table.

Table 1 – Summary of Affected Environments and Impacts

Affected Environment	Impacts from Proposed Action	Mitigation
Geology and Soils	Disturbance of shallow soils during construction activities	Implement storm water best management practices during construction to minimize erosion; landscape after construction to prevent erosion
Air Quality	Minor and temporary impacts from construction vehicle exhaust and fugitive dust during construction activities	Air pollution will be minimized through proper equipment maintenance and dust suppression techniques during construction
Water Quality	Minor and temporary impacts from soil disturbance (erosion and runoff) during construction activities	Land disturbance permit is not required; however, storm water best management practices during construction to minimize erosion and landscape after construction to prevent erosion will be implemented
Wetlands	The Proposed Action would not impact waters of the United States or wetlands	Not applicable
Floodplains	The Proposed Action is not located in a floodplain	Not applicable
Threatened/ Endangered Species	No threatened or endangered species or critical habitats are located near the Proposed Action	Not applicable
Wildlife and Fish	No critical habitats or surface water bodies are located near the Proposed Action	Not applicable
Cultural Resources	Coordination with SHPO concluded there will be no historic properties affected by the Proposed Action	Not applicable

Table 1 – Summary of Affected Environments and Impacts (cont.)

Affected Environment	Impacts from Proposed Action	Mitigation
Environmental Justice	The Proposed Action would benefit all citizens equally	Not applicable
Noise	Short-term construction noise impacts and intermittent long-term impact from emergency equipment sirens	Construction activities will be restricted to normal daylight hours and equipment properly maintained. Mitigation not possible for emergency equipment sirens
Traffic	Intermittent increase of emergency equipment on State Highway 47	Emergency vehicle warning signs will be considered by the City of Joplin
Public Service and Utilities	The Proposed Action will not place significant demands on in place utility infrastructure	Not applicable
Cumulative Impacts	The new fire station will be constructed on commercially zoned property and will incorporate energy efficient design	Not applicable

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

The availability of this EA will be advertised by public notice in The Joplin Globe newspaper and on the City of Joplin website. Copies of the EA will be placed at the following locations in Joplin:

- Joplin Fire Department 303 East 3rd Street
- Joplin Public Library 300 South Main Street
- Joplin City Clerk 602 South Main Street
- Public Works Office 602 South Main Street (Fourth Floor)

The public comment period will extend for a period of 30 days. The EA can be viewed locally at the locations listed above. The EA can also be downloaded from FEMA's website. If no substantive comments are received, the EA will become final and will be archived on FEMA's website.

MITIGATION MEASURES AND PERMITS

Construction of the Proposed Action will be completed in general accordance with the following mitigation measures to lessen impacts to the local community.

During construction, the applicant will water down construction areas as necessary to prevent fugitive dust emissions that would impact local air quality. Additionally, construction equipment will be operated with factory-equipped vehicle emissions controls.

Best management practices to reduce or eliminate runoff impacts during construction will be implemented and following construction, the site will be landscaped and vegetated to reduce the potential for soil erosion.

Construction noise will be temporary and will be mitigated by limiting construction to normal daylight hours. Construction equipment will be operated with factory-equipped vehicle emissions controls including mufflers.

Permits required for the project site will include a building permit issued by the City of Joplin, Missouri.

AGENCY COORDINATION AND REFERENCES

Federal Emergency Management Agency
Flood Insurance Rate Map Online Mapping Service
http://msc.fema.gov/

Policy Coordination Section
Missouri Department of Conservation
PO Box 180
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0180
Heritage Review Report

Missouri Department of Natural Resources
State Historic Preservation Office
Section 106 Review
PO Box 176
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0176
Cultural Resource Assessment, Section 106 Review

Missouri Department of Transportation
Joplin Area Average Daily Traffic
2009

Missouri Geological Survey
Geologic Map of Missouri
2003

Mr. Mitchell D. Randles, Fire Chief
Joplin Fire Department
303 East 3rd Street
Joplin, MO 64801

Mr. Jack Schaller, Assistant Public Works Director
City of Joplin
602 South Main Street
Joplin, MO 64801

United States Census Bureau
http://www.census.gov

United States Department of Agriculture
Farm Services Agency
2012 Aerial Photograph

United States Department of Agriculture
Soil Conservation Service
Soil Survey of Newton County, Missouri
September 1989

United States Department of the Interior Geological Survey
Topographic Maps
Joplin West, MO-KS USGS 7.5 minute Quadrangle
2011

Mr. Charles Scott and Ms. Amy Salveter
United States Department of the Interior
Fish and Wildlife Service
Columbia Ecological Services Office
101 Park DeVille Drive, Suite A
Columbia, MO 65203

United States Department of the Interior
Fish and Wildlife Service
National Wetlands Inventory Online Mapper
http://wetlandsfws.er.usgs.gov/wtlnds/launch.html

United States Department of the Interior
Fish and Wildlife Service
State and County Distribution Lists
http://www.fws.gov/midwest/endangered/lists/cty_indx.html#missouri

LIST OF PREPARERS

Those responsible for preparation of this document include:

Ruth C. Mannebach, Senior Environmental Scientist
NPN Environmental Engineers, Inc.

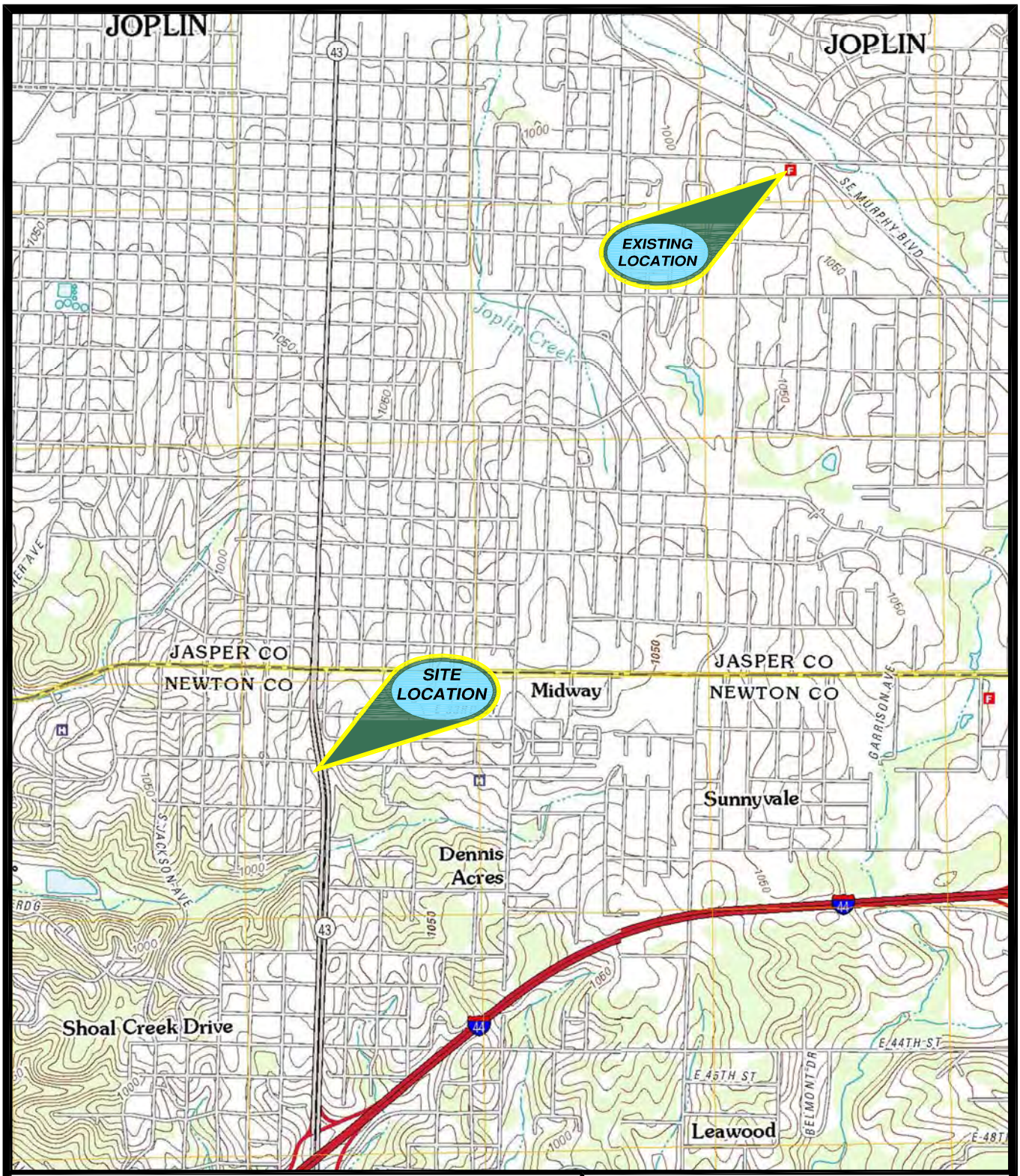
Mitchell D. Randles, Fire Chief
Joplin Fire Department

Jack Schaller, Assistant Public Works Director
City of Joplin

Ruth C. Mannebach was the principal preparer of this document, in consultation with Mr. Mitchell D. Randles and Mr. Jack Schaller as well as the other individuals and agencies identified in this document.

APPENDIX A

Figures



Adapted from Joplin West, MO-KS USGS 7.5 minute Quadrangle Map 2011

Graphic Scale in Feet

0 2000' 4000'

N

NPN ENVIRONMENTAL

FIGURE 1

Vicinity Map

3402 S Hearnes Boulevard - Joplin, MO

Project No.	Date	Scale	Drawn By:	Checked By:
C-12237	Jan. 2013	1" = 2000'	SRR	RCM

Adapted from USDA Farm Service Agency
2012 Aerial Photograph

N

NPN ENVIRONMENTAL

FIGURE 2

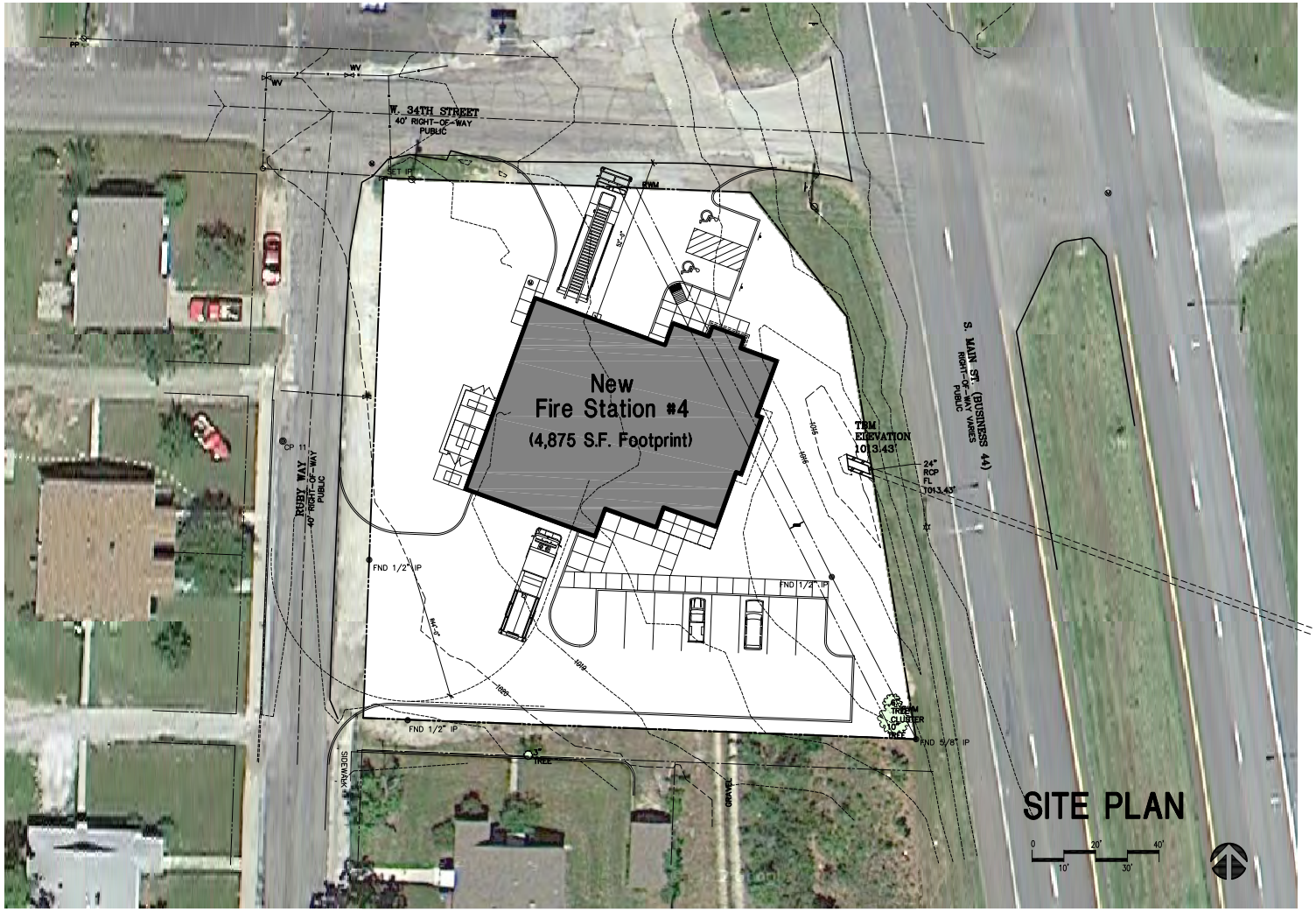
Site Location

3402 S Hearnes Boulevard - Joplin, MO

Project No.	Date	Scale	Drawn By:	Checked By:
C-12237	Jan. 2013	1" = 2000'	SRR	RCM

APPENDIX B

Draft Facility Layout



JOPLIN FIRE DEPARTMENT

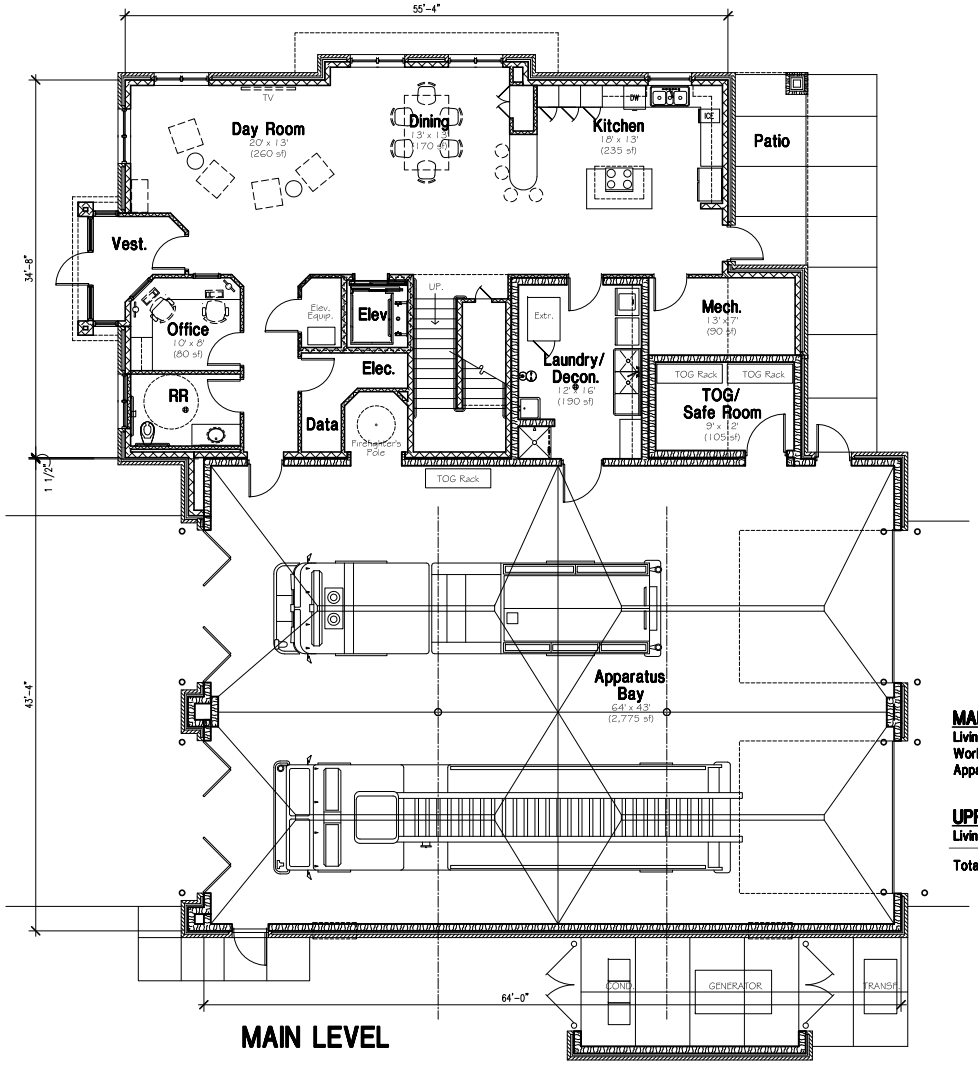
JOPLIN, MISSOURI

NEW FIRE STATION #4

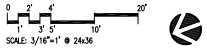
SAPP DESIGN ASSOCIATES ARCHITECTS P.C.

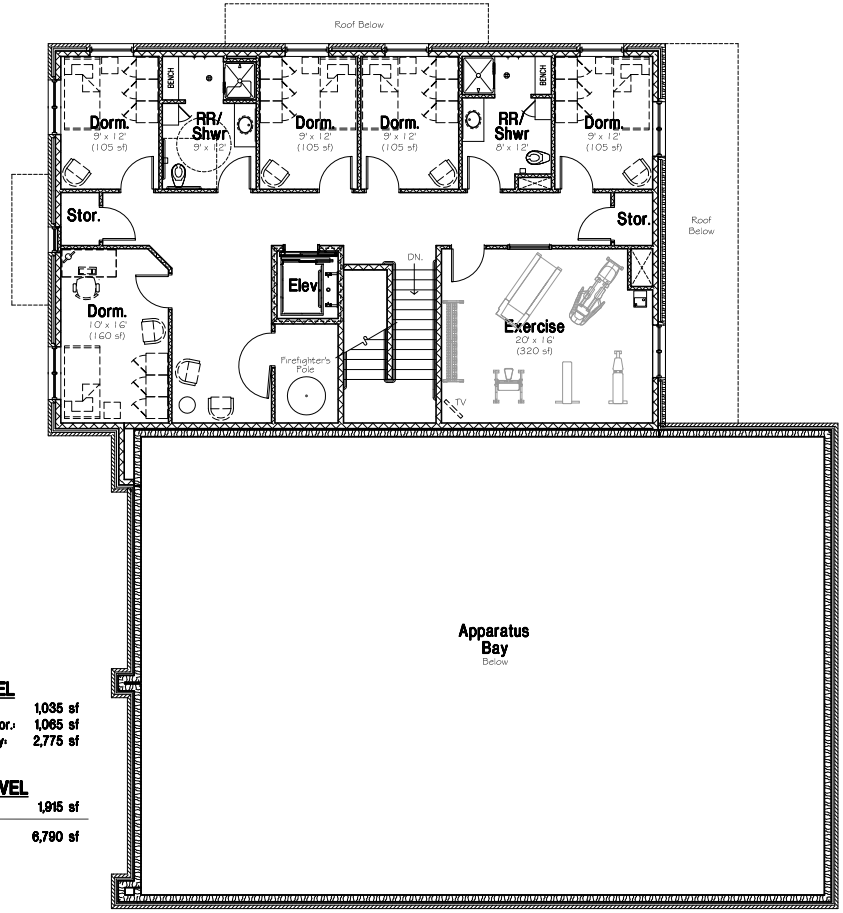
October 26, 2012

SDA ARCHITECTS

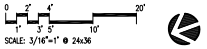


MAIN LEVEL





UPPER LEVEL



MAIN LEVEL

Living Area:	1,035 sf
Work/Circ./Stor.:	1,065 sf
Apparatus Bay:	2,775 sf

UPPER LEVEL

Living Area:	1,915 sf
Total Area:	6,790 sf

SDA ARCHITECTS

JOPLIN FIRE DEPARTMENT

JOPLIN, MISSOURI

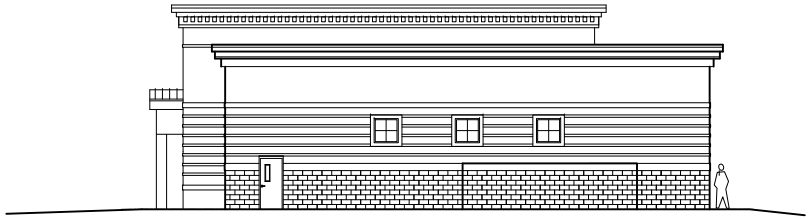
NEW FIRE STATION #4

October 26, 2012

SAPP DESIGN ASSOCIATES ARCHITECTS P.C.

STUDY D: NORTH ELEVATION

STUDY D: EAST ELEVATION



STUDY D: WEST ELEVATION

STUDY D: SOUTH ELEVATION

SCHEMATIC DESIGN: ELEVATION STUDY D

0 2' 4' 20'
1' 3' 5' 10'
SCALE: 1/8"=1' @ 24x36

SDA ARCHITECTS

JOPLIN FIRE DEPARTMENT

JOPLIN, MISSOURI

NEW FIRE STATION #4

S A P P D E S I G N A S S O C I A T E S A R C H I T E C T S P. C.

October 26, 2012

APPENDIX C

Site Photographs

Photo No:	Date:
1	11-07-12

Viewing Angle:
North

Description:

Project site (vacant lot, formerly coin-operated laundromat)

Photo No:	Date:
2	11-07-12

Viewing Angle:
East

Description:

Project site (vacant lot, formerly coin-operated laundromat)

Photo No:	Date:
3	11-07-12

Viewing Angle:
South

Description:

Project site (vacant lot, formerly coin-operated laundromat)

Photo No:	Date:
4	11-07-12

Viewing Angle:
West

Description:

Project site (vacant lot, formerly coin-operated laundromat)

Photo No:	Date:
5	11-07-12

Viewing Angle:
North

Description:

West 34th Street, then Dalton's Discount Liquor & Tobacco and other commercial development adjacent to north

Photo No:	Date:
6	11-07-12

Viewing Angle:
East

Description:

South Hearnes Boulevard (divided highway), then Joplin Police Substation and Capri Motel (abandoned) adjacent to east

Photo No:	Date:
7	11-07-12

Viewing Angle:
South

Description:

Single-family residence adjacent to south

Photo No:	Date:
8	11-07-12

Viewing Angle:
West

Description:

Ruby Way and duplex residences adjacent to west

APPENDIX D

Additional Documentation

MAP SCALE 1" = 500'

250 0 500 1000 FEET

METER

NFIP

NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM

PANEL 0267D

FIRM

FLOOD INSURANCE RATE MAP

JASPER COUNTY, MISSOURI

AND INCORPORATED AREAS

PANEL 267 OF 375

(SEE MAP INDEX FOR FIRM PANEL LAYOUT)

CONTAINS:

COMMUNITY	NUMBER	PANEL	SUFFIX
JOPLIN, CITY OF	290183	0267	D

Notice to User: The **Map Number** shown below should be used when placing map orders; the **Community Number** shown above should be used on insurance applications for the subject community.

MAP NUMBER
29097C0267D

EFFECTIVE DATE
MARCH 16, 2006

Federal Emergency Management Agency

This is an official copy of a portion of the above referenced flood map. It was extracted using F-MIT On-Line. This map does not reflect changes or amendments which may have been made subsequent to the date on the title block. For the latest product information about National Flood Insurance Program flood maps check the FEMA Flood Map Store at www.msc.fema.gov

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

National Wetlands Inventory

3402 South Hearnes Boulevard

Oct 19, 2012

Wetlands

- Freshwater Emergent
- Freshwater Forested/Shrub
- Estuarine and Marine Deepwater
- Estuarine and Marine
- Freshwater Pond
- Lake
- Riverine
- Other

Riparian

- Herbaceous
- Forested/Shrub

This map is for general reference only. The US Fish and Wildlife Service is not responsible for the accuracy or currentness of the base data shown on this map. All wetlands related data should be used in accordance with the layer metadata found on the Wetlands Mapper web site.

User Remarks:

APPENDIX E

Agency Consultation Correspondence

FILE COPY

NPN ENVIRONMENTAL

November 9, 2012
Contract C-12237

VIA CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Policy Coordination Section
Missouri Department of Conservation
P.O. Box 180
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0180

RE: Request for Information
3402 South Hearnes Boulevard
Joplin, MO 64801
Latitude 37.0514, Longitude -94.515

The City of Joplin and Joplin Fire Department have retained NPN Environmental to prepare an Environmental Assessment in accordance with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) regulations at 44 CFR Part 10 and Council on Environmental Quality Regulations at 40 CFR Part 1500-1508. As part of the Environmental Assessment for the above-referenced site, the following information is requested:

- Rare, threatened, or endangered species on or within one-half mile radius of site
- Commercially or recreationally important flora or fauna on or within one-half mile radius of site
- Wilderness, natural areas, critical habitat, preserves and forests, wildlife refuges, terrestrial breeding areas, and wildlife or game management areas on or within one-half mile radius of the site

The approximately 0.5-acre project site is currently a vacant parcel zoned for commercial use and previously developed with a coin-operated laundry for approximately 40 years as shown on *Figure 1 – Vicinity Map* and *Figure 2 – 2012 Aerial Photograph*. The Joplin Fire Department proposes to construct a new fire station and associated paved parking and driveways on the project site to replace a location destroyed by the 2011 EF-5 tornado.

1631 Headland Drive • St. Louis, MO 63026 • (636) 343-1300 • FAX (636) 343-8192

Thank you for your prompt consideration of our request. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact me at 636-343-1300.

Sincerely,

Ruth C Mannebach

Ruth C. Mannebach
Senior Environmental Scientist

Enclosures Figure 1 – Vicinity Map
Figure 2 – 2012 Aerial Photograph

Missouri Department of Conservation

Natural Heritage Review Report

November 15, 2012 -- Page 1 of 2

Resource Science Division
P. O. Box 180
Jefferson City, MO 65102
Prepared by: Emily Clancy
Emily.Clancy@mdc.mo.gov
(573) 522 – 4115 ext. 3182

NPN ENVIRONMENTAL ATTN: RUTH C. MANNEBACH 1631 HEADLAND DRIVE ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI 63026	***Project type:***	Facility / Building
	Location/Scope:	Section 22 of T27N R33W
	County:	Newton
	Query reference:	Environmental Assessment – Joplin Fire Department 3402 South Hearnes Blvd.
	Query received:	November 13, 2012

This NATURAL HERITAGE REVIEW is not a site clearance letter. Rather, it identifies public lands and sensitive resources known to have been located close to and/or potentially affected by the proposed project. *On-site verification is the responsibility of the project. Natural Heritage records were identified at some date and location. This report considers records near but not necessarily at the project site. Animals move and, over time, so do plant communities. To say "there is a record" does not mean the species/habitat is still there. To say that "there is no record" does not mean a protected species will not be encountered. These records only provide one reference and other information (e.g. wetland or soils maps, on-site inspections or surveys) should be considered. Look for additional information about the biological and habitat needs of records listed in order to avoid or minimize impacts. More information may be found at http://mdc.mo.gov/discover-nature/places-go/natural-areas and mdc4.mdc.mo.gov/applications/mofwis/mofwis_search1.aspx. Contact information for the department's Natural History Biologist is online at http://mdc.mo.gov/contact-us.*

Level 3 issues: Records of federal-listed (these are also state-listed) species or critical habitats near the project site:

Natural Heritage records identify no wildlife preserves, no designated wilderness areas or critical habitats, no federal-listed species records within one mile of the site, or in the public land survey section listed above or sections adjacent.

The project should be managed to minimize erosion and sedimentation/runoff to nearby streams and lakes, including adherence to any "Clean Water Permit" conditions. Pollutants, including sediment, can have significant impacts far downstream. Use silt fences and/or vegetative filter strips to buffer streams and drainages, and monitor those after rain events and until a well-rooted ground cover is reestablished. Revegetate areas in which the natural cover is disturbed to minimize erosion using native plant species compatible with the local landscape and wildlife needs.

FEDERAL LIST species/habitats are protected under the Federal Endangered Species Act. ***Consult with*** *U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 101 Park Deville Drive Suite A, Columbia, Missouri 65203-0007; 573-234-2132*

Level 2 issues: Records of state-listed (not federal-listed) endangered species AND / OR state-ranked (not state-listed endangered) species and natural communities of conservation concern. The Department tracks these species and natural communities due to population declines and/or apparent vulnerability.

- Natural Heritage records identify no state-listed endangered species within 1 mile of the site.
- Natural Heritage records identify no state-ranked species and/or natural communities within 1 mile of the site.

See http://mdc.mo.gov/sites/default/files/resources/2010/04/2012_species_of_concern_11-29-2011.pdf for a complete list of species and communities of conservation concern.

STATE ENDANGERED species are listed in and protected under the Wildlife Code of Missouri (3CSR10-4.111).

General recommendations related to this project or site, or based on information about the historic range of species (unrelated to any specific heritage records):

- Gray bats (*Myotis grisescens*, federal and state-listed endangered) are likely to occur in the project area, as they forage over streams, rivers, and reservoirs in this part of Missouri. Avoid entry or disturbance of any cave inhabited by gray bats and when possible retain forest vegetation along the stream and from the gray bat cave opening to the stream. See http://mdc.mo.gov/104 for best management recommendations.
- The proposed project occurs in the historic range of greater prairie chickens (*Tympanuchus cupido*), a bird on the state's list of endangered species. Populations have been in serious decline for decades, and have reached a point where greater prairie chickens could be gone from Missouri within a few years. The dominant factor in their decline is conversion of native prairie habitats to other uses. Other prairie dependent species are also in serious decline for the same reason. Prairie chickens range over a broad territory perhaps nesting, breeding and foraging in grasslands several miles apart. Even if prairie chickens are not present, it is important to conserve as much as possible any grasslands dominated by native plant cover in the project area. See http://mdc.mo.gov/130 for best management recommendations.
- Newton County has known karst geologic features (e.g. caves, springs, and sinkholes, all characterized by subterranean water movement). Few karst features are recorded in natural heritage records, and ones not noted here may be encountered at the project site or affected by the project. Cave fauna (many of which are species of conservation concern) are influenced by changes to water quality, so check your project site for any karst features and make every effort to protect groundwater in the project area. See http://mdc.mo.gov/nathis/caves/manag_construc.htm for best management information.
- Streams in the area should be protected from soil erosion, water pollution and in-stream activities that modify or diminish aquatic habitats. Best management recommendations relating to streams and rivers may be found at http://mdc.mo.gov/79. The project should be managed to minimize erosion and sedimentation/runoff to nearby streams and lakes, including adherence to any "Clean Water Permit" conditions. Revegetate areas in which the natural cover is disturbed to minimize erosion using native plant species compatible with the local landscape and wildlife needs. Pollutants, including sediment, can have significant impacts far downstream. Use silt fences and/or vegetative filter strips to buffer streams and drainages, and monitor those after rain events and until a well-rooted ground cover is reestablished.
- Invasive exotic species are a significant issue for fish, wildlife and agriculture in Missouri. Seeds, eggs, and larvae may be moved to new sites on boats or construction equipment, so inspect and clean equipment thoroughly before moving between project sites.
  - Remove any mud, soil, trash, plants or animals from equipment before leaving any water body or work area.
  - Drain water from boats and machinery that has operated in water, checking motor cavities, live-well, bilge and transom wells, tracks, buckets, and any other water reservoirs.
  - When possible, wash and rinse equipment thoroughly with hard spray or HOT water (≧104° F, typically available at do-it-yourself carwash sites), and dry in the hot sun before using again.

These recommendations are ones project managers might prudently consider based on a general understanding of species needs and landscape conditions. Natural Heritage records largely reflect only sites visited by specialists in the last 30 years. This means that many privately owned tracts could host unknown remnants of species once but no longer common.

November 9, 2012
Contract C-12237

VIA CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Mr. Charles Scott
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Columbia Ecological Services Office
101 Park DeVille Drive, Suite A
Columbia, MO 65203

RECEIVED
DEC 19 2012
DEC 21 2012
By
By

RE: Request for Information
3402 South Hearnes Boulevard
Joplin, MO 64801
Latitude 37.0514, Longitude -94.515

Mr. Scott:

The City of Joplin and Joplin Fire Department have retained NPN Environmental to prepare an Environmental Assessment in accordance with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) regulations at 44 CFR Part 10 and Council on Environmental Quality Regulations at 40 CFR Part 1500-1508. As part of the Environmental Assessment for the above-referenced site, the following information is requested:

- Rare, threatened, or endangered species on or within one-half mile radius of site
- Commercially or recreationally important flora or fauna on or within one-half mile radius of site
- Wilderness, natural areas, critical habitat, preserves and forests, wildlife refuges, terrestrial breeding areas, and wildlife or game management areas on or within one-half mile radius of the site

The approximately 0.5-acre project site is currently a vacant parcel zoned for commercial use and previously developed with a coin-operated laundry for approximately 40 years as shown on *Figure 1 – Vicinity Map* and *Figure 2 – 2012 Aerial Photograph*. The Joplin Fire Department proposes to construct a new fire station and associated paved parking and driveways on the project site to replace a location destroyed by the 2011 EF-5 tornado.

1631 Headland Drive • St. Louis, MO 63026 • (636) 343-1300 • FAX (636) 343-8192

Thank you for your prompt consideration of our request. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact me at 636-343-1300.

Sincerely,

Ruth C Mannebach

Ruth C. Mannebach
Senior Environmental Scientist

Enclosures Figure 1 – Vicinity Map
Figure 2 – 2012 Aerial Photograph

"The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) has reviewed the proposed action and determined that no federally listed species, candidate species, or designated critical habitat occurs within the project area. Furthermore, the Service has determined that this action will have negligible impacts on wetlands, migratory birds, and other priority fish and wildlife resources."

Amy Lueders 12-20-12

Field Supervisor Date

1631 Headland Drive • St. Louis, MO 63026 • (636) 343-1300 • FAX (636) 343-8192

NPN ENVIRONMENTAL

FILE COPY

MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

SECTION 106 PROJECT INFORMATION FORM

Submission of a completed Project Information Form with adequate information and attachments constitutes a request for a review pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (as amended). We reserve the right to request more information. **Please refer to the CHECKLIST on Page 2 to ensure that all basic information relevant to the project has been included.** For further information, refer to our website at: http://dnr.mo.gov/shpo and follow the links to Section 106 Review.

NOTE: Section 106 regulations provide for a 30-day response time by the Missouri State Historic Preservation Office from the date of receipt.

PROJECT NAME New Fire Station #4 Construction	
FEDERAL AGENCY PROVIDING FUNDS, LICENSE, OR PERMIT FEMA Public Assistance Grant	
APPLICANT NPN Environmental Engineers on behalf of City of Joplin	TELEPHONE (636) 343-1300
CONTACT PERSON Ruth Mannebach, Senior Environmental Scientist, NPN Environmental Engineers	TELEPHONE (636) 343-1300
ADDRESS FOR RESPONSE Ruth Mannebach NPN Environmental Engineers, Inc. 1631 Headland Drive St. Louis, MO 63026	

LOCATION OF PROJECT

COUNTY Newton	
STREET ADDRESS 3402 South Hearnes Boulevard	CITY Joplin

LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT AREA (TOWNSHIP, RANGE, SECTION, ¼ SECTION)

USGS TOPOGRAPHIC MAP QUADRANGLE NAME (SEE MAP REQUIREMENTS ON PAGE 2)

Joplin West, MO-KS

YEAR	TOWNSHIP	RANGE	SECTION
2011	27N	33W	NE1/2SEC22

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

DESCRIBE THE OVERALL PROJECT IN DETAIL. IF IT INVOLVES EXCAVATION, INDICATE HOW WIDE, HOW DEEP, ETC. IF THE PROJECT INVOLVES DEMOLITION OF EXISTING BUILDINGS, MAKE THAT CLEAR. IF THE PROJECT INVOLVES REHABILITATION, DESCRIBE THE PROPOSED WORK IN DETAIL. USE ADDITIONAL PAGES IF NECESSARY.

The Joplin Fire Department (JFD) proposes to construct a new approximately 4875 square foot fire station with two vehicle bays on a 0.5-acre vacant parcel at the southwest corner of South Hearnes Boulevard and West 34th Street. The City of Joplin currently owns the parcel. Construction will be to replace Fire Station #4 destroyed by the May 2011 EF-5 tornado.

Historically, the City of Joplin reports the parcel was developed with a coin-operated laundromat for approximately 40 years. The City of Joplin acquired the parcel from private landowners and demolished the laundromat building earlier this year. The majority of the parcel is currently asphalt paved. The parcel and adjacent property to the north and east are zoned for Commercial use. Adjacent property to the south and west is zoned Residential. Current adjacent development includes West 34th Street and Dalton's Discount Liquor & Tobacco to the north; South Hearnes Boulevard (divided highway), City of Joplin Police Station, and Capri Motel (abandoned and scheduled for demolition) to the east; a single-family residence to the south; and Ruby Way and duplex residences to the west.

Excavation at the project site will be limited to utilities, shallow building foundations and footings, driveways, and parking areas. The fire station will not have a basement.

A topographic map, aerial photograph, proposed preliminary site plan, and site photographs are attached.

ARCHAEOLOGY (EARTHMOVING ACTIVITIES)

HAS THE GROUND INVOLVED BEEN GRADED, BUILT ON, BORROWED, OR OTHERWISE DISTURBED? PLEASE DESCRIBE IN DETAIL (USE ADDITIONAL PAGES, IF NECESSARY) PHOTOGRAPHS ARE HELPFUL:

Yes. Parcel historically developed with a coin-operated laundromat and asphalt-paved parking for approximately 40 years. Laundromat building was demolished in 2012. The project site was likely graded and disturbed during laundromat construction.

WILL THE PROJECT REQUIRE FILL MATERIAL? ☐ YES ☑ NO

IF YES, INDICATE PROPOSED BORROW AREAS (SOURCE OF FILL MATERIAL) ON TOPOGRAPHIC MAP

ARE YOU AWARE OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES ON OR ADJACENT TO PROJECT AREA? ☐ YES ☑ NO

IF YES, IDENTIFY THEM ON THE TOPOGRAPHIC MAP

STRUCTURES (REHABILITATION, DEMOLOTION, ADDITIONS TO, OR CONTRUCTION NEAR EXISTING STRUCTURES)

TO THE BEST OF YOUR KNOWLEDGE, IS THE STRUCTURE LOCATED IN ANY OF THE FOLLOWING?

☐ AN AREA PREVIOUSLY SURVEYED FOR HISTORIC PROPERTIES.

IF YES, PLEASE PROVIDE THE NAME OF THE SURVEY OR DISTRICT:

☐ A NATIONAL REGISTER DISTRICT

IF YES, PLEASE PROVIDE THE NAME OF THE SURVEY OR DISTRICT:

☐ A LOCAL HISTORIC DISTRICT

IF YES, PLEASE PROVIDE THE NAME OF THE SURVEY OR DISTRICT:

- PLEASE PROVIDE PHOTOGRAPHS OF ALL STRUCTURES, SEE PHOTOGRAPHY REQUIREMENTS
- **NOTE:** ALL PHOTOGRAPHS SHOULD BE LABELED AND KEYED TO ONE MAP OF THE PROJECT AREA
- PLEASE PROVIDE A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE BUILDING(S), INCLUDING CONSTRUCTION DATES AND BUILDING USES. (USE ADDITONAL PAGES, IF NECESSARY.)

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

Map Requirements: Attach a copy of the relevant portion (8 ½ x 11) of the current USGS 7.5 min. topographic map and, if necessary, a large scale project map. Please do not send an individual map with each structure or site. While an original map is preferable, a good copy is acceptable. For a list of sites from which to order, download or print the required USGS 7.5 min. topographic maps at little or no cost, consult http://dnr.mo.gov/shpo/sectionrev.htm .

Photography Requirements: Clear black and white or color photographs (minimum 3" x 5") are acceptable. Polariods, photocopies, emailed or faxed photographs are not acceptable. **Good quality photographs are important for expeditious project review**. Photographs of neighboring or nearby buildings are also helpful. All photographs should be labeled and keyed to one map of the project area.

CHECKLIST-DID YOU PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION?

☑ Topographic map 7.5 min. (per project, not structure)

☑ Thorough description (all projects)

☑ Photographs (all structures)

☑ Other supporting documents (If necessary to explain the project)

☑ For new construction, rehabilitations, etc., attach work write-ups, plans, drawings, etc.

☑ Is topographic map identified by quadrangle and year?

Return this Form and Attachments to:

MISSOUR DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE
Attn: Section 106 Review
P.O. BOX 176
JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI 65102-0176

CULTURAL RESOURCE ASSESSMENT
Section 106 Review

CONTACT PERSON/ADDRESS

Ruth Mannebach
NPN Environmental Engineers, Inc.
1631 Headland Drive
St. Louis, Missouri 63026

C:

Kenneth Sessa, FEMA
Chelsea Klein, FEMA
Jo Ann Dent, DED/CDBG

PROJECT:

Fire Station No. 4, 3402 South Hearnes Blvd, Joplin

FEDERAL AGENCY

FEMA

COUNTY:

NEWTON

The State Historic Preservation Office has reviewed the information submitted on the above referenced project. Based on this review, we have made the following determination:

[ ] After review of initial submission, the project area has a low potential for the occurrence of cultural resources. A cultural resource survey, therefore, is not warranted.

[X] Adequate documentation has been provided (36 CFR Section 800.11). There will be "no historic properties affected" by the current project.

[ ] An adequate cultural resource survey of the project area has been previously conducted. It has been determined that for the proposed undertaking there will be "no historic properties affected".

For the above checked reason, the State Historic Preservation Office has no objection to the initiation of project activities. PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT, IF THE CURRENT PROJECT AREA OR SCOPE OF WORK ARE CHANGED, A BORROW AREA IS INCLUDED IN THE PROJECT, OR CULTURAL MATERIALS ARE ENCOUNTERED DURING CONSTRUCTION, APPROPRIATE INFORMATION MUST BE PROVIDED TO THIS OFFICE FOR FURTHER REVIEW AND COMMENT. Please retain this documentation as evidence of compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended.

By: Mark A. Miles — **November 14, 2012**

Mark A. Miles, Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer — **Date**

MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE
P.O. Box 176, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102
For additional information, please contact Judith Deel, (573) 751-7862. Please be sure to refer to the project number: 003-NE-13