


**Project Information**

<b>Project Name:</b>	Gilley Avenue Shoulder Widening	<b>Federal Project#:</b>	HIP-5102(184)
<b>Project Number:</b>	0058-101-902, C501, P101, R201	<b>Project Type:</b>	Construction
<b>UPC:</b>	110879	<b>Charge Number:</b>	UPC-110879, Act. 6XX
<b>Route Number:</b>	58	<b>Route Type:</b>	Urban
<b>Project Limit--From:</b>	0.045 mi. East Int. Hamblen Street	<b>To:</b>	0.318 mi. East int. Hamblen Street
<b>IPM Project Description:</b>	#SMART18 - Gilley Ave. Shoulder Widening		
<b>Additional Project Description:</b>	The project will widen the south shoulder for Gilley Avenue (US 58 Alt and US 23 Bus) in the Town of Big Stone Gap, in Wise County, VA. In addition, it will improve the sight distance near the project's eastern terminus and pave the existing roadway. The shoulder widening will add 8' of shoulder (6' paved for pedestrian use) and increase sight distance between Hamblen Street and Ridgepoint Road by cutting into the adjacent hillside. Increased shoulder width, with flat bottom ditches, will require a roadway cut into the adjacent hillside and the relocation of one home. There will be approximately five acres of additional right of way required.		
<b>Purpose And Need:</b>	The project will improve safety of the traveling public by providing wider shoulders, improving sight distance, and paving the road surface.		
<b>District:</b>	<b>City/County:</b>	<b>Residency:</b>	
Bristol	Big Stone Gap	Wise	

**The subject project meets the criteria for a Programmatic Categorical Exclusion in accordance with:**

23 CFR 771.117

**Description of PCE Category:**

**c26** Modernization of a highway by resurfacing, restoration, rehabilitation, reconstruction, adding shoulders, or adding auxiliary lanes (including parking, weaving, turning, and climbing lanes), if the action meets the constraints in paragraph (e) of this section.

**UNUSUAL CIRCUMSTANCES:**

**NO** Significant environmental impacts

*Determination: No significant environmental impacts are anticipated as a result of the Gilley Avenue shoulder widening, curve elimination, and drainage improvement project in the Town of Big Stone Gap. The determination is based on a review of the project plans dated 6/14/20 and VDOT GIS by the Bristol District Environmental staff, and the Project Manager's comments dated 7/21/20.*

- NO** Substantial controversy on environmental grounds  
*Determination: Based on a review of the project scope and location, no substantial controversy on environmental grounds is anticipated.*
- NO** Significant impact on properties protected by Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act or Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act  
*Determination: Based on review of the project scope, location, and GIS information there is no use of properties protected by Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act or Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. A No Effect determination was made by the Western Regional Cultural Resources staff and received concurrence from the Department of Historic Resources (DHR) on 9/10/2020.*
- NO** Inconsistencies with any Federal, State, or local law, requirement or administrative determination relating to the environmental aspects of the action  
*Determination: There are no inconsistencies with Federal, State, or local laws, requirements, or administrative determinations relating to the environmental aspects of the action based on review by the Bristol District Environmental staff and consultation with the Project Manager.*

**IMPACTS:**

- NO** Involves acquisition of more than minor amounts of temporary or permanent right of way acquisition  
*Determination: Based on review of the preliminary plans dated 6/14/20 and consultation with the Project Manager, less than five acres of right of way are required for the project.*
- NO** Involves acquisitions that result in more than limited residential and non-residential displacements, based on the context and intensity of the impact  
*Determination: Based on a review of the project scope, preliminary plans, and verification by the Project Manager, one residential displacement is required.*
- NO** Results in capacity expansion of a roadway by addition of through lanes  
*Determination: The purpose of the project is to improve safety through shoulder widening and improved sight-distance for Gilley Avenue. No through lanes are included in the scope of this project based on review of the preliminary plans and consultation with the Project Manager on 7/21/20.*
- NO** Involves the construction of temporary access, or the closure of an existing road, bridge, or ramps, that would result in major traffic disruptions, based on the context and intensity of the impact  
*Determination: Based on review of the preliminary plans and the Project Manager's comments, construction of temporary access and road closures are not required for management of traffic during construction of this project. No detours are required. A minimum disruption to traffic is anticipated.*
- NO** Results in a determination of adverse effect on historic properties pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (54 U.S.C. §306108)  
*Determination: A No Effect determination was made by the Western Regional Cultural Resources staff pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. DHR concurrence was received on 09/10/2020.*
- NO** Requires the use of properties protected by Section 4(f) (49 U.S.C. § 303/23 U.S.C. § 138) that cannot be documented with an FHWA de minimis determination, or a programmatic Section 4(f) evaluation signed by FHWA  
*Determination: Based on review of the project scope, location, VDOT GIS information, and a No Effect determination made by the Western Regional Cultural Resources staff, there is no use of properties protected by Section 4(f)(49 U.S.C. § 303/23 U.S.C. § 138).*

- NO** Requires the acquisition of lands under the protection of Section 6(f) of the Land and Water Conservation Act of 1965 (54 U.S.C. § 200305) or other unique areas or special lands that were acquired in fee or easement with federal public-use-money and have deed restrictions or covenants on the property  
*Determination: Based on review of the project scope, location and VDOT GIS information, there is no acquisition of lands under the protection of Section 6(f) of the Land and Water Conservation Act of 1965 (54 U.S.C. § 200305) or other unique areas or special lands that were acquired in fee or easement with federal public-use-money and have deed restrictions or covenants on the property.*
- NO** Requires a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Section 404 (33 U.S.C. § 1344 permit other than a Nationwide or a General Permit)  
*Determination: The Permit Determination prepared by the Bristol District Natural Resources staff on 12/18/2019, indicates no permits are required.*
- NO** Requires a U.S. Coast Guard bridge permit (33 U.S.C. § 401)  
*Determination: The project scope and preliminary plans do not include bridgework over navigable waters of the U.S., therefore, a U.S. Coast Guard bridge permit is not required. The Project Manager confirmed the determination in comments provided 7/21/20.*
- NO** Requires work that will cause an increase of the flood level by more than one foot within a regulatory floodway of water courses or water bodies or work affecting the base floodplain (100-year flood) elevations of a water course or lake, pursuant to 23 CFR §650 subpart A  
*Determination: The proposed location is outside the 100 year floodplain based on available Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) mapping and consultation with the Project Manager.*
- NO** Is defined as a "Type I project" per 23 CFR §772.5 and the VDOT noise manual for purposes of a noise analysis  
*Determination: This is a Type III project as determined by the VDOT Noise Section on 8/06/20, therefore, a noise analysis is not required.*
- NO** Is likely to adversely affect federally listed species or designated critical habitat, with the exception of a "may affect, likely to adversely affect" (MALAA) determination for the Northern Long-Eared Bat or Indiana Bat when the project is within the scope of the range-wide programmatic consultation for those species  
*Determination: The T&E clearance report provided by the Bristol District Natural Resources staff on 11/25/20 concluded that the project may affect, is likely to adversely affect the Northern Long-Eared Bat and Indiana Bat due to tree removal between 100-300 feet from the edge of road surface. This determination is within the scope of the range-wide programmatic consultation for those species. Potential impacts will be mitigated through payment of an in lieu fee for tree removal to the Conservation Fund.*
- NO** Involves any known or potential hazardous materials issues that represent a substantial liability or require substantial regulatory negotiation to resolve. Sites representing substantial liability would not include minor issues such as low-level petroleum impacts or minimal solid waste  
*Determination: Based on a review of the GIS database and the Hazardous Materials Summary Report dated 10/13/20, no hazardous materials (other than asbestos or possible heating oil UST from a purchased home) is expected. Should any suspect materials be encountered, the Hazardous Materials Manager should be notified immediately.*
- NO** Does not meet the provisions of the "Planning Documents and NEPA Approvals" document. In accordance with 23 CFR §450 and the FHWA/VDOT/Federal Transit Administration/Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation MOA Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) Procedures MOA, actions listed in 23 CFR §771.117(c) and 23 CFR §771.117(d) may be grouped  
*Determination: Based on a review of VDOT's Project Pool and Project Cost Estimating System (PCES), the project is included in the STIP Grouping for "Construction: Safety/ITS/Operational Improvements" and is funded through the subsequent phase, demonstrating fiscal constraint.*

- NO** Causes disproportionately high and adverse effects on any minority or low-income populations  
*Determination: Based on the project scope, the VDOT GIS, and response from the Project Manager dated 7/21/20, there is one anticipated relocation. There are no detours and no community or emergency services disruption associated with the project. Based on a minority and low income analysis conducted by District NEPA staff on 9/2/20, there are no minority or low income populations impacted.*
- NO** Involves consideration of multiple NEPA alternatives  
*Determination: The project scope is limited to shoulder and ditch widening and improving sight distance. It does not involve multiple alternatives to meet the purpose and need of improving safety.*
- NO** Is an action listed in 23 CFR §771.115(a)  
*Determination: The project scope does not include an action listed in 23 CFR §771.115(a) requiring an Environmental Impact Statement. As a project that has no significant environmental impact, it qualifies for a Programmatic Categorical Exclusion (PCE).*
- NO** Involves unusual circumstances, pursuant to 23 CFR §771.117(b)  
*Determination: The project does not involve unusual circumstances, pursuant to 23 CFR §771.117(b).*

**Young, George B**

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**11/30/2020**

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**Environmental Manager, CE Determination**

**Date**