



U.S. Department  
of Transportation  
**Federal Highway  
Administration**

**Minnesota Division**

January 30, 2014

380 Jackson Street  
Cray Plaza, Suite 500  
St. Paul, MN 55101-4802  
651.291.6100  
Fax 651.291.6000  
[www.fhwa.dot.gov/mndiv](http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/mndiv)

Charles A. Zelle  
Commissioner of Transportation  
Department of Transportation  
MS 120, Transportation Building  
St. Paul, Minnesota 55155

Re: Finding of No Significant Impact &  
Section 4(f) De Minimis Determination  
Trunk Highway 43 – Winona Bridge  
Minnesota State Project Number 8503-46  
In the City of Winona  
Winona County, Minnesota

Dear Mr. Zelle:

Enclosed is a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) as requested by the Minnesota Department of Transportation Office of Environmental Stewardship on January 27, 2014. The proposed project consists primarily of rehabilitation and reconstruction of existing Bridge Number 5900 plus construction of a new two-lane parallel bridge. Intersection improvements and storm water management are also among the proposed scope of work.

This Finding concludes that the project will not significantly impact the human environment.

A Notice of Availability of the FONSI must be sent to Federal, State, and local government agencies that are likely to have an interest in the undertaking and to State intergovernmental review contacts. It is encouraged that agencies which commented on the Environmental Assessment (or requested to be informed) are advised of the project decision, the disposition of their comments, and provided a copy of the FONSI.

Sincerely,

Philip Forst  
Environmental Specialist

Enclosure

PJF/alk

cc: 1 MnDOT, Gage, e-copy w/enclosure, [Brian.Gage@state.mn.us](mailto:Brian.Gage@state.mn.us)  
1 MnDOT, Moynihan, e-copy w/enclosure, [debra.moynihan@state.mn.us](mailto:debra.moynihan@state.mn.us)  
1 FHWA, Ginsberg, e-copy w/enclosure, [abbi.ginsberg@state.mn.us](mailto:abbi.ginsberg@state.mn.us)

DMS – [MN DOC LIBRARY-#40487-SP 8503-46 - TH 43 - Winona Bridge - Signed FONSI Transmittal Letter of 1-30-14 - Winona County](#)

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

**FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION**

**MINNESOTA DIVISION**

**FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT & SECTION 4(f) DE MINIMIS  
DETERMINATION**

Minnesota State Project Number 8503-46

Trunk Highway 43 Winona Bridge Project

In the City of Winona

Winona County, Minnesota

The proposed project consists primarily of rehabilitation and reconstruction of the existing Winona Bridge (Bridge Number 5900) and construction of a new two-lane parallel bridge. Improvements to the Winona/4<sup>th</sup> Street intersection, reconstruction of portion of 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Streets, and reconstruction of the Trunk Highway 43/Latsch Island road are also among the project's scope of work.

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) has determined the proposed improvements, as described in the Environmental Assessment (EA) and the Findings of Fact and Conclusion (FOFC) will have no significant impacts to the human or natural environment. This Finding of No Significant Impact is based upon the EA which has been independently evaluated by FHWA and determined to adequately discuss the need, environmental issues, and impacts of the proposed project and appropriate mitigation measures.

Furthermore, this FONSI constitutes FHWA's determination of a de minimis impact to a Section 4(f) property: the Waterfront Trail. The Waterfront Trail is owned and managed by the City of Winona. A permanent easement over a portion of the trail is needed for construction and future bridge maintenance in perpetuity. The City of Winona concurred that the proposed project and mitigation measures will not adversely affect the features, attributes, or activities qualifying the Waterfront Trail for protection under Section 4(f).

The EA provides sufficient evidence and analysis for determining that an Environmental Impact Statement is not required. The FHWA takes full responsibility for the accuracy, scope, and content of the EA for the subject project.

William R. Lohr



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William Lohr, P.E.

Field Operations Team Leader