

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION

FOR THE PROPOSED PROJECT OF: 1st Ave. East (Sheyenne St. to 4th St.)
City of West Fargo (Cass County), North
Dakota

CLEAN WATER STATE REVOLVING FUND PROJECT NUMBER: 380705-04

DRINKING WATER STATE REVOLVING FUND PROJECT NUMBER: 0900999-03

The North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality (NDDEQ) has conducted a review of the proposed 1st Ave. East (Sheyenne St. to 4th St.) project for the City of West Fargo in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (40 CFR Part 6). The NDDEQ has determined that this project is eligible for a categorical exclusion and is exempt from further substantive environmental review.

Because the proposed project meets the criteria for a categorical exclusion, a full Finding of No Significant Impact and Environmental Assessment will not be required. Following is a description of the proposed project and a brief statement of how the project meets the criteria for a categorical exclusion.

The proposed project consists of utility and street improvements on 1st Ave. East from Sheyenne St. to 4th St. The drinking water main was installed around 1959 and is approaching the end of its useful life. The existing storm sewer system is undersized and some inlets are in a poor location to intercept storm water.

This project will rehabilitate the existing street, install new gravity sanitary sewer, and replace underground drinking water and storm sewer infrastructure. These improvements will improve the storm water drainage for this area and ensure that the City of West Fargo can continue to provide utility service for residents.

The City of West Fargo plans to apply for a Clean Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Fund loan to finance the project. The city has the legal authority and financial and administrative capability to construct the proposed improvements.

This project is being granted an exclusion because the improvements will occur entirely within city owned right-of-way that has been previously disturbed. The North Dakota State Historic Preservation Officer concurs with "No Historic Properties Affected" provided the project takes place in the manner and location described in the documentation and all borrow comes from an approved source (ND SHPO Ref.: 25-0299). It has been determined that exempting the proposed project from further review under the National Environmental Policy Act will not result in adverse impacts to the population or area of West Fargo and Cass County. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

has reviewed this project (ID No. NWO-2025-01078-BIS) and determined that a Section 404 permit is not required.

The documentation to support this decision will be on file and available for public review at the NDDEQ, Division of Municipal Facilities.

Comments concerning this decision may be addressed to Bryan Schmitt, Environmental Engineer, Division of Municipal Facilities, North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality, 4201 Normandy St., Bismarck, ND, 58503-1324.

Dated Feb. 25, 2026.

David J. Bruschwein, P.E.
Director
Division of Municipal Facilities