

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

TO ALL INTERESTED GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES AND PUBLIC GROUPS:

As required by guidelines for the preparation of environmental impact statements, an environmental review has been performed on the proposed action below:

Project: Downtown Improvements

Customer: City of Casselton

Location: Casselton (Cass County), North Dakota

SRF Project No.: 380871-05, 0900166-03

Total Cost: \$10,202,927.00

The proposed project is for improvements to Casselton's downtown infrastructure. Aging utilities, inadequate stormwater management, and pavement deterioration contribute to ongoing maintenance challenges and potential safety hazards. The project includes partial replacement of the drinking water system, complete replacement of the sanitary sewer system, and storm sewer system extensions. This will ensure long-term infrastructure reliability and increase public health and safety.

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

This project is within the Casselton Commercial Historic District that is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. The North Dakota State Historic Preservation Office (ND SHPO) concurs with the determination of "No Adverse Effect" for this project provided vacating the stairwell follows the level of the sidewalk and does not build above ground, provided the special care requirements as described in the facility plan are followed, provided the work takes place in the location and manner described in the documentation, and provided all borrow comes from an approved source (ND SHPO Ref.: 24-0241). For a further discussion of this, see Item V, Environmental Impacts of Proposed Project in the Environmental Assessment document. Wetlands, area floodplains, threatened and endangered species, wildlife and wildlife habitat, and agricultural land will not be adversely impacted. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has determined that the project area is comprised of entirely dry land and a Section 404 permit is not required (ID No. NWO-2013-00122-BIS).

The review process did not indicate significant environmental impacts would result from the proposed action. Consequently, a preliminary decision not to prepare an environmental impact statement has been made. This action is taken on the basis of a careful review of the engineering report, environmental information document, and other supporting data that are on file in the Municipal Facilities Division of the North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality.

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

After evaluating the comments received, the agency will make a final decision. However, no administrative action will be taken on the project for at least 30 calendar days after release of the Finding of No Significant Impact.

Dated April 2, 2026.

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