Type I and II Ground Disturbing Categorical Exclusion Action Classification Form

STIP Project No.	ER-5600CB
WBS Element	46305.3.23
Federal Project No.	STP-0332(064)

A. <u>Project Description</u>: (Include project scope and location, including Municipality and County. Refer to the attached project location map and photos.)

This project proposes to make improvements to the existing landscaping within the vegetated center area of the US Highway 701 roundabout in Newton Grove, NC in Sampson County. Refer to the attached vicinity map and aerial map. This landscape project includes landscape plantings, irrigation, stone walls, and lighting. The project is within the existing, improved North Carolina Department of Transportation right-of-way. The attached plan sheet details the proposed planting work.

B. Description of Need and Purpose:

This project will enhance the landscaping at the NC 701 Roundabout. The purpose is aesthetic improvement.

- C. Categorical Exclusion Action Classification: (Check one)
- D. <u>Proposed Improvements</u>:
- 7. Landscaping.
- E. Special Project Information:

Cultural Resources:

There are no existing National Register properties or districts in the vicinity of this project. This project will take place entirely within the existing, improved NCDOT right-of-way. These activities are considered exempt from review per the programmatic agreement. The cultural resources review screening checklist is attached.

Jurisdictional Resources:

There are no jurisdictional features present within the center of the US 701 Roundabout. The area is vegetated and maintained by mowing. No permits will be required for this landscaping project.

Protected Species:

Habitat for the three federally threatened and endangered species listed for Sampson County is not present within the project limits. Also, an automated review of the project area on North Carolina's Natural Heritage Program's Data Explorer indicates that there are no records for rare species within the proposed project boundary.

F. Project Impact Criteria Checklists:

Type I &	II - Ground Disturbing Actions		
FHWA APPROVAL ACTIVITIES THRESHOLD CRITERIA			
If any of	If any of questions 1-7 are marked "yes" then the CE will require FHWA approval. Yes No.		
1	Does the project require formal consultation with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) or National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)?		\boxtimes
2	Does the project result in impacts subject to the conditions of the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (BGPA)?		\boxtimes
3	Does the project generate substantial controversy or public opposition, for any reason, following appropriate public involvement?		\boxtimes
4	Does the project cause disproportionately high and adverse impacts relative to low-income and/or minority populations?		\boxtimes
5	Does the project involve a residential or commercial displacement, or a substantial amount of right of way acquisition?		\boxtimes
6	Does the project require an Individual Section 4(f) approval?		\boxtimes
7	Does the project include adverse effects that cannot be resolved with a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) or have an adverse effect on a National Historic Landmark (NHL)?		\boxtimes
If any of questions 8 through 31 are marked "yes" then additional information will be required for those questions in Section G.			
Other Considerations Yes No			No
8	Does the project result in a finding of "may affect not likely to adversely affect" for listed species, or designated critical habitat under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (ESA)?		\boxtimes
9	Is the project located in anadromous fish spawning waters?		\boxtimes
10	Does the project impact waters classified as Outstanding Resource Water (ORW), High Quality Water (HQW), Water Supply Watershed Critical Areas, 303(d) listed impaired water bodies, buffer rules, or Submerged Aquatic Vegetation (SAV)?		\boxtimes
11	Does the project impact waters of the United States in any of the designated mountain trout streams?		\boxtimes
12	Does the project require a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Individual Section 404 Permit?		\boxtimes
13	Will the project require an easement from a Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) licensed facility?		\boxtimes
14	Does the project include a Section 106 of the NHPA effects determination other than a no effect, including archaeological remains?		\boxtimes

Other Considerations (continued)		Yes	No
15	Does the project involve hazardous materials and/or landfills?		\boxtimes
16	Does the project require work encroaching and adversely affecting a regulatory floodway or work affecting the base floodplain (100-year flood) elevations of a water course or lake, pursuant to Executive Order 11988 and 23 CFR 650 subpart A?		\boxtimes
17	Is the project in a Coastal Area Management Act (CAMA) county and substantially affects the coastal zone and/or any Area of Environmental Concern (AEC)?		\boxtimes
18	Does the project require a U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) permit?		\boxtimes
19	Does the project involve construction activities in, across, or adjacent to a designated Wild and Scenic River present within the project area?		\boxtimes
20	Does the project involve Coastal Barrier Resources Act (CBRA) resources?		\boxtimes
21	Does the project impact federal lands (e.g. U.S. Forest Service (USFS), USFWS, etc.) or Tribal Lands?		\boxtimes
22	Does the project involve any changes in access control?		\boxtimes
23	Does the project have a permanent adverse effect on local traffic patterns or community cohesiveness?		\boxtimes
24	Will maintenance of traffic cause substantial disruption?		\boxtimes
25	Is the project inconsistent with the STIP or the Metropolitan Planning Organization's (MPO's) Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) (where applicable)?		\boxtimes
26	Does the project require the acquisition of lands under the protection of Section 6(f) of the Land and Water Conservation Act, the Federal Aid in Fish Restoration Act, the Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act, Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA), or other unique areas or special lands that were acquired in fee or easement with public-use money and have deed restrictions or covenants on the property?		\boxtimes
27	Does the project involve Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) buyout properties under the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)?		\boxtimes
28	Does the project include a <i>de minimis</i> or programmatic Section 4(f)?		\boxtimes
29	Is the project considered a Type I under the NCDOT's Noise Policy?		\boxtimes
30	Is there prime or important farmland soil impacted by this project as defined by the Farmland Protection Policy Act (FPPA)?		\boxtimes
31	Are there other issues that arose during the project development process that affected the project decision?		\boxtimes

G. Additional Documentation as Required from Section F

H. <u>Project Commitments</u>

Sampson County
US 701 Roundabout Landscape Improvements
46305.3.23
ER-5600CB

No project commitments

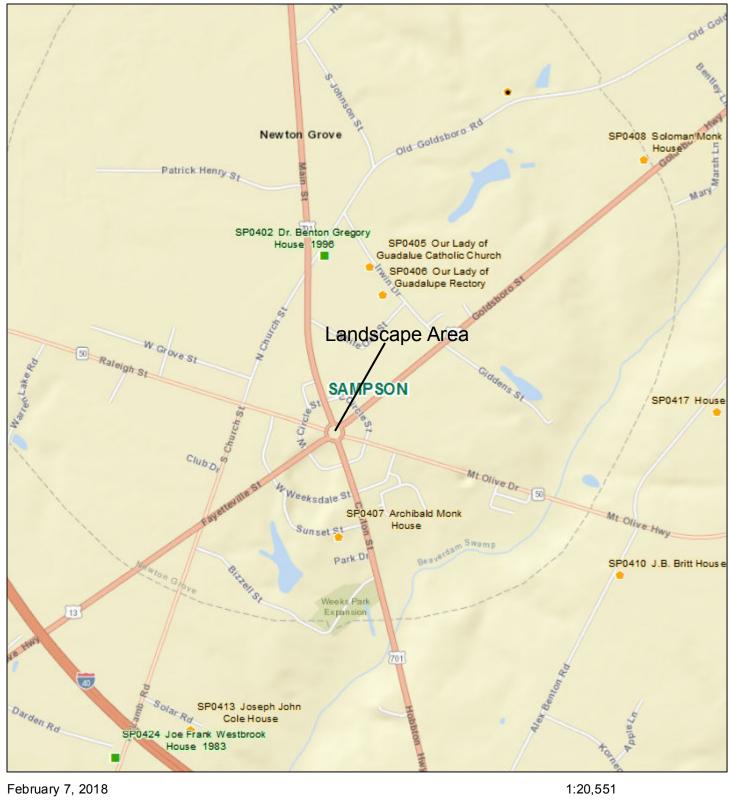
١. Categorical Exclusion Approval STIP Project No. **ER-5600CB WBS Element** 46305.3.23 Federal Project No. STP-0332(064) Prepared By: Anneliese Wetphal 2/9/2018 Anneliese Westphal, Division 3 Environmental Senior Specialist Date North Carolina Department of Transportation Reviewed By: 2/9/2018 Mason Herndon, Division 3 Environmental Program Supervisor Date North Carolina Department of Transportation If all of the threshold questions (1 through 7) of X Section F are answered "no," NCDOT approves this **Approved** Categorical Exclusion. If any of the threshold questions (1 through 7) of Certified Section F are answered "yes," NCDOT certifies this Categorical Exclusion. 2/9/2018 Mason Herndon, Division 3 Environmental Program Supervisor Date North Carolina Department of Transportation

FHWA Approved: For Projects Certified by NCDOT (above), FHWA signature required.

John F. Sullivan, III, PE, Division Administrator Federal Highway Administration

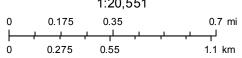
Date

Newton Grove Landscape Vicinity Map



NR Points

- NR Individual Listing
- NR Listing, Gone
- NRHD Center Point



Sources: Esri, HERE, DeLorme, USGS, Intermap, INCREMENT P, NRCan, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri Korea, Esri (Thailand), MapmyIndia, NGCC, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community

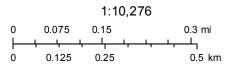
Newton Grove Landscape Aerial Map



February 7, 2018

NR Points

- NR Individual Listing
- NR Listing, Gone
- NRHD Center Point



Programmatic Agreement Cultural Resources Screening Checklist

Project Numbers: TIP:	FA:	WBS:
Project Name:	County:	
Project Description:		

Funding Source: Permits Required:

Instructions:

NCDOT Project Managers/Engineers, should complete the following checklist based upon your knowledge of the project site and immediate vicinity. If you check "Unable to Determine", efforts should be undertaken to acquire available information on the project. If the answer to any question is "Yes" or "Unable to Determine," the project is subject to further historic preservation review, not withstanding other determinations under state environmental review laws and regulations. If the answer to all the questions is "No," the project may be excluded from further historic preservation review.

	Yes	No	Unable to Determine
A. Does this project contain activities that are <u>not</u> specified in Appendix C of the North Carolina Programmatic Agreement for Minor Transportation Projects? (List of Exempt Activities on reverse)			
B. Is this project directly related to other actions with individually insignificant, but cumulatively significant, environmental effects?			
C. Are there properties listed on or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places in the project area?			
D. Is this project questioned by the owner of a historic property?			
E. Is there known public controversy based on historic preservation issues?			
F. Can this project be classified as anything <u>other than</u> a "categorical exclusion" (or state-equivalent) project			

Certification

By my signature, I certify that I have completed a site visit or am familiar with the specifics of the project and that my answers to the questions above are, to the best of my knowledge, correct. I also understand that no further environmental analysis is required according to Appendix C of the North Carolina Programmatic Agreement for Minor Transportation Projects.

	Anneliese Westphal	
Name (print)	Signature	Date

The activities in Appendix C are exempted from further review, provided the undertaking meets all of the following conditions:

- is limited to the activities specified;
- is not part of a larger undertaking;
- is not questioned by the owner of a historic property;
- has no known public controversy based on historic preservation issues; and
- is classified as a "categorical exclusion" (or state-equivalent) project.

EXEMPT ACTIVITIES

- Mowing, seeding/reseeding, and other ground cover maintenance activities;
- Installation or replacement/repair of fixed static signs, interconnection devices, surveillance cameras, closed circuit TV and other minor incident management devices, railroad warning devices, and improved rail crossing surfaces;
- In-kind replacement, reconstruction, or ordinary repair or modification of existing lighting, guardrails, modern fencing, traffic signals, curbs and gutters, sidewalks, and variable message signs;
- Activities that do not involve construction or ground disturbance, such as preliminary engineering, training, technical studies, non-invasive inspections, and educational programs;
- Overlay, milling, grooving, repairing (concrete or asphalt patching or slurry seal), striping, or resurfacing of existing ramp, roadway, and parking lot surfaces where there will be no new impacts outside an existing facility; rumble strips, loop detectors, pavement markings (normal and raised), and snow and ice detectors to the same;
- Activities within the existing disturbed median, including installation of new or replacement median barriers or guard rail;
- Modernization of an existing transportation facility by widening less than a travel lane or adding lanes, provided such widening
 does not extend beyond the limits of existing improved right-of-way (includes shoulder additions to roadways, bridge
 approaches, turn lanes within the existing improved facility);
- Correcting substandard roadway geometrics and intersections (i.e., spot improvements), provided such corrections do not extend
 beyond the limits of existing improved right-of-way;
- · Minor bridge rehabilitation, bridge rails, or substructure alterations where the work is confined to the bridge itself, and
 - a. the bridge is no older than 45 years at the date of NCDOT's project review, or
 - b. the bridge has been determined ineligible for the National Register of Historic Places;
- Minor safety related drainage improvements, including but not limited to: installation, replacement or removal of culverts and headwalls; installation, replacement and extensions of pipes; and addition of pipe end sections;
- Routine cleaning, maintenance and repair of existing drainage, stormwater management, and water quality facilities and devices, not including projects that seek to expand or extend such facilities;
- Replacement/relocation of existing underground utilities in kind and within existing footprint and replacement/relocation of
 existing utility poles between edge of existing improved right-of-way and road;
- Repair of erosion control and protection measures, including but not limited to: slope stabilization, slide repair, rip rap, or retaining walls and new construction of such devices within existing improved right-of-way;
- Rehabilitation of existing at-grade railroad crossings and installation or upgrade of regulatory signs and railroad warning signs
 and devices, upgrade of advisory signs, and track and rail bed maintenance, provided there is no change in grade;
- Construction of bicycle and pedestrian lanes, paths, pedestrian signal heads, and facilities, and multi-use paths and facilities
 provided such construction does not extend beyond the limits of existing improved right-of-way;
- Construction of or improvements to rest areas, truck weigh stations, park and ride lots, and other transportation related maintenance, storage, and office facilities, where no new right-of-way is acquired;
- Landscaping on fill-slopes and back-slopes;
- Disposal of excess state-owned properties;
- Other minor actions if deemed appropriate for coverage under this PA by consultation and mutual written agreement between NCDOT and HPO/OSA.

