

Draft Environmental Assessment

Brighton Beach Road Reconstruction

City of Duluth, St. Louis County, MN January 2023

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Prepared for



FEMA Region 5 536 South Clark Street, Sixth Floor Chicago, IL 60605 Disaster #DR-4414-MN, Project 95035, PW 8

List of Acronyms, Chemical Formulas, and Abbreviations

AADT	Average Annual Daily Traffic	NAAQS	National Ambient Air Quality
ACS	American Community Survey		Standards
APE	Area of Potential Effect	NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
BCC	Birds of Conservation Concern	NHPA	National Historic Preservation Act
BMP	Best Management Practice	NO2	Nitrogen Dioxide
CAA	Clean Air Act	NOx	Nitrogen Oxides
CBRS	Coastal Barrier Resource System	NPDES	/SDS National Pollution Discharge
CERCLA	AComprehensive Environmental		Elimination System/State Disposal
	Response, Compensation and		System
	Liability Act	NRCS	Natural Resources Conservation
CEQ	Council on Environmental Quality		Service
C.F.R.	Code of Federal Regulations	NRHP	National Register of Historic Places
CO	Carbon Monoxide	NWI	National Wetland Inventory
CSAH	County State Aid Highway	OSHA	Occupational Safety and Health
cu yd	Cubic Yard		Administration
CWA	Clean Water Act	О3	Ozone
EA	Environmental Assessment	PA	FEMA's Public Assistance Program
EDDMa	apS Early Detection and Distribution	Pb	Lead
	Mapping System	PM	Particulate Matter
EFH	Essential Fish Habitat	PMP	Private Nonprofit Organizations
EJ	Environmental Justice	RCRA	Resource Conservation and
EO	Executive Order		Recovery Act
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency	SHPO	Minnesota State Historic
ESA	Endangered Species Act		Preservation Office
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management	SO2	Sulfur Dioxide
	Agency	SWPPP	Stormwater Pollution Prevention
FIRM	Flood Insurance Rate Map		Plan
FONSI	Finding of No Significant Impact	THPO	Tribal Historic Preservation Office
IPaC	Information for Planning and	TMDL	Total Daily Maximum Load
	Consultation	USACE	U.S. Army Corp of Engineers
MBTA	Migratory Bird Treaty Act	U.S.C.	United States Code
MnDO	T Minnesota Department of	USDA	U.S. Department of Agriculture
	Transportation	USFWS	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
MNOS	HA Minnesota Occupational Safety	USGS	U.S. Geological Survey
	and Health Administration	VOC	Volatile Organic Compound
MPCA	Minnesota Pollution Control Agency		

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1 Background

1.1 Project Authority

On October 10, 2018, waves and flooding associated with a severe winter storm resulted in significant damage and erosion, especially along the shores of Lake Superior in Minnesota. Effects of the storms on Kitchi Gammi Park, located in Duluth, St. Louis County, Minnesota, resulted in significant damage to the motor vehicle lane running through the park, deposited significant amounts of debris, and caused extensive erosion to both the shoreline and portions of the road, jeopardizing the safety of the road. President Trump issued disaster declaration DR-4414-MN for the State of Minnesota on February 1, 2019, which made disaster recovery assistance available through the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). The City of Duluth, Minnesota applied for funding from FEMA's Public Assistance (PA) Program to underwrite the proposed project to repair damages and mitigate against future damages by relocating the road. FEMA's PA grant program provides federal assistance to government organizations and certain private nonprofit (PNP) organizations following a Presidential disaster declaration. Public Assistance is authorized by Section 406 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistances Act (Public Law [P.L.] 93-288), 42 U.S.C. §§ 5121-5207.

This environmental assessment (EA) was prepared in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, 42 U.S.C. §§ 4321 - 4370h; President's Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations to implement NEPA (40 Code of Federal Regulations [C.F.R.] Parts 1500 to 1508); U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Directive No. 023-01; rev. 1, Implementation of the National Environmental Policy Act (Oct. 31, 2014); DHS Instruction Manual No. 023-01-001-01, rev. 1, Implementation of the National Environmental Policy Act (Nov. 6, 2014); FEMA Directive No. 108-01, Environmental Planning and Historic Preservation Responsibilities and Program Requirements (Aug. 22, 2016); and FEMA Instruction 108-01-1, Instruction on Implementation of the Environmental and Historic Preservation Responsibilities and Program Requirements (Aug. 22, 2016). FEMA is required to consider potential environmental impacts before funding or approving actions and projects. The purpose of this EA is to meet FEMA's responsibilities under NEPA and to analyze the potential environmental impacts of the proposed project. FEMA will use the findings in this EA to determine whether to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for the proposed project or to issue a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI).

In accordance with federal laws and FEMA regulations, the EA process for a proposed federal action must include an evaluation of alternatives and a discussion of the potential environmental impacts. As part of this NEPA review, the requirements of other environmental laws and executive orders are addressed.

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¹ The park is sometimes referred to as "Brighton Beach Park," but will be referred to here as "Kitchi Gammi Park" to avoid confusion.

1.2 Project Location

The proposed project is located in Kitchi Gammi Park, Duluth, St. Louis County, Minnesota as shown in **Figure 1-1**. The Park is located southwest of the intersection of Scenic North Shore Drive (Highway 61) and Brighton Beach Road and consists of approximately 46-acres of undeveloped, forested land with a combination access road and trail. There are no residences in the park and the only significant structure in the park is an open gazebo.

Figure 1-1: Project Location

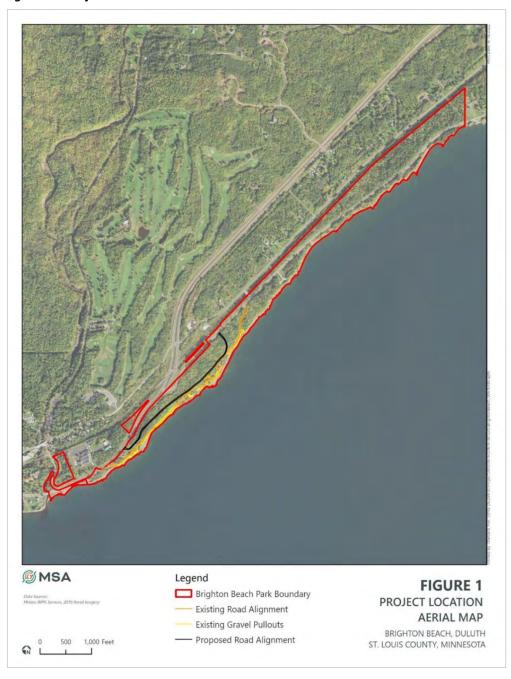


Table 1-1:Existing Road Location and Coordinates

Roadway Start		Midpoint	End
Brighton Beach Road	46.838083, -92.001691	46.842124, -91.994468	46.846374, -91.990659

The project area includes approximately 3,250 linear feet of Kitchi Gammi Park including approximately 1,260 linear feet of existing Brighton Beach Road where Lake Superior has eroded the shoreline and damaged the road surface. Brighton Beach Road currently provides access to Kitchi Gammi Park. The Park is approximately 46-acres with approximately one mile of Lake Superior shoreline.

1.3 Purpose and Need

FEMA's Public Assistance (PA) Grant Program provides disaster recovery funds to repair damage caused by natural or man-made disasters and to help prevent similar future damages. This project is needed because of historically unprecedented shoreline erosion and flooding caused by the fluctuations of Lake Superior water levels and increased frequency and intensity of storm events. Severe storm damage has affected the park four times since October 2018. The City of Duluth has repeatedly repaired the roadway following these storm events, however, due to the cyclical nature of these storm events and damages, action is needed to relocate the roadway to prevent these costly damages from recurring.

The purpose of the project is to ensure the continued resident and tourist access to the amenities and activities provided at Kitchi Gammi Park. Present user counts during mid-summer reflect an average daily use by 400 bicyclists, 975 pedestrians and 278 vehicles daily. Reconstructing the roadway will address the need to provide access to the park, which has no alternative means of vehicle access.

2 Alternative Analysis

NEPA requires FEMA to evaluate alternatives to the proposed project and describe the environmental impacts of each alternative. NEPA also requires an evaluation of the No Action alternative, which is the future condition without the project. This section describes the No Action alternative, the Proposed Action, and alternatives considered but eliminated from further consideration.

2.1 Alternative 1 – No Action

Under the No Action alternative, Brighton Beach Road would not be relocated or repaired. The proximity of the erosion to the roadway would continue to pose an immediate safety concern. Severe storm damage has affected the site four times since October 2018 and it is anticipated that in less than 5 years, the continuing erosion of the Lake Superior shoreline due to waves and severe storm activity would encroach further into the roadway, necessitating the closure of the road and portions of the trail system and therefore limiting access to the park.

2.2 Action Alternative 2 – Proposed Action

The Proposed Action includes the relocation of approximately 3,250 linear feet of the existing approximately 4,400-feet of Brighton Beach Road that provides access to Lake Superior and the Kitchi Gammi Park. The project will relocate the severely degraded roadway above the wave impact line. The relocation of the roadway will provide an average of 160 feet of separation from the edge of the shoreline, and it is anticipated that this separation will be adequate to protect the roadway from shoreline encroachment for at least twenty years. In addition, between three and eight feet of vertical separation will be maintained from the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MNDNR) ten-foot wave zone of the shoreline. As such, no stabilization work, seeding or other stabilization efforts on the eroded area of the shoreline are proposed with this project.

The existing park entrance on the southwest side of the park will also be relocated further north along Highway 61. To improve safety, the road will be converted to a one-way with traffic exiting the park on the northeast end to Scenic North Shore Drive (Congdon Boulevard) to eliminate traffic entering onto Highway 61 from the south end of the park. Parallel parking will be placed on one side of the road as well as curb and gutter to provide additional access to the park and limit any automobile impacts to the road surface. The road configuration will also separate pedestrian and non-motorized vehicle users from automobile traffic on the road. Reconfiguring the road/entrances will eliminate conflicts with the shared-use path and its associated crossings, which were reconstructed in 2021. The road will be designed with 11-foot minimum width driving lanes with 2-foot minimum shoulders as required per State Aid Standards.

The relocated roadway would be located on property already owned by the City of Duluth, and no additional parcels would need to be acquired.

The road relocation would occur in three stages:

- Stage 1: Mobilization, Maintenance of Traffic, and Erosion Control
- Stage 2: Earthwork and Roadbed Relocation
- Stage 3: Roadway Surfacing and Curb Construction

Figure 2-1: Project Location

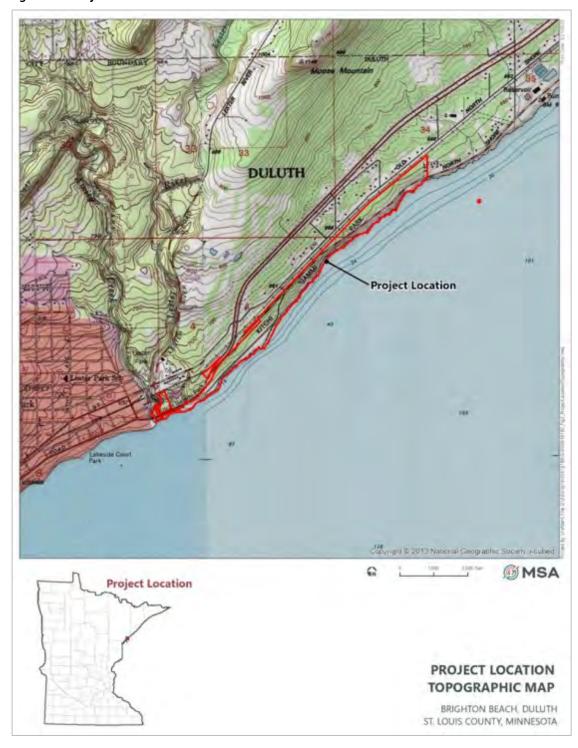


Figure 2-2: Proposed Road Alignment



Stage 1: Mobilization, Maintenance of Traffic, and Erosion Control

Stage 1 would involve the mobilization of construction equipment and materials, temporary erosion control and clearing and grubbing of trees. This stage would include the following activities:

- Mobilize equipment and secure materials for construction. It is anticipated that all equipment will be able to be staged on site on or adjacent to the existing road.
- Provide temporary erosion control for the relocation of the road and related work.
- Clear and grub trees within construction limits, disposing of wood and debris in accordance with all regulations.
- Maintain limited temporary access along the alignment of the existing road.

Stage 2: Earthwork and Roadbed Relocation

Stage 2 would involve earthwork and relocation of the roadbed, and would include the following activities:

- Relocate the roadbed approximately 160 feet northwesterly from the shoreline. The disturbed area for the relocated road segment would be approximately 3,250 linear feet long and approximately twenty-two feet wide.
- Relocate the park road entrance from Minnesota Trunk Highway 61 approximately 450 feet to the north.
- Relocate the park road outlet to Congdon Boulevard approximately 750 feet to the south.
- Remove the remaining existing asphalt roadway.
- Grade the new roadbed to elevate the road up to eight feet above its existing elevation
 and slope the shoulders to match the slope of the surrounding area. The raised roadbed
 would be approximately twenty-two feet wide and surfaced with aggregate.
- Add topsoil and grass seed adjacent to the graded roadbed (two feet on each side) to match the additional height of the fill and sloped down toward the base of the graded earthwork.
- Remove temporary concrete barriers.

Stage 3: Roadway Surfacing, Final Grading and Turf Restoration

Stage 3 would involve road surfacing, curb and gutter construction, turf restoration and landscaping. This stage of the project would include the following activities:

- Install a twenty-foot-wide and four-inch-deep asphalt surfacing over the prepared aggregate roadbed.
- Construct curb and gutter separator at portions of the roadway which run adjacent to the multi-use trail.
- Grade and shape topsoil, restore turf and apply permanent erosion control measures.

2.3 Alternatives Considered and Eliminated from Further Consideration

Three alternative design options were studied during the planning process. The conceptual alternatives described below were considered but dismissed from further analysis because of cost and community impact.

- One alternative option included a tight to shoreline condition at the northwest corner of the project area, which would have been costly based on already-failing banks in this area and the community's desire for retention of as much of the Lester School Forest as possible.
- Full closure of the western entrance of the park in favor of a loop turnaround was also studied but later dismissed because of the failing bank at the northwest corner as well as community input to preserve a through road condition at the park.
- The City also evaluated installing extensive retaining wall systems and other
 infrastructure to address the erosion and storm damage issues to keep the roadway in its
 current configuration. However, it was decided that such infrastructure would detract
 from the scenic and natural qualities which characterize the park and its shoreline. In
 addition, since one of the primary park uses is for direct access to Lake Superior for
 shoreline and water recreation, it was determined that a large retaining wall would
 eliminate this accessibility and use.

3 Affected Environment and Consequences

This section describes the natural and human environment of the study area potentially affected by the alternatives, evaluates potential impacts, and recommends measures to avoid or reduce those impacts. When possible, quantitative information is provided to establish potential impacts, but qualitative information may also be used where data are unavailable. Potential impacts are then evaluated qualitatively based on the criteria listed in **Table 3-1**.

The "study area" generally includes the improvements area and access and staging areas needed for the proposed action. If the study area for a particular resource category is different from the project area, the differences will be described in the appropriate subsection.

Table 3-1 Evaluation Criteria for Potential Impacts

Impact Scale	Criteria
None/Negligible	The resource area would not be affected, or changes or benefits would be either nondetectable or, if detected, would have effects that would be slight and local. Impacts would be well below regulatory standards, as applicable.
Minor	Changes to the resource would be measurable, although the changes would be small and localized. Impacts or benefits would be within or below regulatory standards, as applicable. Mitigation measures would reduce any potential adverse effects.
Moderate	Changes to the resource would be measurable and have either localized or regional scale impacts/benefits. Impacts would be within or below regulatory standards, but historical conditions would be altered on a short-term basis. Mitigation measures would be necessary, and the measures would reduce any potential adverse effects.
Major	Changes would be readily measurable and would have substantial consequences on a local or regional level. Impacts would exceed regulatory standards. Mitigation measures to offset the adverse effects would be required to reduce impacts, but long-term changes to the resource would be expected.

3.1 Preliminary Screening of Assessment Categories

Based on a preliminary screening of resources and the project's geographic location, the following resources do not require a detailed assessment.

- Coastal Barrier Resources System (CBRS). The Coastal Barrier Resources Act, 16 U.S.C. §§ 3501 3510, is not applicable because the project is not within or near a CBRS unit (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service [USFWS] 2019). Note, full citations to reference documents are found in Subsection 7.3 to this Environmental Assessment, listing source documents by author, or agency and year.
- Seismic Risks. Executive Order (EO) 13717 Establishing a Federal Earthquake Risk
 Management Standard does not apply because there is low seismic risk in the project
 area based on seismic hazard maps developed by the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS). This

- includes less than 1 percent chance of potentially minor damage ground shaking in the 2018 Short-Term Seismicity Model (2018a), and the lowest hazard in the 2018 Long-Term National Seismic Hazard Map (2018b).
- Sole Source Aquifers. There are no sole-source aquifers regulated by the Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, 42 U.S.C. §§ 300f et seq., in the vicinity of the project area (EPA, 2022a).
- Essential Fish Habitat (EFH). The Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, 16 U.S.C. §§ 1801 et seq., does not apply because there are no Habitat Areas of Particular Concern and no EFH Areas identified at the project site according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Essential Fish Habitat Mapper (NOAA, 2021).
- Wild and Scenic Rivers. The Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, 16 U.S.C. §§ 1271 et seq., is not
 applicable because there are no federally designated wild and scenic rivers in the project
 areas based on a review of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System website
 maintained by the National Park Service (NPS, 2021).

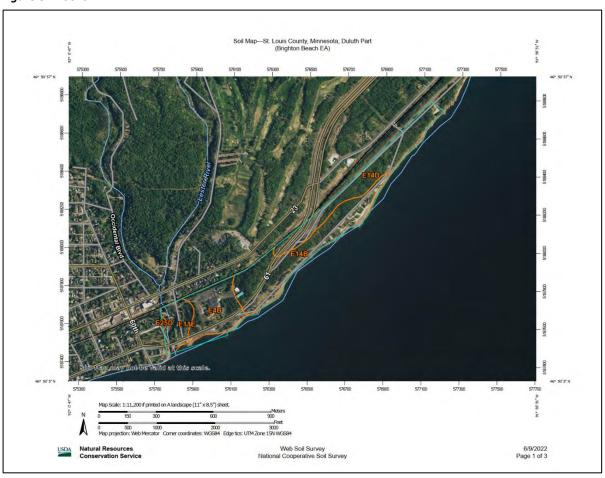
3.2 Physical Environment

3.2.1 Geology, Soils, and Topography

Bedrock geology was characterized using the Minnesota Geological Survey Geologic Map of the Duluth Complex and Related Rocks, Northeastern Minnesota (Map M-119, 2001). Underlying bedrock in the project area consists of Lester River sill, described as composite intrusion of intergranular gabbro at margins and ophitic olivine gabbro in core; granophyre in upper part, approximately 280 meters thick. The bedrock dates back to the Mesoproterozoic era (approximately 1,600 to 1,000 million years ago). Surficial geology was characterized using data from the Minnesota Geological Survey Geologic Map of Minnesota — Quaternary Geology (Map S-23, 2019). Surficial geology in the area of the site is described as clayey, glaciolacustrine sediment consisting of silty clay. The bedrock unit is relatively shallow in this area with bedrock outcrops common.

Soils in the project area were identified using the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Natural Resource and Conservation Service (NRCS) Web Soil Survey. The majority of the subject site consists of Barto, stony-Greysolon-Rock outcrop complex. This soil type consists of well-drained gravelly sandy loam over shallow bedrock. (NRCS, 2022). Soils at the northern project extent consist of Barto, stony-Greysolon-Rock outcrop, with much potentially much steeper slopes ranging from 0 to 18 precent. The web soil survey characterizes slopes ranging from 0 to 8 percent. Soils near the south end of the project area, the park entrance removal and the southern portion of Brighton Beach Road consist of Cuttre-Eutrudepts Complex with 1 to 18 percent slopes. These soils comprise poor drained silty clays at the surface to moderately well drained find sandy loams found in riverine areas, swales, flats on till plains, and depressions on the till plains. Soil types in the project area are identified in **Figure 3-1**.

Figure 3-1: Soils



The Farmland Protection Policy Act of 1981, 7 U.S.C. §§ 4201 et seq. is meant to minimize the extent that federal programs contribute to the unnecessary and irreversible conversion of prime and important farmland to non-agricultural uses. The conversion of prime or unique farmland must be considered whenever Federal funding or time is used in the direct or indirect conversion of prime farmland unless an exemption exists (NRCS, 2012).

Topography in the project area was determined using the MNDNR MnTOPO Viewer (MnDNR, 2022a). The existing alignment of Brighton Beach Road parallel to the shore of Lake Superior cuts into the step hill at roughly 650 feet mean sea level (MSL) (NAD83 UTM 15) with moderate downhill slopes to the southeast toward Lake Superior. The slope from the existing roadway to the Lake Superior shoreline is approximately 2.9 percent. The edge of the eroding slope is in some places only 1 to 3 feet from the edge of the roadway. There are also former stream channels to the northwest of the roadway ranging from 5 to 10 feet deep.

Alternative 1 - No Action

Under the No Action alternative, in less than 5 years, the continuing erosion of the Lake Superior shoreline due to waves and severe storm activity would encroach further into the roadway, causing unsafe roadway conditions and necessitating the closure of the roadway and adjacent

park trails to vehicle and pedestrian traffic. Based on surrounding site use, area soil types and relatively shallow depth to bedrock in the area, no impacts to prime or unique farmland would be expected.

Action Alternative 2 - Proposed Action

The disturbed area is expected to be approximately 3,250 feet long and 22 feet wide (1.64 acres). The relocation of Brighton Beach Road would have minor negative short-term impacts on soils during construction activities. Additional minor short-term impacts on soil topography will result from construction. There will no impact on bedrock, but the alternative will result in long-term reduction in erosion along the shoreline due to the new road's higher elevation and increased setback from the shoreline. No farmland to be converted to non-agricultural use

As a mitigation measure, prior to beginning work, the subrecipient will coordinate with the MPCA to determine permitting needs under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit program, and to develop a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) identifying BMPs to be followed during construction.

Based on surrounding site usage and the area soil types found in the NRCS Soil Survey mapper, no portion of the project area contains prime and important farmland.

3.2.2 Water Resources and Water Quality

Water resources include surface water, groundwater, stormwater and drinking water (wetlands are evaluated in **Subsection 3.2.5**). The project area is located adjacent to Lester River and Lake Superior, which are regulated as waters of the United States and waters of the State of Minnesota under federal and state law. While the project area is located directly to the east of Lester River, it is located within the Lake Superior South watershed (MPCA, 2022a).

The Clean Water Act (CWA) of 1977, 33 U.S.C. §§ 1251 et seq., regulates the discharge of pollutants into water, with various sections falling under the jurisdiction of U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) or as delegated to the state. Section 404 of the CWA establishes USACE permit requirements for discharge of dredged or fill materials into waters of the United States. Section 401 of the CWA is administered by Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) and provides regulations for the protection of water quality on projects that involve dredge or fill in waters of the United States (Minnesota Statutes 2020, section 115.01 to 115.09, Water Pollution Control Act). Under the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System/SDS (NPDES/SDS) (Section 402 of the CWA), regulation of both point and nonpoint pollutant sources, including stormwater and stormwater runoff, has been delegated to the state and is administered by the MPCA. As part of the NPDES/SDS, a Stormwater Pollution Prevent Plan (SWPPP) is required. USACE regulation of activities within navigable waters is also authorized under the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899, 33 U.S.C. §§ 403 et seq., ch. 425 (Mar. 3, 1988, 30 Stat. 1151.

The MPCA manages the Total Daily Maximum Load (TMDL) List and Inventory of Impaired Waters per Section 303(d) of the CWA. The 2022 TMDL List and Inventory of Impaired Waters lists Lake Superior, Lester River, Talmadge River, and Amity Creek as impaired near the project area (**Figure 3-2**).

- Lake Superior is listed as impaired for mercury and PCBs in fish tissue.
- Lester River is listed as impaired for mercury in fish tissue, mercury in the water column and turbidity.
- Talmadge River is listed as impaired for turbidity.
- Amity Creek is listed as impaired for turbidity (MPCA, 2022b).

A TMDL plan for streams in the Lake Superior-South watershed was approved in 2019 (TMDL ID PRJ07657-001) (MPCA, 2018). This plan identifies total suspended solids (TSS) as the TMDL pollutant of concern.

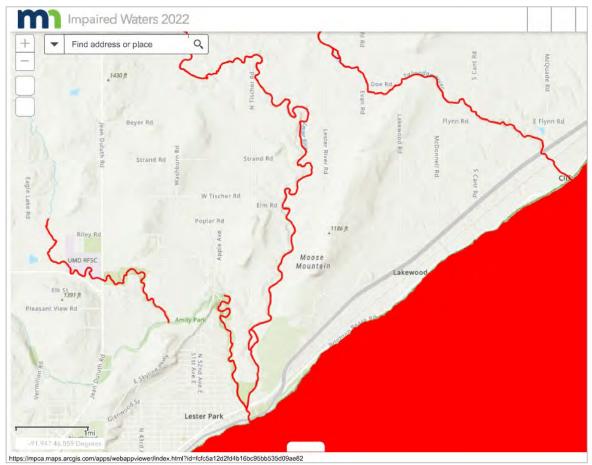


Figure 3-2: Impaired Waterways

Groundwater underlying the project area is either perched atop or contained within the gabbro bedrock. Lake Superior water elevation is 600 feet above mean sea level (AMSL) (MNDNR, 2022a). The project area is located within the Lake Superior-South watershed basin. Shallow perched groundwater conditions (0 to 10 feet below ground surface [bgs]) exist along the shore

of Lake Superior near the project area. Depth to groundwater increases to the northwest as ground elevation and depth to bedrock increase.

EPA defines water quality as "the condition of a water body as it relates to purposes such as recreation, scenic enjoyment, aquatic habitat, and human health." Water quality is regulated by both the CWA and Minnesota State Statutes.

Stormwater runoff affects water quality in surface waters, such as the Lester River and Lake Superior. The Lake Superior-South watershed in which the project area is located encompasses over 400,000 acres of commercial, urban, and rural residential properties (MPCA, 2022). Contaminants, including eroded soils, fertilizers, herbicides, pesticides, and road chemicals, can be transported from lawns and roads to Lake Superior and tributary streams during storm events and flooding.

Alternative 1 - No Action

Under the No Action alternative, minor long-term impacts from sedimentation, soil erosion, and pollutants will result from stormwater runoff. No additional construction activities will add to any surface water pollutants. The No Action alternative would not be expected have an impact on groundwater.

Alternative 2 – Proposed Action

Minor short-term impacts on water quality would occur for both the removal of the existing roadbed and the installation of a new alignment for Brighton Beach Road. The existing roadway would be seeded for soil stabilization. The new alignment would be compacted, and the new road would be elevated five to eight feet above the existing grade, storm curbing installed, with the shoulders sloped gradually to match surrounding areas and seeded.

During construction, exposed soil is vulnerable to erosion by wind and water. Eroded soil endangers water resources by reducing water quality and causing the siltation of habitat for aquatic species. Clearing and grading during construction would cause the temporary loss of vegetation and exposure of soil to the elements. To mitigate potential impacts from erosion during construction, the project sponsors would be responsible for preparing a Stormwater Prevention Plan (SWPPP) and obtaining a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit from the MPCA as well as all other applicable permits. An SWPPP may be required due to the area likely to be disturbed in the construction of a new road alignment, removal of the old roadway, and proximity to highly erodible areas (MSS 130F.411).

Minor, short-term impacts on water resources and water quality from construction runoff would be minimized with the implementation of Best Management Practices (BMPs), and mitigation measures specified in the NPDES/SDS permit.

The proposed action does not include any shore stabilization along Lake Superior. Erosion would be expected to continue due to storm events and flooding, though not as a result of the proposed action.

3.2.3 Coastal Zone Management

The project area is located within a Coastal Boundary area defined under the Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA), 16 U.S.C. §§ 1451-1464, Ch. 33, enacted in 1972 by Congress to provide for the management of the nation's coastal resources, including the Great Lakes. The goal of this national policy is to "preserve, protect, develop, and where possible, to restore or enhance, the resources of the nation's coastal zone."

The Minnesota Coastal Management Program was approved by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) in 1999 and consists of a network of agencies and programs led by the MNDNR.

Alternative 1 - No Action

Under the No Action alternative, there would be no development or preservation of the current roadway. This alternative would result in negative long-term impacts from continued soil erosion. Continued erosion would be expected to encroach upon the roadway within five years and require full closure of the road, including access to Kitchi Gammi Park.

Action Alternative 2 – Proposed Action

The relocation of the roadway will provide an average of approximately 160 feet of separation from the edge of the shoreline, and it is anticipated that this separation will be adequate to protect the roadway from shoreline encroachment for at least twenty years. In addition, between three and eight feet of vertical separation will be maintained from the MNDNR ten-foot wave zone of the shoreline.

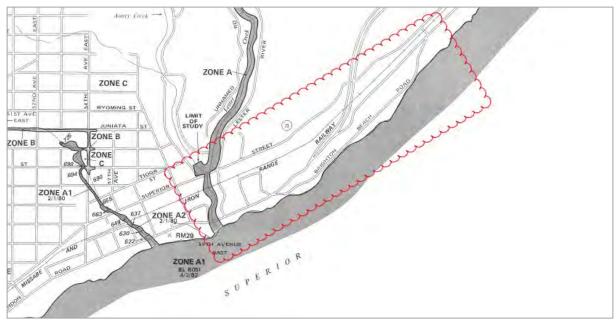
On June 30, 2022, FEMA submitted a determination to the MNDNR indicating that FEMA finds this project will be consistent with Minnesota's approved coastal management program and will be conducted in a manner consistent with such program.

The proposed roadway relocation and elevation would have a long-term benefit of preserving vehicular access to the park and trail systems of the project area located within the Coastal Zone.

3.2.4 Floodplain Management (Executive Order 11988)

Executive Order (EO) 11988, Floodplain Management, requires federal agencies to minimize occupancy and modification of the floodplain. Specifically, EO 11988 prohibits federal agencies from funding construction in the 100-year floodplain unless there are no practicable alternatives. FEMA's regulations for complying with EO 11988 are promulgated in 44 C.F.R Part 9. Based on those regulations, no Floodplain Management checklist is required.

Figure 3-3: Flood Insurance Rate Map



Alternative 1 - No Action

Under the No Action alternative, there would be no construction, and therefore, no direct modification of any potential floodplain. There would be long-term impacts from continued erosion of the Lake Superior shoreline adjacent to the existing Brighton Beach Road. It is expected that erosion will encroach upon the roadway within five years and require full closure of the road, including road access to Kitchi Gammi Park.

Action Alternative 2 – Proposed Action

Relocation of Brighton Beach Road will require the removal of the existing road alignment and construction of a new road approximately 120 feet northwesterly. Lake Superior is classified as a flood zone. Minor short-term impacts to the flood zone are possible from soil removal during the abandonment of the existing road. The relocated road will be located above the base flood elevation of the Lake. As such, there are no flood zones in the project area where the relocated road is to be constructed per the FEMA FIRM Panel #2704210030C (see **Figure 3-3**). Therefore, the proposed activities are not anticipated to have long-term negative impacts on the adjacent flood zone. The proposed project will have long-term beneficial impacts on the Lake Superior flood zone since the new road will be located further away (both vertically and horizontally), reducing erosion into the Lake.

3.2.5 Air Quality

The Clean Air Act (CAA), 42 U.S.C. §§ 7401 *et seq.*, requires EPA to set National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for pollutants considered harmful to public health and the environment. The CAA established two types of national air quality standards. Primary standards set limits to protect public health, including the health of sensitive populations such as

asthmatics, children, and the elderly. Secondary standards set limits to protect public welfare, including protection against decreased visibility and damage to animals, crops, vegetation, and buildings. Current criteria pollutants are carbon monoxide (CO), nitrogen dioxide (NO₂), ground-level ozone (O₃), lead (Pb), particulate matter (PM), and sulfur dioxide (SO₂).

Federally funded actions in nonattainment and maintenance areas are subject to EPA conformity regulations, 40 C.F.R. Parts 51 and 93. The air conformity analysis process ensures that emissions of air pollutants from planned federally funded activities would not affect the state's ability to achieve the CAA goal of meeting the NAAQS. Section 176I of the CAA requires that federally funded projects must not cause any violations of the NAAQS, increase the frequency or severity of NAAQS violations, or delay timely attainment of the NAAQS or any interim milestone. Activities that would cause emissions to exceed the NAAQS or cause an area to fall out of attainment status would be considered a significant impact. The emissions from construction activities are subject to air conformity review.

Under the general conformity regulations, a determination for federal actions is required for each criteria pollutant or precursor in nonattainment or maintenance areas where the action's direct and indirect emissions have the potential to emit one or more of the six criteria pollutants at rates equal to or exceeding the prescribed *de minimis* rates for that pollutant. The prescribed annual rates are 50 tons of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and 100 tons of nitrogen oxides (NO_X) (O₃ precursors) and 100 tons of PM_{2.5}, SO₂, or NO_X (PM_{2.5} and precursors).

An area is classified as nonattainment when it does not meet NAAQS standards. According to EPA's NAAQS County attainment record, St. Louis County meets attainment for all NAAQS criteria pollutants. (EPA, 2022b).

Alternative 1 - No Action

Construction activities would not occur under the No Action alternative. The existing Brighton Beach Road would eventually need to be closed for safety purposes due to continued erosion and roadway damage. This would have a minor, long-term positive impact on air quality due to decreased emissions from motor vehicles.

Action Alternative 2 – Proposed Action

The Proposed Action would have short-term impacts on air quality owing to the use of construction equipment with diesel and gasoline engines. During the construction phase, exposed soil could temporarily increase airborne particulate matter into the project area. Emissions from construction equipment could have minor temporary effects on the levels of some pollutants, including CO, VOCs, NO₂, O₃, and PM. Emissions would be temporary and localized, and only minor impacts to air quality in the project area would occur. BMPs and mitigation measures for air quality impacts are provided in **Subsection 6.2.3**.

Long-term operation of the road would have negligible impacts on air quality with only localized recreational trips using Brighton Beach Road. The Proposed Action would not increase traffic capacity.

3.3 Biological Environment

3.3.1 Terrestrial and Aquatic Environment

Land use in St. Louis County consists of a mix of industrial, residential, and agricultural land uses. Residential and mixed-use industrial are the predominant uses in the Duluth area. Parks, residential and rural residential are the predominant land uses directly adjacent to the project area. Slopes near Lake Superior and nearby ravines are heavily forested.

Most wetlands and forested lands in St. Louis County are adjacent to river corridors, and the highest quality and greatest diversity of wetlands are in the river corridors. The Lester River Corridor terrestrial habitat consists primarily of river bottom forests with hardwood forests along slopes.

Forests in the area generally consist of Northern Mesic Mixed Forest consisting of mesic pine, aspen, white cedar, or birch forests on loamy soils over bedrock in scoured bedrock uplands and on loamy, rocky, or sandy soils on glacial moraines, till plains and outwash plains. (MnDNR 2022).

The areas around Lake Superior form part of a migratory corridor for songbirds, raptors, waterfowl, and congregations of bald eagles and tundra swans. Some areas also have a high diversity of reptiles and amphibians.

Aquatic habitat in the project area includes the shoreline of Lake Superior. Major fish species found along the north shore of Lake Superior include walleye, northern pike, cisco, lake whitefish and various salmon and trout species (MnDNR, 2022c).

The project area will not intersect wetlands.

Alternative 1 - No Action

Under the No Action alternative, there would be minor, long-term, adverse impacts on the terrestrial and aquatic environment resulting from the continued erosion of the shoreline adjacent to Brighton Beach Road. This is a naturally occurring process which will damage and destroy upland areas while adding sediment to Lake Superior, contributing to higher levels of turbidity. Note that in the project area where recent scouring has occurred, very little viable terrestrial habitat is present.

Alternative 2 – Proposed Action

Relocation of Brighton Beach Road would cause minor short-term impacts on terrestrial habitat, such as soil disturbance and removal of vegetation, while the existing roadway is being removed and the relocated road is constructed. Relocation will cause minor long-term impacts on

terrestrial habitat through the removal of mature trees and shrubs and the permanent loss of some forested areas located near the new alignment.

The shoulders of the new roadway would be graded and seeded. The existing roadway will be removed, topsoil added, and seeded. The existing south park entrance will be removed and reconstructed 450 feet north. The north entrance will also be relocated 750 feet south of the present location. The establishment of additional grassy, shrubby or wooded areas in the location of the existing road and park entrances would add some terrestrial habitat and be considered minor, long-term beneficial impacts.

3.3.2 Wetlands (Executive Order 11990)

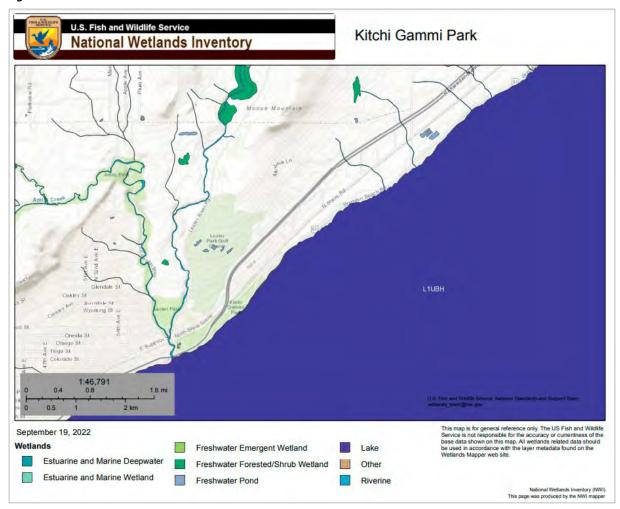
Executive Order (EO) 11990, Protection of Wetlands, requires federal agencies to take action to minimize the loss of wetlands. FEMA regulation 44 C.F.R. Part 9, *Floodplain Management and Protection of Wetlands*, sets forth the policy, procedures, and responsibilities to implement and enforce EO 11990. EO 11990 prohibits FEMA from funding activities in a wetland unless no practicable alternatives are available. The NEPA compliance process requires federal agencies to consider direct and indirect impacts on wetlands which may result from federally funded actions. Based on the requirements of 44 C.F.R. Part 9, a Floodplain Management Checklist is not required to ensure compliance with EO 11990.

USACE and EPA define wetlands as "areas that are inundated or saturated by surface or groundwater at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions" (40 C.F.R. § 122.2).

The National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) was reviewed to identify potential wetlands in the project area (U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, 2022). The NWI classifies the Lester River as Riverine habitat, including "all wetlands and deep-water habitats contained within a channel, with the exception of wetlands dominated by trees, shrubs, persistent emergent, emergent mosses, or lichens; and habitats with water containing ocean-derived salts of 0.5 ppt or greater" (U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, 2013). A channel is a naturally or artificially created open conduit which periodically or continuously contains moving water, or which forms a connecting link between two bodies of standing water. **Figure 3-4**, below, depicts NWI wetlands identified near the project area.

Lake Superior, located just southeast of the existing Brighton Beach Road, is designated a 31,700 square miles (20.28 million acre) Freshwater Lake and part of the Lacustrine NWI classification. No wetlands were identified along the Lake Superior shoreline within the project area. (U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, 2022). Riverine wetland areas bordering the Lester River and the Talmadge River are located outside of the proposed project area.

Figure 3-4: Wetlands



Alternative 1 - No Action

Under the No Action alternative, there would be no project-related short- or long-term impacts on the identified riverine wetland area associated with Lester River. There would be minor, long-term, adverse impacts to Lake Superior resulting from the continued erosion of the shoreline adjacent to Brighton Beach Road. This is a naturally occurring process which will damage and destroy upland areas while adding sediment to Lake Superior, contributing to higher levels of turbidity.

Alternative 2 - Proposed Action

Relocation of Brighton Beach Road would result in only minor, short-term impacts to the shore of Lake Superior from the disturbed soils associated with the removal of the existing roadway and its relocation. A Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan and effective best management practices initiated during construction would decrease construction-related impacts below the level of significance. Disturbed areas will be graded to match the surrounding slopes, topsoil added and seeded to stabilize soils.

The proposed project does not include any shoreline stabilization along Lake Superior. Erosion would be expected to continue due to wave impact and storm events, though not as a result of the proposed action.

3.3.3 Threatened and Endangered Species

The Endangered Species Act (ESA) of 1973, 16 U.S.C. §§ 15–1 - 1544, provides a framework for the conservation of endangered and threatened species and their habitats. Federal agencies are required to ensure that actions they fund, authorize, or carry out are not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of any listed species (including plant species) or result in the destruction or adverse modification of designated critical habitats for such species.

In August 2022, via the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) tool, FEMA obtained a list of species with the potential to occur in the project vicinity. This search found that there is one critical habitat in the vicinity for the Canada Lynx (*Lynx canadensis*), but there is potential for impacts to two other listed mammals – the Grey Wolf (*Canis lupus*) and the Northern Long-eared Bat (*Myotis Septentrionalis*).

- Northern Long-Eared Bat (threatened): This medium-sized bat is found across much of the eastern and north central United States and all Canadian provinces from the Atlantic coast west to the southern Northwest Territories and British Columbia. This bat has been affected by white-nose syndrome; a fungal disease known to affect bats. Population declines up to 99 percent from pre-white-nose-syndrome levels has been documented at some hibernation sites. White-nose-syndrome has been confirmed in several counties throughout Minnesota, including a confirmed case in St. Louis County during the 2015-2016 recording season (MnDNR, 2022f). Habitat for this bat includes Fire Dependent Forest, Mesic Hardwood Forest, Floodplain Forest, and Subterranean areas.
- <u>Canada Lynx</u> (threatened): It is a medium-sized cat with long legs, large, well-furred paws, tufted ears and a short, black-tipped tail. The distribution of lynx in North America is connected to the boreal forest ecosystem. Canada Lynx are most likely to persist in areas which receive deep snow and have high-density populations of snowshoe hares (USFWS, 2022). They are more likely to be found in Minnesota during low points in the snowshoe hare population cycle in Canada (MnDNR, 2022d).
- <u>Gray Wolf</u> (threatened): The Minnesota gray wolf population has remained stable over
 the last ten years, with most areas of suitable habitat now occupied (MnDNR, 2022).
 Gray wolves are identified as habitat generalists, living throughout the northern
 hemisphere in areas with ungulate prey and low human-caused mortality rates (USFWS,
 2022). Specific gray wolf habitat in Minnesota includes Fire Dependent Forest, Mesic
 Hardwood Forest, Forested Rich Peatland, Forested Acid Peatland, Non-forested Acid
 Peatland and Non-forested Rich Peatland (MnDNR, 2022e).
- Monarch Butterfly (candidate): As the Monarch Butterfly is listed as a candidate species, FEMA has no responsibility for this species under Sec. 7. Its wings feature an easily recognizable black, orange, and white pattern, with a wingspan of 8.9–10.2 cm (3.5–4.0 in).

- Piping Plover (endangered): The Piping Plover is a small (15-18 cm (6-7 in.)), sand-colored shorebird that is well camouflaged against the sandy beaches it inhabits. Distinctive markings of breeding-plumaged adults include a narrow black band between the eyes, a narrow black breast band, and orange-yellow legs. Management efforts in the Duluth area began in 1977 and focused on vegetation removal and predator trapping. These efforts could not prevent the extirpation of this small breeding population, and there has been no successful nesting here in over 25 years. Although small numbers of birds are sporadically observed in the Duluth harbor area, the small amount of potential habitat and the intensive human use of potential nesting areas limit recovery opportunities in this area.
- Red Knot (threatened): The Red Knot is a plump, stocky sandpiper with a straight, medium-sized bill. No critical habitat has been established for this species.

According to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service IPaC system, there is 1 critical habitat within the project area for the Canada Lynx. In October 2019, the MnDNR responded to the City's request to determine if any rare species or natural features exist within the project area. MnDNR provided mitigation measures that can be found in **Subsection 6.2.4**.

Therefore, FEMA has determined that the project may affect, but not likely to adversely affect, the Northern Long-Eared Bat. FEMA has also determined that the proposed project will have no effect on the Canada Lynx given the park's urban setting. No effect determinations were also issued for the Gray Wolf, Piping Plover and the Rufa Red Knot due to the project location and habitat present. Please see **Table 3-2** for the status of the identified species in the APE.

Table 3-2: Threatened and Endangered Species Impact

Species	Species Present	Species ESA	Effect Determination	Notes
•		Status		
Northern Long-eared Bat	No critical habitat has been designated for this species	Threatened	May affect, not likely to adversely affect	Project qualifies under the January 5, 2016, Programmatic Biological Opinion on Final 4(d) Rule for the Northern Longeared Bat and Activities Excepted from Take Prohibitions.
Canada Lynx	**Location overlaps critical habitat	Threatened	No-effect determination	 Tree clearing is limited to less than one acre immediately adjacent to existing roads. Suitable habitat is not anticipated to be impacted by the proposed project. Critical Habitat is not expected to be destroyed or adversely modified.

Species	Species Present	Species ESA Status	Effect Determination	Notes
Gray Wolf	Not present	Threatened	No-effect determination	 No documented occurrences for this species exist within the Action Area. Tree clearing is limited to less than one acre immediately adjacent to existing roads. Suitable habitat is not anticipated to be impacted by the proposed project.
Monarch Butterfly	Unknown	Candidate	No-effect	FEMA has no responsibility for this species under Sec. 7 as it is listed as a candidate.
Piping Plover	Not present	Endangered	No-effect determination	 No documented occurrences for this species exist within the Action Area. Suitable habitat is not anticipated to be impacted by the proposed project.
Red Knot	Not present	Threatened	No-effect determination	 No documented occurrences for this species exist within the Action Area. Suitable habitat is not anticipated to be impacted by the proposed project.

Alternative 1 - No Action

The No Action alternative would not directly impact federally listed threatened or endangered species because there would be no construction. The existing erosion west of Brighton Beach Road would be expected to continue and could affect other habitat at the shoreline and/or areas of nearby upland vegetation.

Alternative 2 – Proposed Action

The relocation of the road would require the clearing of approximately 4.3 acres of trees to provide the area required for the new road alignment. Northern Long-eared Bats are known to make use of tree roosts during the summer, especially near water sources. Loose bark, broken tree limbs, cavities, and cracks in a tree can all be used by bats as roosting sites. The removal of upland trees could remove existing or potential bat roosting sites. This would be considered a minor, permanent impact to a threatened species. To mitigate potential impacts on the Northern Long-Eared Bat, trees will be removed during the Bat's hibernation period between November 1st through March 31st. With mitigation, this alternative is not likely to adversely affect the NLEB.

In August 2022, FEMA received an effects determination from USFWS using the northern long-eared bat key within the IPaC system. Verification was received from the USFWS that any take of the bats that may occur as a result of the Proposed Action is not prohibited under the ESA Section 4(d) rule adopted for the 50 C.F.R. § 17.40(o) and that FEMA's responsibilities for the project under ESA Section 7(a)(2) with respect to the northern long-eared bat are concluded. Correspondence is included in **Appendix F.**

The proposed action does not include shoreline restoration activities; therefore, erosion of the shoreline would be expected to continue. The existing erosion west of Brighton Beach Road could affect other habitat at the shoreline and/or areas of nearby upland vegetation.

3.3.4 Migratory Birds

A migratory bird is any species or family of birds that live, reproduce, or migrate within or across international borders at some point during their annual life cycle. The Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) of 1918, as amended, 16 U.S.C. §§ 703–712, protects migratory birds and their nests, eggs, and body parts from harm, sale, or other injurious actions. All native birds, including common species such as American robin (*Turdus migratorius*) and American crow (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*) are protected by the MBTA. The project area would support migratory birds.

The Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act of 1940, 16 U.S.C. §§ 668 et seq., prohibits the take, possession, sale, or other harmful action of any golden (*Aquila chrysaetos*) or bald eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*), alive or dead, including any part, nest, or egg (16 U.S.C. § 668(a))

The IPaC identified fifteen (15) migratory birds of concern either because they occur on the USFWS Birds of Conservation Concern (BCC) list or warrant special attention due to the project location. See Table 3-3 for a list of the migratory birds in the project area and their likelihood of observation per eBird.org.

Table 3-3: List of Migratory Birds in the Project Area

Scientific Name	Species	Likelihood of Observation
Haliaeetus Leucocephalus	Bald Eagle	17.18%
Dolichonyx Oryzivorus	Bobolink	1.37%
Cardellina Canadensis	Canada Warbler	1.05%
Tringa Flavipes	Lesser Yellowlegs	0.63%
Chaetura Pelagica	Chimney Swift	0.42%
Contopus Cooperi	Olive-Sided Flycatcher	0.42%
Coccothraustes Vespertinus	Evening Grosbeak	0.42%
Vermivora Chrysoptera	Golden-Winged Warbler	0.42%
Sterna Hirundo Hirundo	Common Tern	0.32%
Coccyzus Erythropthalmus	Black-Billed Cuckoo	0.20%
Aquila Chrysaetos	Golden Eagle	0.11%
Hylocichla Mustelina	Wood Thrush	0.11%

Scientific Name	Species	Likelihood of Observation
Oporornis Agilis	Connecticut Warbler	0.11%
Antrostomus Vociferus	Eastern Whip-Poor-Will	0.00%
Asio Otus	Long-Eared Owl	0.00%

Source: eBird.org

The Bald Eagle is most likely to be in the project area between August and May, with their breeding season occurring between December and August. The Golden Eagle may be visible in the park between the months of September and December. The Evening Grosbeak may be within the project area between February and mid-May and again between mid-July and early December, with their breeding season occurring between May and mid-August. The other twelve (12) migratory birds listed in Table 3-3 will be present and/or breeding approximately May through mid-October (see **Appendix F** for related USFWS correspondence and IPaC results).

According to the eBird mapping tool, there is a 17% chance that a birdwatcher will see a Bald Eagle. The Bobolink and the Canada Warbler can be observed 1.4% and 1.1% respectively. The remaining species listed in Table 3-3 have less than a 1.0% likelihood of being observed.

Alternative 1 - No Action

The No Action alternative would not directly impact migratory birds because there would be no construction. The existing erosion west of Brighton Beach Road would be expected to continue and could affect other habitat at the shoreline and/or areas of nearby upland vegetation.

Alternative 2 - Proposed Action

Relocation of Brighton Beach Road would have minor, permanent impacts on migratory bird species, particularly the Bald Eagle, through the removal of approximately 4.3 acres of trees needed for the new roadway alignment that could serve as habitat for migratory birds. The removal and seeding of the existing Brighton Beach Road and shortening the length of the roadway by relocating the south and north park entrances will result in a minor benefit of expanded migratory bird habitat.

There would be minor, short-term impacts from construction activities disturbing bird activities in the project area. A BMP to avoid and minimize impacts on migratory birds is provided in **Subsection 6.2.4.**

The proposed action does not include shoreline restoration activities; therefore, erosion of the shoreline would be expected to continue. The existing erosion west of Brighton Beach Road could affect other habitat at the shoreline and/or areas of nearby upland vegetation.

3.3.5 Invasive Species

Executive Order 13112, Invasive Species, requires federal agencies to prevent the introduction of invasive species and provide for their control to minimize the economic, ecological, and human

health impacts caused by invasive species. The State of Minnesota has also established laws to prevent and curb the spread of invasive species of aquatic plants and wild animals (MINN. STAT. 84D (2020)). This program is managed by the MNDNR, with the assistance of the Minnesota Department of Agriculture.

Per the University of Georgia Center for Invasive Species and Ecosystem Health Early Detection and Distribution Mapping System (EDDMapS) and St. Louis County, several invasive plants and animals are present in Minnesota and are also confirmed in St. Louis County. Non-aquatic invasive species in the project area include common tansy (*Tanacetum vulgare*), Canada thistle (*Cirsium arvense*), reed canarygrass (Phalaris arundinacea), spotted knapweed (*Centaurea stoebe ssp.micranthos*), wild parsnip (*Pastinaca sativa*), common buckthorn (*Rhamnus cathartica*) and purple loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*). (University of Georgia, 2022a).

Aquatic invasive species which have been identified in Lake Superior include Eurasian watermilfoil (*Myriophyllum spicatum*), Eurasian ruffe (*Gymnocephalus cernuus*), round goby (*Apollonia melanostomus*), zebra mussel (*Dreissena polymorpha*), quagga mussel (*Dreissena bugensis*), rusty crayfish (*Orconectes rusticus*), New Zealand mudsnail (*Potamopyrgus antipodarum*), spiny waterflea (*Bythotrephes longimanus*) and sea lamprey (*Petromyzon marinus*) (University of Georgia, 2022b).

Alternative 1 - No Action

The No Action alternative would have no project-related impacts because construction would not occur. However, there could be minor long-term, adverse impacts on the area as invasive plant species would persist in open, disturbed areas as the existing roadway continues to deteriorate.

Action Alternative 2 – Proposed Action

Relocation of Brighton Beach Road could have minor, short-term impacts from the potential spread of invasive weeds caused by construction activities via the movement of equipment, materials and personnel. Construction activities on land could result in the transport of reed canarygrass, purple loosestrife or other invasive terrestrial weed species to or from the project area as cuttings or seeds attached to vehicles. Disturbed soils associated with both the removal of the existing Brighton Beach Road and the new alignment could present existing invasive seeds or vegetation with an opportunity to germinate and become established in the absence of native vegetation.

Introduction or dispersion of aquatic invasive species would not be expected, as work in or near Lake Superior will not be completed as part of this project.

BMPs to avoid and minimize the spread of invasive species are provided in **Subsection 6.2.6**.

3.4 Hazardous Materials

Hazardous materials are any items or agents (biological, chemical, radiological, or physical) that have the potential to cause harm to humans, animals, or the environment either by itself or through interaction with other factors. Sites within or adjacent to the project area, regulated by federal hazardous materials laws such as the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA), 42 U.S.C. §§ 96–1 - 9675, and the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), 42 U.S.C. §§ 6901 *et seq.*, were identified using the EPA Envirofacts and NEPAssist websites (EPA, 2022c; EPA, 2022d).

Envirofacts and NEPAssist did not identify any regulated sites within 0.5 miles of the project area. Documentation from Envirofacts and NEPAssist sites are depicted in Figure 3-5 and Figure 3-6.



Figure 3-5: Potential Contaminant Sources - NEPAssist

EnviroMapper

Search Place: Brighton Beach Rd, Duluth, Minnesota, 55804

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46.843765, -91.998599

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Figure 3-6: Potential Contaminant Sources - EnviroMapper

Alternative 1 - No Action

The No Action alternative would have no effect on hazardous materials or chemical because there would be no construction under the No Action alternative, and no sites were identified near the project area.

Action Alternative 2 – Proposed Action

The Proposed Action, including existing road removal and proposed road construction, would not involve the addition of any hazardous materials or chemicals to the site, nor would it increase the overall risk of hazardous materials known to already exist in the environment. Construction equipment used for the project would have small quantities of gasoline and fuel, but no releases are anticipated from these machines as they would be kept in good working order in accordance with state and local ordinances.

Hazardous materials are not known to be present within the project area at concentrations that pose a risk to human health or the environment. The possibility exists that previously unknown contaminated materials (including soil or groundwater) could be encountered during site work that would represent a moderate short-term impact to onsite workers through direct, dermal contact or inhalation of VOCs emanating from the source material, and a potential minor impact to residents near the site through inhalation of VOCs.

If suspected contaminated materials are encountered in any part of the project area, the following steps will be taken to mitigate effects. Contingency plans, in the form of design

specifications, would be prepared if suspected contaminated materials are encountered in any part of the project area and submitted to MPCA for approval. These specifications would detail the procedures that would be implemented by the subrecipient to identify, manage, and dispose of contaminated materials in accordance with applicable local, state, and federal regulations. If contaminated material is encountered and removed, its removal would positively impact the project area by removing a source of contaminant loading to soil and/or groundwater. See **Subsection 6.2.7** for project conditions related to hazardous materials.

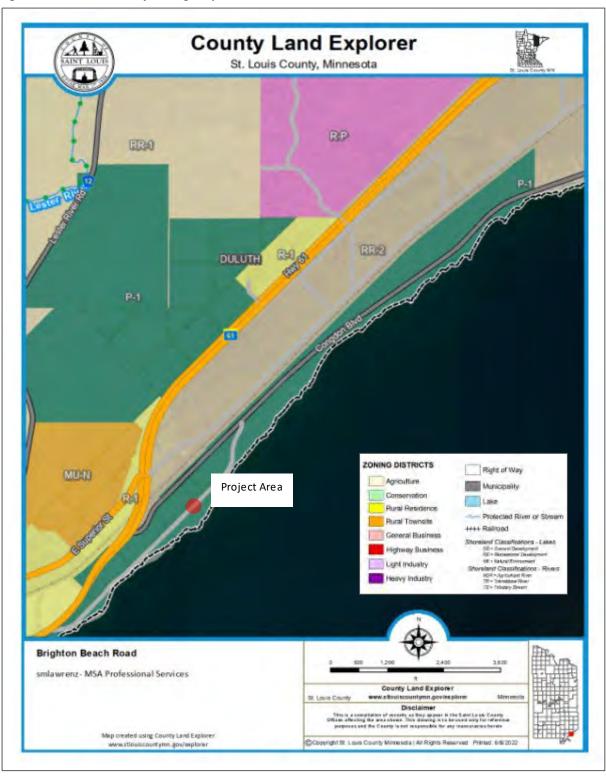
3.5 Socioeconomics

3.5.1 Zoning and Land Use

The Project Area is located within the City of Duluth and is subject to the city land use plan, zoning code, and zoning map. The zoning code and map specify the permitted land uses within the project area, while the land use plan guides policy decisions about the physical development within the City of Duluth. These documents were used to evaluate the project's consistency with local zoning and land use.

The project area is located entirely within parcels zoned P-1 (Park and Open Space District). The City of Duluth zoning code specifies that the purpose of this district is to "protect and reserve lands for recreational, scenic and natural resource uses" (City of Duluth, 2021). The code sets out the permitted, interim, and conditional uses for the P-1 zoning district. Figure 3-7 depicts the city zoning map.

Figure 3-7: St. Louis County Zoning Map



The City of Duluth Comprehensive Plan (2006, Imagine Duluth 2035 plan update adopted June 25, 2018) describes the vision, principles, policies, and recommended strategies chosen by the City of Duluth to help govern decision-making through 2035. The Plan is structured around five

topics including economic development, energy and conservation, housing, open space, and transportation, all of which are viewed through the "lenses of health, fairness, sustainability and access for everyone" (City of Duluth, 2018).

The Open Space mission included in the Plan indicates that "Duluth will strive for a sustainable open space system that enriches the lives of all Duluthians. These open spaces will reflect the community's ecological, historical, cultural and recreational values, and will contribute to its resilience to natural disasters" (City of Duluth, 2018).

Key policies within the Open Space mission include:

Policy #1 – Improve Duluth's resiliency to flooding and natural disasters

Policy #2 – Examine the value and need for all of Duluth's publicly owned open space

Policy #3 – Remove barriers to accessing parks and open space

Policy #4 – Improve the delivery of parks and open space services to the community

Policy #5 – Encourage urban food growth.

The land use plan includes the City of Duluth Future Land Use Map, which labels the project area as Open Space (as opposed to the existing "Park" land use category). This "Open Space" category is described as lands having "high natural resource or scenic value, with substantial restrictions and development limitations" (City of Duluth, 2018). Figure 3-8 shows the area of Kitchi Gammi Park and the proposed project area identified as Open Space.

Alternative 1 - No Action

The No Action alternative would have a negative effect on conformity with the City of Duluth land use plan. With no changes to the current roadway alignment, Brighton Beach Road will continue to erode and be damaged by severe weather events, and access to the park will be further restricted or potentially closed to vehicular traffic due to impaired roadway access. Lack of vehicle access to the park could potentially conflict with Policy #3 and Policy #4 of the Open Space mission of the land use plan, to "remove barriers to accessing parks and open space" and "improve the delivery of parks and open space services to the community."

June 15, 2022

Dulith Streets

CSAH; County Rds

Institutional Registerior

Recreation/Outside Duluth

Figure 3-8: City of Duluth Future Land Use Map

Action Alternative 2 – Proposed Action

The Proposed Action would enhance the project area's conformance with the City of Duluth's future land use plan. Land use within the project area is listed as open space, and the Proposed Action does not introduce other features or structures to the project area which would affect this use. Relocating the existing roadway above the wave impact line would provide adequate separation to protect the roadway from shoreline encroachment and damage by severe storm events for an estimated twenty years. This would in turn allow for continued vehicular access to the park. The Proposed Action would have positive long-term impacts as it will allow for conformance with Land Use Plan Policies #1, #3 and #4, which include improving Duluth's resiliency to flooding and natural disasters, removing barriers to accessing parks and open space, and improve the delivery of parks and open space services.

3.5.2 Noise

The Noise Control Act of 1972 defines "noise" as an undesirable sound. Noise is regulated at the federal level by the Noise Control Act of 1972, 42 U.S.C. §§ 4901, et seq. Noise standards developed by EPA (EPA, 1974) provide a basis for state and local governments' judgments in setting local noise standards. The project area is located within the Kitchi Gammi Park boundaries. There are no residences within the park, nor are there residences adjacent to the

proposed park entrance or exit relocation areas. The nearest residence is an assisted living facility located approximately 1,050 feet north of the existing south park entrance and a single-family residence located approximately 400 feet northwest of the existing north park entrance. These residences are defined as noise-sensitive land uses using Federal Highway Administration noise abatement criteria (23 C.F.R. § 772.5).

Alternative 1 - No Action

Closure of Brighton Beach Road would cause a minor long-term reduction in ambient noise levels within the park due to reduced vehicle traffic. Rerouted traffic would have the potential to cause a minor long-term increase in ambient noise where traffic was rerouted, but this minor increase in traffic noise would not likely exceed local ordinance thresholds.

Action Alternative 2 - Proposed Action

The Proposed Action would cause short-term changes in the ambient noise levels in the project area associated with existing road removal and construction activities. Short-term impacts related to removal and construction activities would include trucks hauling materials to and from the site and the operation of equipment for demolition, excavation, and fill activities. Minor traffic noise would also be expected from construction vehicles and haul trucks arriving and departing from the project area. It is anticipated that demolition and construction activities will take place during the less noise-sensitive daylight hours. Traffic is not anticipated to increase on Brighton Beach Road following reconstruction activities, therefore there will be no long-term change in noise levels.

3.5.3 Public Services and Utilities

Kitchi Gammi Park is served by the City of Duluth Police and Fire Departments and St. Louis County Sheriff's Office. The public school district is Duluth Public Schools, with Lester Park Elementary School, Ordean-East Middle School and Duluth East High School serving residents near the project area. The hospital closest to the project area, St. Luke's Hospital, is located approximately 5.7 miles southwest. No police, fire, public schools, or municipal facilities are located within or adjacent to the project area.

The Minnesota Department of Transportation (MNDOT) manages Minnesota Trunk Highway 61 near the southwestern park access. The St. Louis County Public Works Department manages Congdon Boulevard near the northeastern park access. The City of Duluth provides street repair services to Brighton Beach Road, along with water, sanitary sewer and storm sewer services to areas bordering the project site. There are no public utilities present within the project area.

Alternative 1 – No Action

The No Action alternative would have short-term minor impact on public services in the project area. If Brighton Beach Road continues to be damaged by severe weather events, access to the park will be further restricted or potentially closed to vehicular traffic due to impaired roadway

access. Lack of vehicle access to the park could potentially conflict with Policies #3 and #4 of the Open Space mission of the land use plan, to remove barriers to and delivery of access to parks and open spaces, as the park would be inaccessible to the public.

Action Alternative 2 – Proposed Action

The Proposed Action would have a minor short-term impact on public services during the construction phase. There are currently no public utilities available within the project area, and nearby electric utilities would not be expected to be shut down during construction activities. If utilities do need to be temporarily shut off during construction, the subrecipient would follow local ordinances regarding shut down procedures and notification.

The Proposed Action would provide minor long-term benefits to public services by reducing the potential for future road closures due to erosion, which would provide a more reliable route for emergency vehicle access.

3.5.4 Traffic and Circulation

Data on roads was obtained from the Revised 2019 City of Duluth Mini-Master Use Plan. Brighton Beach Road is classified as a city road that provides access to the park and the adjacent Lake Superior shoreline. Brighton Beach Road was formerly the only access road to the park, serving conflicting modes of transportation including motorists, bicyclists, in-line skaters and pedestrians. A paved multi-use trail serving bicyclists, in-line skaters and pedestrians is located to the north of the existing Brighton Beach Road.

Brighton Beach Road has also been subject to road damage caused by significant shoreline erosion from recent and historical storms which has historically been exacerbated by the conflicting modes of transportation. User counts during mid-summer reflect an average of 400 bicyclists, 975 pedestrians and 278 vehicles daily. There are no residences along the roadway and park amenities include a pavilion, a historical fireplace building, benches, and grills.

Alternative 1 – No Action

The No Action alternative would have both minor short- and major long-term impacts on traffic and circulation in the area. Brighton Beach Road will continue to erode and access to the park will be further restricted or potentially closed by the impaired access.

Action Alternative 2 – Proposed Action

The relocation of Brighton Beach Road would result in minor short-term increases in construction vehicle traffic on surrounding roadways resulting from the operation of construction vehicles and equipment to and from the site. Since Brighton Beach Road is currently closed, a detour will not be provided. The proposed reconstruction would provide both major short-term and long-term benefits to traffic and circulation in and around the project area by separating conflicting transportation use, eliminating roadway trail crossings, increasing accessibility, and maintaining road integrity.

3.5.5 Environmental Justice (Executive Order 12898)

The purpose of Executive Order 12898 is to identify, address, and avoid disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects on minority and low-income populations. Minorities are defined as anyone who identifies as black or African American, American Indian or Alaska Native, Asian American, Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander, Hispanic, or multiracial. Low-income populations are those with incomes at or below the federal poverty level.

The Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Environmental Justice Screening and Mapping tool (EJScreen) was used to investigate the presence of readily identifiable low income or minority populations within a 0.25-mile buffer of the project improvements. This 0.25-mile buffer is considered the "project area" for the environmental justice analysis. Low-income or minority populations in a project area can be identified by meeting either one or both of the following criteria:

- The affected area (e.g., census block group) contains 50 percent or more minority persons or 25 percent or more low-income persons.
- The percentage of minority or low-income persons in an affected area (e.g., census block group) is more than 10 percent greater than the average of the surrounding county.

The project area is located within St. Louis County census tract 2, primarily within a single census block group 4 (GEOID# 271370002004) with a small portion of the southwestern extent of the buffered project area located in census block group 1 (GEOID #271370002001). The project area crosses into thirteen census blocks, including blocks 4027, 4028, 4029, 4030, 4031, 4037, 4038, 4039, 4043, 4049 and 4050 in census block group 4 and census blocks 4032 and 1000 in census block group 1 (U.S. Census Bureau, 2020). Low-income composition for the project area (project area plus a 0.25-mile buffer zone) and the county is summarized in Table 3-4, racial composition is summarized in Table 3-5.

Table 3-4 Low-Income Populations

Source: 2019 ACS.

	Project Area	Project Area	St. Louis Co.	St. Louis Co.
	Population	Percentage	Population	Percentage
Low-Income	13	20%	61,925	31%

Table 3-5 Minority Populations

Source: 2019 ACS.

Race	Project Area Population	Project Area Percentage	St. Louis Co. Population	St. Louis Co. Percentage
Total Population	66	100%	199,759	100%
White	62	94%	183,938	92%
Black or African American	1	1%	3,154	2%
Asian	1	1%	2,060	1%
American Indian and Alaska Native	1	1%	3,655	2%

Race	Project Area Population	Project Area Percentage	St. Louis Co. Population	St. Louis Co. Percentage
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	0	0%	91	0%
Some Other Race/Multiracial	2	4%	6,861	3%
Hispanic ²	3	4%	3,394	2%
Total Minority Population ^{3,4}	7	10%	17,978	9%

Alternative 1 - No Action

Under the No Action alternative, damages to and closure of Brighton Beach Road would likely continue, causing continued closure of the park to vehicle traffic. There are no identifiable EJ populations within the project area or the vicinity of Kitchi Gammi Park. Therefore, road damages and closures would have a negligible effect on EJ populations.

Action Alternative 2 – Proposed Action

The Proposed Action would not have any disproportionately high and adverse effects on EJ populations. There are no identifiable EJ populations within the project area or the vicinity of Kitchi Gammi Park. Minor short-term construction-related effects would include noise, traffic, and air quality impacts. No residential relocation is proposed, and no long-term impacts from traffic, noise, or air quality due to the Proposed Action are anticipated.

3.5.6 Safety and Security

The Occupational Safety and Health Act, 29 U.S.C. §§ 651 – 678, requires safe and healthful conditions for working men and women by setting and enforcing standards; and providing training, outreach, and education and compliance assistance. The act created the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) which established construction standards under 29 C.F.R. Part 1926. The Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry has adopted Minnesota Occupational Safety and Health Administration (MNOSHA) as conferred by MN Statutes Chapter 182 Occupation Safety and Health. The construction and safety standards set forth general rules for the safe use, operation, and maintenance of equipment, and for safe work practices pertaining to all employers and employees performing construction operations.

² The terms Hispanic and Latino can apply to members of any race, including respondents who self-identified as "White." The total numbers of Hispanic and Latino residents for each geographic region are tabulated separately from the racial distribution by the U.S. Census Bureau.

³ A minority is defined in CEQ's environmental justice guidance as a member of the following population groups: American Indian/Alaskan Native, Asian or Pacific Islander, Black (non-Hispanic), or Hispanic (CEQ 1997).
⁴ "Total Minority" includes all people who are not "White alone," plus Hispanics and Latinos who identify as white alone. This number may capture individuals who identify as both "not white" and those who identify as Hispanic or Latino, essentially counting those individuals twice.

Alternative 1 - No Action

Under the No Action alternative, Lake Superior would continue to erode Brighton Beach Road, perpetuating hazardous conditions which would have a long-term impact on safety at Kitchi Gammi Park.

Action Alternative 2 – Proposed Action

Standard construction-related safety risks would occur for construction workers at the project site. During construction, site safety from the equipment would be ensured by the contractors performing the work following standard industry safety practices and those stated in MN Statutes 182.

Post-construction, the project would reduce natural hazard impacts to Brighton Beach Road through the realignment away from high wave impact line on the shore of Lake Superior, potentially reducing safety risks to the public using the road.

3.6 Historic and Cultural Resources

Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA), as amended, 54 U.S.C. §§ 3001–1 - 307108, requires that federal agencies consider the potential effects on cultural resources of actions it proposes. Cultural resources are defined as prehistoric or historic archaeology sites, historic standing structures, historic districts, objects, artifacts, cultural properties of historic or traditional significance—referred to as Traditional Cultural Properties—that may have religious or cultural significance to federally-recognized Indian Tribes (Tribes), or any other physical evidence of human activity considered important to a culture, subculture, or community for scientific, traditional, religious, or other reasons.

Cultural resources listed, eligible for listing, or potentially eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) are subject to protection from adverse impacts resulting from a federally funded undertaking.

Pursuant to 36 C.F.R. § 800.4(a)(1), the Area of Potential Effects (APE) is defined as the geographic area(s) within which the undertaking may directly or indirectly affect cultural resources. Within the APE, impacts on cultural resources are evaluated for both historic structures (aboveground cultural resources) and archaeology (belowground cultural resources).

In addition to the NHPA, FEMA must also comply with other federal laws that relate to historic and cultural resources:

• The Archaeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1974, 16 U.S.C. §§ 4–9 - 469c-2, provides for the survey, recovery, and preservation of significant scientific, prehistoric, archeological, or paleontological data when such data may be destroyed or irreparably lost due to a federal, federally licensed, federally funded (in part or whole) project.

- American Indian Religious Freedom Act of 1978, 42 U.S.C. § 1996, which provides for the protection and preservation of American Indian sites, possessions, and ceremonial and traditional rites.
- Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979, 16 U.S.C. §§ 470aa–470 mm, which provides for the protection of archaeological resources on public lands and Indian lands.
- Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act, 25 U.S.C. §§ 3001–3013, in cases where Native American cultural Items are found on federal and tribal lands.

To comply with the NHPA, the City completed a Phase I Archaeological Reconnaissance Survey for historic and archaeological properties in December 2019. The investigation defined an APE coterminous with the park boundary. Following the 2019 investigation, FEMA initiated consultation with the SHPO to confirm the finding that no historic properties would be affected if the project were implemented. The SHPO concurred with the finding of No Historic Properties Affected on August 25, 2022 (see correspondence in **Appendix H**).

3.6.1 Historic Structures

FEMA has identified six (6) previously recorded Architecture/History properties that are located completely or partially within the APE for this project:

- Brighton Beach Tourist Camp (SL-DUL-2328)
- Brighton Beach Fireplace/Shelter (SL-DUL-3132)
- Brighton Beach Gazebo (SL-DUL-3125)
- Trunk Highway 61 (XX-ROD-006)
- Congdon North Shore Boulevard Segment of Skyline Parkway (SL-XXX-001)
- Skyline Parkway Historic District

Alternative 1 - No Action

The No Action alternative would have no effect on historic structures listed or eligible for listing in the NRHP because no work would be conducted in the APE.

Action Alternative 2 - Proposed Action

FEMA found and SHPO concurred that the Proposed Action would have no effect on historic structures listed or eligible for listing in the NRHP. Consultation documentation is included in **Appendix H.**

3.6.2 Archaeological Resources

A Phase I archaeological survey report titled Kitchi Gammi Park Trail, Phase I Archaeological Reconnaissance Survey, St. Louis County, Minnesota (December 2019) was prepared by Merjent, Inc. No archaeological resources were identified within the Project APE as a result of the field investigations. FEMA found and SHPO concurred that no further archaeological work is warranted for the project as it is currently defined.

Alternative 1 - No Action

The No Action alternative would have no effect on archaeological resources as no construction or ground disturbance activities would occur.

Action Alternative 2 – Proposed Action

The Proposed Action would have no effect on any known archaeological sites or resources. Consultation documentation is included in **Appendix H**. The following project conditions, also included in **Subsection 6.2.10**, would provide additional protection to unknown archaeological sites:

- The contactor will monitor ground disturbance during the construction phase. Should human skeletal remains or historic or archaeological materials be discovered during construction, all ground-disturbing activities on the project site shall cease and the City will notify the coroner's office (in the case of human remains), the recipient (Minnesota HSEM), and FEMA. FEMA will notify the SHPO and the Office of the State Archaeologist.
- All borrow or fill material must come from pre-existing stockpiles, material reclaimed from maintained roadside ditches (provided the designed width or depth of the ditch is not increased), or commercially procured material from a source existing prior to the event. For any FEMA-funded project requiring the use of a non-commercial source or a commercial source that was not permitted to operate prior to the event (e.g., a new pit, agricultural fields, road ROWs, etc.) in whole or in part, regardless of cost, the City of Duluth must notify FEMA and HSEM prior to extracting material. FEMA must review the source for compliance with all applicable federal environmental planning and historic preservation laws and executive orders prior to a subrecipient or their contractor commencing borrow extraction. Consultation and regulatory permitting may be required. Non-compliance with this requirement may jeopardize receipt of federal funding. Documentation of borrow sources utilized is required at closeout.

3.6.3 Tribal Coordination and Religious Sites

Executive Order 13175, Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments, directs federal agencies, "to establish regular and meaningful consultation and collaboration with tribal officials in the development of federal policies that have tribal implications, to strengthen the United States government-to-government relationships with Indian tribes, and to reduce the imposition of unfunded mandates upon Indian tribes...."

Requests for information on the presence or absence of known archaeological sites and sites of cultural or religious interest within the proposed project area were submitted to federally recognized tribal nations with potential interests in the project. On March 9, 2022, FEMA notified the following tribal nations regarding the scope of this undertaking:

- Bad River Band of Lake Superior Tribe of Chippewa Indians
- Bois Forte Band of Chippewa Indians

- Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa
- Fort Peck Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes
- Grand Portage Band of Lake Superior Chippewa
- Keweenaw Bay Indian Community
- Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians of Wisconsin
- Lac Vieux Desert Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians
- Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Indians
- Minnesota Chippewa Tribe
- White Earth Band of Ojibwe

FEMA was notified that there was a new Tribal Historic Preservation Officer for the Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa and on May 19, 2022, resent the notification letter to them. The letter sent to each tribe provided details about the project location and proposed activity and requested comments from each tribal government within 30 days of the date of the letter. FEMA received no responses from tribal nations. Correspondence with tribal nations is provided in **Appendix I.**

Alternative 1 - No Action

The No Action alternative would have no effect on known archaeological or Indian religious sites as no construction or ground disturbance activities would occur.

Action Alternative 2 – Proposed Action

The Proposed Action would have no effect on known archaeological or Indian religious sites. If any human or archaeological remains are encountered during project construction, work will stop immediately and FEMA and SHPO will be notified.

3.7 Comparison of Alternatives

Table 3-6 presents the comparison of alternatives for the proposed project. Please see **Section 6** for mitigation measures and permits.

Table 3-6 Comparison of Alternatives

Geology, Soils, and Topograpy

No Action Impacts	Relocation of Brighton Beach Road Impacts	Mitigation
Long-term impacts from continued erosion. Negligible impacts to topography	 Minor short-term negative impacts from road removal and new road construction. Minor short-term impacts on soil topography during construction. No impact on bedrock. Long-term reduction in erosion along the shoreline due to the new road's higher elevation and increased setback from the shoreline. No farmland to be converted to non-agricultural use. 	• See Subsection 6.2.1.

Water Resources and Water Quality

No Action Impacts	Relocation of Brighton Beach Road Impacts	Mitigation
 Minor long-term impacts from sedimentation, soil erosion, and pollutants from stormwater runoff. No impact on groundwater. 	Minor short-term impact on water quality during construction caused by excavators and other heavy equipment for fill and excavation.	• See Subsection 6.2.1.

Coastal Zone Management

No Action Impacts	Relocation of Brighton Beach Road Impacts	Mitigation
Long-term impacts from continued erosion	 Long-term benefit of preserving vehicular access to park and trail systems within Coastal Zone. 	• See Subsection 6.2.2

Floodplain Management

No Action Impacts	Relocation of Brighton Beach Road Impacts	Mitigation
Minor long-term impacts from continued erosion	 Minor short-term impacts from disturbance of sediments during the abandonment of the existing roadway. Minor long-term benefits from the reduction in damages and road closures caused by flooding. 	• See Subsection 6.2.2

Air Quality

No Action Impacts	Relocation of Brighton Beach Road	Mitigation
	Impacts	
Minor short and long-term impacts from decreased traffic if permanent road closure was required due to damages.	Minor short-term impacts from construction equipment emissions and exposed soils.	• See Subsection 6.2.2
	Negligible long-term impact.	

Terrestrial and Aquatic Environment

No Action Impacts	Relocation of Brighton Beach Road Impacts	Mitigation
Minor long-term adverse impacts from continued, naturally occurring erosion of the shoreline, resulting in soil disturbance and surface runoff.	Minor short-term impacts while the existing Brighton Beach Road is being demolished and the relocated road is being constructed resulting in soil disturbance and removal of vegetation.	• None
	Minor long-term impacts from the removal of trees and vegetation located near the new alignment.	
	Minor long-term benefits from the reseeding of the relocated roadway corridor.	

Wetlands

No Action Impacts	Relocation of Brighton Beach Road Impacts	Mitigation
No project-related short or long-term impacts.	Minor short-term impacts to the shore of Lake Superior from the disturbed soils associated with the removal of the existing roadway and its relocation.	• None

Threatened and Endangered Species

No Action Impacts	Relocation of Brighton Beach Road	Mitigation
	Impacts	
No project-related impact. Existing erosion from the existing road alignment would continue.	 May effect, but not likely to adversely impact the NLEB. No effect determination for Canada Lynx, Gray Wolf, Piping Plover and Rufa Red Knot. 	• See Subsection 6.2.2

Migratory Birds

No Action Impacts	Relocation of Brighton Beach Road Impacts	Mitigation
No direct short- or long-term impacts.	 Minor short-term impacts from construction activities. Minor long-term impacts on trees and vegetation that may serve as migratory bird habitat. The trees removed would not be replaced. 	• See Subsection 6.2.2

Invasive Species

No Action Impacts	Relocation of Brighton Beach Road Impacts	Mitigation
Minor long-term adverse impacts as invasive plant species would persist in open, disturbed areas as the existing roadway continues to deteriorate.	 Minor short-term impact from the potential spread of invasive plant species to or from the project area as both cuttings and attached to construction equipment and vehicles. Minor short-term impact of potential for invasive plant species becoming established in disturbed areas. 	• See Subsection 6.2.2

Hazardous Materials

No Action Impacts	Relocation of Brighton Beach Road Impacts	Mitigation
No impact.	Minor short-term impact from construction equipment used for the project will have small quantities of gasoline and fuel, but no releases are anticipated.	• See Subsection 6.2.2

Zoning and Land Use

No Action Impacts	Relocation of Brighton Beach Road Impacts	Mitigation
No improvement to resiliency.	Improves resiliency to flooding.	• None
Barriers to open space will remain.Lack of parks and open space will remain.	 Removes barriers to accessing parks and open space. Improves delivery of parks and open space services. 	

Noise

No Action Impacts	Relocation of Brighton Beach Road Impacts	Mitigation
Minor short- or long-term benefit of reduced ambient noise if continued erosion causes closure of Brighton Beach Road.	Minor short-term impacts associated with construction.	• See Subsection 6.2.8.

Public Services and Utilities

No Action Impacts	Relocation of Brighton Beach Road Impacts	Mitigation
 Minor short-term impacts to public services resources. Long-term impacts on public services if erosion continues. 	 Minor short-term impact on public services during the construction. Minor long-term benefits from the removal of the threat of erosion that could impact services. 	• None

Traffic and Circulation

No Action Impacts	Relocation of Brighton Beach Road Impacts	Mitigation
Minor short- and major long-term impacts on traffic and circulation as the shoreline continues to erode and cause damage to the existing roadway.	Minor short-term impact from the operation of construction vehicles and equipment to and from the site.	• None
	 Major and minor long-term benefits from the reduction in road closures and separation of conflicting uses. 	

Environmental Justice

No Action Impacts	Relocation of Brighton Beach Road Impacts	Mitigation
Negligible effect.	Negligible effect, not disproportionate or adverse.	• None

Safety and Security

No Action Impacts	Relocation of Brighton Beach Road Impacts	Mitigation
The long-term minor impact from hazardous conditions and damages at Brighton Beach Road.	 Negligible short-term impact as long as all construction safety measures are followed. Long-term improvement due to the reduction of natural hazards through road realignment. 	• See Subsection 6.2.9.

Historic Structures

No Action Impacts	Relocation of Brighton Beach Road Impacts	Mitigation
No effect.	No effect.	• None

Archaeological Resources

No Action Impacts	Relocation of Brighton Beach Road Impacts	Mitigation
No effect.	• No effect.	• See Subsection 6.2.9.

Tribal and Religious Sites

No Action Impacts	Relocation of Brighton Beach Road Impacts	Mitigation
No Effect	No Effect	• None

4 Cumulative Impacts

This section evaluates the potential cumulative impacts associated with the implementation of the Proposed Action. Cumulative impacts are defined in CEQ regulations for implementing NEPA (40 C.F.R. § 1508.7) as:

"The impacts of a proposed action when combined with impacts of past, present, or reasonably foreseeable future actions undertaken by any agency or person."

CEQ regulations require an assessment of cumulative effects during the decision-making process for federal projects. Cumulative impacts can result from individually minor but collectively significant actions.

The Proposed Action is an effort to mitigate erosion and storm damage caused by Lake Superior. There are no other known proposed projects within one mile of the project area led by St. Louis County, MnDOT or the City of Duluth that may cause cumulative impacts.

5 Public Participation

This EA is available for agency and public review and comment for a period of 30 days. The public information process includes a public notice with information about the Proposed Action in the *Duluth News Tribune*. This EA is available on FEMA's website at

https://www.fema.gov/emergency-managers/practitioners/environmental-historic/region/5. The EA is also available on the City of Duluth website at https://duluthmn.gov/.

A hard copy of this EA is available for review at:

Duluth City Hall 411 West 1st Street Duluth, MN 55802

This EA reflects the evaluation and assessment of the federal government, the decision-maker for the federal action; however, FEMA will take into consideration any substantive comments received during the public review period to inform the final decision regarding grant approval and project implementation. The public is invited to submit written comments by emailing fema-r5-environmental@fema.dhs.gov or via mail to:

Duane Castaldi, Regional Environmental Officer
Attn: City of Duluth Brighton Beach Road Reconstruction Project EA Comments
FEMA Region 5
536 South Clark Street, 6th Floor
Chicago, IL 60605

If FEMA receives no substantive comments from the public and/or agency reviewers, this EA will be adopted as final, and FEMA will issue a FONSI. If FEMA receives substantive comments, it will evaluate and address those comments as part of the FONSI documentation and may consider whether changes to the grant or project implementation are appropriate.

5.1 Subrecipient Outreach

The City of Duluth Prepared a Mini-Master Plan for the project area in August 2019. The master planning process included public engagement component consisting of an online survey / comment period and a public open house. The online survey was conducted between May 28 and June 7, 2019, and 24 responses were received. Additional written comments were also received during this period. The public open house was held at the project location on June 3, 2019, from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM. The draft plan was posted for comment from June 13- June 26, 2019.

The top three suggestions from the public participation process were to separate walking areas from driving areas, to construct permanent restroom facilities, and to limit traffic to one-way. Other design suggestions included moving the road away from the lake and restoring the shoreland, as well as adding additional parking and turning the area into a pedestrian park.

Furthermore, a virtual public meeting discussing pre-design concepts was conducted October 7, 2021. Please see **Appendix I** for a description of the public engagement process and the results from the online survey/written comments.

6 Mitigation Measures and Permits

6.1 Permits

The MPCA requires the NPDES/SDS permit for construction projects that disturb more than one acre of soil. The proposed project is anticipated to exceed this threshold for the removal of the old roadway and realignment of Brighton Beach Road. No other permits are required at this time.

Table 6-1 summarizes the necessary permits to implement the Proposed Action and their status.

Table 6-1 Permit Summary

Issuing Agency	Resource	Permit Title	Applicable Regulation / Law	Status
МРСА	Soils (Erosion)	NPDES/SDS	Minn. R. 7090.2040	Not complete. To be obtained by construction contractor following project award and prior to commencing construction.

6.2 Project Conditions

The subrecipient is responsible for compliance with federal, state, and local laws and regulations, including obtaining any necessary permits prior to beginning construction activities, and adhering to any conditions laid out in these permits. Any substantive change to the scope of work will require re-evaluation by FEMA for compliance with NEPA and any other laws or EOs. Failure to comply with FEMA grant conditions may jeopardize federal funding.

6.2.1 General Project Conditions

- 1. The subrecipient is responsible for obtaining and complying with all required local, state, and federal permits and approvals.
- If deviations from the proposed scope of work result in substantial design changes, the
 need for additional ground disturbance, additional removal of vegetation, or any other
 unanticipated changes to the physical environment, the subrecipient must contact FEMA
 so that the revised project scope can be evaluated for compliance with NEPA and other
 applicable environmental laws.

6.2.2 Water Resources, Water Quality, Wetlands, Coastal Zones, and Soils

3. Prior to beginning work, the subrecipient will coordinate with the MPCA to determine permitting needs under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit program, and to develop a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) identifying BMPs to be followed during construction.

6.2.3 Air Quality

- 4. To reduce the emission of criteria pollutants, construction equipment engine idling will be minimized to the extent practicable, and engines will be kept properly maintained.
- 5. Open construction areas will be minimized and watered as needed to minimize particulates such as fugitive dust.

6.2.4 Threatened and Endangered Species

- 6. Required Avoidance and Minimization Measures (AMMs) Northern long-eared bat
 - a. General AMM 1: Ensure all operators, employees, and contractors working in areas of known or presumed bat habitat are aware of all FHWA/FRA/FTA (Transportation Agencies) environmental commitments, including all applicable AMMs. Notify contractor(s) during the pre-construction meeting. Bat sightings (including sick, injured, and/or dead bats) on the project must be reported to OES wildlife ecologist (651-366-3605).
 - b. Tree Removal AMM 2: Restrict all tree clearing activities to when NLEB are not likely to be present. Winter tree clearing required - tree clearing allowed November 1 to March 31, inclusive.
 - c. Tree Removal AMM 3: Tree removal must be limited to that specified in project plans and ensure that contractors understand clearing limits and how they are marked in the field (e.g., install bright colored flagging/fencing prior to any tree clearing to ensure contractors stay within clearing limits).
 - d. Tree Removal AMM 4: Tree removal must not remove documented NLEB roosts, or trees within 0.25 miles of roosts; or documented foraging habitat any time of the year.

7. Additional Conservation Measures

- a. If used, erosion control blanket should be limited to 'bio-netting' or 'natural netting' types, and specifically not products containing plastic mesh netting or other plastic components. These are Category 3N or 4N in the 2016 & 2018 MnDOT Standards Specifications for Construction. Be aware that hydro-mulch products may contain small plastic fibers to aid in its matrix strength. These loose fibers could potentially re-suspend and make their way into Public Waters impacting protected aquatic species (e.g., mussels, fishes).
- b. Revegetation of disturbed soils must follow D1 Vegetation Establishment Recommendations and use native mixes in areas that are not proposed for mowed turf grass. Include mowing and weed spraying as indicated in the District Vegetation Establishment Recommendations.

6.2.5 Migratory Birds

8. Vegetation removal should be avoided during the migratory bird nesting season (approximately May to October) to the extent practicable.

6.2.6 Invasive Species

- 9. Graded areas will be revegetated with native grasses and forbs, or native seed mixes.
- 10. All equipment will be cleaned (including but not limited to vehicles, clothing, and gear) at a site prior to moving to another site. All soil, aggregate material, mulch, vegetation, seeds, animals, etc. need to be removed using a hand tool, brush, compressed air, pressure washer, or otherwise.
- 11. If equipment is not cleaned before arriving to the work site, then clean the equipment in the parking or staging area, ensuring no material is deposited at the new site. Material cleaned from equipment should be disposed of legally.

6.2.7 Hazardous Materials

- 12. If hazardous source materials are encountered during former road removal or construction activities for the proposed action, contingency plans will be prepared that detail the procedures that the contractors will follow to identify, manage, and dispose of contaminated materials, in accordance with all local, state, and federal regulations. These specifications sections should include, but are not limited to, procedures that address Safety, Health, and Emergency Response Procedures; Environmental Protection Procedures; Contaminated Soil Excavation; Transportation and Disposal of Contaminated Material; and Contaminated Dewatering and Drainage.
- 13. MPCA will be notified if contaminated material is encountered.

6.2.8 Noise

14. Construction activities to take place during the less noise-sensitive daylight hours.

6.2.9 Safety and Security

- 15. To minimize risks to safety and human health, construction activities will be performed using qualified personnel trained to use the required equipment properly.
- 16. The construction site will be secured from public access.
- 17. All construction activities will be conducted in accordance with the standards specified in the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) regulations.
- 18. All conditions of the project Health and Safety Plan will be adhered to.

6.2.10 Archeological, Tribal, and Religious Sites

19. The subrecipient will monitor ground disturbance during the construction phase. Should human skeletal remains or historic or archaeological materials be discovered during construction, all ground-disturbing activities on the project site shall cease and the subrecipient will notify the coroner's office (in the case of human remains), the recipient (Minnesota HSEM), and FEMA. FEMA will notify the SHPO and the Office of the State Archaeologist.

20. All borrow or fill material must come from pre-existing stockpiles, material reclaimed from maintained roadside ditches (provided the designed width or depth of the ditch is not increased), or commercially procured material from a source existing prior to the event. For any FEMA-funded project requiring the use of a non-commercial source or a commercial source that was not permitted to operate prior to the event (e.g., a new pit, agricultural fields, road ROWs, etc.) in whole or in part, regardless of cost, the City of Duluth must notify FEMA and HSEM prior to extracting material. FEMA must review the source for compliance with all applicable federal environmental planning and historic preservation laws and executive orders prior to a subrecipient or their contractor commencing borrow extraction. Consultation and regulatory permitting may be required. Non-compliance with this requirement may jeopardize receipt of federal funding. Documentation of borrow sources utilized is required at closeout.

7 Consultations and References

The following agencies were consulted during the preparation of this EA:

7.1 Federal, State, and Local Agencies

- Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MNDNR), Regional Environmental Assessment Ecologist
- Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO)
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Minnesota-Wisconsin Ecological Services Field Office
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region V, NEPA Implementation Section
- Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA)
- Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, St. Paul District
- Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR)

7.2 Tribal Nations

- Bad River Band of Lake Superior Tribe of Chippewa Indians
- Bois Forte Band of Chippewa Indians
- Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa
- Fort Peck Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes
- Grand Portage Band of Lake Superior Chippewa
- Keweenaw Bay Indian Community
- Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians of Wisconsin
- Lac Vieux Desert Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians
- Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Indians
- Minnesota Chippewa Tribe
- White Earth Band of Ojibwe

7.3 References

- Center for Invasive Species and Ecosystem Health, University of Georgia. 2022a. Status of Species List, St. Louis County, Minnesota. Accessed July 2022.
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8 List of Preparers

Table 8-1 Federal Emergency Management Agency Preparers

PA Project Lead: Roger Ammons, Program Delivery Manager,

Project Monitor: Duane Castaldi, Regional Environmental Officer (REO)

Technical Monitor: Karie Roach, Environmental Protection Specialist

Technical Editor: Nicholas Dorochoff, Environmental Protection Specialist

Table 8-2 MSA Professional Services, Inc. Preparers

NEPA Documentation: Jeff Thelen, Environmental Planner

NEPA Documentation: Erica Klingfu, Environmental Scientist

Project Manager: Mark Davidson, Senior Hydrogeologist

9 Appendices

FEMA has worked to ensure that this EA document is accessible to persons with disabilities, in compliance with Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Regarding the EA's Appendices, which are provided in a separate document, this EA has reported what was done and how those results affect the decision that will be made based on the totality of the EA findings. In case any of these appendices poses a challenge to be read electronically by persons with disabilities, each appendix is briefly described and summarized below, rather than being simply listed.

Appendix A: Construction Plans

This appendix contains a one-page drawing of the proposed park road in relation to the existing road and trail. In place bituminous pavement and the EAW Permit Area are also identified on this sheet. A set of construction plans from the Minnesota Department of Transportation City of Duluth Department of Public Works and Utilities Engineering Division is also included. The plans provide general construction notes, earthwork quantities, and typical sections for the proposed road relocation.

Appendix B: NEPAssist Report

This appendix contains a report from the NEPAssist tool found on the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's website, https://www.epa.gov/nepa/nepassist. The report was generated on September 8, 2022 from the web-based application, which provides an immediate screening of environmental assessment indicators for a user-defined area of interest. The report identified that this project is within one mile of the following: an impaired stream, an impaired waterbody, a waterbody, a stream, a water discharger (NPDES), a hazardous waste (RCRA) facility, a school, a historic property on the National Register of Historic Places, a land cession boundary, and the service area of a mitigation or conservation bank. The report also indicates that information regarding an NWI wetland can be found online.

Appendix C: Water Resources

This appendix contains the firmette map of the project location. There are two maps from the MN Department of Natural Resources Lake & Flood Elevations Online showing the estimated 1% water surface elevations in relation to the project area. A wetland assessment with preliminary wetland impact maps which was completed in conjunction with FHWA Project SP-118-090-024 is included. A letter from FEMA to the MN Department of Natural Resources Coastal Zone Management Section dated June 30, 2022 describes the project and provides maps of the project area. The letter concludes that the project, if completed as proposed, will be consistent with Minnesota's approved coastal management program.

Appendix D: Geology, Soils, and Topography

This appendix contains a map of the project area identifying soil types from the National Resources Conservation Service's Web Soil Survey. Soil types in the project area include Cuttre-Eutrudepts; Miskoaki-Rock outcrop complex; Barto, stony-Greysolon-Rock outcrop complex; and Urban land-Amnicon-Rock outcrop complex.

Appendix E: Air Quality

This appendix contains a generated report from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and provides information on Minnesota nonattainment/maintenance status for each county by year for all criteria pollutants. For St. Louis County, part of the county is considered to have moderate carbon monoxide levels.

Appendix F: Threatened, Endangered Species, and Migratory Birds

This appendix contains the Programmatic Biological Opinion on Final 4(d) Rule for the Northern Long-eared Bat and Section 7 Informal Consultation between FEMA and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The Programmatic Biological Opinion is dated August 3, 2022 and addressed to Karie Roach, FEMA Region 5 Environmental Protection Specialist. The Section 7 Informal Consultation is dated August 2, 2022 and is addressed to Whom It May Concern. Both letters describe the Action Area, the Proposed Action, justification for the action, and the anticipated effects and proposed mitigation regarding the Northern Long Eared Bat. This appendix also includes letters from Minnesota Department of Transportation Office of Environmental Services Threatened & Endangered Species Letter and Minnesota Department of Natural Resources Natural Heritage and Non-Game Research Program Letter.

Appendix G: Environmental Justice & Hazardous Materials

This appendix contains the EJScreen Report from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for a 0.25 mile ring around the project area.

Appendix H: Historic Structures & Archaeological Resources

This appendix contains a 58-page letter dated August 9, 2022. It was signed by Duane Castaldi Regional Environmental Officer, FEMA Region 5. It was addressed to Sarah Beimers, Environmental Review Program Manager, Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office, in Saint Paul, Minnesota. The letter discusses a Finding of No Historic Properties Affected for the project. It describes the Undertaking, the Area of Potential Effect (APE), Identification and Evaluation of Resources, a Phase I Archaeological Reconnaissance Survey, previous correspondence with the SHPO regarding this project area in conjunction with a Lakewalk Trail Extension project undertaken by the Minnesota Department of Transportation, and Determination of Effect. Its Conclusion requests SHPO concurrence with the finding. SHPO provided its concurrence with the finding of No Historic Properties Affected on August 25, 2022.

Appendix I: Tribal Coordination and Religious Sites

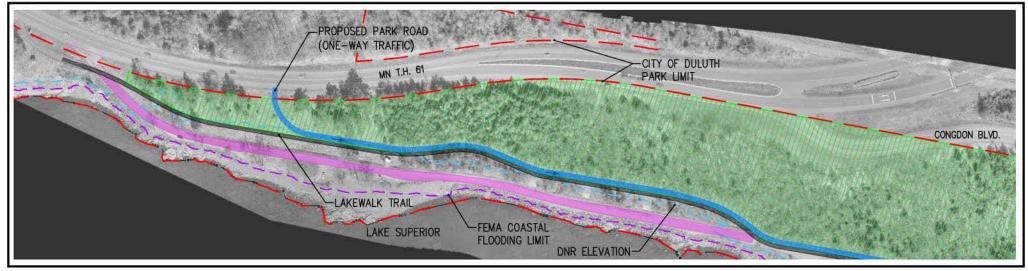
This 4-page letter is one of twelve tribal consultation letters that was sent by FEMA to Native American Tribes with a known interest in the Duluth, Minnesota area. It was signed by Duane Castaldi, Regional Environmental Officer, FEMA Region 5 in Chicago, IL. This example was addressed to Edith Leoso, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer of the Bad River Band of Lake Superior Tribe of Chippewa in Odanah, Wisconsin. It describes the Undertaking and requests input from the Tribe regarding the Undertaking.

Appendix J: Public Engagement

This appendix contains excerpts from the Brighton Beach (Kitchi Gammi Park) Revised 2019 Mini-Master Plan prepared by Duluth Parks and Recreation dated August 19, 2019. It discusses the planning process and includes the responses from the Open House that took place on June 3, 2019 and the online survey open between May 28 to June 7, 2019.

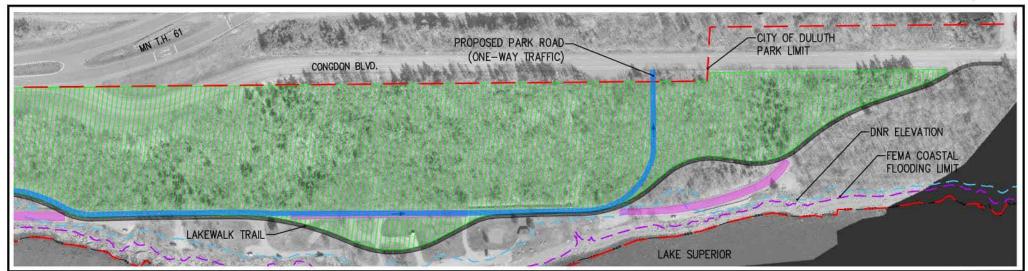
APPENDIX A

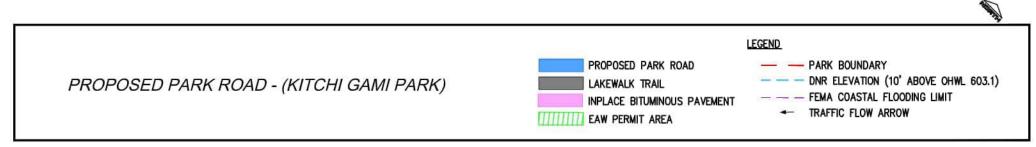
Construction Plans



MAP SCALE 1" = 250'







MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION CITY OF DULUTH DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND UTILITIES ENGINEERING DIVISION

CONSTRUCTION PLANS FOR: GRADING, AGGREGATE BASE, BITUMINOUS SURFACING, DRAINAGE

LOCATED ON T.H. 61 - 0.41 MILES NE OF 60TH AVE. E. TO MSAS 185 (CONGDON BLVD.) 925 FEET SW OF 69TH AVE. E.

STATE PROJ. NO. SAP 118-600-002

XXXXX FEET XXXX MILES GROSS LENGTH FEET . . -. . MILES BRIDGES-LENGTH - . . . BRIDGES-LENGTH FEET MILES NET LENGTH XXXXXX FEET XXXXXX MILES

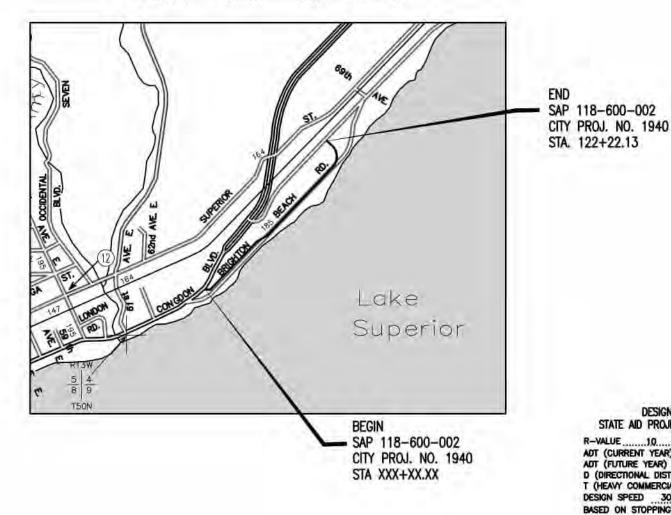
A POINT APPROX, 988' EAST AND 479' NORTH OF THE S.W. CORNER. OF SEC. 4, T 50 N, R 13 W

TO

A POINT APPROX. 3654' EAST AND 3562' NORTH OF THE S.W. CORNER OF SEC. 4, T 50 N, R 13 W

TRAFFIC CONTROL NOTE
ALL TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES AND SIGNING SHALL CONFORM AND BE INSTALLED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CURRENT "MINNESOTA MANUAL ON UNIFORM TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES" (MnMUTCD), INCLUDING THE LATEST FIELD MANUAL FOR TEMPORARY TRAFFIC CONTROL ZONE LAYOUTS.

THE SUBSURFACE UTILITY INFORMATION IN THIS PLAN IS UTILITY LEVEL D.



DESIGN DESIGNATION STATE AID PROJECT NO. 118-600-002

R-VALUE ______10 ADT (CURRENT YEAR) 2020 = N/A ADT (FUTURE YEAR) 2040 = 6240 D (DIRECTIONAL DISTR.) 50/50 T (HEAVY COMMERCIAL) DESIGN SPEED 30 MPH BASED ON STOPPING SIGHT DISTANCE HEIGHT OF EYE 3.5' HEIGHT OF OBJECT 2.0'

SCALES 1500' PROJECT LOCATION ST. LOUIS COUNTY

(XXX) MINN PROJECT NO

GOVERNING SPECIFICATIONS

THE 2020 EDITION OF THE MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION "STANDARD SPECIFICATIONS FOR CONSTRUCTION" SHALL GOVERN. AVAILABLE

http://www.dot.state.mn.us/pre-letting/spec/index.html

THE 2021 EDITION OF THE CITY OF DULUTH PUBLIC WORKS AND UTILITIES DEPARTMENT CONSTRUCTION STANDARDS AND SUPPLEMENTS OR ADDENDUMS SHALL APPLY. AVAILABLE AT:

http://www.duluthmn.gov/engineering/standard-construction-specifications/

INDEX

SHEET NO.

DESCRIPTION TITLE SHEET

LEGEND & GENERAL NOTES EARTHWORK BALANCE SOIL NOTES STATEMENT OF ESTIMATED QUANTITIES CHARTS SWPPP TYPICAL SECTIONS STANDARD DETAILS

THIS PLAN CONTAINS 78 SHEETS

PLAN REVISIONS		
DATE	SHEET NO.	APPROVER
_		
-		

DESIGN TEAM

P. LOOMIS, D. KRATOCHWILL

HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PLAN WAS PREPARED BY ME OR UNDER MY DIRECT SUPERVISION AND THAT I AM A DULY LICENSED PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER UNDER THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA.

PATRICK F. LOOMIS

PROJECT ENGINEER (TYPED OR PRINTED NAME)

XX-XX-2022 DATE LIC. NO.

49099

DATE

PROJECT ENGINEER

CITY APPROVAL

CHIEF ENGINEER OF TRANSPORTATION DATE APPROVED

CHIEF ENGINEER OF UTILITIES DATE APPROVED

CITY ENGINEER STATE APPROVAL

DISTRICT STATE AID ENGINEER: REVIEWED FOR COMPLIANCE

DATE WITH STATE-AID RULES/POLICY

DATE APPROVED FOR FEDERAL AID FUNDING: STATE AID ENGINEER

THIS QUALITY LEVEL WAS DETERMINED ACCORDING TO THE GUIDELINES OF CI/ASCE 38-02, ENTITLED "STANDARD GUIDELINES FOR THE COLLECTION AND DEPICTION OF EXISTING SUBSURFACE UTILITY DATA".

Warning: Location of underground utilities to be verified by CONTRACTOR. CALL BEFORE DIGGING. GOPHER STATE ONE CALL 1-800-252-1166 REQUIRED BY LAW

STATE AID PROJECT NUMBER - SAP 118-600-002

CITY PROJECT NUMBER 1940

APPROVED

SHEET NO. 1 OF XX

PLAN SYMBOLS

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W&C

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EX SANITARY MANHOLE

EX SANITARY CLEANOUT

EX STORM MANHOLE

EX STORM CATCHBASIN EX WATER MANHOLE

EX WATER VALVE

EX WATER HYDRANT EX. WATER SHUTOFF

EX. WATER & GAS MH EX. GAS MANHOLE

EX. GAS VALVE

EX. GAS SHUTOFF EX. STEAM MANHOLE

EX. TELEPHONE MANHOLE EX. ELECTRIC MANHOLE

> EX. UTILITY POLE EX. LIGHT POLE

EX. ELECTRIC VAULT EX. GUY ANCHOR

EX. ELECTRIC TRANSFORMER

EX. STREET LIGHT 0-

EX. SIGNAL W/STREET LIGHT

EX. HAND HOLE

EX. TELEPHONE PEDESTAL

EX. WELL EX. SIGN

EX. DECIDUOUS TREE

EX. CONIFEROUS TREE

EX. PARKING METER

BENCHMARK

CONTROL POINT

FOUND CI MONUMENT SOIL BORING

ELEV: ??

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PLAN WAS PREPARED BY ME OR UNDER MY DIRECT SUPERVISION AND THAT I AM A DULY LICENSED PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER UNDER THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF MONESOTA.

PLAN LEGEND

LIC. NO: ####



CITY OF DULUTH ENGINEERING DIVISION 411 W. 1ST ST. STE. 211 DULUTH, MN 55802

Brighton Beach Road

STATE AID PROJECT NO.: SAP 069-600-045

HH DRAWN BY: 1940_TTB - LGND - NOTES

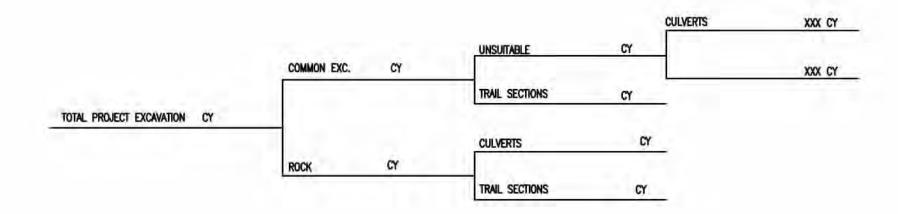
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1940

CITY PROJECT NO .:

SHEET NO. ---- OF

SIGNATURE:



	COMMON BORROW (CV) XX	X CY
	GRANULAR BORROW (CV) XX	X CY_
	AGGREGATE BASE (CV) CLASS 5	XXX CY
TOTAL PROJECT EMBANKMENT XXX CY	GRANULAR BACKFILL (CV) 3:	2 CY
		COMMON TOPSOIL BORROW XXX CY
	TOPSOIL XXXX CY	BOULEVARD TOPSOIL BORROW XXX CY

EARTHWORK NOTES:

THIS PROJECT REQUIRES XXXX CY OF COMMON EMBANKMENT MATERIAL

- ALL EXCAVATED MATERIALS FROM STATION XX+XX TO XX+XX (WOODED AREA).
- DOES NOT INCLUDE REMOVAL AND SALVAGE OF INPLACE DECORATIVE ROCKS.
- THIS PROJECT REQUIRES XXXX CY OF IMPORTED TOPSOIL DURING CONSTRUCTION, IF THE ENGINEER DETERMINES THAT THERE IS MATERIAL SUITABLE FOR TOPSOIL ONSITE THEN STRIPING, STOCKPILING AND PLACEMENT OF MATERIAL WILL BE PAID FOR AS COMMON TOPSOIL BORROW (CY), CONSTRUCTION SLOPES MUST BE COVERED IN 4" OF MATERIAL MEETING COMMON TOPSOIL BORROW SPECIFICATION. "A" HORIZON SOILS PER MINDOT GRADING AND BASE MANUAL MAY BE CONSIDERED TOPSOIL IF APPROVED BY ENGINEER.

CONTRACTOR SHALL REMOVE ALL STICKS AND ROCKS EXCEEDING 3" IN ANY DIMENSION AT THE TIME OF FINAL TOPSOIL PLACEMENT AND/OR AFTER LOOSENING THE SOIL PRIOR TO SEEDING OR BOTH.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PLAN WAS PREPARED BY ME OR UNDER MY DIRECT SUPERVISION AND THAT I AM A DULLY LICENSED PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER UNDER THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA.

TYPE NAME



CITY OF DULUTH ENGINEERING DIVISION 411 W. 1ST ST. STE. 211 DULUTH, MN 55802

Brighton Beach Road STATE AID PROJECT NO .:

DRAWN BY: 1940_TTB - SOILS EW BALANCE SHEET NO. ---- OF

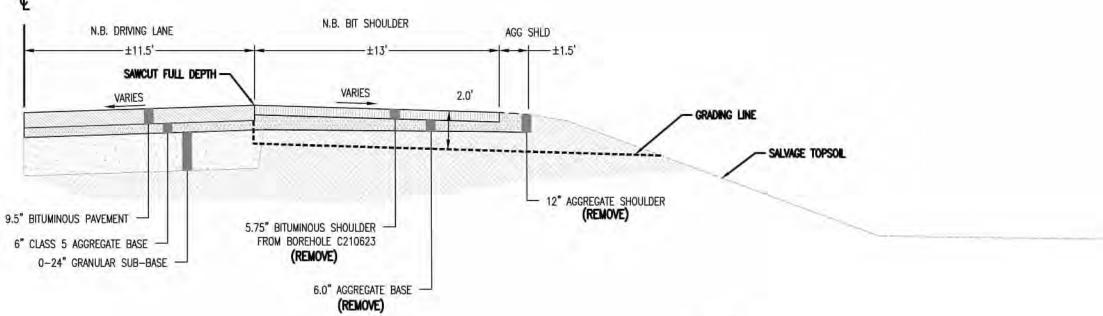
LIC. NO: ####

CITY PROJECT NO .: 1908

118-147-019

SIGNATURE:

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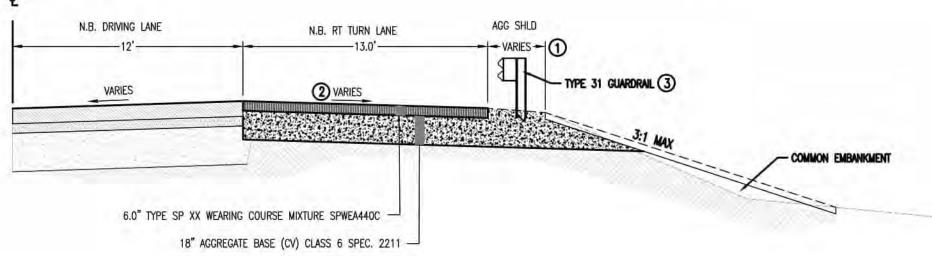


NOTES:

T.H. 61 INPLACE CROSS-SLOPES AND LANE WIDTHS WERE DERIVED FROM FIELD SURVEY DATA. COLLECTED FALL 2018

1) IN AREAS WITHOUT GUARDRAIL THE AGGREGATE SHOULDER WIDTH SHALL BE 1.5'.

PROPOSED RT TURN LANE NB T.H. 61 APPLIES: STA. 114+43.5 TO 117+25.0



I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PLAN WAS PREPARED BY ME OR UNDER MY DIRECT SUPERVISION AND THAT I AM A DULY LICENSED PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER UNDER THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA.

PATRICK F. LOOMIS TYPE NAME

DATE: 03/25/2022 LIC. NO: 49099

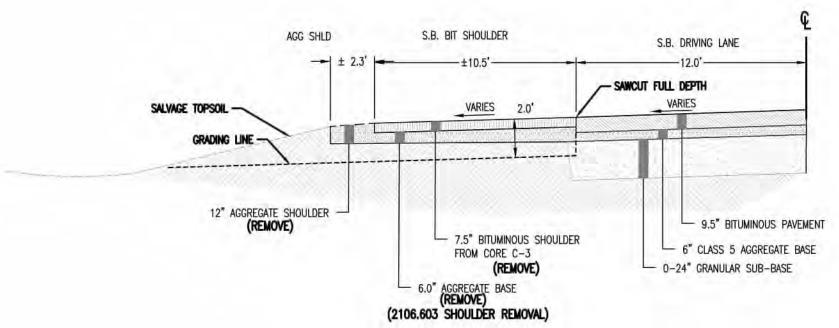
CITY OF DULUTH ENGINEERING DIVISION 411 W. 1ST ST. STE. 211 DULUTH, MN 55802

DRAWN BY: DJK BRIGHTON BEACH ROAD TH61 BYPASS TYPICAL SECTIONS CITY PROJECT NO.: 1490 SHEET NO. 30 STATE AID PROJECT NO.: 118-600-002

OF XXX

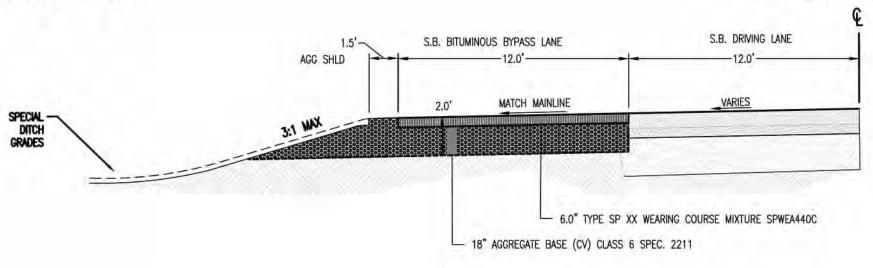
SIGNATURE:

INPLACE SB T.H. 61 APPLIES: STA. 114+90.0 TO 118+73.0



NOTES: T.H. 61 INPLACE CROSS-SLOPES AND LANE WIDTHS WERE DERIVED FROM FIELD SURVEY DATA. COLLECTED FALL 2018

PROPOSED BYPASS LANE SB T.H. 61 APPLIES: STA. 114+90.0 TO 118+73.0



I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PLAM WAS PREPARED BY ME OR UNDER MY DIRECT SUPERVISION AND THAT I AM A DULY LICENSED PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER UNDER THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA.

PATRICK F. LOOMIS TYPE NAME

DATE: 03/25/2022 LIC. NO: 49099

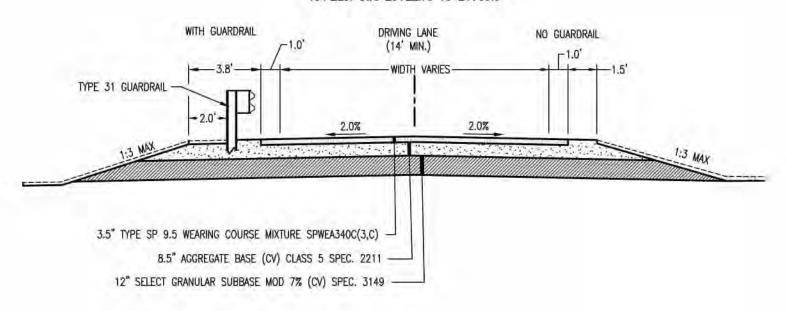
CITY OF DULUTH ENGINEERING DIVISION 411 W. 1ST ST. STE. 211 DULUTH, MN 55802

DRAWN BY: DJK BRIGHTON BEACH ROAD TH61 BYPASS TYPICAL SECTIONS CITY PROJECT NO.: 1490 STATE AID PROJECT NO.: 118-600-002 SHEET NO. 31

OF XXX

SIGNATURE:

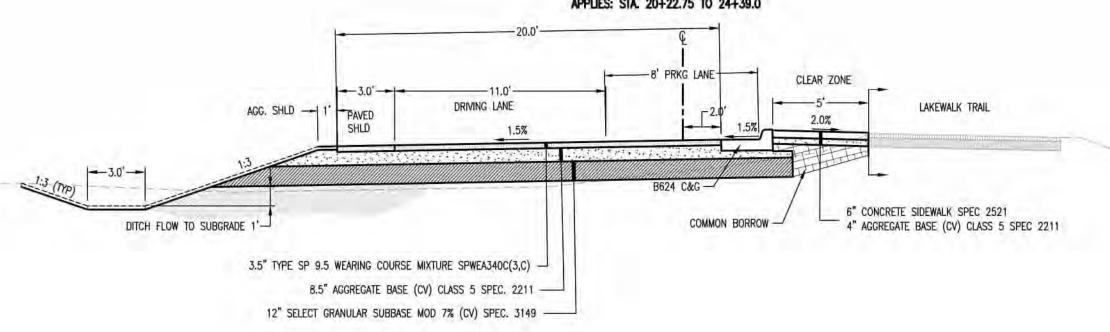
TYPICAL SECTION PARK ENTRANCE APPLIES: STA. 20+22.75 TO 24+39.0



TYPICAL SECTION PARK ROAD w/ PARKING

APPLIES: STA. 20+22.75 TO 24+39.0

CITY PROJECT NO.: 1490



I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PLAM WAS PREPARED BY ME OR UNDER MY DIRECT SUPERVISION AND THAT I AM A DULY LICENSED PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER UNDER THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA.

DATE: 03/25/2022

LIC. NO: 49099

PATRICK F. LOOMIS

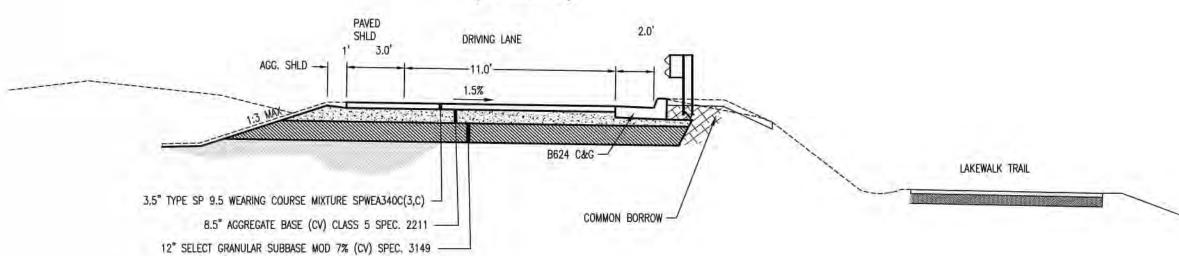
TYPE NAME

CITY OF DULUTH
ENGINEERING DIMSION
411 W. 1ST ST. STE. 211
DULUTH, MN 55802

DRAWN BY: DJK BRIGHTON BEACH ROAD STATE AID PROJECT NO.: 118-600-002

TYPICAL SECTIONS SHEET NO. 32 OF XXX

(EXIT TRANSITION)



I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PLAN WAS PREPARED BY ME OR UNDER MY DIRECT SUPERVISION AND THAT I AM A DULY LICENSED PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER UNDER THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA.

SIGNATURE:

DATE: 03/25/2022 LIC. NO: 49099

PATRICK F. LOOMIS
TYPE NAME

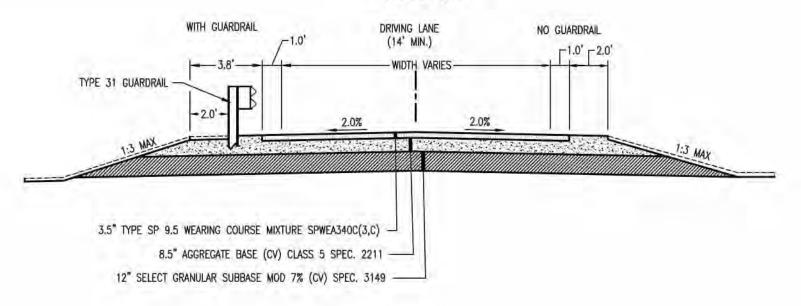
CITY OF DULUTH
ENGINEERING DIVISION
411 W. 1ST ST. STE. 211
DULUTH, MN 55802

CITY PROJECT NO.: 1490

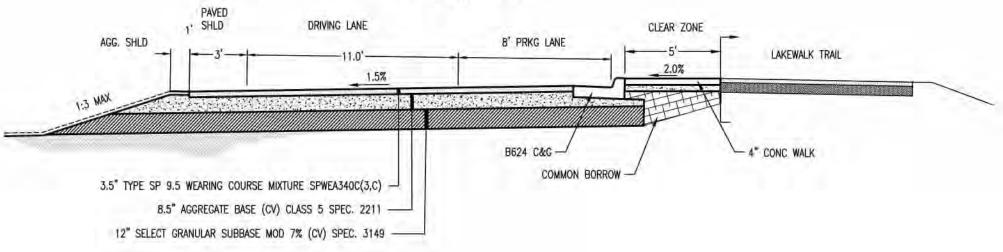
BRIGHTON BEACH ROAD STATE AID PROJECT NO.: 118-600-002 DRAWN BY: DJK TYPICAL SECTIONS SHEET NO. 33 OF XXX

SIGNATURE:

TYPICAL SECTION PARK ENTRANCE



TYPICAL SECTION PARK ROAD w/ PARKING



I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PLAN WAS PREPARED BY ME OR UNDER MY DIRECT SUPERVISION AND THAT I AM A DULY LICENSED PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER UNDER THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA.

DATE: 03/25/2022

LIC. NO: 49099

PATRICK F. LOOMIS
TYPE NAME

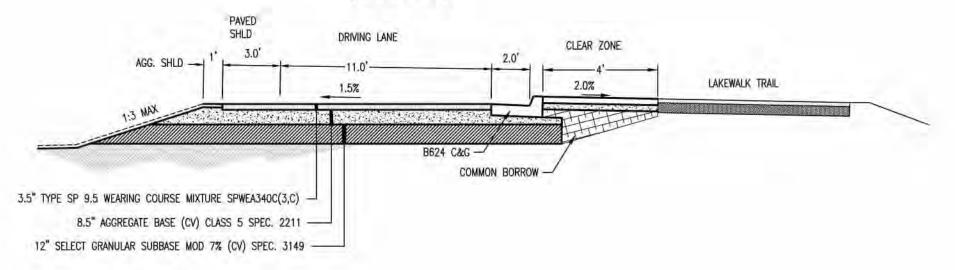
CITY OF DULUTH ENGINEERING DIVISION 411 W. 1ST ST. STE. 211 DULUTH, MN 55802

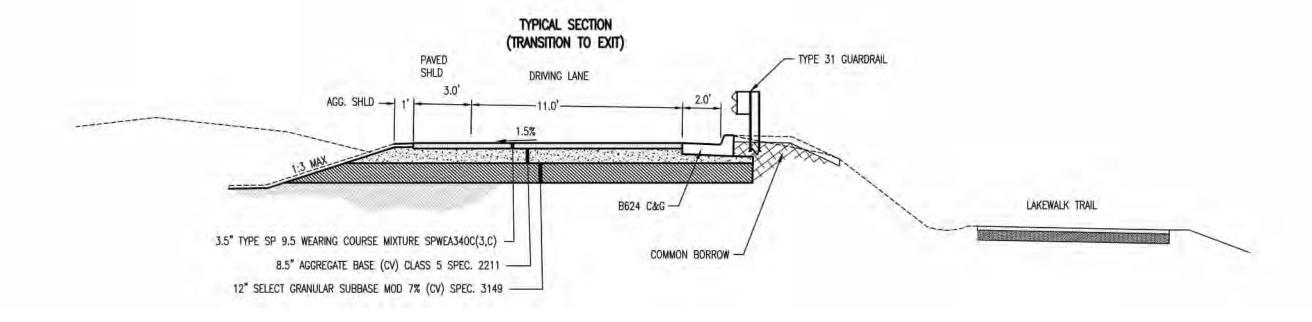
DRAWN BY: DJK BRIGHTON BEACH ROAD TYPICAL SECTIONS

STATE AID PROJECT NO.: 118-600-002 SHEET NO. 34 CITY PROJECT NO.: 1490 OF XXX

SIGNATURE:

TYPICAL SECTION (REDUCED WIDTH)





HEREBY CERTIFY THAT	THIS PLAN WAS PREP	ARED BY ME O	IR UNDER MY DIRE	ECT SUPERVISION AND THAT	I AM A DULY LICENSED
professional engineer	UNDER THE LAWS O	THE STATE OF	f MINNESOTA.		

PATRICK F. LOOMIS LI

DATE: <u>03/25/2022</u> LIC. NO: <u>49099</u> DULUTH

CITY OF DULUTH ENGINEERING DIVISION 411 W. 1ST ST. STE. 211 DULUTH, MN 55802

DDIC	DRAWN BY: DJK					
BRIG	TYPICAL SECTIONS					
CITY PROJECT NO.: 1490	STATE AID PROJECT NO.: 118-600-002	SHEET NO.	35	OF	XXX	

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PLAN WAS PREPARED BY ME OR UNDER MY DIRECT SUPERVISION AND THAT I AM A DULY LICENSED PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER UNDER THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA.

DATE: 03/25/2022

CITY OF DULUTH ENGINEERING DIMISION 411 W. 1ST ST. STE. 211 DULUTH, MN 55802

CITY PROJECT NO.: 1490

DRAWN BY: DJK BRIGHTON BEACH ROAD STATE AID PROJECT NO.: 118-600-002

TYPICAL SECTIONS SHEET NO. 36 OF XXX

SIGNATURE:

PATRICK F. LOOMIS
TYPE NAME

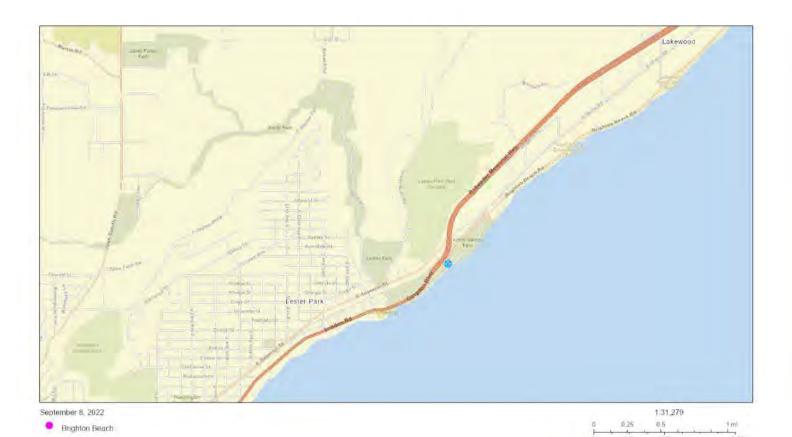
LIC. NO: 49099

APPENDIX B

NEPAssist Report

NEPAssist Report

Brighton Beach



Elici, HERE, Gavrini, SateGraph, Caclectnologies, Inc. METINASA, USGS, EPA, IPS, US Centilia, Buesau, USGA

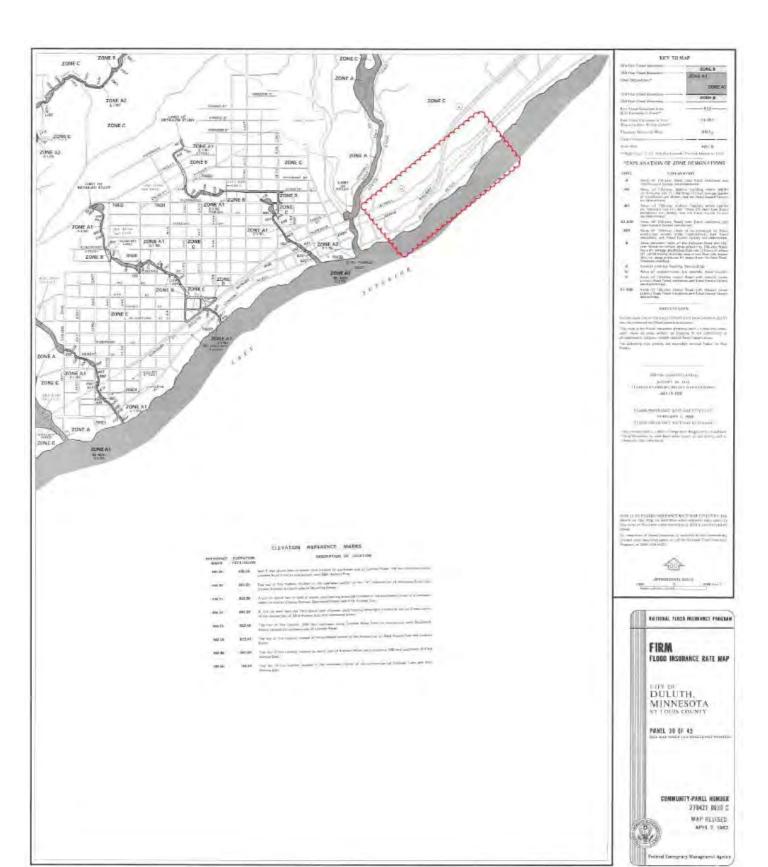
oject Location	46.841571,- 91.996445
Within 1 mile of an Ozone 8-hr (1997 standard) Non-Attainment/Maintenance Area?	no
Within 1 mile of an Ozone 8-hr (2008 standard) Non-Attainment/Maintenance Area?	no
Within 1 mile of a Lead (2008 standard) Non-Attainment/Maintenance Area?	no
Within 1 mile of a SO2 1-hr (2010 standard) Non-Attainment/Maintenance Area?	no
Within 1 mile of a PM2.5 24hr (2006 standard) Non-Attainment/Maintenance Area?	no
Within 1 mile of a PM2.5 Annual (1997 standard) Non-Attainment/Maintenance Area?	no
Within 1 mile of a PM2.5 Annual (2012 standard) Non-Attainment/Maintenance Area?	no
Within 1 mile of a PM10 (1987 standard) Non-Attainment/Maintenance Area?	no
Within 1 mile of a Federal Land?	no
Within 1 mile of an impaired stream?	yes
Within 1 mile of an impaired waterbody?	yes
Within 1 mile of a waterbody?	yes
Within 1 mile of a stream?	yes
Within 1 mile of an NWI wetland?	Available Online
Within 1 mile of a Brownfields site?	no
Within 1 mile of a Superfund site?	no
Within 1 mile of a Toxic Release Inventory (TRI) site?	no
Within 1 mile of a water discharger (NPDES)?	yes
Within 1 mile of a hazardous waste (RCRA) facility?	yes
Within 1 mile of an air emission facility?	no

Within 1 mile of a school?	yes
Within 1 mile of an airport?	no
Within 1 mile of a hospital?	no
Within 1 mile of a designated sole source aquifer?	no
Within 1 mile of a historic property on the National Register of Historic Places?	yes
Within 1 mile of a Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) site?	no
Within 1 mile of a Land Cession Boundary?	yes
Within 1 mile of a tribal area (lower 48 states)?	no
Within 1 mile of the service area of a mitigation or conservation bank?	yes
Within 1 mile of the service area of an In-Lieu-Fee Program?	no

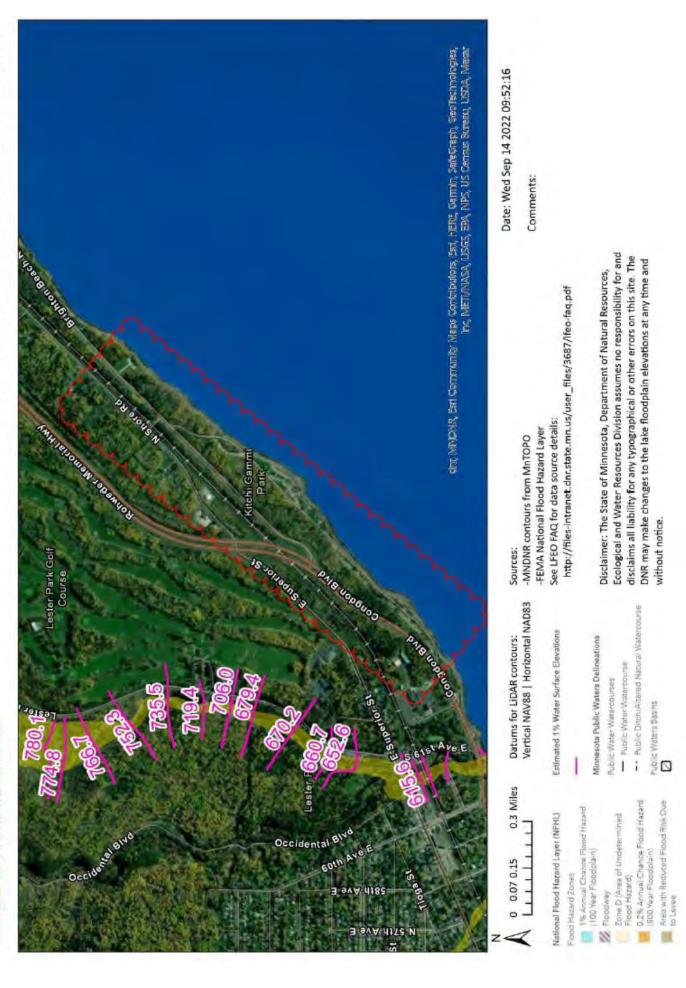
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APPENDIX C

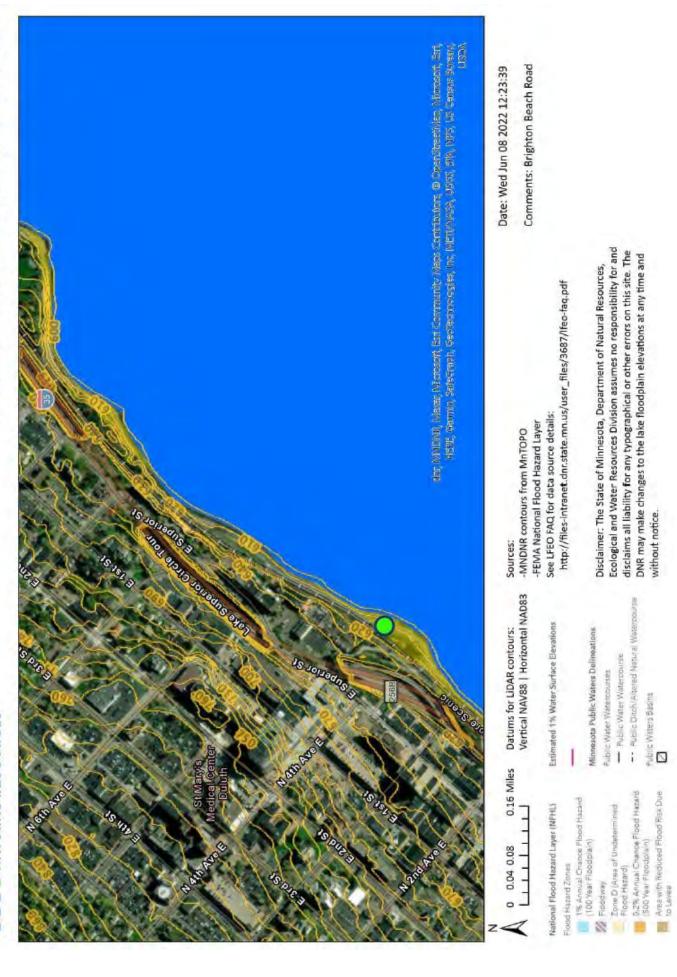
Water Resources



Lake & Flood Elevations Online



Lake & Flood Elevations Online



WETLAND ASSESSMENT & TWO PART FINDING

County: St. Louis County

Watershed: Lake Superior - South

State Aid Manual Chapter 5.1, VI.J.

WETLAND ASSESSMENT

		WET	LAND ASS	ESSMENT				
	ID #1	ID #2	ID #3	ID #4	ID #5	ID #6	ID #7	ID #8
Classification (Type of wetland)	Type 2 & 7 (fringe)	Туре 6	Type 7	Type 7	Type 7	Type 6	Type 2 (ditch)	Type 7
Approx. Basin Size, acres	1,696 sf	404 sf	4,920 sf	7,413 sf	22,186 sf	22,732 sf	1,693 sf	9,080 sf
Anticipated Encroachment Size, acres	980 sf	228 sf	1,187 sf	2,104 sf	905 sf	1,342 sf	684 sf	348 sf
Type of Impact: fill, excavation, drain	Fill	Fill	Fill	Fill	Fill	Fill	Fill	Fill
% Encroachment to Basin Size	57.0%	56.0%	24.0%	28.0	0.4%	0.6%	4.0%	0.4%
Protected wetland? Y/N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
Connection to other wetlands? Y/N	Υ	Y	N	Υ	Y	Υ	Y	N
Impacts to public water supply? Y/N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
Water Quality impacts?recharge/discharge (Y)water pollution (N)flooding (Y)sedimentation (Y)erosion (N)	Minimal	Minimal	Minimal	Minimal	Minimal	Minimal	Minimal	Minimal
Impacts to fish/wildlife & habitat?	Minimal	Minimal	Minimal	Minimal	Minimal	Minimal	Minimal	Minimal
Impacts to recreational, cultural, or scientific uses?	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N

AVOIDANCE ALTERNATIVES

1. No Build Alternative: The only avoidance alternative for no impacts would be a "no build" option. Brighton Beach is a heavily used park and completing the separated trail through the park to complete the Lakewalk Trail is high priority for the City. The new trail will separate vehicles from pedestrians and bikers through the park and keep bikers off Highway 61. The existing road is in poor condition, constructed too close to the lake and damaged by storm events almost annually. The new trail will use as much of the existing road corridor as possible to minimize impacts to wetlands and other wooded areas. Because of these conditions, the "no build" alternative did not meet the project's purpose or need.

- 2. Alternative #1: The first route looked at was an inland trail alignment that kept the trail corridor north of the existing road into the wooded hillside. The majority of wetland bodies that exist on site consist of narrow riverine channel ways that drain from Highway 61 and Congdon Boulevard toward Lake Superior to the south. With this alternative trail alignment, wetland impacts increased. The trail crossed the same number of channels but since the route was a little flatter this caused the wetland impact areas to be wider. In addition, this alternative does not meet one of the project goals of minimizing mature vegetation removal between the existing roadway and Trunk Highway 61 Expressway.
- Alternative #2: The selected trail alignment was chosen because it utilizes as much of the
 existing road corridor as possible, while also allowing for minimal tree, wildlife, and habitat
 disturbances. In addition, it disturbs less wetlands than Alternative #1. Because of these
 reasons, Alternative #2 is the preferred option.

	AVOIDAN	CE ALTERNATIVES					
	Anticipat	Anticipated Encroachment per Alternative, acres					
	No Build Alternative	Alternative #1	Alternative #2 (preferred)				
Wetland ID #1	0	980 sf	980 sf				
Wetland ID #2	0	228 sf	228 sf				
Wetland ID #3	0	1,872 sf	1,187 sf				
Wetland ID #4	0	2,104 sf	2,104 sf				
Wetland ID #5	0	905 sf	905 sf				
Wetland ID #6	0	2,635 sf	1,342 sf				
Wetland ID #7	0	705 sf	684 sf				
Wetland ID #7B	0	1,231 sf	0				
Wetland ID #8	0	2,344 sf	348 sf				
Total, acres	0 square ft (0 acres)	13,004 square feet (0.299 acres)	7,778 square feet (0.179 acres)				

MINIMIZATION MEASURES

Wetland impacts were minimized to the best extent practical, and include alignment shifts to cross at narrow areas, limiting the overall construction limits and providing steep side slopes at the wetland crossings. Silt fence and other erosion control measures will also be placed along the toe of slopes to prevent sedimentation entering adjacent wetlands and other downstream areas. Prior to construction, the limits of the wetlands will be staked and the contractor will be instructed to not to disturb areas beyond the planned construction limits.

WETLAND IMPACTS

	An	ticipat	ed Encre	achme	ent per	Туре	of Wetla	and, acre	es	
-	1	1L	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
ID #1	2 =		735 sf					245 sf		
ID #2							228 sf			
ID #3								1,187 sf		
ID #4								2,104 sf		
ID #5		7 7						905 sf		
ID #6							1,342 sf			
ID #7			684 sf							
ID #8								348 sf		
Total			1,419 sf				1,570 sf	4,789 sf		7,778 square feet (0.179 acres)

COMPENSATION (REPLACEMENT/ENHANCEMENTS)

The wetlands located on this site are administered by the Wetland Conservation Act (WCA) and are regulated by the Local Government Unit (LGU). The LGU for this site is the City of Duluth Planning Department. The US Army Corps of Engineers (COE), the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR), and the Minnesota Board of Soil and Water Resources (BWSR) may also have jurisdiction over these wetlands.

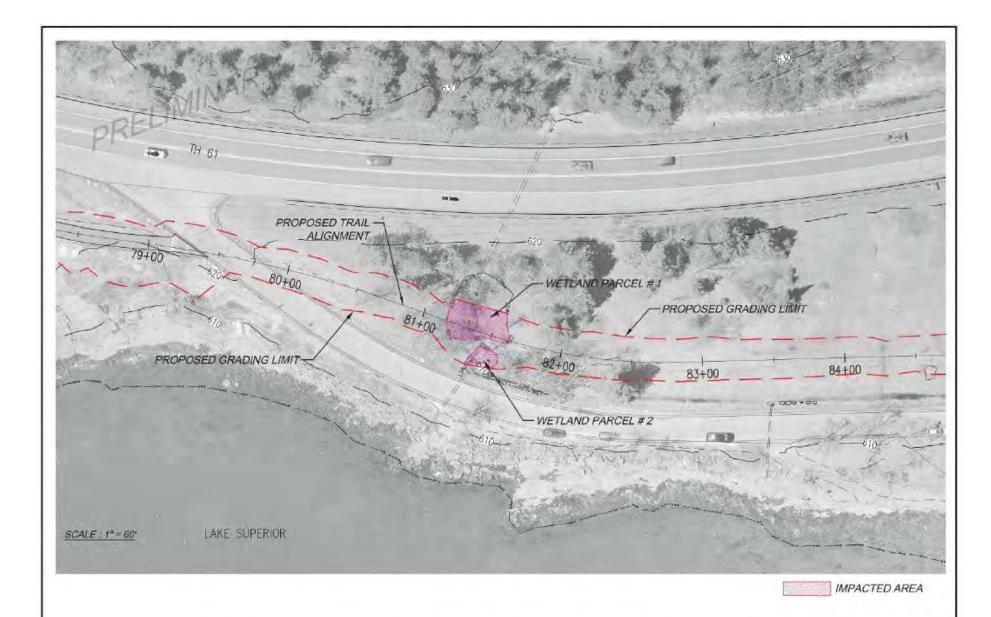
This project will impact approximately 7,778 SF (0.179 Ac) of onsite wetlands. A local, state, and federal joint permit application for water and wetland projects will be submitted to the regulatory agencies having jurisdiction for approval of these wetland impacts. Because the wetland impacts are to Types 2, 6 & 7, and are under 10,000 SF, Part 2: Replacement Plan of the permit application will not be required for the project.

CONCLUSION

Based upon the above factors and considerations, it is determined that there is no practicable alternative to the proposed construction in the identified wetlands, and the proposed action includes all practicable measures to minimize harm to the wetlands.

ATTACHMENTS

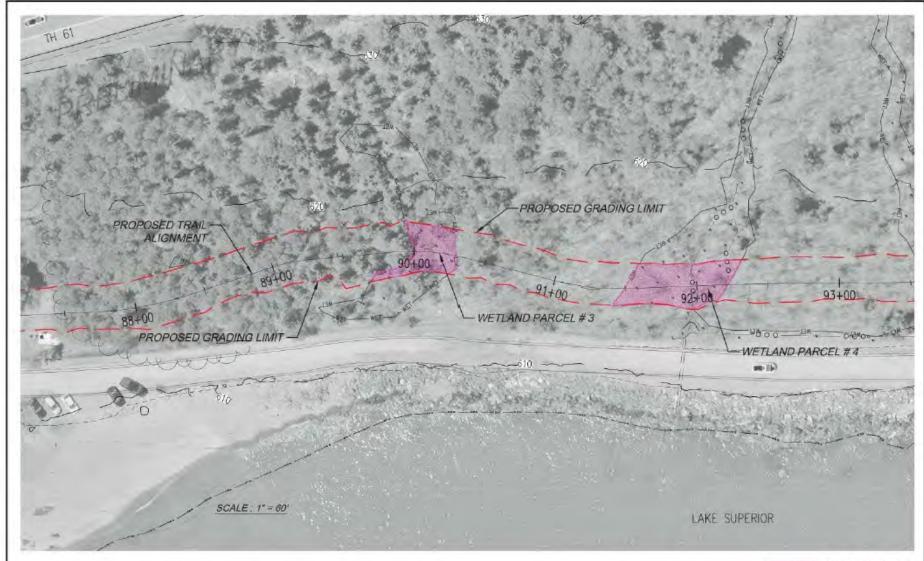
LAKEWALK TRAIL EXTENSION – (BRIGHTON BEACH) PRELIMINARY WETLAND IMPACTS PARCELS 1-8 EXHIBITS





LAKEWALK TRAIL EXTENSION - (BRIGHTON BEACH)
PRELIMINARY WETLAND IMPACTS
PARCELS (1 & 2)

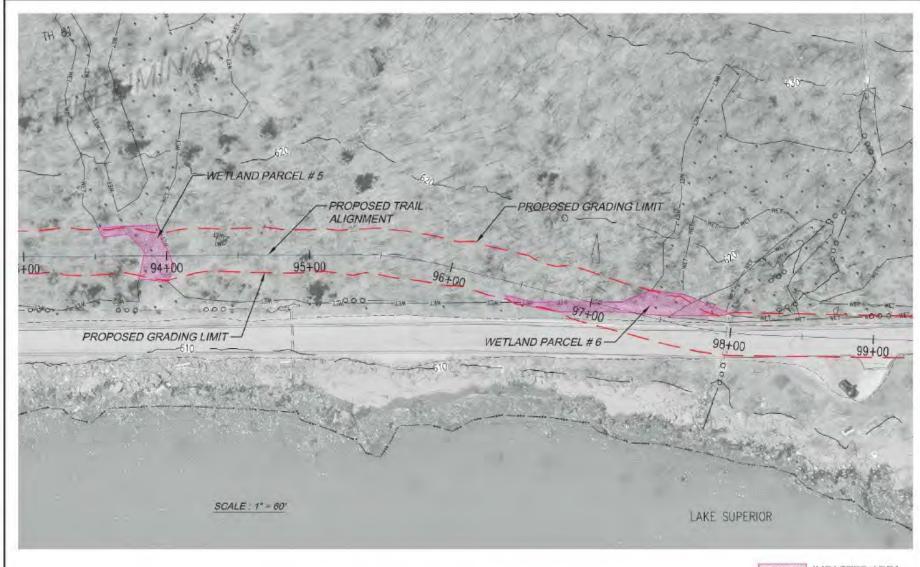






LAKEWALK TRAIL EXTENSION - (BRIGHTON BEACH)
PRELIMINARY WETLAND IMPACTS
PARCELS (3 & 4)

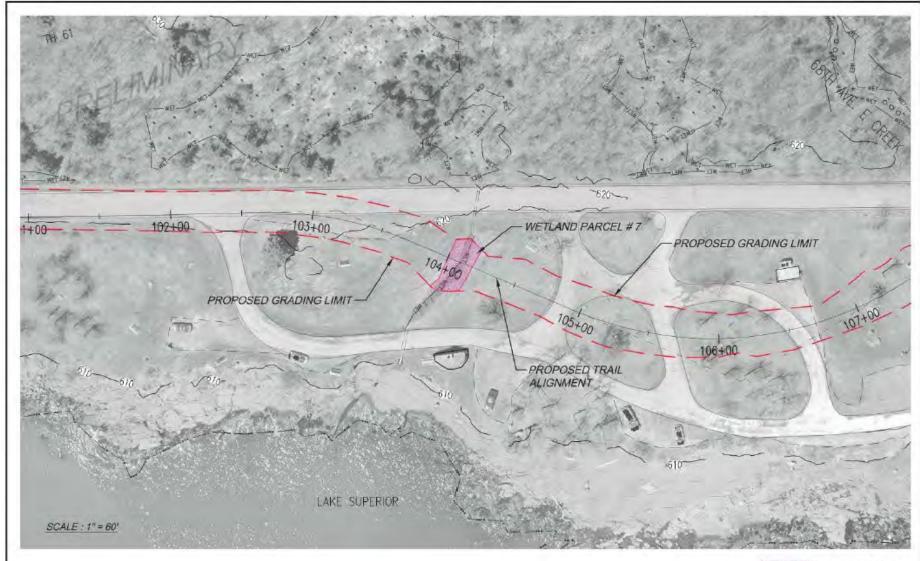






LAKEWALK TRAIL EXTENSION - (BRIGHTON BEACH)
PRELIMINARY WETLAND IMPACTS
PARCELS (5 & 6)

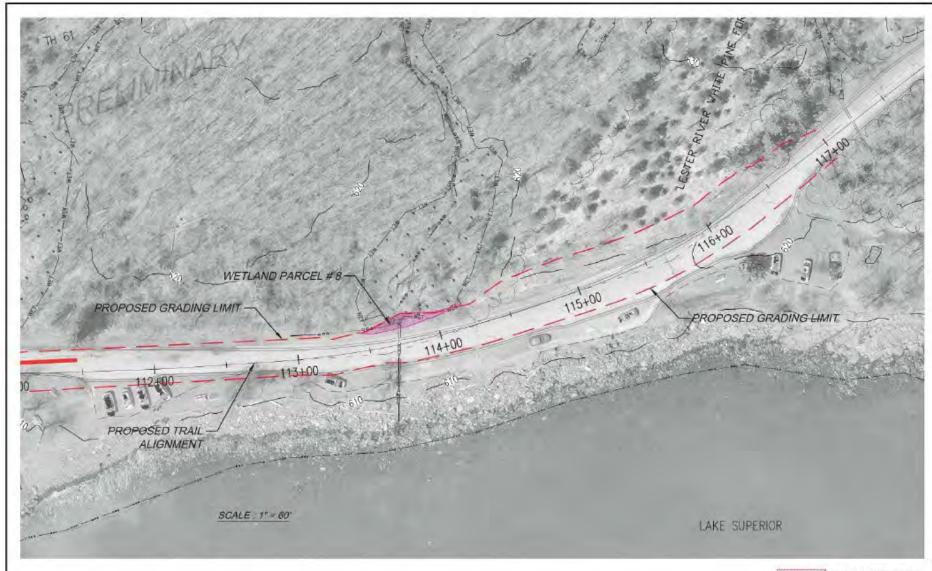






LAKEWALK TRAIL EXTENSION - (BRIGHTON BEACH)
PRELIMINARY WETLAND IMPACTS
PARCEL (7)







LAKEWALK TRAIL EXTENSION - (BRIGHTON BEACH)
PRELIMINARY WETLAND IMPACTS
PARCEL (8)



From: FEMA-R5-Environmental
To: cliff.bentley@state.mn.us

Subject: FEMA CZMA Consistency Determination - Brighton Beach Road - St. Louis County, Duluth, MN

Date: Thursday, June 30, 2022 1:10:00 PM

Attachments: image001.png

CZMA Consistency Determination Brighton Beach Duluth.pdf

Good Afternoon,

Please see the attached CZMA Consistency Determination for the above mentioned project.

Thank you,

Environmental Planning and Historic Preservation | Mitigation Division | FEMA Region 5 Office: 312-408-5549 | Email: fema-r5-environmental@fema.dhs.gov

Federal Emergency Management Agency

fema.gov





June 30, 2022

—CZMA Consistency Determination—
Brighton Beach Road Relocation
Kitchi Gammi Park
City of Duluth, St. Louis County, MN
PN 95035 PW 0008/ DR 4414
46.838049, -92.001752 to 46.846512, -91.990690/ S4 T50N R13W

Description of Undertaking and Source of Federal Funding: The Proposed Action includes the relocation of approximately 3,250 linear feet of the existing 4,400 feet of Brighton Beach Road that provides access to Lake Superior and Brighton Beach (Kitchi Gammi) Park. The road construction will relocate a severely degraded roadway above the wave impact line. The relocation of the roadway will provide an average of approximately 160 feet of separation from the edge of the shoreline, and it is anticipated that this separation will be adequate to protect the roadway from shoreline encroachment for at least twenty years. In addition, between three and eight feet of vertical separation will be maintained from the MNDNR ten-foot wave zone of the shoreline. As such, no stabilization work, seeding or other stabilization efforts on the eroded area of the shoreline are proposed with this project.

The existing entrances on the southwest and northwest sides of the park will also be relocated further north and south along Highway 61, respectively, due to the reduced road length. To improve safety, the entire road will be converted to a one-way with traffic exiting the park on the northeast end to Scenic North Shore Drive (Congdon Boulevard), eliminating traffic entering Highway 61 from the south end of the park. Parallel parking will be placed on one side of the road as well as curb and gutter to provide additional access to the park and limit any automobile impacts to the road surface. The road configuration will also separate pedestrian and non-motorized vehicle users on the shared-use path with its associated crossings from automobile traffic on the road. The reconfigured road will provide more accessible and safer means to visit the park and its associated attractions.

The relocated roadway would be located on property already owned by the City of Duluth, and no additional parcels would need to be acquired.

The scope of work for the roadway relocation includes:

 Relocate Brighton Beach Road an average of 120 feet northwesterly and inland from the wave impact line (approximately 160 feet from the shoreline itself). The road will be designed with 11-foot minimum driving lanes with 2-foot minimum shoulders per State Aid Standards.

Brighton Beach Road Relocation Duluth, St. Louis County DR-4414-MN, PN 95035, PW 8 June 30, 2022 Page 2

- Relocate the park road entrance from Minnesota Trunk Highway
 61 approximately 450 feet to the north.
- Relocate park road outlet to Congdon Boulevard approximately 750 feet to the south.
- Grade the roadbed to elevate the road up to eight additional feet with shoulders matching the slope of the surrounding area. The raised roadbed would be approximately 22 feet wide and surfaced with aggregate.
- Install 20-foot-wide and four-inch-deep asphalt surfacing over the prepared aggregate roadbed.
- Construct curb and gutter separator at portions of the roadway which run adjacent to the existing multi-use trail.
- Grade as required to construct the roadway and associated road ditches, importing or exporting fill as needed.
- Remove existing asphalt driving surface and establish turf in the existing roadway areas.
- Follow best management practices (BMPs) for erosion and sedimentation control during construction, in accordance with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) construction stormwater National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) general permit.
- Reestablish appropriate vegetation adjacent to the roadway to provide erosion prevention, in accordance with the construction stormwater NPDES permit.

As the locations listed above lie within the Coastal Zone Management Area and the proposed SOW is not strictly repairing to pre-disaster condition, this package is being submitted for review.

State Permitting Requirements:

As a condition of the grant award, the subrecipient will be responsible for any USACE or state permitting that may be required for this project. FEMA anticipates that state permitting will be required.

Steps Taken to Identify Project's Consistency with the State Coastal Management Program: A review of the scope of the captioned project makes clear that the federally-funded action is consistent to the maximum extent practicable with federally approved enforceable policies of Minnesota's Coastal Management Program relating to private and public coastal uses and resources.

FEMA's Finding:

FEMA finds this project, if completed as proposed, will be consistent with Minnesota's approved coastal management program and will be conducted in a manner consistent with such program.

Brighton Beach Road Relocation Duluth, St. Louis County DR-4414-MN, PN 95035, PW 8 June 30, 2022 Page 3

Minnesota Department of Please direct the response regarding this consistency review to:

Natural Resources

Duane Castaldi, Regional Environmental Officer Response:

FEMA Region 5

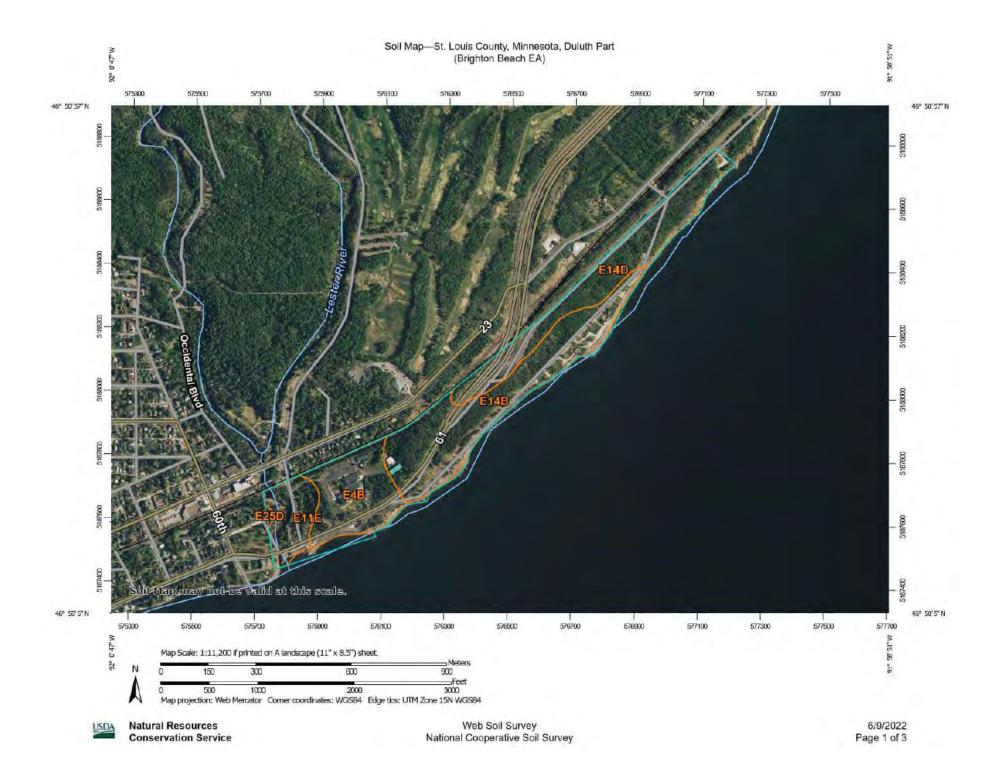
fema-r5-environmental@fema.dhs.gov

Undertaking location marked in red. USGS Map "Lakewood, MN", 1:24000, enlarged to show detail



APPENDIX D

Geology, Soils, and Topography



MAP LEGEND

Area of Interest (AOI) Spoil Area Area of Interest (AOI) Stony Spot Solls Very Stony Spot Soil Map Unit Polygons Wet Spot Soil Map Unit Lines Other Soil Map Unit Points Special Line Features Special Point Features Water Features Blowout Streams and Canals Borrow Pit Transportation Clay Spot 冕 Rails. Closed Depression Interstate Highways Gravel Pit US Routes Gravelly Spot Major Roads Landfill o Local Roads Lava Flow Background Aerial Photography Marsh or swamp Mine or Querry Miscellaneous Water Perennial Water Rock Outerop Saline Spot Sandy Spot Severely Eraded Spot Sinkhole Slide or Slip Sodic Spal

MAP INFORMATION

The soil surveys that comprise your AOI were mapped at 1:24,000.

Warning: Soil Map may not be valid at this scale.

Enlargement of maps beyond the scale of mapping can cause misunderstanding of the detail of mapping and accuracy of soil line placement. The maps do not show the small areas of contrasting soils that could have been shown at a more detailed scale.

Please rely on the bar scale on each map sheet for map measurements.

Source of Map. Natural Resources Conservation Service Web Soil Survey URL:

Coordinate System: Web Mercator (EPSG:3857)

Maps from the Web Soil Survey are based on the Web Mercator projection, which preserves direction and shape but distorts distance and area. A projection that preserves area, such as the Albers equal-area conic projection, should be used if more accurate calculations of distance or area are required.

This product is generated from the USDA-NRCS certified data as of the version date(s) listed below.

Soil Survey Area: St. Louis County, Minnesota, Duluth Part Survey Area Data: Version 19, Sep 10, 2021

Soil map units are labeled (as space allows) for map scales 1:50,000 or larger.

Date(s) aerial images were photographed: May 18, 2021—Jul 8, 2021

The orthophoto or other base map on which the soil lines were compiled and digitized probably differs from the background imagery displayed on these maps. As a result, some minor shifting of map unit boundaries may be evident.

Map Unit Legend

Map Unit Symbol	Map Unit Name	Acres in AOI	Percent of AOI
E4B	Cuttre-Eutrudepts, complex, 0 to 8 percent slopes	16.5	19,6%
EHE	Miskoaki-Rock outcrop complex, 18 to 70 percent slopes		10,3%
E14B	Barto, stony-Greysolon-Rock outcrop complex, 0 to 8 percent slopes	32 0	38.4%
E14D	Barto, stony-Greysolon-Rock outcrop complex, 0 to 18 percent slopes	23.1	27.5%
E25D	Urban land-Amnicon-Rock outcrop complex, 0 to 18 percent slopes	0.3	0.3%
Totals for Area of Interest		83.2	100.0%

APPENDIX E

Air Quality



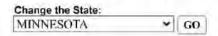
You are here: EPA Home > Green Book > National Area and County-Level Multi-Pollutant Information > Minnesota Nonattainment/Maintenance Status for Each County by Year for All Criteria Pollutants

Minnesota Nonattainment/Maintenance Status for Each County by Year for All Criteria Pollutants

Data is current as of August 31, 2022

Listed by County, NAAQS. Area. The 8-hour Ozone (1997) standard was revoked on April 6, 2015 and the 1-hour Ozone (1979) standard was revoked on June 15, 2005.

* The 1997 Primary Annual PM-2.5 NAAQS (level of 15 μg/m³) is revoked in attainment and maintenance areas for that NAAQS. For additional information see the PM-2.5 NAAQS SIP Requirements Final Rule, effective October 24, 2016. (81 FR 58009)



important f	Votes			Download	National Datas	set dbf xls	Data	a dictionary	(PDF)
County		Area Name		Nonattainment in Year	Redesignation to Maintenance	Classification	Whole or/ Part County	Population (2010)	State/ County FIPS Codes
MINNES	OTA		1						
Anoka County	Carbon Monoxide (1971)	Minneapolis- St. Paul, MN	92939495969798		11/29/1999	Moderate <= 12.7ppm	Whole	330,844	27/003
Anoka County	Sulfur Dioxide (1971)	Minneapolis- St. Paul, MN	9293949596		07/14/1997		Whole	330,844	27/003
Carver County	Canlaga	Minneapolis- St. Paul, MN	92939495969798		11/29/1999	Moderate <= 12.7ppm	Part	77,969	27/019
Carver County	Sulfur Dioxide (1971)	Minneapolis- St. Paul, MN	9293949596		07/14/1997		Whole	91,042	27/019
Dakota County	Contrar	Minneapolis- St. Paul, MN	92939495969798		11/29/1999	Moderate <= 12.7ppm	Part	380,675	27/037
Dakota County		Dakota County, MN	9293		12/19/1994		Part	318,833	27/037
Dakota County	Lead (2008)	Eagan, MN		10111213141516171819202122	11		Part	8,997	27/037
Dakota County	Sulfur Dioxide (1971)	Minneapolis- St. Paul, MN	9293949596		07/14/1997		Whole	398,552	27/037
Hennepin County	Carbon Monoxide (1971)	Minneapolis- St. Paul, MN	92939495969798		11/29/1999	Moderate <= 12.7ppm	Whole	1,152,425	27/053

NAAQS	Area Name	Nonattainment in Year			or/ Part	Population (2010)	State/ County FIPS Codes
Sulfur Dioxide (1971)	Minneapolis- St. Paul, MN	9293949596	07/14/1997		Whole	1,152,425	27/053
	Olmsted County, MN	929394	07/31/1995	Moderate	Part	96,199	27/109
Colfin	Ulmsied		05/08/2001		Part	106,769	27/109
112111			11/29/1999	Moderate <= 12.7ppm	Whole	508,640	27/123
PM-10 (1987)	Ramsey County, MN	92939495969798990001	09/24/2002	Moderate	Part	284,783	27/123
Sulfine			07/14/1997		Whole	508,640	27/123
Carbon Monoxide (1971)	Minneapolis- St. Paul, MN	92939495969798	11/29/1999	Moderate <= 12.7ppm	Part	119,772	27/139
Sulfur Dioxide (1971)	Minneapolis- St. Paul, MN	9293949596	07/14/1997		Whole	129,928	27/139
Carbon Monoxide (1971)	Duluth, MN	9293	06/13/1994	Moderate <= 12.7ppm	Part	85,857	27/137
Carbon Monoxide (1971)	Minneapolis- St. Paul, MN	92939495969798	11/29/1999	Moderate <= 12.7ppm	Part	236,399	27/163
C16	Minneapolis- St. Paul, MN	9293949596	07/14/1997		Whole	238,136	27/163
Carbon Monoxide (1971)	Minneapolis- St. Paul, MN	92939495969798	11/29/1999	Moderate <= 12.7ppm	Part	113,454	27/171
	Sulfur Dioxide (1971) PM-10 (1987) Sulfur Dioxide (1971) Carbon Monoxide	Dioxide (1971) PM-10 Olmsted (1987) County, MN Sulfur Dioxide (1971) Carbon Monoxide (1971) PM-10 Ramsey (1987) County, MN Sulfur Dioxide (1971) PM-10 Ramsey (1987) County, MN Sulfur Dioxide (1971) Carbon Monoxide St. Paul, MN Sulfur Dioxide (1971) Carbon Monoxide Duluth, MN (1971) Carbon Monoxide Duluth, MN (1971) Carbon Monoxide Duluth, MN (1971) Carbon Minneapolis-St. Paul, MN Sulfur Dioxide (1971) Carbon Minneapolis-St. Paul, MN	Sulfur Dioxide (1971) PM-10 Olmsted (2001); City 929394959697989900 of Rochester, MN Carbon Monoxide (1971) PM-10 Ramsey (2939495969798990001 County, MN Curbon Minneapolis-92939495969798990001 Ramsey (1987) Sulfur Dioxide (1971) Carbon Minneapolis-92939495969798 St. Paul, MN Carbon Minneapolis-9293949596 St. Paul, MN Sulfur Dioxide (1971) Carbon Monoxide Duluth, MN 9293 Carbon Monoxide Duluth, MN 9293 Carbon Monoxide Duluth, MN 9293 Carbon Monoxide St. Paul, MN Minneapolis-92939495969798 St. Paul, MN Minneapolis-92939495969798 St. Paul, MN Minneapolis-92939495969798 Minneapolis-92939495969798 Minneapolis-92939495969798 Minneapolis-92939495969798 Minneapolis-92939495969798	NAAQS	Maintenance Maintenance	NAAQS	NAAQS Area Name Nonattainment in Year Nonattainment in Year Nonattainment in Year Namintenance Na

Discover.	Connect.	Ask
		Follo

APPENDIX F
Threatened, Endangered Species, and Migratory Birds



United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Minnesota-Wisconsin Ecological Services Field Office 4101 American Blvd E Bloomington, MN 55425-1665 Phone: (952) 252-0092 Fax: (952) 646-2873

In Reply Refer To: August 03, 2022

Project code: 2022-0070339

Project Name: Brighton Beach Road Relocation

Subject: Verification letter for the 'Brighton Beach Road Relocation' project under the January

5, 2016, Programmatic Biological Opinion on Final 4(d) Rule for the Northern Long-

eared Bat and Activities Excepted from Take Prohibitions.

Dear Karie Roach:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) received on August 03, 2022 your effects determination for the 'Brighton Beach Road Relocation' (the Action) using the northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*) key within the Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) system. This IPaC key assists users in determining whether a Federal action is consistent with the activities analyzed in the Service's January 5, 2016, Programmatic Biological Opinion (PBO). The PBO addresses activities excepted from "take" prohibitions applicable to the northern long-eared bat under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA) (87 Stat.884, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.).

Based upon your IPaC submission, the Action is consistent with activities analyzed in the PBO. The Action may affect the northern long-eared bat; however, any take that may occur as a result of the Action is not prohibited under the ESA Section 4(d) rule adopted for this species at 50 CFR §17.40(o). Unless the Service advises you within 30 days of the date of this letter that your IPaC-assisted determination was incorrect, this letter verifies that the PBO satisfies and concludes your responsibilities for this Action under ESA Section 7(a)(2) with respect to the northern long-eared bat.

Please report to our office any changes to the information about the Action that you submitted in IPaC, the results of any bat surveys conducted in the Action area, and any dead, injured, or sick northern long-eared bats that are found during Action implementation. If the Action is not completed within one year of the date of this letter, you must update and resubmit the information required in the IPaC key.

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This IPaC-assisted determination allows you to rely on the PBO for compliance with ESA Section 7(a)(2) only for the northern long-eared bat. It **does not** apply to the following ESA-protected species that also may occur in the Action area:

- Canada Lynx Lynx canadensis Threatened
- Gray Wolf Canis lupus Threatened
- Monarch Butterfly Danaus plexippus Candidate
- Piping Plover Charadrius melodus Endangered
 - · Red Knot Calidris canutus rufa Threatened

If the Action may affect other federally listed species besides the northern long-eared bat, a proposed species, and/or designated critical habitat, additional consultation between you and this Service office is required. If the Action may disturb bald or golden eagles, additional coordination with the Service under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act is recommended.

[1] Take means to harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, or collect, or to attempt to engage in any such conduct [ESA Section 3(19)].

Action Description

You provided to IPaC the following name and description for the subject Action.

1. Name

Brighton Beach Road Relocation

2. Description

The following description was provided for the project 'Brighton Beach Road Relocation':

The project includes the relocation of approximately 3,250 linear feet of the existing 4,400 feet of Brighton Beach Road that provides access to Lake Superior and Brighton Beach (Kitchi Gammi) Park. The road construction will relocate a severely degraded roadway above the wave impact line. The relocation of the roadway will provide an average of approximately 160 feet of separation from the edge of the shoreline, and it is anticipated that this separation will be adequate to protect the roadway from shoreline encroachment for at least twenty years. In addition, between three and eight feet of vertical separation will be maintained from the MNDNR ten-foot wave zone of the shoreline. As such, no stabilization work, seeding or other stabilization efforts on the eroded area of the shoreline are proposed with this project.

The existing entrances on the southwest and northwest sides of the park will also be relocated further north and south along Highway 61, respectively, due to the reduced road length. To improve safety, the entire road will be converted to a one-way with traffic exiting the park on the northeast end to Scenic North Shore Drive (Congdon Boulevard), eliminating traffic entering Highway 61 from the south end of the park. Parallel parking will be placed on one side of the road as well as curb and gutter to provide additional access to the park and limit any automobile impacts to the road surface. The road configuration will also separate pedestrian and non-motorized vehicle users on the shared-use path with its associated crossings from automobile traffic on the road. The reconfigured road will provide more accessible and safer means to visit the park and its associated attractions. The relocated roadway would be located on property already owned by the City of Duluth, and no additional parcels would need to be acquired.

The scope of work for the roadway relocation includes:

- Relocate Brighton Beach Road an average of 120 feet northwesterly and inland from the wave impact line (approximately 160 feet from the shoreline itself). The road will be designed with 11-foot minimum driving lanes with 2-foot minimum shoulders per State Aid Standards.
- Relocate the park road entrance from Minnesota Trunk Highway 61 approximately 450 feet to the north.
- Relocate park road outlet to Congdon Boulevard approximately 750 feet to the south.
- Grade the roadbed to elevate the road up to eight additional feet with shoulders matching the slope of the surrounding area. The raised roadbed would be approximately 22 feet wide and surfaced with aggregate.

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 Install 20-foot-wide and four-inch-deep asphalt surfacing over the prepared aggregate roadbed.

- Construct curb and gutter separator at portions of the roadway which run adjacent to the existing multi-use trail.
- Grade as required to construct the roadway and associated road ditches, importing or exporting fill as needed.
- Remove existing asphalt driving surface and establish turf in the existing roadway areas.
- Follow best management practices (BMPs) for erosion and sedimentation control during construction, in accordance with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) construction stormwater National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) general permit.
- Reestablish appropriate vegetation adjacent to the roadway to provide erosion prevention, in accordance with the construction stormwater NPDES permit.

Approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: https://www.google.com/maps/@46.8421972,-91.99577524484688,14z



Determination Key Result

This Federal Action may affect the northern long-eared bat in a manner consistent with the description of activities addressed by the Service's PBO dated January 5, 2016. Any taking that may occur incidental to this Action is not prohibited under the final 4(d) rule at 50 CFR §17.40(o). Therefore, the PBO satisfies your responsibilities for this Action under ESA Section 7(a)(2) relative to the northern long-eared bat.

Determination Key Description: Northern Long-eared Bat 4(d) Rule

This key was last updated in IPaC on May 15, 2017. Keys are subject to periodic revision.

This key is intended for actions that may affect the threatened northern long-eared bat.

The purpose of the key for Federal actions is to assist determinations as to whether proposed actions are consistent with those analyzed in the Service's PBO dated January 5, 2016.

Federal actions that may cause prohibited take of northern long-eared bats, affect ESA-listed species other than the northern long-eared bat, or affect any designated critical habitat, require ESA Section 7(a)(2) consultation in addition to the use of this key. Federal actions that may affect species proposed for listing or critical habitat proposed for designation may require a conference under ESA Section 7(a)(4).

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Determination Key Result

This project may affect the threatened Northern long-eared bat; therefore, consultation with the Service pursuant to Section 7(a)(2) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (87 Stat.884, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.) is required. However, based on the information you provided, this project may rely on the Service's January 5, 2016, *Programmatic Biological Opinion on Final 4(d) Rule for the Northern Long-Eared Bat and Activities Excepted from Take Prohibitions* to fulfill its Section 7(a)(2) consultation obligation.

Qualification Interview

Is the action authorized, funded, or being carried out by a Federal agency?

Yes

2. Have you determined that the proposed action will have "no effect" on the northern long-eared bat? (If you are unsure select "No")

No

3. Will your activity purposefully Take northern long-eared bats?

No

4. [Semantic] Is the project action area located wholly outside the White-nose Syndrome Zone?

Automatically answered

No

5. Have you contacted the appropriate agency to determine if your project is near a known hibernaculum or maternity roost tree?

Location information for northern long-eared bat hibernacula is generally kept in state Natural Heritage Inventory databases — the availability of this data varies state-by-state. Many states provide online access to their data, either directly by providing maps or by providing the opportunity to make a data request. In some cases, to protect those resources, access to the information may be limited. A web page with links to state Natural Heritage Inventory databases and other sources of information on the locations of northern long-eared bat roost trees and hibernacula is available at www.fws.gov/media/nleb-roost-tree-and-hibernacula-state-specific-data-links-0.

Yes

6. Will the action affect a cave or mine where northern long-eared bats are known to hibernate (i.e., hibernaculum) or could it alter the entrance or the environment (physical or other alteration) of a hibernaculum?

No

7. Will the action involve Tree Removal?

Yes

8. Will the action only remove hazardous trees for the protection of human life or property? *No*

9. Will the action remove trees within 0.25 miles of a known northern long-eared bat hibernaculum at any time of year?

No

10. Will the action remove a known occupied northern long-eared bat maternity roost tree or any trees within 150 feet of a known occupied maternity roost tree from June 1 through July 31?

No

Project Questionnaire

If the project includes forest conversion, report the appropriate acreages below. Otherwise, type '0' in questions 1-3.

1. Estimated total acres of forest conversion:

0

2. If known, estimated acres of forest conversion from April 1 to October 31

0

3. If known, estimated acres of forest conversion from June 1 to July 31 $\,$

0

If the project includes timber harvest, report the appropriate acreages below. Otherwise, type '0' in questions 4-6.

4. Estimated total acres of timber harvest

0

5. If known, estimated acres of timber harvest from April 1 to October 31

o

6. If known, estimated acres of timber harvest from June 1 to July 31

0

If the project includes prescribed fire, report the appropriate acreages below. Otherwise, type '0' in questions 7-9.

7. Estimated total acres of prescribed fire

0

8. If known, estimated acres of prescribed fire from April 1 to October 31

0

9. If known, estimated acres of prescribed fire from June 1 to July 31

0

If the project includes new wind turbines, report the megawatts of wind capacity below. Otherwise, type '0' in question 10.

10. What is the estimated wind capacity (in megawatts) of the new turbine(s)?

0

IPaC User Contact Information

Agency: Federal Emergency Management Agency

Name: Karie Roach

Address: 536 S Clark Street, 6th Floor

City: Chicago

State: IL Zip: 60605

Email karie.roach@fema.dhs.gov

Phone: 3126188516



United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Minnesota-Wisconsin Ecological Services Field Office 4101 American Blvd E Bloomington, MN 55425-1665 Phone: (952) 252-0092 Fax: (952) 646-2873

In Reply Refer To: August 02, 2022

Project Code: 2022-0070339

Project Name: Brighton Beach Road Relocation

Subject: List of threatened and endangered species that may occur in your proposed project

location or may be affected by your proposed project

To Whom It May Concern:

This response has been generated by the Information, Planning, and Conservation (IPaC) system to provide information on natural resources that could be affected by your project. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) provides this response under the authority of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531-1543), the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (16 U.S.C. 668-668d), the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (16 U.S.C. 703-712), and the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (16 U.S.C. 661 et seq.).

Threatened and Endangered Species

The enclosed species list identifies threatened, endangered, proposed and candidate species, as well as proposed and final designated critical habitat, that may occur within the boundary of your proposed project and may be affected by your proposed project. The species list fulfills the requirement for obtaining a Technical Assistance Letter from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service under section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act (Act) of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

New information based on updated surveys, changes in the abundance and distribution of species, changed habitat conditions, or other factors could change this list. Note that under 50 CFR 402.12(e) of the regulations implementing section 7 of the Act, the accuracy of this species list should be verified after 90 days. The Service recommends that verification be completed by visiting the ECOS IPaC website at regular intervals during project planning and implementation for updates to species lists and information. An updated list may be requested through the ECOS IPaC system by completing the same process used to receive the enclosed list.

Consultation Technical Assistance

Please refer to refer to our <u>Section 7 website</u> for guidance and technical assistance, including <u>step-by-step instructions</u> for making effects determinations for each species that might be present and for specific guidance on the following types of projects: projects in developed areas, HUD, CDBG, EDA, pipelines, buried utilities, telecommunications, and requests for a Conditional Letter of Map Revision (CLOMR) from FEMA.

Using the IPaC Official Species List to Make No Effect and May Affect Determinations for Listed Species

- If IPaC returns a result of "There are no listed species found within the vicinity of the project," then
 project proponents can conclude the proposed activities will have no effect on any federally listed
 species under Service jurisdiction. Concurrence from the Service is not required for no
 effect determinations. No further consultation or coordination is required. Attach this letter to the dated
 IPaC species list report for your records.
- 2. If IPaC returns one or more federally listed, proposed, or candidate species as potentially present in the action area of the proposed project other than bats (see below) then project proponents must determine if proposed activities will have no effect on or may affect those species. For assistance in determining if suitable habitat for listed, candidate, or proposed species occurs within your project area or if species may be affected by project activities, you can obtain <u>Life History Information for Listed and Candidate Species</u> on our office website. If no impacts will occur to a species on the IPaC species list (e.g., there is no habitat present in the project area), the appropriate determination is no effect. No further consultation or coordination is required. Attach this letter to the dated IPaC species list report for your records.
- Should you determine that project activities may affect any federally listed, please contact our office for further coordination. Letters with requests for consultation or correspondence about your project should include the Consultation Tracking Number in the header. <u>Electronic submission is preferred</u>.

Northern Long-Eared Bats

Northern long-eared bats occur throughout Minnesota and Wisconsin and the information below may help in determining if your project may affect these species.

This species hibernates in caves or mines only during the winter. In Minnesota and Wisconsin, the hibernation season is considered to be November 1 to March 31. During the active season (April 1 to October 31) they roost in forest and woodland habitats. Suitable summer habitat for northern long-eared bats consists of a wide variety of forested/wooded habitats where they roost, forage, and travel and may also include some adjacent and interspersed non-forested habitats such as emergent wetlands and adjacent edges of agricultural fields, old fields and pastures. This includes forests and woodlots containing potential roosts (i.e., live trees and/or snags ≥3 inches dbh for northern long-eared bat that have exfoliating bark, cracks, crevices, and/or hollows), as well as linear features such as fencerows, riparian forests, and other wooded corridors. These wooded areas may be dense or loose aggregates of trees with variable amounts of canopy closure. Individual trees may be considered suitable habitat when they exhibit the characteristics of a potential roost tree and are located within 1,000 feet (305 meters) of forested/wooded habitat. Northern long-eared bats have also been observed roosting in human-made structures, such as buildings, barns, bridges, and bat houses; therefore, these structures should also be considered potential summer habitat and evaluated for use by bats. If your project will impact caves or mines or will involve clearing forest or woodland habitat containing suitable roosting habitat, northern long-eared bats could be affected.

Examples of unsuitable habitat include:

- Individual trees that are greater than 1,000 feet from forested or wooded areas,
- Trees found in highly developed urban areas (e.g., street trees, downtown areas),

- · A pure stand of less than 3-inch dbh trees that are not mixed with larger trees, and
- A stand of eastern red cedar shrubby vegetation with no potential roost trees.

If IPaC returns a result that northern long-eared bats are potentially present in the action area of the proposed project, project proponents can conclude the proposed activities **may affect** this species **IF** one or more of the following activities are proposed:

- · Clearing or disturbing suitable roosting habitat, as defined above, at any time of year,
- · Any activity in or near the entrance to a cave or mine,
- · Mining, deep excavation, or underground work within 0.25 miles of a cave or mine,
- · Construction of one or more wind turbines, or
- Demolition or reconstruction of human-made structures that are known to be used by bats based on observations of roosting bats, bats emerging at dusk, or guano deposits or stains.

If none of the above activities are proposed, project proponents can conclude the proposed activities will have **no effect** on the northern long-eared bat. Concurrence from the Service is not required for **No Effect** determinations. No further consultation or coordination is required. Attach this letter to the dated IPaC species list report for your records.

If any of the above activities are proposed, please use the northern long-eared bat determination key in IPaC. This tool streamlines consultation under the 2016 rangewide programmatic biological opinion for the 4(d) rule. The key helps to determine if prohibited take might occur and, if not, will generate an automated verification letter. No further review by us is necessary.

Please note that on March 23, 2022, the Service published a proposal to reclassify the northern long-eared bat as endangered under the Endangered Species Act. The U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia has ordered the Service to complete a new final listing determination for the bat by November 2022 (Case 1:15-cv-00477, March 1, 2021). The bat, currently listed as threatened, faces extinction due to the range-wide impacts of white-nose syndrome (WNS), a deadly fungal disease affecting cave-dwelling bats across the continent. The proposed reclassification, if finalized, would remove the current 4(d) rule for the NLEB, as these rules may be applied only to threatened species. Depending on the type of effects a project has on NLEB, the change in the species' status may trigger the need to re-initiate consultation for any actions that are not completed and for which the Federal action agency retains discretion once the new listing determination becomes effective (anticipated to occur by December 30, 2022). If your project may result in incidental take of northern long-eared bats after the new listing goes into effect this will first need to addressed in an updated consultation that includes an Incidental Take Statement. If your project may require re-initiation of consultation, please contact our office for additional guidance.

Whooping Crane

Whooping crane is designated as a non-essential experimental population in Wisconsin and consultation under Section 7(a)(2) of the Endangered Species Act is only required if project activities will occur within a National Wildlife Refuge or National Park. If project activities are proposed on lands outside of a National Wildlife Refuge or National Park, then you are not required to consult. For additional information on this designation and consultation requirements, please review "Establishment of a Nonessential Experimental Population of

Whooping Cranes in the Eastern United States."

Other Trust Resources and Activities

Bald and Golden Eagles - Although the bald eagle has been removed from the endangered species list, this species and the golden eagle are protected by the Bald and Golden Eagle Act and the Migratory Bird Treaty Act. Should bald or golden eagles occur within or near the project area please contact our office for further coordination. For communication and wind energy projects, please refer to additional guidelines below.

Migratory Birds - The Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) prohibits the taking, killing, possession, transportation, and importation of migratory birds, their eggs, parts, and nests, except when specifically authorized by the Service. The Service has the responsibility under the MBTA to proactively prevent the mortality of migratory birds whenever possible and we encourage implementation of recommendations that minimize potential impacts to migratory birds. Such measures include clearing forested habitat outside the nesting season (generally March 1 to August 31) or conducting nest surveys prior to clearing to avoid injury to eggs or nestlings.

Communication Towers - Construction of new communications towers (including radio, television, cellular, and microwave) creates a potentially significant impact on migratory birds, especially some 350 species of night-migrating birds. However, the Service has developed voluntary guidelines for minimizing impacts.

Transmission Lines - Migratory birds, especially large species with long wingspans, heavy bodies, and poor maneuverability can also collide with power lines. In addition, mortality can occur when birds, particularly hawks, eagles, kites, falcons, and owls, attempt to perch on uninsulated or unguarded power poles. To minimize these risks, please refer to guidelines developed by the Avian Power Line Interaction Committee and the Service. Implementation of these measures is especially important along sections of lines adjacent to wetlands or other areas that support large numbers of raptors and migratory birds.

Wind Energy - To minimize impacts to migratory birds and bats, wind energy projects should follow the Service's <u>Wind Energy Guidelines</u>. In addition, please refer to the Service's <u>Eagle Conservation Plan Guidance</u>, which provides guidance for conserving bald and golden eagles in the course of siting, constructing, and operating wind energy facilities.

State Department of Natural Resources Coordination

While it is not required for your Federal section 7 consultation, please note that additional state endangered or threatened species may also have the potential to be impacted. Please contact the Minnesota or Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources for information on state listed species that may be present in your proposed project area.

Minnesota

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources - Endangered Resources Review Homepage Email: Review.NHIS@state.mn.us

Wisconsin

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources - Endangered Resources Review Homepage

Email: DNRERReview@wi.gov

We appreciate your concern for threatened and endangered species. Please feel free to contact our office with questions or for additional information.

Attachment(s):

- · Official Species List
- · USFWS National Wildlife Refuges and Fish Hatcheries
- Migratory Birds
- Wetlands

Official Species List

This list is provided pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, and fulfills the requirement for Federal agencies to "request of the Secretary of the Interior information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of a proposed action".

This species list is provided by:

Minnesota-Wisconsin Ecological Services Field Office 4101 American Blvd E Bloomington, MN 55425-1665 (952) 252-0092

Project Summary

Project Code: 2022-0070339

Project Name: Brighton Beach Road Relocation

Project Type: Disaster-related Grants

Project Description: The project includes the relocation of approximately 3,250 linear feet of

the existing 4,400 feet of Brighton Beach Road that provides access to Lake Superior and Brighton Beach (Kitchi Gammi) Park. The road construction will relocate a severely degraded roadway above the wave impact line. The relocation of the roadway will provide an average of approximately 160 feet of separation from the edge of the shoreline, and it is anticipated that this separation will be adequate to protect the roadway from shoreline encroachment for at least twenty years. In addition, between three and eight feet of vertical separation will be maintained from the MNDNR ten-foot wave zone of the shoreline. As such, no stabilization work, seeding or other stabilization efforts on the eroded area of the shoreline are proposed with this project.

The existing entrances on the southwest and northwest sides of the park will also be relocated further north and south along Highway 61, respectively, due to the reduced road length. To improve safety, the entire road will be converted to a one-way with traffic exiting the park on the northeast end to Scenic North Shore Drive (Congdon Boulevard), eliminating traffic entering Highway 61 from the south end of the park. Parallel parking will be placed on one side of the road as well as curb and gutter to provide additional access to the park and limit any automobile impacts to the road surface. The road configuration will also separate pedestrian and non-motorized vehicle users on the shared-use path with its associated crossings from automobile traffic on the road. The reconfigured road will provide more accessible and safer means to visit the park and its associated attractions.

The relocated roadway would be located on property already owned by the City of Duluth, and no additional parcels would need to be acquired. The scope of work for the roadway relocation includes:

- Relocate Brighton Beach Road an average of 120 feet northwesterly and inland from the wave impact line (approximately 160 feet from the shoreline itself). The road will be designed with 11-foot minimum driving lanes with 2-foot minimum shoulders per State Aid Standards.
- Relocate the park road entrance from Minnesota Trunk Highway 61 approximately 450 feet to the north.
- Relocate park road outlet to Congdon Boulevard approximately 750 feet to the south.
- Grade the roadbed to elevate the road up to eight additional feet with shoulders matching the slope of the surrounding area. The raised roadbed would be approximately 22 feet wide and surfaced with aggregate.
- Install 20-foot-wide and four-inch-deep asphalt surfacing over the

prepared aggregate roadbed.

- Construct curb and gutter separator at portions of the roadway which run adjacent to the existing multi-use trail.
- Grade as required to construct the roadway and associated road ditches, importing or exporting fill as needed.
- Remove existing asphalt driving surface and establish turf in the existing roadway areas.
- Follow best management practices (BMPs) for erosion and sedimentation control during construction, in accordance with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) construction stormwater National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) general permit.
- Reestablish appropriate vegetation adjacent to the roadway to provide erosion prevention, in accordance with the construction stormwater NPDES permit.

Project Location:

Approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: https://www.google.com/maps/@46.8421972,-91.99577524484688,14z



Counties: St. Louis County, Minnesota

Endangered Species Act Species

There is a total of 6 threatened, endangered, or candidate species on this species list.

Species on this list should be considered in an effects analysis for your project and could include species that exist in another geographic area. For example, certain fish may appear on the species list because a project could affect downstream species.

IPaC does not display listed species or critical habitats under the sole jurisdiction of NOAA Fisheries¹, as USFWS does not have the authority to speak on behalf of NOAA and the Department of Commerce.

See the "Critical habitats" section below for those critical habitats that lie wholly or partially within your project area under this office's jurisdiction. Please contact the designated FWS office if you have questions.

NOAA Fisheries, also known as the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), is an
office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration within the Department of
Commerce.

Mammals

NAME

Canada Lynx Lynx canadensis

Threatened

Population: Wherever Found in Contiguous U.S.

There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location overlaps the critical habitat.

Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3652

Gray Wolf Canis lupus

Threatened

Population: MN

There is **final** critical habitat for this species. The location of the critical habitat is not available.

Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4488

Northern Long-eared Bat Myotis septentrionalis

Threatened

No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9045

Birds

NAME STATUS

Piping Plover Charadrius melodus

Endangered

Population: [Great Lakes watershed DPS] - Great Lakes, watershed in States of IL, IN, MI, MN,

NY, OH, PA, and WI and Canada (Ont.)

There is final critical habitat for this species. The location of the critical habitat is not available.

Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6039

Red Knot Calidris canutus rufa

Threatened

There is proposed critical habitat for this species. The location of the critical habitat is not available.

Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1864

Insects

NAME STATUS

Monarch Butterfly Danaus plexippus

Candidate

No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9743

Critical habitats

There is 1 critical habitat wholly or partially within your project area under this office's jurisdiction.

NAME STATUS

Canada Lynx Lynx canadensis

https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3652#crithab

Final

USFWS National Wildlife Refuge Lands And Fish Hatcheries

Any activity proposed on lands managed by the <u>National Wildlife Refuge</u> system must undergo a 'Compatibility Determination' conducted by the Refuge. Please contact the individual Refuges to discuss any questions or concerns.

THERE ARE NO REFUGE LANDS OR FISH HATCHERIES WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA.

Migratory Birds

Certain birds are protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act¹ and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act².

Any person or organization who plans or conducts activities that may result in impacts to migratory birds, eagles, and their habitats should follow appropriate regulations and consider implementing appropriate conservation measures, as described <u>below</u>.

- The Migratory Birds Treaty Act of 1918.
- 2. The Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act of 1940.
- 50 C.F.R. Sec. 10.12 and 16 U.S.C. Sec. 668(a)

The birds listed below are birds of particular concern either because they occur on the USFWS Birds of Conservation Concern (BCC) list or warrant special attention in your project location. To learn more about the levels of concern for birds on your list and how this list is generated, see the FAQ below. This is not a list of every bird you may find in this location, nor a guarantee that every bird on this list will be found in your project area. To see exact locations of where birders and the general public have sighted birds in and around your project area, visit the E-bird data mapping tool (Tip: enter your location, desired date range and a species on your list). For projects that occur off the Atlantic Coast, additional maps and models detailing the relative occurrence and abundance of bird species on your list are available. Links to additional information about Atlantic Coast birds, and other important information about your migratory bird list, including how to properly interpret and use your migratory bird report, can be found below.

For guidance on when to schedule activities or implement avoidance and minimization measures to reduce impacts to migratory birds on your list, click on the PROBABILITY OF PRESENCE SUMMARY at the top of your list to see when these birds are most likely to be present and breeding in your project area.

DDEEDING

NAME	SEASON
Bald Eagle Haliaeetus leucocephalus This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1626	Breeds Dec 1 to Aug 31
Black-billed Cuckoo Coccyzus erythropthalmus This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9399	Breeds May 15 to Oct 10

NAME	BREEDING SEASON
Bobolink Dolichonyx oryzivorus This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.	Breeds May 20 to Jul 31
Canada Warbler Cardellina canadensis This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.	Breeds May 20 to Aug 10
Chimney Swift Chaetura pelagica This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.	Breeds Mar 15 to Aug 25
Common Tern Sterna hirundo hirundo This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA	Breeds May 1 to Aug 31
Connecticut Warbler <i>Oporornis agilis</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.	Breeds Jun 15 to Aug 10
Eastern Whip-poor-will Antrostomus vociferus This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.	Breeds May 1 to Aug 20
Evening Grosbeak Coccothraustes vespertinus This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.	Breeds May 15 to Aug 10
Golden Eagle Aquila chrysaetos This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1680	Breeds Jan 1 to Aug 31
Golden-winged Warbler Vermivora chrysoptera This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8745	Breeds May 1 to Jul 20
Lesser Yellowlegs <i>Tringa flavipes</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9679	Breeds elsewhere
Long-eared Owl asio otus This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3631	Breeds Mar 1 to Jul 15

NAME	BREEDING SEASON
Olive-sided Flycatcher Contopus cooperi This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3914	Breeds May 20 to Aug 31
Wood Thrush Hylocichla mustelina This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska	Breeds May 10 to Aug 31

Probability Of Presence Summary

The graphs below provide our best understanding of when birds of concern are most likely to be present in your project area. This information can be used to tailor and schedule your project activities to avoid or minimize impacts to birds. Please make sure you read and understand the FAQ "Proper Interpretation and Use of Your Migratory Bird Report" before using or attempting to interpret this report.

Probability of Presence (■)

Each green bar represents the bird's relative probability of presence in the 10km grid cell(s) your project overlaps during a particular week of the year. (A year is represented as 12 4-week months.) A taller bar indicates a higher probability of species presence. The survey effort (see below) can be used to establish a level of confidence in the presence score. One can have higher confidence in the presence score if the corresponding survey effort is also high.

How is the probability of presence score calculated? The calculation is done in three steps:

- The probability of presence for each week is calculated as the number of survey events in
 the week where the species was detected divided by the total number of survey events for
 that week. For example, if in week 12 there were 20 survey events and the Spotted Towhee
 was found in 5 of them, the probability of presence of the Spotted Towhee in week 12 is
 0.25.
- 2. To properly present the pattern of presence across the year, the relative probability of presence is calculated. This is the probability of presence divided by the maximum probability of presence across all weeks. For example, imagine the probability of presence in week 20 for the Spotted Towhee is 0.05, and that the probability of presence at week 12 (0.25) is the maximum of any week of the year. The relative probability of presence on week 12 is 0.25/0.25 = 1; at week 20 it is 0.05/0.25 = 0.2.
- The relative probability of presence calculated in the previous step undergoes a statistical conversion so that all possible values fall between 0 and 10, inclusive. This is the probability of presence score.

Breeding Season (iii)

Yellow bars denote a very liberal estimate of the time-frame inside which the bird breeds across its entire range. If there are no yellow bars shown for a bird, it does not breed in your project area.

Survey Effort (1)

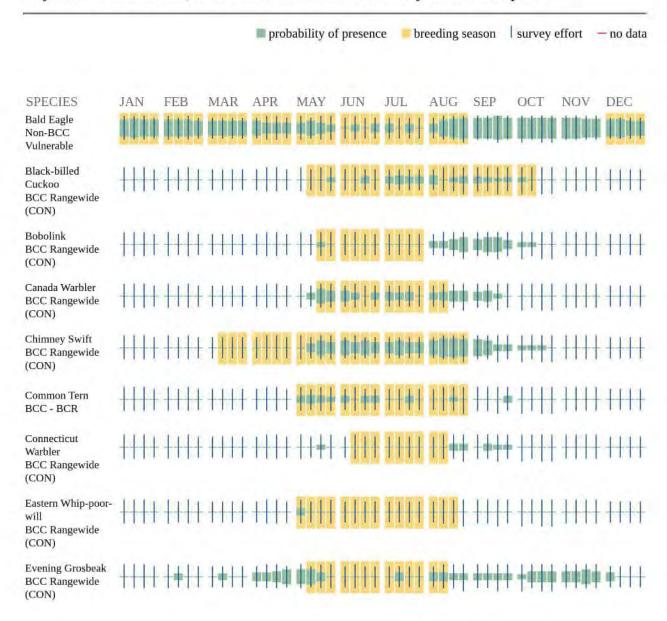
Vertical black lines superimposed on probability of presence bars indicate the number of surveys performed for that species in the 10km grid cell(s) your project area overlaps. The number of surveys is expressed as a range, for example, 33 to 64 surveys.

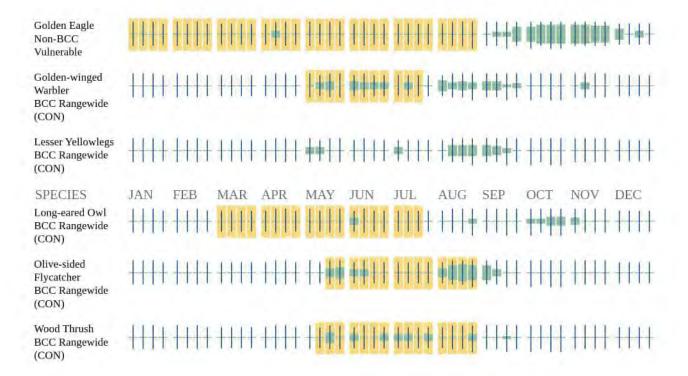
No Data (-)

A week is marked as having no data if there were no survey events for that week.

Survey Timeframe

Surveys from only the last 10 years are used in order to ensure delivery of currently relevant information. The exception to this is areas off the Atlantic coast, where bird returns are based on all years of available data, since data in these areas is currently much more sparse.





Additional information can be found using the following links:

- Birds of Conservation Concern https://www.fws.gov/program/migratory-birds/species
- Measures for avoiding and minimizing impacts to birds https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/avoiding-and-minimizing-incidental-take-migratory-birds
- Nationwide conservation measures for birds https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/nationwide-standard-conservation-measures.pdf

Migratory Birds FAQ

Tell me more about conservation measures I can implement to avoid or minimize impacts to migratory birds.

Nationwide Conservation Measures describes measures that can help avoid and minimize impacts to all birds at any location year round. Implementation of these measures is particularly important when birds are most likely to occur in the project area. When birds may be breeding in the area, identifying the locations of any active nests and avoiding their destruction is a very helpful impact minimization measure. To see when birds are most likely to occur and be breeding in your project area, view the Probability of Presence Summary. Additional measures or permits may be advisable depending on the type of activity you are conducting and the type of infrastructure or bird species present on your project site.

What does IPaC use to generate the list of migratory birds that potentially occur in my specified location?

The Migratory Bird Resource List is comprised of USFWS <u>Birds of Conservation Concern</u> (<u>BCC</u>) and other species that may warrant special attention in your project location.

The migratory bird list generated for your project is derived from data provided by the <u>Avian Knowledge Network (AKN)</u>. The AKN data is based on a growing collection of <u>survey</u>, <u>banding</u>, <u>and citizen science datasets</u> and is queried and filtered to return a list of those birds reported as occurring in the 10km grid cell(s) which your project intersects, and that have been identified as warranting special attention because they are a BCC species in that area, an eagle (<u>Eagle Act</u> requirements may apply), or a species that has a particular vulnerability to offshore activities or development.

Again, the Migratory Bird Resource list includes only a subset of birds that may occur in your project area. It is not representative of all birds that may occur in your project area. To get a list of all birds potentially present in your project area, please visit the Rapid Avian Information Locator (RAIL) Tool.

What does IPaC use to generate the probability of presence graphs for the migratory birds potentially occurring in my specified location?

The probability of presence graphs associated with your migratory bird list are based on data provided by the <u>Avian Knowledge Network (AKN)</u>. This data is derived from a growing collection of <u>survey</u>, <u>banding</u>, and <u>citizen science datasets</u>.

Probability of presence data is continuously being updated as new and better information becomes available. To learn more about how the probability of presence graphs are produced and how to interpret them, go the Probability of Presence Summary and then click on the "Tell me about these graphs" link.

How do I know if a bird is breeding, wintering or migrating in my area?

To see what part of a particular bird's range your project area falls within (i.e. breeding, wintering, migrating or year-round), you may query your location using the <u>RAIL Tool</u> and look at the range maps provided for birds in your area at the bottom of the profiles provided for each bird in your results. If a bird on your migratory bird species list has a breeding season associated with it, if that bird does occur in your project area, there may be nests present at some point within the timeframe specified. If "Breeds elsewhere" is indicated, then the bird likely does not breed in your project area.

What are the levels of concern for migratory birds?

Migratory birds delivered through IPaC fall into the following distinct categories of concern:

- "BCC Rangewide" birds are <u>Birds of Conservation Concern</u> (BCC) that are of concern throughout their range anywhere within the USA (including Hawaii, the Pacific Islands, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands);
- "BCC BCR" birds are BCCs that are of concern only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA; and
- 3. "Non-BCC Vulnerable" birds are not BCC species in your project area, but appear on your list either because of the <u>Eagle Act</u> requirements (for eagles) or (for non-eagles) potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities (e.g. offshore energy development or longline fishing).

Although it is important to try to avoid and minimize impacts to all birds, efforts should be made, in particular, to avoid and minimize impacts to the birds on this list, especially eagles and BCC species of rangewide concern. For more information on conservation measures you can implement to help avoid and minimize migratory bird impacts and requirements for eagles, please see the FAQs for these topics.

Details about birds that are potentially affected by offshore projects

For additional details about the relative occurrence and abundance of both individual bird species and groups of bird species within your project area off the Atlantic Coast, please visit the Northeast Ocean Data Portal. The Portal also offers data and information about other taxa besides birds that may be helpful to you in your project review. Alternately, you may download the bird model results files underlying the portal maps through the NOAA NCCOS Integrative Statistical Modeling and Predictive Mapping of Marine Bird Distributions and Abundance on the Atlantic Outer Continental Shelf project webpage.

Bird tracking data can also provide additional details about occurrence and habitat use throughout the year, including migration. Models relying on survey data may not include this information. For additional information on marine bird tracking data, see the <u>Diving Bird Study</u> and the <u>nanotag studies</u> or contact <u>Caleb Spiegel</u> or <u>Pam Loring</u>.

What if I have eagles on my list?

If your project has the potential to disturb or kill eagles, you may need to <u>obtain a permit</u> to avoid violating the Eagle Act should such impacts occur.

Proper Interpretation and Use of Your Migratory Bird Report

The migratory bird list generated is not a list of all birds in your project area, only a subset of birds of priority concern. To learn more about how your list is generated, and see options for identifying what other birds may be in your project area, please see the FAQ "What does IPaC use to generate the migratory birds potentially occurring in my specified location". Please be aware this report provides the "probability of presence" of birds within the 10 km grid cell(s) that overlap your project; not your exact project footprint. On the graphs provided, please also look carefully at the survey effort (indicated by the black vertical bar) and for the existence of the "no data" indicator (a red horizontal bar). A high survey effort is the key component. If the survey effort is high, then the probability of presence score can be viewed as more dependable. In contrast, a low survey effort bar or no data bar means a lack of data and, therefore, a lack of certainty about presence of the species. This list is not perfect; it is simply a starting point for identifying what birds of concern have the potential to be in your project area, when they might be there, and if they might be breeding (which means nests might be present). The list helps you know what to look for to confirm presence, and helps guide you in knowing when to implement conservation measures to avoid or minimize potential impacts from your project activities, should presence be confirmed. To learn more about conservation measures, visit the FAQ "Tell me about conservation measures I can implement to avoid or minimize impacts to migratory birds" at the bottom of your migratory bird trust resources page.

Wetlands

Impacts to <u>NWI wetlands</u> and other aquatic habitats may be subject to regulation under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, or other State/Federal statutes.

For more information please contact the Regulatory Program of the local <u>U.S. Army Corps of Engineers District</u>.

Please note that the NWI data being shown may be out of date. We are currently working to update our NWI data set. We recommend you verify these results with a site visit to determine the actual extent of wetlands on site.

LAKE

Lacustrine

IPaC User Contact Information

Agency: Federal Emergency Management Agency

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State: IL

Zip: 60605

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APPENDIX D

MnDOT OES Threatened & Endangered Species Letter and MNDNR Natural Heritage and Non-Game Research Program Letter



October 17, 2019

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Ecological Services Field Office 4101 American Boulevard East Bloomington, MN 55425

S.P. 118-090-024

Duluth, St. Louis County, Minnesota

Notification of Determination – May affect, not likely to adversely affect – Northern long-eared bat (Myotis septentrionalis)

No Effect Determination - Canada lynx (Lynx canadensis) and designated Critical Habitat

No Effect Determination - Gray wolf (Canis lupus)

No Effect Determination - Piping plover (Charadrius melodus)

No Effect Determination - Rufa red knot (Calidris canutus rufa)

Project Description: This project proposes to construct an approximately 4400' extension to the Lakewalk trail in Duluth, Minnesota from TH 61/Brighton Beach Road though Brighton Beach to Congdon Boulevard. Associated activities include replacing, upgrading, or extending multiple existing culverts and drainage features along the proposed extension, as well as some minor grading for drainage. Less than one acre of tree removal is proposed, with removal to occur during the winter (November 1 – March 31, inclusive). No bridge work is proposed.



Action Area identified for the proposed project.

Conservation Measures:

Required Avoidance and Minimization Measures (AMMs) - Northern long-eared bat:

- General AMM 1: Ensure all operators, employees, and contractors working in areas of known or
 presumed bat habitat are aware of all FHWA/FRA/FTA (Transportation Agencies) environmental
 commitments, including all applicable AMMs. Notify contractor(s) during the pre-construction
 meeting. Bat sightings (including sick, injured, and/or dead bats) on the project must be reported to
 OES wildlife ecologist (651-366-3605).
- Tree Removal AMM 2: Restrict all tree clearing activities to when NLEB are not likely to be present. Winter tree clearing required – tree clearing allowed November 1 to March 31, inclusive.
- Tree Removal AMM 3: Tree removal must be limited to that specified in project plans and ensure
 that contractors understand clearing limits and how they are marked in the field (e.g., install bright
 colored flagging/fencing prior to any tree clearing to ensure contractors stay within clearing limits).
- Tree Removal AMM 4: Tree removal must not remove documented NLEB roosts, or trees within 0.25 miles of roosts; or documented foraging habitat any time of the year.

Additional Conservation Measures:

- If used, erosion control blanket should be limited to 'bio-netting' or 'natural netting' types, and
 specifically not products containing plastic mesh netting or other plastic components. These are
 Category 3N or 4N in the 2016 & 2018 MnDOT Standards Specifications for Construction. Be
 aware that hydro-mulch products may contain small plastic fibers to aid in its matrix strength. These
 loose fibers could potentially re-suspend and make their way into Public Waters impacting
 protected aquatic species (e.g., mussels, fishes).
- Revegetation of disturbed soils must follow D1 Vegetation Establishment Recommendations
 (http://www.dot.state.mn.us/environment/erosion/vegetation.html), and use native mixes in areas that are not proposed for mowed turf grass. Include mowing and weed spraying as indicated in the District Vegetation Establishment Recommendations. For additional information, visit:
 http://www.dot.state.mn.us/environment/erosion/vegetation.html.

Species List for the Project Action Area

A list of federally threatened, endangered, proposed and candidate species, and designated and proposed critical habitat that overlaps with the action area, was requested via the Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) web application maintained by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (requested October 2019). Based on this list, the project is within the range of the following:

Species	Status	Habitat
Northern long-eared bat Myotis septentrionalis	Threatened	Hibernates in caves and mines - swarming in surrounding wooded areas in autumn. Roosts and forages in upland forests during spring and summer.
Canada lynx Lynx canadensis	Threatened & Critical Habitat	Northern forest
Gray wolf Canis lupus	Threatened	Northern forest
Piping plover Charadrius melodus	Endangered	Sandy beaches, islands
Rufa red knot Calidris canutus rufa	Threatened	Coastal areas along Lake Superior

MnDOT consults the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources Natural Heritage Information System (Copyright 2019 State of Minnesota, Department of Natural Resources), and other resources as available, to determine if proposed projects may affect listed species.

Endangered Species Act - Section 7 Consultation

Section 7 of Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (Act), requires each Federal agency to review any action that it funds, authorizes or carries out to determine whether it may affect threatened, endangered, proposed species or listed critical habitat. Federal agencies (or their designated representatives) must consult with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) if any such effects may occur as a result of their actions. Consultation with the Service is not necessary if the proposed action will not directly or indirectly affect listed species or critical habitat. If a federal agency finds that an action will have no effect on listed species or critical habitat, it should maintain a written record of that finding that includes the supporting rationale.

Notice of Determination

Northern long-eared bat - May affect, not likely to adversely affect

No documented NLEB hibernacula and/or roost trees are documented within the project Action Area (https://files.dnr.state.mn.us/eco/ereview/minnesota_nleb_township_list_and_map.pdf).

This project review relies on the USFWS Programmatic Biological Opinion for FHWA, FRA, FTA Transportation Projects within the Range of the Indiana Bat and Northern Long-eared Bat (PBO) to satisfy requirements under Section 7(a)(2) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA) (87 Stat. 884, as amended; 16 U.S.C 1531 et seq.). The review was completed using the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) system (Consultation Code: 03E19000-2020-I-0014). The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's concurrence verification letter is attached (Attachment 1).

No Effect Determinations

No Effect Determination - Canada lynx (Lynx canadensis) and designated Critical Habitat

No Effect Determination - Gray wolf (Canis lupus)

No Effect Determination - Piping plover (Charadrius melodus)

No Effect Determination - Rufa red knot (Calidris canutus rufa)

Canada lynx and designated Critical Habitat - No effect determination.

Tree clearing is limited to less than one acre immediately adjacent to existing roads. Suitable habitat is not anticipated to be impacted by the proposed project. Critical Habitat is not expected to be destroyed or adversely modified. Therefore, MnDOT on behalf of the FHWA has made a determination of no effect for this species.

Gray wolf - No effect determination.

No documented occurrences for this species exist within the Action Area. Tree clearing is limited to less than one acre immediately adjacent to existing roads. Suitable habitat is not anticipated to be impacted by the proposed project. Therefore, MnDOT on behalf of the FHWA has made a determination of no effect for this species.

Piping plover and rufa red knot - No effect determination.

No documented occurrences for this species exist within the Action Area. Suitable habitat is not anticipated to be impacted by the proposed project. Therefore, MnDOT on behalf of the FHWA has made a determination of no effect for this species.

Please contact me if there are questions or concerns.

Thank you,

Digitally signed by Christopher E Smith Date: 2019.10.17 16:52:33 -05'00'

Christopher E. Smith, M.Sc., C.W.B.®

Wildlife Ecologist | Protected Species Program Coordinator

Minnesota Department of Transportation

Office of Environmental Stewardship 395 John Ireland Blvd., M.S. 620 St. Paul, Minnesota 55155 O: 651-366-3605

eBird

Target Species

Based on 949 complete checklists

208 species observed in <u>Brighton Beach (hotspot/L269195)</u> that you need for your **Brighton Beach Life** List

1. American Crow	52.70% frequency	_
2. Black-capped Chickadee	46.27%	
3. Ring-billed Gull	39.54%	
4. Herring Gull	27.83%	
5. Common Goldeneye	21.72%	
5. Mallard	20.98%	
Red-breasted Merganser	19.61%	
8. Bald Eagle	17.18%	
9. Song Sparrow	12.33%	
. American Robin	10.65%	
Double-crested Cormorant	10.23%	
2. Common Loon	10.02%	
. Common Merganser	9.49%	
Yellow-rumped Warbler	8.54%	
. Common Raven	8.33%	
5. Canada Goose	8.23%	
Dark-eyed Junco	7.91%	
8. Red-necked Grebe	7.59%	
. White-throated Sparrow	7.49%	
Downy Woodpecker	7.17%	
1. Cedar Waxwing	7.07%	
2. Horned Grebe	6.75%	Go to top

23. Red-eyed Vireo	6.75%
24. King Eider	6.65%
25. Northern Flicker	6.43%
26. Blue Jay	6.01%
27. Long-tailed Duck	5.59%
28. American Redstart	5.59%
29. American Goldfinch	5.58%
30. Hairy Woodpecker	5.06%
31. Palm Warbler	4.96%
32. Rock Pigeon	4.64%
33. Golden-crowned Kinglet	4.43%
34. Common Yellowthroat	4.43%
35. American Black Duck	4.32%
36. Red-breasted Nuthatch	4.32%
7. Nashville Warbler	3.90%
88. Ruby-crowned Kinglet	3.79 %
39. Merlin	3.59%
40. Brown Creeper	3.58%
41. Pileated Woodpecker	3.48%
42. White-crowned Sparrow	<u>3.</u> 37%
43. Pine Siskin	3.06%
44. Tennessee Warbler	<u>3</u> .06%
45. Common Grackle	3.06%
46. Black-and-white Warbler	3.06%
47. Purple Finch	<u>3</u> .06%
48. Ovenbird	3.06%
49. Magnolia Warbler	2.95% Go to top

50. Veery	2.95%	
51. Swainson's Thrush	2.95%	
52. Turkey Vulture	2.85%	
53. Sharp-shinned Hawk	2.85%	
54. Chipping Sparrow	2.85%	
55. Chestnut-sided Warbler	2.74%	
56. Rose-breasted Grosbeak	2.74%	
57. Least Flycatcher	2.74%	
58. Common Redpoll	2.74%	
59. Eastern Phoebe	2.64%	
60. American Kestrel	2.53%	
61. Blackpoll Warbler	2.53%	
62. Black-throated Green Warbler	2.43%	
63. Red-winged Blackbird	2.42%	
64. Ruby-throated Hummingbird	2.32%	
65. Cape May Warbler	2.21%	
66. Yellow Warbler	2.11%	
67. American Pipit	2.11%	
68. Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	2.01%	
69. Blue-headed Vireo	2.01%	
70. Snow Bunting	2.00%	
71. Northern Waterthrush	2.00%	
72. Northern Parula	2.00%	
73. Savannah Sparrow	1.90%	
74. Lapland Longspur	1.90%	
75. Belted Kingfisher	1.79%	
76. Philadelphia Vireo	1.79%	Go to top

77. Bufflehead	1.79%	
78. Wilson's Warbler	1.79%	
79. Rusty Blackbird	1.69%	
80. Hermit Thrush	1.58%	
81. Orange-crowned Warbler	1.48%	
82. Broad-winged Hawk	1.48%	
83. Gray-cheeked Thrush	1.48%	
84. Northern Harrier	1.48%	
85. American Tree Sparrow	1.48%	
86. Bay-breasted Warbler	1.48%	
87. Bobolink	<u>1.37%</u>	
88. Osprey	1.37%	
89. White-breasted Nuthatch	1.37%	
90. European Starling	1.27%	
91. Red-tailed Hawk	1.26%	
92. Eastern Kingbird	1.26%	
93. Gray Catbird	1.26%	
94. Peregrine Falcon	1.16%	
95. Blackburnian Warbler	1.16%	
96. Lincoln's Sparrow	1.16%	
97. Mourning Warbler	1.16%	
98. Boreal Owl	1.06%	
99. Canada Warbler	<u>1.05%</u>	
00. Green-winged Teal	1.05%	
01. Cliff Swallow	1.05%	
02. Clay-colored Sparrow	1.05%	
03. Fox Sparrow	0.9505%	Go to top

104. Common Nighthawk	0.9494%	
105. Horned Lark	0.9494%	
106. Northern Pintail	0.9484%	
107. Scarlet Tanager	0.9484%	
108. Rough-legged Hawk	0.8440%	
109. Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	0.8430%	
110. Hooded Merganser	0.7387%	
111. Tree Swallow	0.7387%	
112. House Wren	0.7387%	
113. White-winged Crossbill	0.7387%	
114. Harris's Sparrow	0.7387%	
115. Blue-winged Teal	0.7376%	
116. Alder Flycatcher	0.7376%	
117. Spotted Sandpiper	0.6354%	
118. Northern Shrike	0.6344%	
119. Lesser Yellowlegs	0.6333%	
120. American Wigeon	0.6322%	
121. Mourning Dove	0.6322%	
122. Solitary Sandpiper	0.5269%	
123. Bonaparte's Gull	0.5269%	
124. Swamp Sparrow	0.5269%	
125. Chimney Swift	0.4236%	
126. Killdeer	0.4236%	
127. Red-throated Loon	0.4225%	
128. Barn Swallow	0.4225%	
129. Wood Duck	0.4215%	
130. Harlequin Duck	0.4215%	Go to top

31. Sandhill Crane	0.4215%	
32. Wilson's Snipe	0.4215%	
3. Great Blue Heron	0.4215%	
84. Red-headed Woodpecker	0.4215%	
35. Red-bellied Woodpecker	0.4215%	
66. Black-backed Woodpecker	0.4215%	
7. Olive-sided Flycatcher	0.4215%	
88. Winter Wren	0.4215%	
9. Bohemian Waxwing	0.4215%	
o. Evening Grosbeak	0.4215%	
1. Red Crossbill	0.4215%	
2. Golden-winged Warbler	0.4215%	
3. Northern Cardinal	0.4215%	
4. Red-necked Phalarope	0.3182%	
5. Greater Yellowlegs	0.3172%	
6. Common Tern	0.3172%	
7. Snowy Owl	0.3172%	
8. Northern Shoveler	0.3161%	
9. Pied-billed Grebe	0.3161%	
o. American Coot	0.3161%	
1. American Golden-Plover	0.3161%	
2. Least Sandpiper	0.3161%	
3. Iceland Gull	0.3161%	
4. Great Crested Flycatcher	0.3161%	
55. Baltimore Oriole	0.3161%	
6. Pacific Loon	0.2150%	
7. Redhead	0.2118%	Go to top

158. White-winged Scoter	0.2118%	
159. Glaucous Gull	0.2118%	
160. American White Pelican	0.2118%	
161. Cooper's Hawk	0.2118%	
162. House Finch	0.2118%	
163. Gadwall	0.2107%	
164. Ring-necked Duck	0.2107%	
165. Greater Scaup	0.2107%	
166. Lesser Scaup	0.2107%	
167. Black Scoter	0.2107%	
168. Ruffed Grouse	0.2107%	
169. Eared Grebe	0.2107%	
170. Black-billed Cuckoo	0.2107%	
171. Black-bellied Plover	0.2107%	
172. Semipalmated Plover	0.2107%	
173. Red Knot	0.2107%	
174. Parasitic Jaeger	0.2107%	
175. Great Black-backed Gull	0.2107%	
176. Boreal Chickadee	0.2107%	
177. Eastern Bluebird	0.2107%	
178. Pine Warbler	0.2107%	
179. Northern Saw-whet Owl	0.1075%	
180. Trumpeter Swan	0.1064%	
181. Barrow's Goldeneye	0.1064%	
182. House Sparrow	0.1064%	
183. Brown-headed Cowbird	0.1064%	
184. Cackling Goose	0.1054%	Go to top

185. Eurasian Wigeon	0.1054%
186. Surf Scoter	0.1054%
187. Piping Plover	0.1054%
188. Sanderling	0.1054%
189. Semipalmated Sandpiper	0.1054%
190. American Woodcock	0.1054%
191, Golden Eagle	0.1054%
192. Swainson's Hawk	0.1054%
193. Eastern Wood-Pewee	0.1054%
194. Western Kingbird	0.1054%
195. Warbling Vireo	0.1054%
196. Canada Jay	0.1054%
197. Bank Swallow	0.1054%
198. Brown Thrasher	0.1054%
199. Wood Thrush	0.1054%
200. Yellow-headed Blackbird	0.1054%
201. Connecticut Warbler	0.1054%
202. Dickcissel	0.1054%
203. Snow Goose	0.0010%
204. Yellow-billed Loon	0.0010%
205. Green Heron	0.0010%
206. Purple Martin	0.0010%
207. Vesper Sparrow	0.0010%
208. Indigo Bunting	0.0010%

APPENDIX G

Environmental Justice and Hazardous Materials



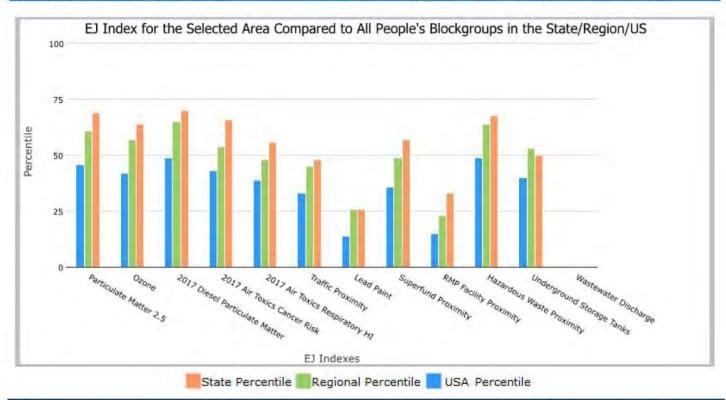


0.25 miles Ring around the Area, MINNESOTA, EPA Region 5

Approximate Population: 66 Input Area (sq. miles): 0.63

Proi	ect	Area	1

Selected Variables	State Percentile	EPA Region Percentile	USA Percentile
nvironmental Justice Indexes			
EJ Index for Particulate Matter 2.5	69	61	46
EJ Index for Ozone	64	57	42
EJ Index for 2017 Diesel Particulate Matter*	70	65	49
EJ Index for 2017 Air Toxics Cancer Risk*	66	54	43
EJ Index for 2017 Air Toxics Respiratory HI*	56	48	39
EJ Index for Traffic Proximity	48	45	33
EJ Index for Lead Paint	26	26	14
EJ Index for Superfund Proximity	57	49	36
EJ Index for RMP Facility Proximity	33	23	15
EJ Index for Hazardous Waste Proximity	68	64	49
EJ Index for Underground Storage Tanks	50	53	40
EJ Index for Wastewater Discharge	N/A	N/A	N/A



This report shows the values for environmental and demographic indicators and EJSCREEN indexes. It shows environmental and demographic raw data (e.g., the estimated concentration of ozone in the air), and also shows what percentile each raw data value represents. These percentiles provide perspective on how the selected block group or buffer area compares to the entire state, EPA region, or nation. For example, if a given location is at the 95th percentile nationwide, this means that only 5 percent of the US population has a higher block group value than the average person in the location being analyzed. The years for which the data are available, and the methods used, vary across these indicators. Important caveats and uncertainties apply to this screening-level information, so it is essential to understand the limitations on appropriate interpretations and applications of these indicators. Please see EJSCREEN documentation for discussion of these issues before using reports.





0.25 miles Ring around the Area, MINNESOTA, EPA Region 5

Approximate Population: 66 Input Area (sq. miles): 0.63 Project Area



Sites reporting to EPA	
Superfund NPL	0
Hazardous Waste Treatment, Storage, and Disposal Facilities (TSDF)	0

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0.25 miles Ring around the Area, MINNESOTA, EPA Region 5

Approximate Population: 66 Input Area (sq. miles): 0.63

Project Area

Selected Variables	Value	State Avg.	%ile in State	EPA Region Avg.	%ile in EPA Region	USA Avg.	%ile in USA
Pollution and Sources							
Particulate Matter 2.5 (μg/m³)	5.46	7.54	2	8.96	0	8.74	1
Ozone (ppb)	35	37.8	8	43.5	1.	42.6	12
2017 Diesel Particulate Matter* (µg/m³)	0.0735	0.218	9	0.279	<50th	0.295	<50th
2017 Air Toxics Cancer Risk* (lifetime risk per million)	20	24	56	24	60-70th	29	<50th
2017 Air Toxics Respiratory HI*	0.3	0.29	71	0.3	70-80th	0.36	<50th
Traffic Proximity (daily traffic count/distance to road)	120	470	49	610	35	710	37
Lead Paint (% Pre-1960 Housing)	0.48	0.31	75	0.37	66	0.28	76
Superfund Proximity (site count/km distance)	0.047	0.18	37	0.13	39	0.13	40
RMP Facility Proximity (facility count/km distance)	0.84	0.77	66	0.83	67	0.75	71
Hazardous Waste Proximity (facility count/km distance)	0.077	1.5	21	1.8	11	2.2	12
Underground Storage Tanks (count/km²)	0.14	1.8	39	4.8	25	3.9	25
Wastewater Discharge (toxicity-weighted concentration/m distance)	N/A	0.034	N/A	9	N/A	12	N/A
Socioeconomic Indicators							
Demographic Index	15%	22%	44	28%	33	36%	20
People of Color	10%	20%	43	26%	39	40%	21
Low Income	20%	24%	50	29%	39	31%	36
Unemployment Rate	2%	4%	38	5%	30	5%	26
Linguistically Isolated	0%	2%	55	2%	59	5%	45
Less Than High School Education	3%	7%	33	10%	23	12%	19
Under Age 5	8%	6%	76	6%	78	6%	76
Over Age 64	9%	15%	22	16%	19	16%	23

^{*}Diesel particular matter, air toxics cancer risk, and air toxics respiratory hazard index are from the EPA's 2017 Air Toxics Data Update, which is the Agency's ongoing, comprehensive evaluation of air toxics in the United States. This effort aims to prioritize air toxics, emission sources, and locations of interest for further study. It is important to remember that the air toxics data presented here provide broad estimates of health risks over geographic areas of the country, not definitive risks to specific individuals or locations. Cancer risks and hazard indices from the Air Toxics Data Update are reported to one significant figure and any additional significant figures here are due to rounding. More information on the Air Toxics Data Update can be found at: https://www.epa.gov/haps/air-toxics-data-update.

For additional information, see: www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice

EJScreen is a screening tool for pre-decisional use only. It can help identify areas that may warrant additional consideration, analysis, or outreach. It does not provide a basis for decision-making, but it may help identify potential areas of EJ concern. Users should keep in mind that screening tools are subject to substantial uncertainty in their demographic and environmental data, particularly when looking at small geographic areas. Important caveats and uncertainties apply to this screening-level information, so it is essential to understand the limitations on appropriate interpretations and applications of these indicators. Please see EJScreen documentation for discussion of these issues before using reports. This screening tool does not provide data on every environmental impact and demographic factor that may be relevant to a particular location. EJScreen outputs should be supplemented with additional information and local knowledge before taking any action to address potential EJ concerns.



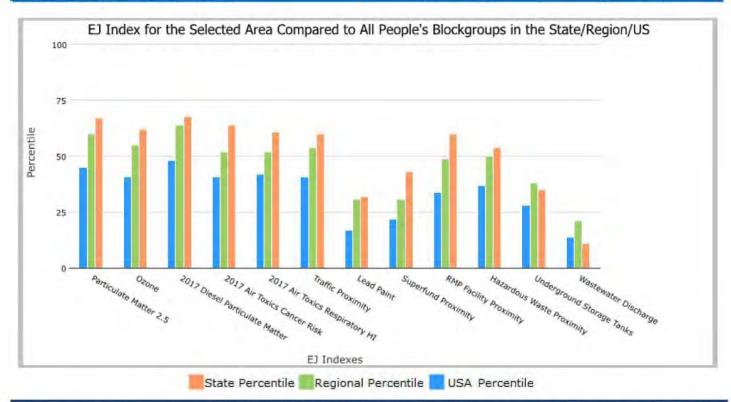


County: St. Louis, MINNESOTA, EPA Region 5

Approximate Population: 199,759 Input Area (sq. miles): 6859.47

St. Louis County, MN (The study area contains 1 blockgroup(s) with zero population.)

Selected Variables	State Percentile	EPA Region Percentile	USA Percentile
Invironmental Justice Indexes			
EJ Index for Particulate Matter 2.5	67	60	45
EJ Index for Ozone	62	55	41
EJ Index for 2017 Diesel Particulate Matter*	68	64	48
EJ Index for 2017 Air Toxics Cancer Risk*	64	52	41
EJ Index for 2017 Air Toxics Respiratory HI*	61	52	42
EJ Index for Traffic Proximity	60	54	41
EJ Index for Lead Paint	32	31	17
EJ Index for Superfund Proximity	43	31	22
EJ Index for RMP Facility Proximity	60	49	34
EJ Index for Hazardous Waste Proximity	54	50	37
EJ Index for Underground Storage Tanks	35	38	28
EJ Index for Wastewater Discharge	11	21	14



This report shows the values for environmental and demographic indicators and EJSCREEN indexes. It shows environmental and demographic raw data (e.g., the estimated concentration of ozone in the air), and also shows what percentile each raw data value represents. These percentiles provide perspective on how the selected block group or buffer area compares to the entire state, EPA region, or nation. For example, if a given location is at the 95th percentile nationwide, this means that only 5 percent of the US population has a higher block group value than the average person in the location being analyzed. The years for which the data are available, and the methods used, vary across these indicators. Important caveats and uncertainties apply to this screening-level information, so it is essential to understand the limitations on appropriate interpretations and applications of these indicators. Please see EJSCREEN documentation for discussion of these issues before using reports.





County: St. Louis, MINNESOTA, EPA Region 5

Approximate Population: 199,759 Input Area (sq. miles): 6859.47

St. Louis County, MN (The study area contains 1 blockgroup(s) with zero population.)



Sites reporting to EPA	
Superfund NPL	1
Hazardous Waste Treatment, Storage, and Disposal Facilities (TSDF)	7

July 19, 2022 2/3





County: St. Louis, MINNESOTA, EPA Region 5

Approximate Population: 199,759 Input Area (sq. miles): 6859.47

St. Louis County, MN (The study area contains 1 blockgroup(s) with zero population.)

Selected Variables	Value	State Avg.	%ile in State	EPA Region Avg.	%ile in EPA Region	USA Avg.	%ile in USA
Pollution and Sources							
Particulate Matter 2.5 (µg/m³)	5.53	7.54	2	8.96	0	8.74	2
Ozone (ppb)	34.6	37.8	6	43.5	0	42.6	10
2017 Diesel Particulate Matter* (μg/m³)	0.11	0.218	27	0.279	<50th	0.295	<50th
2017 Air Toxics Cancer Risk* (lifetime risk per million)	21	24	62	24	60-70th	29	<50th
2017 Air Toxics Respiratory HI*	0.25	0.29	54	0.3	50-60th	0.36	<50th
Traffic Proximity (daily traffic count/distance to road)	160	470	56	610	41	710	43
Lead Paint (% Pre-1960 Housing)	0.49	0.31	75	0.37	67	0.28	77
Superfund Proximity (site count/km distance)	0.086	0.18	51	0.13	64	0.13	61
RMP Facility Proximity (facility count/km distance)	0.3	0.77	41	0.83	45	0.75	49
Hazardous Waste Proximity (facility count/km distance)	0.39	1.5	43	1.8	35	2.2	40
Underground Storage Tanks (count/km²)	2	1.8	74	4.8	56	3.9	59
Wastewater Discharge (toxicity-weighted concentration/m distance)	0.15	0.034	96	9	85	12	86
Socioeconomic Indicators							
Demographic Index	20%	22%	61	28%	48	36%	31
People of Color	9%	20%	37	26%	35	40%	18
Low Income	31%	24%	72	29%	60	31%	55
Unemployment Rate	4%	4%	71	5%	56	5%	51
Linguistically Isolated	0%	2%	57	2%	60	5%	46
Less Than High School Education	6%	7%	53	10%	40	12%	33
Under Age 5	5%	6%	37	6%	44	6%	43
Over Age 64	19%	15%	70	16%	68	16%	70

^{*}Diesel particular matter, air toxics cancer risk, and air toxics respiratory hazard index are from the EPA's 2017 Air Toxics Data Update, which is the Agency's ongoing, comprehensive evaluation of air toxics in the United States. This effort aims to prioritize air toxics, emission sources, and locations of interest for further study. It is important to remember that the air toxics data presented here provide broad estimates of health risks over geographic areas of the country, not definitive risks to specific individuals or locations. Cancer risks and hazard indices from the Air Toxics Data Update are reported to one significant figure and any additional significant figures here are due to rounding. More information on the Air Toxics Data Update can be found at: https://www.epa.gov/haps/air-toxics-data-update.

For additional information, see: www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice

EJScreen is a screening tool for pre-decisional use only. It can help identify areas that may warrant additional consideration, analysis, or outreach. It does not provide a basis for decision-making, but it may help identify potential areas of EJ concern. Users should keep in mind that screening tools are subject to substantial uncertainty in their demographic and environmental data, particularly when looking at small geographic areas. Important caveats and uncertainties apply to this screening-level information, so it is essential to understand the limitations on appropriate interpretations and applications of these indicators. Please see EJScreen documentation for discussion of these issues before using reports. This screening tool does not provide data on every environmental impact and demographic factor that may be relevant to a particular location. EJScreen outputs should be supplemented with additional information and local knowledge before taking any action to address potential EJ concerns.

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EJSCREEN ACS Summary Report



Location: User-specified polygonal location

Ring (buffer): 0.25-miles radius Description: Project Area

Summary of ACS Estimates			2015 - 2019
Population			66
Population Density (per sq. mile)			348
People of Color Population			7
% People of Color Population			10%
Households			24
Housing Units			25
Housing Units Built Before 1950			3
Per Capita Income			35,344
Land Area (sq. miles) (Source: SF1)			0.19
% Land Area			72%
Water Area (sq. miles) (Source: SF1)			0.08
% Water Area			28%
	2015 - 2019 ACS Estimates	Percent	MOE (±)
Population by Race			
Total	66	100%	177
Population Reporting One Race	64	96%	221
White	62	94%	165
Black	1	1%	13
American Indian	1	1%	12
Asian	1	1%	13
Pacific Islander	0	0%	9
Some Other Race	0	0%	9
Population Reporting Two or More Races	2	4%	34
Total Hispanic Population	3	4%	59
Total Non-Hispanic Population	64		
White Alone	59	90%	157
Black Alone	1	1%	13
American Indian Alone	1	1%	12
Non-Hispanic Asian Alone	1	1%	13
Pacific Islander Alone	0	0%	9
Other Race Alone	0	0%	9
Two or More Races Alone	2	4%	34
Population by Sex			
Male	37	56%	113
Female	29	44%	85
Population by Age			
Age 0-4	6	8%	62
Age 0-17	12	17%	75
Age 18+	55	83%	112
Age 65+	6	9%	38



EJSCREEN ACS Summary Report



Location: User-specified polygonal location

Ring (buffer): 0.25-miles radius Description: Project Area

	2015 - 2019 ACS Estimates	Percent	MOE (±)
Population 25+ by Educational Attainment			
Total	50	100%	123
Less than 9th Grade	0	0%	9
9th - 12th Grade, No Diploma	2	3%	22
High School Graduate	13	25%	53
Some College, No Degree	11	22%	66
Associate Degree	5	10%	36
Bachelor's Degree or more	20	39%	60
Population Age 5+ Years by Ability to Speak English			
Total	61	100%	157
Speak only English	60	99%	142
Non-English at Home ¹⁺²⁺³⁺⁴	1	1%	16
¹ Speak English "very well"	0	0%	9
² Speak English "well"	1	1%	16
³ Speak English "not well"	0	0%	9
⁴ Speak English "not at all"	0	0%	9
3+4Speak English "less than well"	0	0%	9
2+3+4Speak English "less than very well"	1	1%	16
Linguistically Isolated Households*		1.19	
Total	0	0%	9
Speak Spanish	0	0%	9
Speak Other Indo-European Languages	0	0%	9
Speak Asian-Pacific Island Languages	0	0%	9
Speak Other Languages	0	0%	9
Households by Household Income		0,0	
Household Income Base	24	100%	54
< \$15,000	3	13%	
\$15,000 - \$25,000	1	4%	36 16
\$25,000 - \$50,000	5	20%	34
\$50,000 - \$75,000	1	6%	17
\$75,000 +	14	57%	52
	14	37 70	52
Occupied Housing Units by Tenure Total	21	100%	54
A STATE OF THE PROPERTY OF THE	24		
Owner Occupied Renter Occupied	22	90%	52
Employed Population Age 16+ Years	2	10%	26
Total	67	100%	140
In Labor Force	57		149
Civilian Unemployed in Labor Force	41	72% 2%	123
			13
Not in Labor Force	16	28%	79

Data Note: Datail may not sum to totals due to rounding. Hispanic population can be of anyrace.

N/A means not available. Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (ACS)

*Households in which no one 14 and over speaks English "very well" or speaks English only.

July 19, 2022



EJSCREEN ACS Summary Report



Location: User-specified polygonal location

Ring (buffer): 0.25-miles radius Description: Project Area

	2015 - 2019 ACS Estimates	Percent	MOE (±)
Population by Language Spoken at Home*			
Total (persons age 5 and above)	N/A	N/A	N/A
English	N/A	N/A	N/A
Spanish	N/A	N/A	N/A
French	N/A	N/A	N/A
French Creole	N/A	N/A	N/A
Italian	N/A	N/A	N/A
Portuguese	N/A	N/A	N/A
German	N/A	N/A	N/A
Yiddish	N/A	N/A	N/A
Other West Germanic	N/A	N/A	N/A
Scandinavian	N/A	N/A	N/A
Greek	N/A	N/A	N/A
Russian	N/A	N/A	N/A
Polish	N/A	N/A	N/A
Serbo-Croatian	N/A	N/A	N/A
Other Slavic	N/A	N/A	N/A
Armenian	N/A	N/A	N/A
Persian	N/A	N/A	N/A
Gujarathi	N/A	N/A	N/A
Hindi	N/A	N/A	N/A
Urdu	N/A	N/A	N/A
Other Indic	N/A	N/A	N/A
Other Indo-European	N/A	N/A	N/A
Chinese	N/A	N/A	N/A
Japanese	N/A	N/A	N/A
Korean	N/A	N/A	N/A
Mon-Khmer, Cambodian	N/A	N/A	N/A
Hmong	N/A	N/A	N/A
Thai	N/A	N/A	N/A
Laotian	N/A	N/A	N/A
Vietnamese	N/A	N/A	N/A
Other Asian	N/A	N/A	N/A
Tagalog	N/A	N/A	N/A
Other Pacific Island	N/A	N/A	N/A
Navajo	N/A	N/A	N/A
Other Native American	N/A	N/A	N/A
Hungarian	N/A	N/A	N/A
Arabic	N/A	N/A	N/A
Hebrew	N/A	N/A	N/A
African	N/A	N/A	N/A
Other and non-specified	N/A	N/A	N/A
Total Non-English	N/A	N/A	N/A
	11(7)	INC	1,473

Data Note: Detail may not sum to totals due to rounding. Hispanic popultion can be of any race. N/A means not available. Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (ACS) 2015 - 2019.

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^{*}Population by Language Spoken at Home is available at the census tract summary level and up.

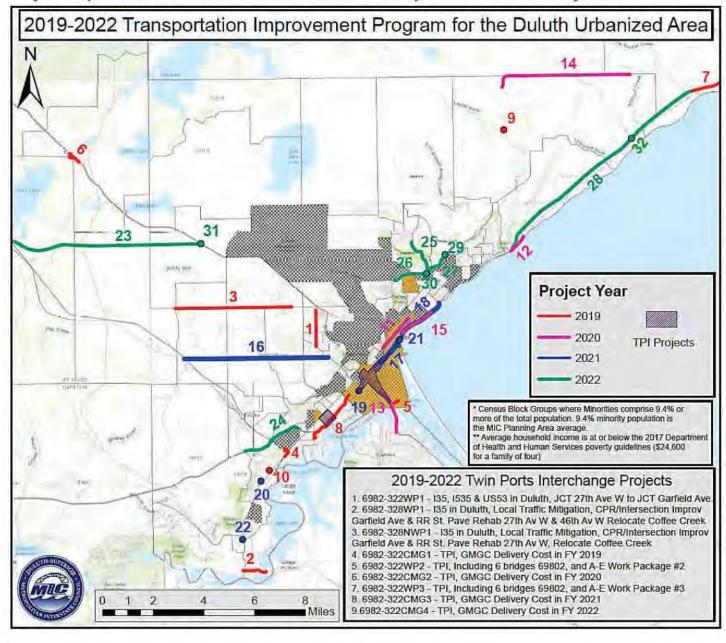
Brighton Beach EJScreen



Water dischargers

Brownfields

Map 3: Project Locations and Concentrations of Minority and Low-Income Populations



TIP Projects by Year

2019 TIP Projects

- 1. Decker Road Mill and Overlay
- 2. E McCuen St Mill and Overlay
- Maple Grove Road Resurfacing and Intersection Improvements
- 4. Cross City Trail Connect Zoo to Munger Trail
- 5. Duluth Port, Freight Rail Tracks Extention
- US 53 Southbound Bituminous Overlay Highway 7/US53 Construct J-Turn
- MN 61 Homestead Rd to Pigeon Rd Rumble Install SHLD Rumble
- 3. Cross City Trail Phase 2
- '9. N Tisher Rd Bridge Replacement Lester River
- *10. Traffic Control MN 23 and Kayak Rd

2020 TIP Projects

- 3rd Street Repairs: Mill & Overlay, Storm Sewer Repairs, Curb & Gutter and ADA
- Brighton Beach (Lakewalk Extention): Construct Multi-Use Path
- 13. Blatnik Bridge Painting
- N Tisher Rd/Lismore Rd Mill, Reclaim, Bituminous Resurfacing
- 15. I-35 Lighting Upgrade to LED

2021 TIP Projects

- Morris Thomas Rd Bituminous Resurfacing and Culvert Repairs
- 7. Railroad St Bituminous Resurfacing
- 18, I-35 Technology Upgrade
- 19. I-35 Drainage Improvements and Fencing
- '20. MN 23 Gegebic Creek Culvert Repair
- '21, I-35; Repair Drainage System Under Lakewalk
- *22. MN 23 US Steel Creek Culvert Repair

2022 TIP Projects

- 23. MN-194 Pavement Preservation
- 24. Thompson Hill Highway Reconstruction
- 25. Woodland Ave Pavement Preservation and Intersection Improvement
- 26. Arrowhead Road Pavement Preservation 27. Snively Road Pavement Preservation and
- Snively Road Pavement Preservation and Intersection Improvement
- MN 61 Expressway Knife River to Highway 61 Mill and Overlay
- *29. Intersection of Snively Rd/Glenwood St 2 Projects
- '30. Woodland Ave Intersection with Arrowhead Rd
- '31, US 53/MN 194/Lindahl Rd Conflic Intersection Change
- *32. French River Wayside Rehab Project
 * Projects Listed as a Point

APPENDIX H

Historic Structures and Archaeological Resources

 From:
 Beimers, Sarah (ADM)

 To:
 Castaldi, Duane

 Cc:
 Roach, Karie

Subject: SHPO Comment Letter: 2022-2227 Brighton Beach Road Relocation, Brighton Beach (Kitchi Gammi) Park, Duluth,

Saint Louis County

Date: Thursday, August 25, 2022 3:48:43 PM

Attachments: 2022-2227.pdf

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of DHS. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and/or trust the sender. Please select the Phish Alert Report button on the top right of your screen to report this email if it is unsolicited or suspicious in nature.

Duane,

Thank you for the opportunity to review the above-referenced undertaking.

Attached is our August 25, 2022 concurrence with your agency's No Historic Properties Affected finding.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sarah

Sarah Beimers (she/her) | Environmental Review Program Manager

State Historic Preservation Office Minnesota Department of Administration 50 Sherburne Avenue, Suite 203 Saint Paul, Minnesota 55155 (651) 201-3290

sarah.beimers@state.mn.us

Please <u>subscribe to receive SHPO notices</u> for the most current updates regarding office hours, accessing research files, or changes in submitting materials to the SHPO.

To access historic resource information please visit our webpage on <u>Using SHPO's Files</u>.

2022 - 2227

Brighton Beach Road/Kitchi Gammi Park, Duluth, Saint Louis County, MN DR-4414-MN, PW 0008, Project Number 95035 August 9, 2022 Page 2 of 2

+++++++You may email this page to fema-r5-environmental@fema.dhs.gov +++++++

Brighton Beach Road/Kitchi Gammi Park Duluth, Saint Louis County, Minnesota, DR-4414-MN, Start 46.838049, -92.001752 End 46.846512, -91.9		
Under the authority of the National Historic Preserva Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office concurs undertaking will result in no historic properties affect	with FEMA's finding that the captioned	
Under the authority of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, the Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office objects to FEMA's finding that the captioned undertaking will result in no historic properties affected for the reasons noted below:		
Sarang Banner	8 25 2022 Date	
	Duluth, Saint Louis County, Minnesota, DR-4414-MN, Start 46.838049, 92.001752 End 46.846512, 91.9 Under the authority of the National Historic Preserva Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office concurs undertaking will result in no historic properties affect Under the authority of the National Historic Preserva Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office objects undertaking will result in no historic properties affect	

Comments:



August 9, 2022

Sarah Beimers, Environmental Review Program Manager Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office Administration Building, Suite 203 50 Sherburne Avenue Saint Paul, MN 55155

Re: Brighton Beach Road/Kitchi Gammi Park

Duluth, Saint Louis County, Minnesota, DR-4414-MN, PW 0008, Project Number 95035

Start 46.838049, -92.001752 End 46.846512, -91.990690/ T50N R13W S4

Dear Ms. Beimers:

Pursuant to the Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, I am writing this letter to initiate and conclude consultation regarding the captioned Public Assistance Grant Program project.

In accordance with 36 CFR §800.11, I am enclosing documentation regarding this undertaking and its effect on historic properties. This documentation provides the justification for FEMA's finding of no historic properties affected; the purpose of this communication is to seek concurrence in that finding.

Due to workplace restrictions in response to COVID-19, we are using email to deliver this Section 106 consultation. We understand the impact COVID-19 has had on your operations and we did receive your March 27, 2020 tolling notification. We understand you may need more than 30 days and will wait for your reply. Because our reliance on digital communications must continue until our offices reopen, we would appreciate a response by email from your office. For your convenience, we have included a response area below. If you have questions, do not hesitate to contact Karie Roach of my staff at 312-408-5549 or at fema-r5-environmental@fema.dhs.gov.

Sincerely,

Duane Castaldi

Regional Environmental Officer

FEMA Region 5

enclosures

Brighton Beach Road/Kitchi Gammi Park, Duluth, Saint Louis County, MN DR-4414-MN, PW 0008, Project Number 95035 August 9, 2022 Page 2 of 2

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Re:	Brighton Beach Road/Kitchi Gammi Park Duluth, Saint Louis County, Minnesota, DR-4414-MN, PW (Start 46.838049, -92.001752 End 46.846512, -91.9906	sota, DR-4414-MN, PW 0008, Project Number 95035			
	Under the authority of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, the Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office <i>concurs</i> with FEMA's finding that the captioned undertaking will result in <i>no historic properties affected.</i>				
	Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office objects to F	the authority of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, the sota State Historic Preservation Office <i>objects</i> to FEMA's finding that the captioned aking will result in <i>no historic properties affected</i> for the reasons noted below:			
	Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office	Date			

Comments:



August 9, 2022

Documentation Initiating and Concluding Section 106 Consultation for a FEMA-Funded Undertaking

Project Information:

Project ID: DR-4414-MN, PW 0008, Project Number 95035

Title: Brighton Beach Road/Kitchi Gammi Park

Address: Between the intersections of Brighton Beach Road with Minnesota

Highway 61 and Congdon Boulevard

Location: Duluth, Saint Louis Co., MN

GPS: Start 46.838049, -92.001752 End 46.846512, -91.990690

PLSS: T50N R13W S4

Description of Undertaking and APE:

As a result of severe storms and flooding affecting areas of the State of Minnesota October 9-11, 2018, President Trump signed the 4414-DR-MN Disaster Declaration on November 27, 2018. Under this declaration, St. Louis County was made eligible for FEMA's Public Assistance (PA) Program funding. The disaster event resulted in damage and erosion at Kitchi Gammi Park along the Lake Superior shoreline, damaging Brighton Beach Road, lakeshore revetments, and culverts. The subrecipient, the City of Duluth, is seeking funding from FEMA for relocating Brighton Beach Road, converting portions of the existing road to a recreational trail, adding trail sections, repairing culverts, and repairing or replacing lakeshore revetments.

The Lake Superior lakefront from the Lester River northeastward is stony, with bedrock outcroppings. Brighton Beach Road enters Kitchi Gammi Park from London Road/Highway 61 just east of the United State Environmental Protection Agency Mid-Continent Ecology Facility and continues northeasterly through the park, roughly paralleling the lakeshore and bending northward to intersect with Congdon Boulevard at an acute angle (Figures 1 and 2).

The storm event resulting in the 4414-DR-MN declaration followed at least two other major storm events from 2017 and 2018. The high lake water levels and intense wave action damaged the roadways, the shoreline, existing shoreline rip-rap revetments, and sheet piling culvert outlets. The area has historically experienced such erosion issues in periods of high lake water levels.

The damage occurring from the 4414-DR-MN event was loss of a culvert and its associated roadway cover, loss of a large rip-rap shoreline revetment, and loss of asphalt roadway, including base and sub-base, and associated roadside shoulder revetments (Figures 3 and 4). The City has requested to use funding associated with the repair to these items, plus funding associated with another 4414-DR-MN project that will not take place, to fund an alternate project relocating Brighton Beach Road. This project appears

to follow the recommendations of a City mini-master plan to make the park more usable and resilient for future storm events and lake levels.

The City created a master plan for the park in 2012 and obtained a Federal Transportation Alternatives Grant to support extension of the Lakewalk Trail through the park. The City revisited that plan in 2019, obtaining public input and developing a new mini-master plan that envisions the relocation of Brighton Beach Road inland, removal of portions of the existing road, and reuse of other portions of the existing road as trailway. This plan also proposes the construction of toilet facilities and other amenities as well as relocation of benches, addition of kayak racks, landscape development, and daylighting of creeks and streams that currently outlet to the lake through culverts (Figures 16-24).

The proposed project includes the relocation of approximately 3,250 linear feet of the existing 4,400 feet of Brighton Beach Road that provides access to Lake Superior and Brighton Beach (Kitchi Gammi) Park. The road construction will relocate the severely degraded roadway above the wave impact line, providing approximately 160 feet of separation from the shoreline. It is anticipated that this separation will be adequate to protect the roadway from shoreline encroachment for at least twenty years. Placing the new roadway uphill from the shoreline will also maintain three to eight feet of vertical separation from the MNDNR ten-foot wave zone of the shoreline. As such, no stabilization work, seeding or other stabilization efforts on the eroded area of the shoreline are proposed as part of the FEMA-funded project.

The existing entrances on the southwest and northwest sides of the park will also be relocated further north and south along Highway 61, respectively, due to the reduced road length. To improve safety, the entire road will be converted to a one-way with traffic exiting the park on the northeast end to Scenic North Shore Drive (Congdon Boulevard), eliminating traffic entering Highway 61 from the south end of the park. Parallel parking will be placed on one side of the road as well as curb and gutter to provide additional access to the park and limit any automobile impacts to the ground surface. The road configuration will also separate pedestrian and non-motorized vehicle users on the shared-use path with its associated crossings from automobile traffic on the road. The reconfigured road will provide more accessible and safer means to visit the park and its associated attractions.

In addition to the work described above, the following items are included in scope:

- Relocate Brighton Beach Road an average of 120 feet northwesterly and inland from the wave impact line (approximately 160 feet from the shoreline itself). The road will be designed with 11-foot minimum driving lanes with 2-foot minimum shoulders per State Aid Standards.
- Relocate the park road entrance from Minnesota Trunk Highway 61 approximately 450 feet to the north.
- Relocate park road outlet to Congdon Boulevard approximately 750 feet to the south.
- Grade the roadbed to elevate the road up to eight additional feet with shoulders
 matching the slope of the surrounding area. The raised roadbed would be
 approximately 22 feet wide and surfaced with aggregate.

- Install 20-foot-wide and four-inch-deep asphalt surfacing over the prepared aggregate roadbed.
- Construct curb and gutter separator at portions of the roadway which run adjacent to the existing multi-use trail.
- Grade as required to construct the roadway and associated road ditches, importing or exporting fill as needed.
- Remove existing asphalt driving surface and establish turf in the existing roadway areas.
- Follow best management practices (BMPs) for erosion and sedimentation control during construction, in accordance with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) construction stormwater National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) general permit.
- Reestablish appropriate vegetation adjacent to the roadway to provide erosion prevention, in accordance with the construction stormwater NPDES permit.

The relocated roadway would be located on property already owned by the City of Duluth, and no additional parcels would need to be acquired.

Area of Potential Effects

In 2019 and 2020, the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) undertook a Section 106 Review under its responsibilities under the Federal Highway Administration. This review delineated the entire Brighton Beach/Kitchi Gammi Park as the APE. This MnDOT APE encompassed the entire park to include the roadway relocation (the focus of this consultation) along with other items of work from the Mini-Master Plan.¹ That review and its findings are referenced in this consultation.

The Area of Potential Effects (APE) for the FEMA funded project under review here is the area of probable ground disturbance associated with the new roadway construction and the removal of the existing roadway. This area comprises less than half the area of Kitchi Gammi Park. The APE is noted on Figure 5.

Steps Taken to Identify Historic Properties and the Description of Historic Properties:

Archaeology

FEMA SOI qualified archaeologists reviewed the Office of the State Archaeologist (OSA) Portal and no known archaeological resources or surveys are within the APE or within one mile of the APE.

However, the applicant noted that an archaeological survey had been conducted and the MN SHPO provided the report. Specifically, the MnDOT and the City of Duluth authorized and sponsored a Phase I Archaeological Reconnaissance Survey of Kitchi Gammi Park Trail² and road relocation the APE. No archaeological sites were identified within the APE and survey methodology was appropriate to existing field conditions.

¹ MnDOT to MN-SHPO, March 18, 2020; RE: S. P. 118-090-024, Lakewalk Trail Extension, Duluth, St. Louis County

² Merjent, Inc. Mike Madson, Principal Investigator, OSA license No. 19-050. Kitchi Gammi Park Trail Phase I Archaeological Reconnaissance Survey, St. Louis County, Minnesota, State Project Number (SP): 118-090-024, Federal Project Number: STPF-TA 3920 (085). December 2019.

Merjent notes that outside of the APE a scatter of historic-period artifacts was noted approximately 125 feet east of Bike Trail station 118+50 (Figure 23). A site form was pending as of 2020; however the OSA Portal does not depict either the survey nor a site number. Irrespective, this site will be avoided by the proposed scope of work. MN SHPO concurred with the recommendations of the Merjent survey that no archaeological resources exist within the APE and that no further archaeological investigations were warranted.³

Given the APE, the absence of archaeological sites encountered during the Phase I Survey, this work is not likely to encounter archaeological artifacts or features within their original depositional contexts that yield information important to history or pre-history.

Brighton Beach/Kitchi Gammi Park

As the APE for this undertaking encompasses less than one-half the area of Kitchi Gammi Park (Figure 7), an assessment of the park as a whole for listing on the NRHP is outside the scope of this review. The following information regarding the park's development is provided as context for the assessment of individual resources within the APE which are assessed below.

Brighton Beach/Kitchi Gammi Park has been a popular recreational location since the 1800s, when the Lakeside and Lester Park neighborhoods were developed to the northeast of Duluth. Wealthy Duluth attorney and legislator Chester Congdon donated lands and money for roads and parks north of the city. Congdon introduced legislation allowing Duluth and other major Minnesota cities to condemn property for transportation purposes, and his gifts of land along the lakeshore formed the basis for much of Duluth's lakeshore park system. Built between 1923 and 1925, Congdon Boulevard is one of the roads Congdon gifted to the city at the same time that portions of Kitchi Gammi Park were being improved.

The City of Duluth, led by Mayor Samuel Snively, promoted the newly popular pastime of automobile tourism in the early 1920's. The city purchased two parcels in the area then known as Brighton Beach in September 1921 and created a tourist camp there. The city assembled additional parcels to enlarge the facility throughout the early 1920s.

Though outside of the APE for this undertaking, the Tourist Camp Site (SL-DUL-2328) played a role in the development of what was to become Kitchi Gammi Park. The Brighton Beach Tourist Camp started operations in 1922 with minimal amenities—travelers used tents—and by the late 1920's the facilities included potable water and a toilet and shower building. In the early 1930's, the City constructed eighteen cabins and the park operated until the late 1950s. In 1963, this site was razed, and a National Water Quality Laboratory was constructed. This site is now the United States Environmental Protection Agency Mid-Continent Ecology facility.

In the mid-1920's the Duluth Park Superintendent began calling the park Kitchi Gammi Park, a possible nod to the elite Duluth social club by that name. Brighton Beach Road parallels the lakeshore through Kitchi Gammi Park with scenic pull-offs. The road was graded and maintained with gravel beginning in the early 1920s (Figures 8 and 9).

³ SHPO Number: 2020-0917 SP 118-090-024 Lakewalk Trail Extension, Duluth, St. Louis County, April 16, 2020.

Duluth Parks Department and Works Progress Administration (WPA) projects took place throughout the park. One Parks Department project was the 1926 planting of spruce and pine trees throughout the property landward of Brighton Beach Road (Figure 10); even Mayor Samuel Snively participated in the tree planting. More trees were planted in 1931 along the north side of Brighton Beach Road. The Lester River White Pine Reforestation Project also planted trees in this area in 2007-2008. The city's master plan notes a portion of the park as having had a bridle path. The park continues as a popular outing location, with kayakers, hikers, birders, and rock collectors using the roadway and amenities of the park.

Brighton Beach Road provides views to Lake Superior interspersed with trees, with heavily wooded areas inland of the roadway along the southern end of Kitchi Gammi Park. A larger grassy area appears near the midpoint of the road's length, and benches are placed throughout the park (Figures 11 and 12).

Assessment of Individual Resources

The nearest properties listed on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) include the U. S. Fisheries Station complex on the southwest side of the mouth of the Lester River at 6008 London Road (NPS Reference #78003126) and the nearby Lester River Bridge, built in 1925, which carries London Road over the Lester River (NPS Reference #0200093). Neither of these structures are within the APE for this undertaking.

In 2011, Stark Preservation Planning, LLC, surveyed and inventoried Brighton Beach/Kitchi Gammi Park as part of a Skyline Parkway Historic District survey.⁴ Their report inventoried the following standing structures within the park and designated their status as a contributing or non-contributing element of a proposed Congdon North Shore Boulevard Segment of a Skyline Parkway Historic District.

The information regarding the resources listed below includes the MN SHPO survey number, proposed designations per the 2011 Stark Preservation Planning report, determinations of eligibility recorded in the 2020 MnDOT Lakewalk Trail extension study report, and SHPO response to the MnDOT findings. Resources outside the APE for this undertaking are included for completeness.

Outside the APE:

SL-DUL-2327 – Brighton Beach Historic Marker (46.836800, -92.005000), contributing per Stark report, located southwest of the EPA facility. This is a stone and metal plaque erected in 1972 to mark the eastern terminus of the Skyline Parkway.⁵ It is outside the APE for this undertaking and so is not evaluated here.

SL-DUL-2328 – **Brighton Beach Tourist Camp** (46.838536, -92.003275), contributing per Stark report, non-contributing per MnDOT with SHPO concurrence in 2020. As noted above, the Brighton Beach Tourist Camp was razed and the EPA facility constructed at that location. The entire Brighton Beach/Kitchi Gammi park property was at one time considered part of the tourist camp, but the original Tourist Camp site is outside the APE for this undertaking and so is not evaluated here.

⁴ https://duluthmn.gov/media/7717/report-skyline-pkwy-inventory-12-19-11.pdf

⁵ https://historicalmarkerproject.com/markers/HMTYL_the-skyline-parkway_Duluth-MN.html#prettyPhoto

Within the APE:

SL-DUL-3125 – **Brighton Beach Gazebo** (46.843478, -91.992610). The Gazebo (Figure 13) was not included in the Stark report, likely because it is of contemporary vernacular construction. Apparently less than 50 years of age, it is therefore not eligible for listing.

SL-DUL-3132 – Brighton Beach Fireplace Shelter (46.842332, -91.993962), contributing per Stark report, non-contributing per MnDOT with SHPO concurrence in 2020. The stone fireplace shelter presents the rustic stone appearance common in park construction of that period. Lakeward of the existing roadway, it is marked for preservation on the master plan as the "Bluestone Bunker." The shelter (Figures 14 and 15) is a small stone-walled and slab-roofed shelter with a semicircular plan. The lakeward wall is curved, with small rectangular unglazed openings framing views of the lake. The shelter is accessed through the landward side, which has two unframed openings flanking a central stone fireplace. While an interesting example of 1930's park and recreational architecture, it does not exhibit historic or architectural significance. The MnDOT review found this structure to lack significance or integrity, and the MN SHPO concurred in this finding. FEMA affirms the findings of the MnDOT and SHPO's concurrence, that the shelter is non-contributing and therefore not eligible for listing.

No other standing structures exist within the APE for this undertaking.

Determination of Eligibility:

FEMA has determined that *no resources within the APE are eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.*

Finding:

FEMA finds that this undertaking will result in *no historic properties affected*.

Figures:

Figure 1: Undertaking site marked in red. National Map "Lakewood, MN 2019," graphic scale.



Figure 2: General Project Area marked in red, note northeast segment follows existing road. USGS Map "Lakewood, MN," graphic scale.

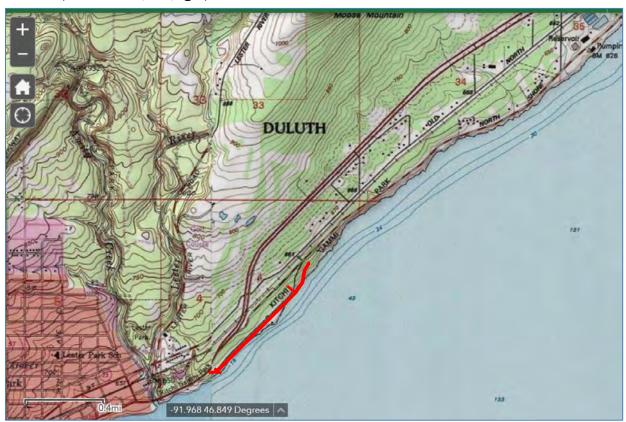


Figure 3: Photo documenting roadway and lakeshore damage. FEMA photo, *October 2018.*



Figure 4: Photo documenting roadway and lakeshore damage. *FEMA photo, October 2018.*



Figure 5: Aerial View of Brighton Beach Road and Kitchi Gammi Park. APE outlined in red and archaeology segment for new road in blue.

GoogleEarth Aerial, 2016 data, graphic scale.

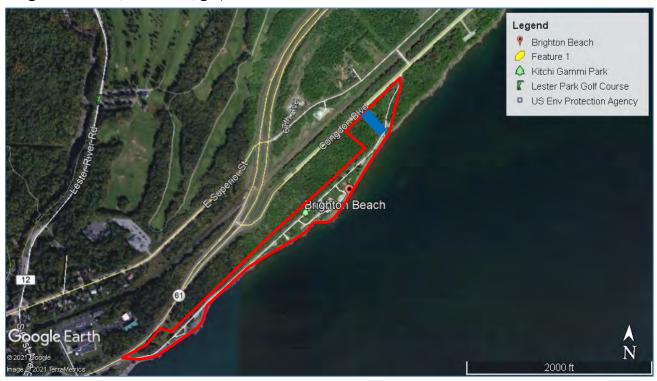


Figure 6: Station Numbers illustrating trail follows existing road at station 118+50 and avoids historic archaeological scatter.

Merjent Archaeology Map.

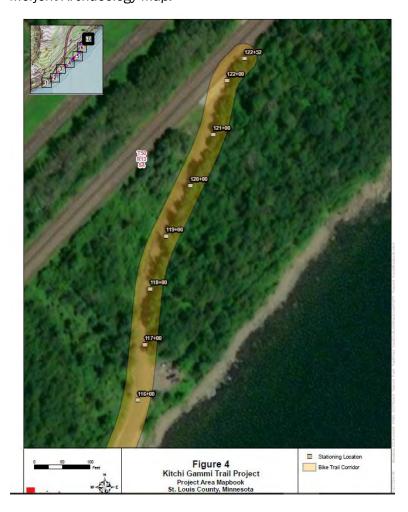


Figure 7: Park boundary in red; existing road alignment in yellow; proposed road alignment in black. *MnGeo WMS Services, 2019 imagery, from FEMA's Draft Environmental Assessment, p. 2..*



Figure 8: Photo of a portion of Brighton Beach Road, 1929. *Minnesota Digital Library.*



Figure 9: Photo of Brighton Beach Road graveling, 1933. *Minnesota Digital Library*



Figure 10: Photo of tree planting, Kitchi Gammi Park, 1926. *Minnesota Digital Library.*



Figure 11: Photo along lakeshore documenting typical conditions looking south. *Applicant photo.*



Figure 12: Photo of Kitchi Gammi Park, looking west near play structure and parking. *Applicant photo.*



Figure 13: Photo of Kitchi Gammi Park, looking north near picnic pavilion. *Applicant photo.*



Figure 14: Photo of stone semi-circular fireplace shelter lakeward of Brighton Beach Road, looking southwest.

Google Earth StreetView image, August 2012.



Figure 15: Photo of stone semi-circular fireplace building lakeward of Brighton Beach Road, looking northeast.

Google Earth Streetview image, August 2012.



Figure 16: Preliminary proposed roadway realignment, view of western end of Kitchi Gammi Park and Brighton Beach Road. New roadway indicated in blue. Trail extension indicated in yellow. *Applicant plan.*

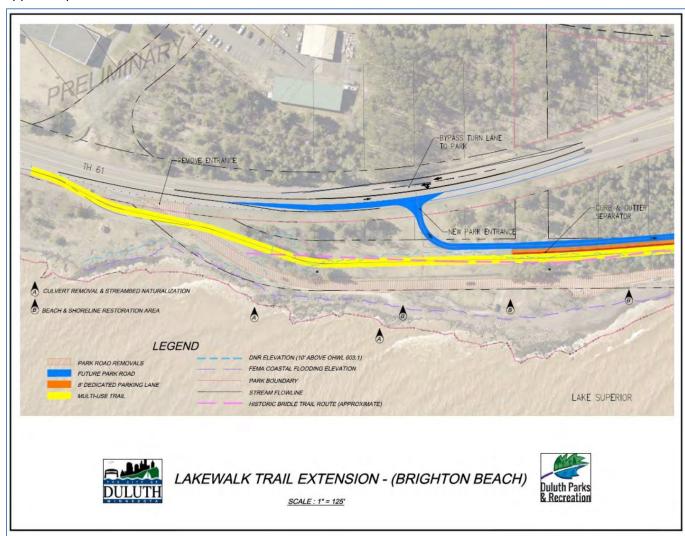


Figure 17: Preliminary proposed roadway realignment, view of Kitchi Gammi Park and Brighton Beach Road. New roadway indicated in blue. Trail extension indicated in yellow. *Applicant plan.*

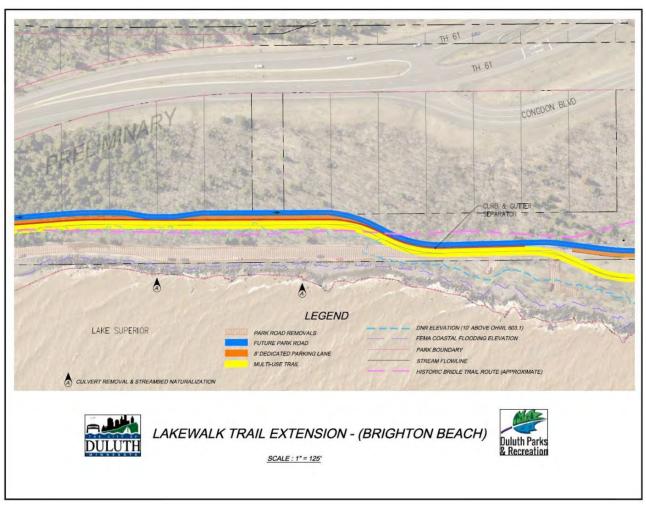


Figure 18: Preliminary proposed roadway realignment, view of Kitchi Gammi Park and Brighton Beach Road, showing new roadway connection to Congdon Boulevard. New roadway indicated in blue. Trail extension indicated in yellow. Parking areas indicated in orange.

Applicant plan.

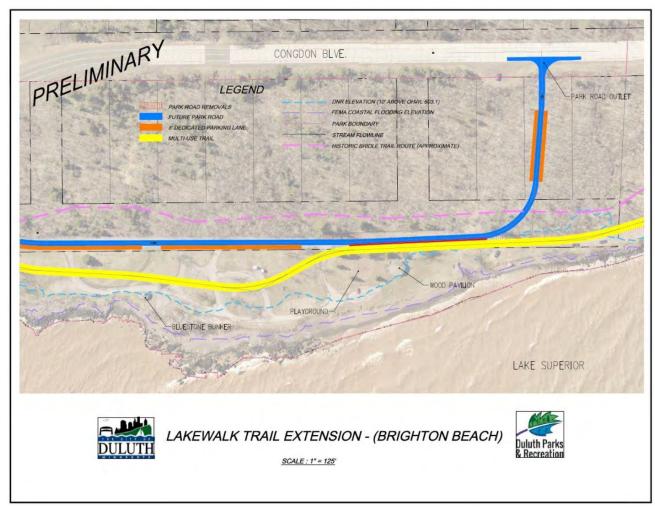


Figure 19: Preliminary proposed roadway realignment, view of eastern end of Kitchi Gammi Park and Brighton Beach Road, showing new roadway connection to Congdon Boulevard and end of trail extension. New roadway indicated in blue. Trail extension indicated in yellow. Parking areas indicated in orange.

Applicant plan.

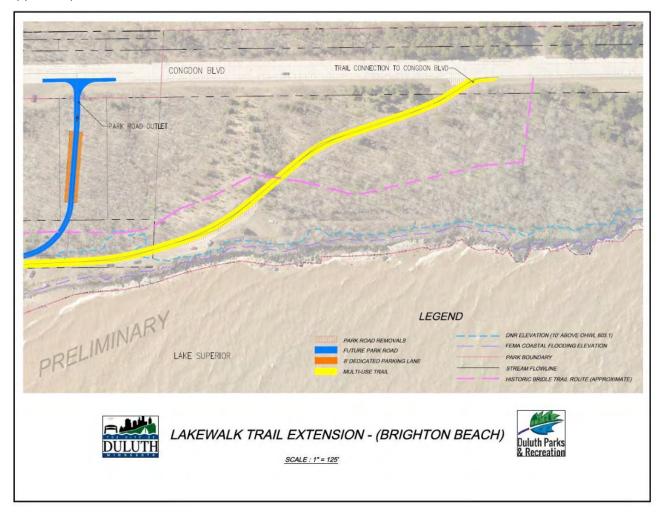


Figure 20: Preliminary proposed landscape and amenity plan, view of western end of Kitchi Gammi Park and Brighton Beach.

Applicant Plan.



Figure 21: Preliminary proposed landscape and amenity plan, view of Kitchi Gammi Park and Brighton Beach, with new toilet house, parking, and other amenities.

Applicant Plan.

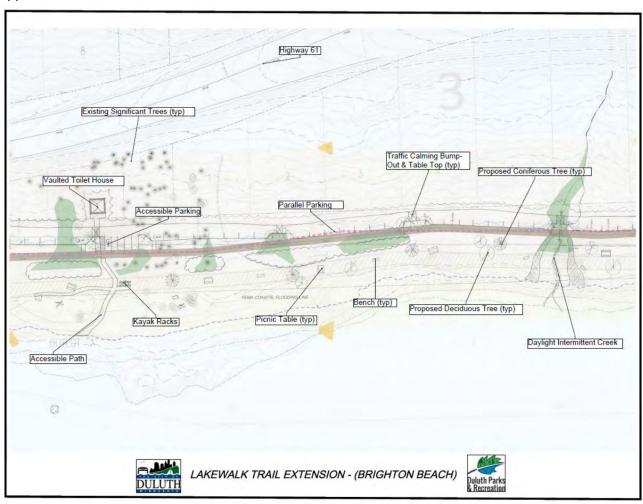


Figure 22: Preliminary proposed landscape and amenity plan, view of Kitchi Gammi Park and Brighton Beach, with new parking and other amenities.

Applicant Plan.

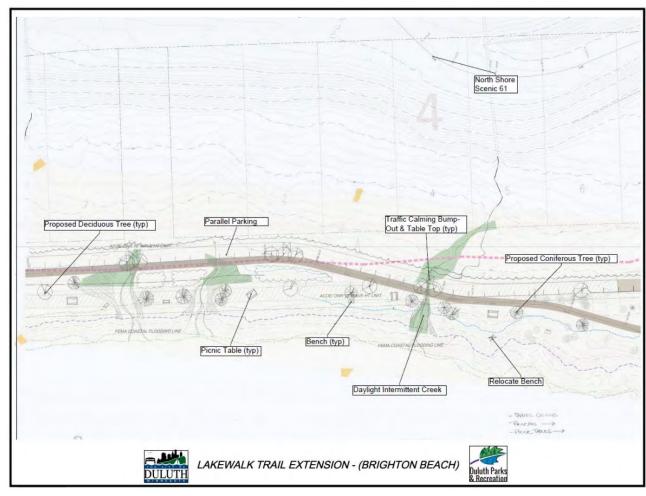


Figure 23: Preliminary proposed landscape and amenity plan, view of Kitchi Gammi Park and Brighton Beach, with new toilet house, parking, turnaround area, and other amenities.

Applicant Plan.

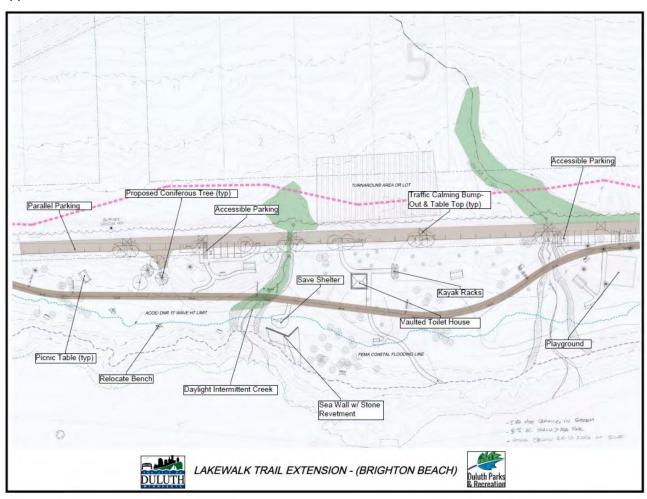
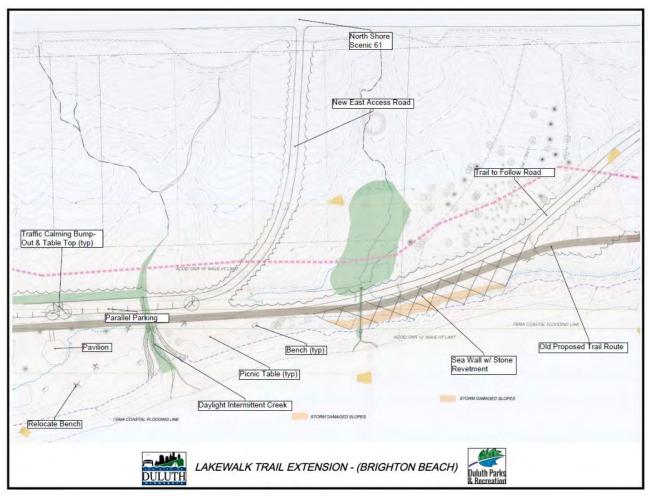


Figure 24: Preliminary proposed landscape and amenity plan, view of Kitchi Gammi Park and Brighton Beach, with new shoreline revetment, pavilion, parking, and other amenities. *Applicant Plan*.



The following excerpts from the Phase I Archaeological Reconnaissance Survey provide an overview of the work completed and resulting recommendations.

A complete copy of the report is available by sending an email to fema-r5-environmental@fema.dhs.gov.

KITCHI GAMMI PARK TRAIL PHASE I ARCHAEOLOGICAL RECONNAISSANCE SURVEY St. Louis County, Minnesota

State Project Number (SP): 118-090-024 Federal Project Number: STPF-TA 3920(085)

Authorized and Sponsored by:

Minnesota Department of Transportation Cultural Resources Unit, Mail Stop 620 395 John Ireland Boulevard St. Paul, MN 55155-1800 Renee Barnes (Historian)

City of Duluth
411 West 1st Street
Duluth, MN 55802
Patrick Loomis (Project Engineer)

Prepared by:

Merjent, Inc.
1 Main Street SE, Suite 300
Minneapolis, MN 55414
Mike Madson (Principal Investigator, OSA License No.19-050)

December 2019

MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

The City of Duluth plans to construct a new bike trail and a new vehicle access road through Kitchi Gammi Park just northeast of the Lester River in Township 50 North, Range 13 West, Section 4, St. Louis County, Minnesota. The project will comply with M.S. 138 (Field Archaeology Act) and M.S. 307.08 (Private Cemeteries Act) during all Project phases with the assistance of the Minnesota Department of Transportation Cultural Resources Unit. In addition, the City of Duluth plans to utilize Federal Highway Administration funds to complete the Trail portion of the Project which requires compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, and implementing regulations found in 35 CFR 800.

The City of Duluth and the Minnesota Department of Transportation contracted with Merjent, Inc. to perform a Phase 1 Archaeological Reconnaissance Survey within the project's Area of Potential Effect, which measures approximately 7.69 acres. Merjent archaeologist Michael Madson served as Principal Investigator and performed the field work with Merjent archaeologists Kevin Mieras and Sigmund Antecki between October 28 and 30, 2019. Merjent performed pedestrian survey within the Area of Potential Effect and placed 44 shovel probes in areas deemed appropriate by the Principal Investigator at intervals of no greater than 15 meters. Merjent identified no archaeological resources. The effort to identify archaeological deposits in the Area of Potential Effect was appropriate to existing conditions. Merjent recommends that archaeological sites eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places are not likely to exist within the Area of Potential Effect and that no additional archaeological survey is necessary.

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Table 1. Overview of Surveyed Areas by Station

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- Figure 1. Kitchi Gammi Trail Project, Project Overview, St. Louis County, Minnesota
- Figure 2. Kitchi Gammi Trail Project, General Land Office Map, St. Louis County, Minnesota
- Figure 3. Kitchi Gammi Trail Project, 1939 Aerial, St. Louis County, Minnesota
- Figure 4. Kitchi Gammi Trail Project, Project Area Mapbook, St. Louis County, Minnesota

Photographs

Photograph 1. Manicured park area near Bike Trail Station 85+50 and Access Road Station 302+00, in the vicinity of Shovel Probe B8. View to southwest.

Photograph 2. Wooded stand near Bike Trail Station 88+00 and Access Road Station 304+50, in the vicinity of Shovel Probe B1. View to southwest.

INTRODUCTION

Merjent, Inc. (Merjent) was contracted by the City of Duluth (City) and the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) to perform a Phase 1 Archaeological Reconnaissance Survey for a new bike trail and a new vehicle access road (Project) through Kitchi Gammi Park (Park) just northeast of the Lester River in Township 50 North, Range 13 West, Section 4, St. Louis County, Minnesota (Figure 1). Currently, the Duluth Lakewalk terminates at the western edge of the Park. Bikers are required to share the busy Brighton Beach Road with vehicles through the length of the Park, to meet up with Congdon Blvd, and then continue along the Congdon Blvd/North Shore Dr route to Two Harbors. This new Kitchi Gammi Trail (Trail) will utilize portions of the existing Brighton Beach Road as well as portions of the (currently) adjacent woods and manicured park grounds. The City also plans to remove Brighton Beach Road and to construct a new access road with terminals at Congdon Blvd (Access Road).

The Project APE for the project was determined as follows. The Trail will measure approximately 4,635 feet/1412 meters long. Merjent assumed a corridor width of 50 feet/15.24 meters, which would encompass an area of 5.36 acres. The Access Road will measure approximately 3,222 feet/982 meters long. Again, Merjent assumed a corridor width of 50 feet/15.24 meters, which would encompass and area of 3.74 acres. Approximately 1.41 acres exist in both the Trail and Access Road corridors; therefore, the aggregate survey corridor is approximately 7.69 acres. This effectively represents the Project Area of Potential Effect (Project APE).

Three regulatory conditions exist for the Project. Since the lands that may be utilized for the Project are owned by the City of Duluth (City), the City must comply with M.S. 138 (Field Archaeology Act) and M.S. 307.08 (Private Cemeteries Act) during all Project phases with the assistance of the MnDOT Cultural Resources Unit (CRU). In addition, the City plans to utilize Federal Highway Administration (FWHA) funds to complete the Trail portion of the Project which requires compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, and implementing regulations found in 35 CFR 800.

Merjent archaeologist Michael Madson served as Principal Investigator and performed the field work with Merjent archaeologists Kevin Mieras and Sigmund Antecki. Merjent applied industry best practices and adhered to the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archaeology and Historic Preservation (48 Code of Federal Regulations ["CFR"] 44716), the SHPO Manual for Archaeological Projects in Minnesota (Anfinson 2005), and OSA's State Archaeologist's Manual for Archaeological Projects in Minnesota (Anfinson 2011). Merjent placed 44 shovel probes within the Project APE and identified no archaeological resources.

METHODOLOGY

The general objective of a Phase 1 archaeological reconnaissance is to identify archaeological resources within the Project APE that are at least 45 years of age. Archaeological resource types considered for this investigation included both pre-contact and historic-period archaeological sites and earthworks that could provide information about human occupation. Such sites could be evident in artifacts or features on or below current ground surfaces. The focus of this investigation was to understand what sites have been identified in or near the Project APE (archival review), and if any unknown resources could be positively identified within the Project APE (field reconnaissance). If an archaeological site were to be identified in the Project APE during field reconnaissance, as much data would be collected to provide a basic understanding of the site's eligibility for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP).

Merjent's scope of work included two tasks: (1) archival review and (2) field reconnaissance. As noted below, the archival review included review of records on file at the Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and the Minnesota Office of the State Archaeologist (OSA), which house archaeological site forms, report files, and cultural resource reference materials for the State of Minnesota.

Field reconnaissance generally consisted of standard Phase I methods as outlined by Anfinson (2005, 2011). Merjent archaeologists Michael Madson, Kevin Mieras, and Sigmund Antecki executed the field reconnaissance between October 28 and 30, 2019. Archaeologists located the Project APE utilizing Geographic Information System (GIS) data in conjunction with a Trimble Geo7X series Global Positioning System (GPS) unit, supplemented with aerial photograph-based paper maps.

Mr. Madson assessed ground surface visibility to determine the proper survey techniques. In those areas where ground surface visibility was below 25% and where previous disturbance was not obvious, Merjent archaeologists placed shovel probes where slopes were less than 20 percent. In such areas shovel probes were placed at a maximum interval of 15 meters and were generally 30 to 40 centimeters in diameter and reached depths of 60 centimeters. Soils recovered from shovel probes were screened through ¼ inch hardware cloth mesh and returned.

Merjent archaeologists photographed areas within the Project APE and recorded ground surface and subsurface conditions on standard field forms. Field forms, photograph logs, and all archival materials are on file at Merjent's office in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

LITERATURE SEARCH

Merjent archaeologists conducted an archival review of the Project APE and the surrounding area within a 1-mile radius (literature search study area). The Project is within SHPO's Archaeological Sub-Region 9n (Lake Superior North). Sub-Region 9n is located along the Minnesota shore of Lake Superior running

from Duluth to the United State/Canada border just north of Grand Portage. In addition, the Project APE falls within the **HIGH** Layer of the Mn Model (Phase 3) Survey Implementation Model.

Mr. Madson conducted the literature search of OSA files on July 1 and December 17, 2019. Mr. Mieras reviewed SHPO survey report files on July 29 and December 17, 2019. Mr. Madson and Mr. Mieras reviewed additional archival resources, including 19th century maps and field notes, published by General Land Office (GLO), and historic aerial photographs.

No previous archaeological survey reports within the literature search study area are on file at SHPO. No previously identified archaeological sites or earthworks are within one mile of the Project APE. The nearest terrestrial archaeological site, the Hartley Root Cellar (21SL1102), is 4.5 miles west of the Project.

General Land Office Map and Historic Aerial Photograph Review

Merjent reviewed 19th-century GLO maps and notes on file with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM 2019a). The GLO map of Township 50 North, Range 13 West, Section 4 illustrates two examples of a structure and a clearing, one at each end of the Project APE (Figure 2). The GLO notes describe them each as "a House and 2 acres [of] clearing," which were established sometime before June 1857 (the survey date indicated on the GLO map).

A review of the land patent on file with the BLM (BLM 2019b) for the northern structure and clearing shows that just over 160 acres were granted to Warren Ford as Bounty Land for his role as a Private in the Vermont Militia during the War of 1812. Mr. Ford held title to the acreage sometime between March 3, 1855 (when Bounty Land grants were first made available) and October 5, 1860, when title was sold to Henry Stowell. The land patent for southern structure and clearing shows that just over 116 acres were granted to Benjamin N. Harrison as Bounty Land for his role as a Private in the Illinois Militia during the Black Hawk War. Mr. Harrison held title to the acreage sometime between March 3, 1855 and October 5, 1860, when title was sold to Daniel W. Case.

Merjent reviewed aerial photographs taken between 1939 and 1989, on file with the OSA. The 1939 aerial photograph shows the early layout of Kitchi Gammi Park, which was an extension of the nearby Brighton Beach Tourist Camp (now the location of the Mid-Continent Ecology Division Laboratory), both of which were owned and operated by the City (Nelson and Dierckins 2017) (Figure 3). Kitchi Gammi Park, first constructed in the 1920s, has been maintained ever since. The Park infrastructure, in particular Brighton Beach Road, has been replaced repeatedly in response to Lake Superior shoreline erosion, most often associated with storm events. However, the alignment of Brighton Beach Road and the Park layout has not altered significantly since the 1920s.

The Lake Superior Shoreline and Project APE Soils

As noted by Miller (n.d.), the current shoreline along Lake Superior likely took shape around 2,000 years ago. The rapids of Sault Saint Marie, exposed by the lowering levels of Lake Michigan and Lake Huron, restricted flow out of Lake Superior and raised the level to its current elevation, approximately 600 feet above sea level. Miller (n.d.) also noted that the Lake Superior shoreline was possibly upwards of 500 feet above its current level immediately after the recession of the last glaciation as water filled the Lake Superior basin. Lake levels then gradually fell to a point approximately 250 feet lower than the current level, before the restriction at Sault Saint Marie.

Soils in the Project APE are generally ascribed to the Barto, stony-Greysolon-Rock outcrop complex, with possible slopes ranging from 0 to 18 percent (NRCS 2019). Merjent Archaeologists expected excavatable soils to be relatively shallow with depths not likely to exceed 15 inches or 40 centimeters.

Implications for Archaeological Potential

No previous archaeological reconnaissance survey has been documented in the Project APE or the literature review study area and no previously identified archaeological sites are within the Project APE. However, a brief review of the development of the Lake Superior shoreline and readily available early historic-period maps suggests that that the APE has potential to contain archaeological sites, namely:

- Pre-contact period archaeological sites from the Archaic Period, but more likely from the Woodland Period (sometime after around 2,000 years before present as the current lake level stabilized), and;
- Mid-19th (Bounty Land settlement) and 20th century (post World War I development of the Park and subsequent park use) archaeological sites.

RESULTS

The Phase I reconnaissance survey was completed by Merjent archaeologists Michael Madson, Kevin Mieras, and Sigmund Antecki between October 28 and 30, 2019. A series of 44 shovel probes were excavated within areas not obviously disturbed or paved (Table 1 and Figure 4). Table 1 shows the field conditions of the surveyed Trail and Access Road corridors. Each corridor measured 50 feet wide with a 20-foot centerline offset. As illustrated on Figure 4, overlap along the corridors occurred in some areas. The aggregate survey area, or the combined total acreage of all survey areas discounting the overlap, was approximately 7.69 acres. As noted above, this effectively represents the Project APE.

Subsurface visibility within the entire survey area was less than 25 percent, necessitating shovel testing across a variety of field conditions ranging from open, grassy manicured green spaces (Photograph 1) to wooded stands of mixed pine and birch with bedrock exposures (Photograph 2).

Soils observed throughout the Project APE were consistent with the Barto, stony-Greysolon-Rock outcrop complex, i.e. silty loams overlaying clay with cobble inclusions, often with pooling water visible at 50 to 60 centimeters below the ground surface (cmbgs). In general, soil profiles consisted of:

- a thin silty loam topsoil (0 to 20/25 cmbgs, 10YR 3/2 [very dark grayish brown]), over;
- mottled clay (20/25 to 35/40 cmbgs, 5YR 4/4 [reddish brown]), over;
- clay (35/40 to 55/60 cmbgs, 5YR 4/6 [yellowish red]).

Modern cultural material examples (including but not limited to a wire fragment and condiment packets) were observed in the topsoil of excavated shovel probes, particularly within the open, manicured park grasses of the main recreational area between Bike Trail stations 101+50 and 109+00. Recovered modern materials were placed in backfilled shovel probes.

Merjent archaeologists observed no pre-contact or historic-period cultural materials within the Project APE.

SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Between October 28 and 30, 2019, Merjent conducted a Phase I Archaeological Survey within the Project APE. No archaeological sites were identified during the field investigations. The effort to identify archaeological deposits in the APE was appropriate to existing conditions. Merjent recommends that archaeological sites eligible for inclusion on the NRHP are not likely to exist within the Project APE and no additional archaeological survey is necessary.

While not reviewed for the purposes of this survey of the Project APE, it should be noted that a scatter of historic-period artifacts was noted on the surface approximately 125 feet/38 meters east of Bike Trail station 118+50. Since the Bike Trail will generally follow the centerline of the existing roadway at this location, and no vegetation clearing will be necessary (only removal of existing pavement), Merjent suggested that the historic-period artifact scatter would not be impacted by construction of the Project. This historic-period artifact scatter, possibly related to the location of the Ford/Stowell structure noted on the GLO, will be noted in a pending document and site form (Madson 2020).

While not expected, in the event archaeological materials are identified during Project construction activities, such activities should cease in the immediate area, and a professional archaeologist should be contacted to evaluate the identified materials. In the event of a confirmed archaeological site, steps should be taken to record and evaluate the site in consultation with MnDOT, the City, the OSA, and the Minnesota Indian Affairs Council (MIAC) and, if the site is determined by MnDOT to be eligible for inclusion on the NRHP, to determine and implement any procedures for treatment. Should human remains be identified, the procedures as outlined in Minnesota Statute Chapter 307, "Private Cemeteries," must be followed.

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REFERENCES CITED

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2005 SHPO Manual for Archaeological Projects in Minnesota. Minnesota Historical Society. St. Paul, Minnesota.

2011 State Archaeologist's Manual for Archaeological Projects in Minnesota. Office of the State Archaeologist. St. Paul, Minnesota.

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2019b 1860s Federal Land Patents. (Website: https://glorecords.blm.gov/default.aspx, accessed June and December 2019)

Madson, Michael

2020 Site form for Site KGP-H01. Pending submittal in 2020.

Miller, Jim

n.d. An Introduction to the Geology of the North Shore. (Website: http://www.lakesuperiorstreams.org/understanding/geology.html, accessed December 2019)

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2017 Duluth's Historic Parks: Their First 160 Years. Zenith City Press, Duluth, Minnesota

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APPENDIX I

Tribal Coordination and Religious Sites



March 9, 2022

Edith Leoso, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer Bad River Band of Lake Superior Tribe of Chippewa Indians P.O. Box 39 Odanah, Wisconsin 54861

Re: Brighton Beach Road/Kitchi Gammi Park, Duluth, Saint Louis County, MN FEMA Project #95035, DR-4414-MN, PW 8 46.838049, -92.001752 to 46.846512, -91.990690 / T50N R13W S4

Dear Ms. Leoso:

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) recognizes the special and unique legal relationship that exists between the federal government and federally recognized American Indian Tribes (Tribes). FEMA also recognizes that Tribes may attach religious and cultural significance to historic properties located on aboriginal, ancestral, or ceded lands that are not contiguous with reservation lands. For this reason, FEMA consults with Tribes regarding the possible effects of FEMA-funded undertakings on cultural properties of historic or traditional significance, sometimes referred to as Traditional Cultural Properties (TCPs). The purpose of this communication is to provide information regarding the captioned FEMA-funded project and to invite comment on whether the Bad River Band of Lake Superior Tribe of Chippewa Indians or other Tribes have interests in the areas potentially affected by this undertaking.

As a result of severe storms and flooding affecting areas of the State of Minnesota October 9-11, 2018, President Trump signed the 4414-DR-MN Disaster Declaration on November 27, 2018. Under this declaration, St. Louis County was made eligible for FEMA's Public Assistance (PA) Program funding. FEMA notified Tribes thought to have interests in the declared counties on February 22, 2019. FEMA invited comments on the potential impacts PA projects may have on lands traditionally used by or sacred to the Bad River Band of Lake Superior Tribe of Chippewa Indians and other Native American groups. No responses to this request for comment were received.

The disaster event resulted in damage and erosion at Kitchi Gammi Park along the Lake Superior shoreline, damaging Brighton Beach Road, lakeshore revetments, and culverts. The subrecipient, the City of Duluth, is seeking funding from FEMA for relocating Brighton Beach Road, converting portions of the existing road to a recreational trail, adding trail sections, repairing culverts, and repairing or replacing lakeshore revetments. The project location is noted on the enclosed map.

In accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act and other legislation, FEMA determined that this project constitutes a federally assisted undertaking requiring review under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended. In accord with 36 CFR 800.2(c)(2)(ii), FEMA is providing this opportunity for the Bad River Band of Lake Superior Tribe of Chippewa Indians to identify concerns about historic properties that may be affected by this undertaking.

Brighton Beach Road/Kitchi Gammi Park Duluth, Saint Louis County, MN FEMA Project #95035, DR-4414-MN, PW 8 March 9, 2022 Page 2

We invite your comments on the potential impacts this undertaking may have on lands traditionally used by or sacred to the Bad River Band of Lake Superior Tribe of Chippewa Indians or other Native American groups. We understand the sensitive nature of much of the information regarding TCPs and assure you in advance that any information you provide will be considered privileged and confidential. In order to safeguard TCPs of interest to Native Americans, we are contacting the following Tribes to request information regarding their interest in this undertaking.

- Bad River Band of Lake Superior Tribe of Chippewa Indians
- Bois Forte Band of Chippewa Indians
- Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa
- Fort Peck Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes
- Grand Portage Band of Lake Superior Chippewa
- Keweenaw Bay Indian Community

- Lac Courte Oreilles Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians of Wisconsin
- Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians of Wisconsin
- Lac Vieux Desert Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians
- Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Indians
- Minnesota Chippewa Tribe
- White Earth Band of Ojibwe

Receiving notice of your interest to join the consultation regarding this undertaking or notice of Tribes other than those listed above that may have an interest in this undertaking would improve FEMA's efforts to protect resources that may exist in the areas noted on the enclosures. A response form has been provided for your convenience.

We would appreciate a response by email from your office within thirty (30) days of your receipt of this documentation. If FEMA receives no response from your office within thirty (30) days, we will move forward with the project without comment from the Bad River Band of Lake Superior Tribe of Chippewa Indians. If you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact me at fema-r5-environmental@fema.dhs.gov or at 312-408-5549.

Sincerely.

Duane Castaldi

Regional Environmental Officer

FEMA Region V

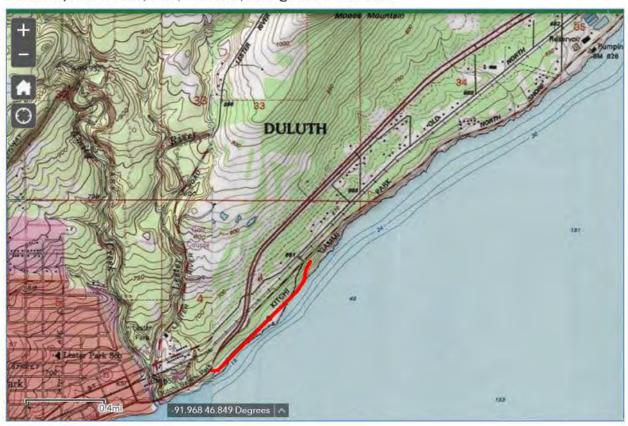
Sent by email to thpo@badriver-nsn.gov

Brighton Beach Road/Kitchi Gammi Park Duluth, Saint Louis County, MN FEMA Project #95035, DR-4414-MN, PW 8 March 9, 2022 Page 3

	++++++You may email this page to <u>fema-r5-environmental@fema.dhs.gov</u> +++++++
Re	ghton Beach Road/Kitchi Gammi Park, Duluth, Saint Louis County, MN
	MA Project #95035, DR-4414-MN, PW 8 .838049, -92.001752 to 46.846512, -91.990690 / T50N R13W S4
	The Bad River Band of Lake Superior Tribe of Chippewa Indians has no interest in the area potentially affected by the captioned undertaking.
	The Bad River Band of Lake Superior Tribe of Chippewa Indians has an interest in the area potentially affected by the captioned undertaking. Contact information is provided below.
	The Tribal Nations noted below may have an interest in the area potentially affected by this undertaking.
	Bad River Band of Lake Superior Tribe of Date Chippewa Indians

Brighton Beach Road/Kitchi Gammi Park Duluth, Saint Louis County, MN FEMA Project #95035, DR-4414-MN, PW 8 March 9, 2022 Page 4

Undertaking location marked in red. USGS Map "Lakewood, MN", 1:24000, enlarged to show detail



APPENDIX J

Public Engagement





>>Photo Credit: Lake Superior at Brighton Beach, Parks Staff

PROJECT INITIATION

- Kick-off
- Existing Conditions Review

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

- Online Survey / Comment Period
- Public Open House

DRAFT PLAN

Parks & Recreation
 Commission Informational Presentation

REVIEW & REVISE

- Public Comment
- Revisions
- Parks & Recreation Commission + Council Approval

Community Engagement Timeline

City Interdepartmental Staff Meeting

Representatives from City Engineering, Parks & Recreation, Property Facilities Management and Community Planning began meeting in December 2017 to address failing infrastructure and determine future action.

Existing Conditions Review

Condition assessments were compiled from disaster storm reporting and staff field visits. Most data was compiled over the summer/fall of 2018 and spring of 2019.

Online Survey/Comment Period

24 survey responses received between May 28—June 7, 2019. 7 additional written comments received.

Public Open House

Hosted by City Staff at Brighton Beach, 25 community members attended this meeting on June 3, 2019 from 5 to 7 p.m.

Parks & Recreation Commission Informational Presentation

Draft plan presented to Parks and Recreation Commissioners on June 12, 2019.

Public Comment

Open during planning process through email, phone and website comment form. Draft plan posted for comment from June 13 to 26, 2019.

Plan Revisions: June 27—July 9, 2019

Parks & Recreation Commission Approval

Final plan presented to Commissioners on July 10, 2019

Council Approval- August 19, 2019.

Open House & Public Survey

Open House

25 Attendees June 3, 2019

Online Survey

24 Respondents May 28 to June 7, 2019



>> Photo Credit: Public Open House June 3, 2019; Parks Staff





12-Revised 2019 Brighton Beach Mini-Master Plan

Open House & Public Survey Findings

"Brighton Beach is a true Duluth treasure!"

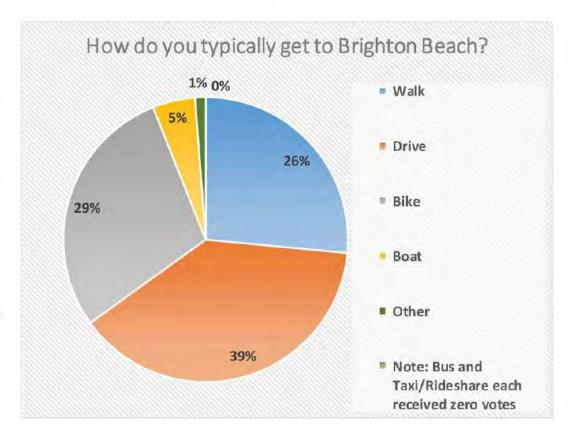
- online survey respondent

Top 5 Activities

- 1. Walk
- Observe from beach / observe waves / observe storms
- 3. Sit by lake
- 4. Beachcomb / throw rocks into the water
- 5. Enjoy ice formations

Top 3 Suggestions

- 1. Separate walking areas from driving areas
- 2. Permanent restroom facilities
- 3. One-way traffic



Detailed feedback summary available in Appendix A.

Brighton Beach feedback summary: online survey, public meeting, comment form, and emails

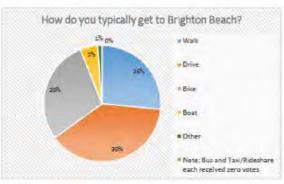
"How do you typically get to Brighton Beach?"	Total Responses	% Response
Walk	22	26.5060241
Drive	32	38,55421687
Bike	24	28.91566265
Boat	4	4.819277108
Other	1	1.204819277
Note: Bus and Taxi/Rideshare each received zero votes	0	0
Bus	0	0
Taxi/Rideshare	0	0

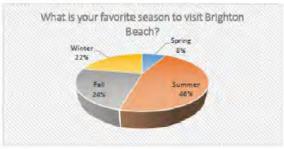
"What is your favorite season to visit Brighton Beach?"	Total Responses	% Response
Spring	5	7.936507937
Summer	29	46.03174603
Fall	15	23.80952381
Winter	14	22.2222222

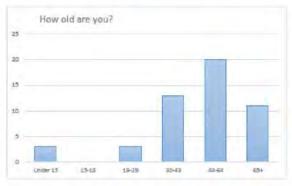
"How old are you?"	Total Responses % Respo	inse
Under 15	3	6
15-18	0	0
19-29	3	6
30-43	13	26
44-64	20	40
65+	11	22

"What is your zip code?"	Total Responses	% Response
55803	3	7.142857143
55804	33	78.57142857
55806	1	2 380952381
55807	1	2.380952381
55812	2	4.761904762
55616 (data consolidator's note: Two Harbors)	1	2.380952381
55733 (data consolidator's note: Esko area)	1	2.380952381

"What is your favorite thing to do at Brighton Beach?"	Total Responses
Walk	17
Observe from beach / observe waves / observe storms	15
Sit by lake	11
Beachcomb / throw rocks into the water	9
Enjoy the ice formations	7
Listen to the waves	6
Picnic	4
Wade or swim in the water	3
See the spring flowers	2
Run	2
Bike	2
Visit the art show	2
Meet friends	
Launch canoe or kayak	1
Play on the beach	9
Photography	
Drive through	1
Play on playground	
Yoga by the lake	1







"How could we make Brighton Beach even better?"	Total Responses			
Permanent restroom facilities	7			
Another picnic pavilion	2			
Canoe / kayak launch area	2			
More trash and dog waste disposal (& dog waste reminder signage)	3			
More picnic tables and grills	3			
Changing tables in restrooms	1	theme: facility suggestions		
Water fountain	1	2-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1		
Bike racks	1			
Put in a dog park	1			
Improve playground	(1			
Nature play for kids	1			
Separate walking areas from driving areas	12			
One-way traffic	7	theme: design suggestions		
Move road away from lake and restore shoreland	5			
More parking	4			
Turn into a pedestrian park w/parking on either end	4			
Diagonal parking	3			
Improve accessibility of paths to lake/beach	2			
Widen road and designate a bike lane	2			
Improve road surface	2			
Include pull-off viewing areas (don't need to leave car)	1			
Parking time limit	1			
One entrance with roundabout and cul-de-sac	1			
Speed limits and CCTV to monitor crime/speeding	1			
Slower traffic	1			
Speed bumps	1			
Dedicate a bike/walking path that connects the Lakewalk to Congdon Blvd	1			
Move E end of road to the W of the forest and keep road away from eroding area	1			
No change / minimal change	3	theme: general		
Keep green spaces	2			
Leash law / dog poop pick-up	2			
Keep the planted forest	1			
Cut the grass	1			

Online survey: "Do you have any other comments?"

We live in Lakeside and have loved family outings at Brighton Beach by bike and car for 20 years. Sad to see how the road has been so hard to keep up. Would like to see a more permanent solution to keeping it safe and nice for tourists as well as local visitors for years to come.

For the past 20 years I have walked Brighton beach about three times a week, regardless of weather. Each time I walk I notice how many people drive there to gaze out over the water and sky. I would like to see those that aren't very mobile to be able to continue to sit in their cars and enjoy the beauty. Jit brings so many people peace, thank you for your efforts.

Please never use the word "resiliency" ever again

Brighton Beach is a true Duluth treasure!

Attention to graffiti—I was SO mad when someone painted that rock (on the right side of the road on the turn before you continue up the road to the eastern entrance) bright green-I was hoping the city would sandblast it, or turn it over so it didn't show.

Brighton Beach just needs to be safer for pedestrians and bikers while also allowing for people to drive thru. Designated paths and speed bumps might help

Could vehicle traffic be eliminated altogether with parking areas off Scenic 61 and wide paved accessible trails leading to the lakeshore?

This is a great area for family fun. Thank you for keeping it great

Thank you for asking!

The lake has been eroding the road for years; removing would reduce, significantly, costs of continual repair.

keep the redesign simple, so as not to interfere with the natural beauty of the shoreline

Looking forward to the improvements!

Email: General comments

Brighton Beach Suggestions: I have a few and will list them in no particular order. You have probably heard it a million times so I will not suggest parking, even though it is very important. 1.

Splash pad for kiddos 2. Dog friendly grounds (trashes, maybe a fence, water filling stations) 3. An ice rink set up 4. Disc golf baskets 5. A small fish cleaning facility because so many people ice fish out of it. 6. A community garden 7. Landscaping with flowers to attract bees 8. Prevention against invasive plant species 9. Areas for picnic tables

Brighton Beach Feedback: Please leave the natural beauty of this park. Fix the road first. Widening if capable would be wonderful but I don't see a need for bike paths if it takes away from the beauty of the natural park. An added, simple, play area for kids would be wonderful but comes after the core need of a better roadway.

I would love to see Brighton beach road a lot more wide with a bike/run/walk lane

Ideas for brighten beach. First off the road needs to be wide enough for two vehicles to safely pass each other, a sidewalk and bike lane would be nice if only old highway 61 had a bike lane.

Also redoing the parking lots and more grassy areas that are nice and groomed. Update the playground, Last thing but I see people having fires there all the time and I myself love to have beach fires so maybe some outside fire pits for fires on the beach? Tourists would really love all this just saying! Thanks

The current draft provides ample parallel parking spaces, but no pull off areas where people can turn in, park, and look out over the lake through their front windshield. I live within walking distance and have walked Brighton Beach year round for the last 20 years and each time I do I see people pulled into a turn off, gazing out at the lake. Many never leave their car, often due to inclement weather or the inability to navigate the shoreline on foot, but nevertheless, they are able to take in the magnificence of Lake Superior in all her changing moods. Please don't deprive those people of that opportunity. Construct full on viewing sites. It would be a travesty if the existing spots were all taken way and not replaced with viable options.

Re: Brighton Beach Is a breakwall / breakwater structure feasible in order to prevent that specific area of the road from continual corrosion? Continuous repair after storms and the broken down road asphalt mixing into Lake Superior both seem like issues that need to be mitigated. A restroom because I've seen the portable toilets tipped over many times there. The chemicals used in portable toilets are not inert. Portable toilets waft downwind the smell of proprietary (secret) fragrance compounds like a glade plugin installed in our natural spaces. Biocides are built into the portable toilet liquid so wafting biocides in our wild spaces should also be mitigated. My ideas clearly depend upon budget. Thank you for your consideration.