

NE 68th Street Sidewalk Project — New Crosswalk Landing

Section 4(f) *de minimis* Evaluation and Determination

Q. What is being proposed as part of this sidewalk project?

A. A small asphalt or concrete crosswalk landing is proposed immediately west of the Hazel Dell Community Park's driveway. This new landing will comprise the north end of a new crosswalk that will allow safe pedestrian access between the south side of NE 68th Street and the Park.

Q. How large is the proposed impact?

A. The crosswalk landing will permanently impact 85 square feet of a grassy swale located between the short, chain link fence along the Park and NE 68th Street. This estimated impact is based on the 75% complete engineering design and is not expected to change substantially.

Q. What is Section 4(f)?

A. "Section 4(f) refers to the original section within the U.S. Department of Transportation Act of 1966 that provided for consideration of [public] park and recreation lands, wildlife and waterfowl refuges, and historic sites during transportation project development. The law... applies only to the U.S. Department of Transportation (U.S. DOT) and is implemented by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration" (FHWA 2020).

Q. Why does this federal law apply to this local project?

A. "Section 4(f) applies to projects that receive funding from... an agency of the U.S. DOT" (FHWA 2020). For this project, Clark County Public Works has received federal funds through the Transportation Alternatives and the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement programs.

Q. What is a *de minimis* impact?

A. “A *de minimis* impact involves the use of Section 4(f) property that is generally minor in nature. A *de minimis* impact is one that, after taking into account avoidance, minimization, mitigation and enhancement measures, results in no adverse effect to the activities, features, or attributes” of the property (FHWA 2020).

Q. Why is this discussion coming before the Clark County Parks Advisory Board and what is being requested?

A. For projects with *de minimis* impacts, FHWA considers public meetings of parks advisory boards or commissions an appropriate means for review and comment of the project, and thus requests concurrence that the proposed impact will not adversely affect the activities, features, or attributes of the Hazel Dell Community Park.

Q. What are the next steps after this meeting?

A. First, the Clark County Parks and Lands Manager will provide a cover letter and meeting notes to Clark County Public Works. The notes will be attached to a *de minimis* impact determination form that is forwarded to WSDOT and FHWA for review and comment. Finally, after all comments or revisions have been resolved, WSDOT and FHWA staff will approve the *de minimis* impact.

On Clark County letterhead

March XXXXX, 2020

Mr. Michael Williams, Local Programs Engineer
WSDOT Southwest Region
11018 NE 51st Circle
Vancouver, WA 98682-6686

RE: *De minimis* Section 4(f) Evaluation for NE 68th Street Sidewalk Project: NE Highway 99 to NE St Johns Road, Clark County and City of Vancouver, Washington
Federal Aid Project Number: CM-4206(001)

Dear Mr. Williams,

Clark County and the City of Vancouver are proposing to construct a continuous sidewalk between NE Highway 99 in unincorporated Clark County and NE St Johns Road in Vancouver. This project will permanently impact 0.002 acres (85 square feet) of the 20-acre Hazel Dell Community Park, located at 2300 NE 68th Street, Clark County. The impact will result from constructing a crosswalk landing west of the park's driveway at NE 68th Street. Temporary impacts of approximately 400 square feet will be required for construction of the landing; following construction, this disturbed area will be returned to pre-construction contours and revegetated.

A short, chain link fence immediately north of NE 68th Street visually and physically separates the park from the street. However, the fence does not mark the property boundary, which is located approximately 10 feet closer to the street. The area between the chain link fence and the property boundary is occupied by a vegetated, mowed, roadside drainage swale; this area is not actively used for park activities. The project will construct a crosswalk landing on this portion of the park parcel, providing safe pedestrian access to the park from a sidewalk that will be constructed on the south side of NE 68th Street. The landing will extend north from road right-of-way (the parcel boundary) onto the park, terminating at the current location of the chain link fence. The design will not inhibit the function of the drainage swale.

The sidewalk project's minor impact on the Hazel Dell Community Park was discussed at our Clark County Parks Advisory Board meeting on March 10, 2020. Meeting notes are attached. We reviewed the evaluation of impacts and we concur that the proposed project will not adversely affect the activities, features, or attributes that make the Hazel Dell Community Park eligible for Section 4(f) protection. We agree that this project will have a *de minimis* impact on the park property.

Sincerely,

Galina Burley
Clark County Parks and Lands Manager

Attachment

cc: XXXXXXXXXXXX



Exhibit 1. Example of an at-grade crosswalk and landing. Although this landing is asphalt, the one constructed at Hazel Dell Community Park may be asphalt or concrete depending on final design. Rendering prepared by HHPR on March 5, 2020.

Section 4(f) *De Minimis* Impact Determination (per 23 CFR 771)

Summary Table

Date:	March 4, 2020
WSDOT Region:	Southwest Washington
Project Number:	CM-4206(001)
Project:	NE 68th Street Sidewalk — NE Highway 99 to NE St. Johns Road
Project Description:	A new sidewalk will be constructed on the south side of NE 68th Street, connecting existing sidewalk segments. Four pedestrian crossings will be installed to facilitate safe access to the north side of NE 68th Street at its intersection with NE 14th Avenue, NE 17th Avenue, Hazel Dell Community Park, and NE 28th Avenue. Retaining walls, embankments, stormwater swales, and drainage systems will also be constructed.
Section 4(f) Resource:	Hazel Dell Community Park
Type of 4(f) Resource:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public Park or Recreational Area • National-Register Eligible Historic Site
Size of the <i>de minimis</i> use of the 4(f) Resource (in acres):	0.002 acres (85 square feet) of the 20 acre park
Primary Purpose/Function of the 4(f) Resource:	Picnic areas and open space
Official with Jurisdiction:	Galina Burley, Clark County Parks and Lands Manager

De minimis Documentation

- 1. Describe the Section 4(f) property and the attributes and features that qualify it to Section 4(f) protection, attach a map showing the boundaries of the resource, the locations of key features (e.g. ball fields, structures) and the area to be used.**

Hazel Dell Community Park is a recreation space in Clark County that is also a contributing resource of the Clark County Poor Farm Historic District. The historic district was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 2013. The park contributes to the historic district due to its wooded setting, which conveys its former use as wooded pasture during the time period when the Clark County Poor Farm was in operation (1913-1943). Hazel Dell Community Park was established in 1950, after the poor farm had been closed.

- 2. Describe the impacts to the Section 4(f) property, and any avoidance, minimization and mitigation or enhancement measures, and why they are considered *de minimis* as defined in 23 CFR 771.17.**

A crosswalk will be constructed from the south side of NE 68th Street to the entrance of Hazel Dell Community Park on the north side of the NE 68th Street. The crosswalk will remain within existing road right-of-way, but a portion of the associated landing will be built at the western edge of the park's driveway, extending approximately 10 feet onto the park parcel.

A short, chain link fence immediately north of NE 68th Street visually and physically separates the park from the street. However, the fence does not mark the property boundary, which is located approximately 10 feet closer to the street. The area between the chain link fence and the property boundary is occupied by a vegetated, mowed, roadside drainage swale; this area is not actively used for park activities. The landing will be constructed on this portion of the park parcel. The landing will extend north from the road right-of-way (the parcel boundary) onto the park parcel, terminating at the chain link fence. The design will not inhibit the function of the roadside drainage swale.

This project will permanently impact 0.002 acres (85 square feet) of the 20-acre Hazel Dell Community Park. The impact will result from constructing the crosswalk landing west of the park's driveway. Temporary impacts will be approximately 400 square feet, required for construction activities around the new landing. Following construction, this area of temporary disturbance will be returned to pre-construction contours and revegetated.

Measures to avoid and minimize impacts include:

- Avoiding areas with historic buildings, mature vegetation, and recreation features (such as pavilions, trails, and large grassy lawns);
- Locating the landing and crosswalk at the existing main park entrance, thus avoiding establishment of a new entrance; and
- Minimizing the size of the landing.

Construction of the landing and associated crosswalk will provide a formal pedestrian access to the park and thus increase the safety of pedestrians crossing NE 68th Street.

Construction of the landing will result in a *de minimis* impact as there will be no adverse effect on Hazel Dell Community Park.

3. For parks, recreational facilities, and wildlife and waterfowl sanctuaries:

- a. Describe the public outreach that has been or is being conducted (leave blank for historic sites).**

Section 4(f) *de minimis* impacts were discussed at a Clark County Parks Advisory Board meeting on March 10, 2020. Meeting notes are attached.

- b. Attach written concurrence of the official with jurisdiction over the 4(f) resource with the *de minimis* determination.**

Letter from Galina Burley, Clark County Parks and Lands Manager is attached.

4. For historic resource, attach Section 106 documentation (include SHPO concurrence in project-level findings (DOEs and or FOEs) and Programmatic Agreement Memos for archaeological resources).

The Clark County Poor Farm was listed in the NRHP in 2013. The first three pages of the signed NRHP nomination form are attached.

Request for Approval

Based upon this analysis we request FHWA approval that the use of the Section 4(f) resource described above is *de minimis* as defined in 23 CFR 774.17.

Jodie Beall, Environmental Engineer
WSDOT Local Programs

Date

FHWA Approval

Liana Liu, PE, PTOE, Area Engineer
FHWA Washington Division

Date

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Figure 1. A *de minimis* impact will occur at the Hazel Dell Community Park for the NE 68th Street Sidewalk: NE Hwy 99 to NE St. Johns Road project.

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Photograph 1. View west towards the Hazel Dell Community Park driveway. The location of the proposed crosswalk and landing is out of view to left of the white metal gates (center left). The public parking lot and picnic area are in the forested area. Photograph was taken on March 13, 2019 by AINW.



Photograph 2. A crosswalk landing will be constructed along the western edge of the park entrance. The black dashed line approximates the extent of the sidewalk landing, part of which is in the road right-of-way and part is within the park. The right of way is approximated by the red dashed line. The view is facing west. Photograph was taken on March 13, 2019 by AINW.



Photograph 3. The crosswalk landing will extend north from existing road right-of-way (approximately marked with red dashed line) and over a drainage swale that is within the park boundary. The landing will terminate at the chain link fence. The park's parking lot is visible in the distance at upper right. The view is facing west. Photograph was taken on August 23, 2019 by HHPR.

Clark County Poor Farm / SW Washington Experiment Station
Name of Property

Clark County, WA
County and State

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

CL 989

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. **Place additional certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).**

1. Name of Property

historic name Clark County Poor Farm; Southwestern Washington Experiment Station
other names/site number Washington State University Southwest Washington Research Unit; 78th Street Heritage Farm

2. Location

street & number 1919 NE 78th Street not for publication
city or town Vancouver vicinity
state Washington code WA county Clark code 011 zip code 98665

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this X nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property X meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

 national statewide X local

Ally M 11-15-12
Signature of certifying official Title Date

Washington State Historic Preservation Office
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official Date

Title State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
- determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain:)

Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

Clark County Poor Farm / SW Washington Experiment Station
 Name of Property

Clark County, WA
 County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
 (Check as many boxes as apply.)

- private
- public - Local
- public - State
- public - Federal

Category of Property
 (Check only one box.)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property
 (Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
7	6	buildings
2	1	sites
	2	structures
		objects
9	9	Total

Name of related multiple property listing
 (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
 (Enter categories from instructions.)

HEALTH CARE: Sanitarium

AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE:

Agricultural field, Animal facility, Horticultural facility

Agricultural Outbuilding

EDUCATION: Research

FUNERARY: Cemetery

Current Functions
 (Enter categories from instructions.)

AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE:

Horticultural Facility, Agricultural Outbuilding

EDUCATION: Research

GOVERNMENT: Government office

LANDSCAPE: Park

FUNERARY: Cemetery

7. Description

Architectural Classification
 (Enter categories from instructions.)

LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS:

Italian Renaissance

Materials
 (Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: Concrete

walls: Stucco, Weatherboard, Fiberglass

roof: Aluminum, Asphalt

other:

Clark County Poor Farm / SW Washington Experiment Station
Name of Property

Clark County, WA
County and State

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance of the property. Explain contributing and noncontributing resources if necessary. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, setting, size, and significant features.)

Summary Paragraph

The Clark County Poor Farm historic district is comprised of 99 acres, most of which is agricultural farmland. The historic district has 18 resources, including 13 buildings, 3 sites and 2 structures. The resources are grouped into 5 clusters based on geographic location and resource type:

1. Administration buildings
 - a. 3 contributing buildings (Administration building, Garage, and Milk House)
2. Greenhouses and Agricultural buildings:
 - a. 1 contributing building (Shop)
 - b. 3 non-contributing buildings (Tool Room, Head House and the Pesticide Shed)
 - c. 1 non-contributing site (Greenhouses site)
3. Central outbuildings
 - a. 3 contributing buildings (Machine Shed, Bunk House and Hog Barn)
 - b. 1 non-contributing building (Well House)
4. Cemetery
 - a. 1 contributing site (Poor Farm Cemetery)
5. Hazel Dell Park
 - a. 1 contributing site (Hazel Dell Park)
 - b. 2 non-contributing structures (Picnic Shelters)
 - c. 2 non-contributing buildings (Bathrooms and Utility Shed)

In general the non-contributing resources are secondary resources and outbuildings, while the more prominent resources are all contributing. Nearly all of the non-contributing resources are located in two specific clusters, the Greenhouses and Agricultural Buildings Cluster and within the Hazel Dell Park Cluster, and thus do not detract from the overall character and integrity of the district. The contributing resources and agricultural landscape convey their association with the district's early 20th Century history as the Clark County Poor Farm and the district's mid-century history as the Southwestern Washington Experiment Station. The historic district is locally significant under Criterion A for its associations with both the Clark County Poor Farm (1913-1943) and Southwestern Washington Experiment Station (1943-1966).

Narrative Description

LOCATION

The Clark County Poor Farm historic district includes approximately 99 acres in the Hazel Dell vicinity between NE 78th and NE 68th Streets to the north and south and between NE 19th and NE 24th Avenues to the east and west, approximately 0.5 miles east of Highway 99 and 0.7 miles east of Interstate 5. Hazel Dell is a community of around 19,500 people, located approximately four miles north of Vancouver in unincorporated Clark County, although the Poor Farm site has a Vancouver address and zip code.¹ The district is comprised of two separate

¹ U.S. Census Bureau, "Hazel Dell CDP, Profile of General Population and Housing Characteristics: 2010," Demographic Profile Data, 2010.
http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?pid=DEC_10_DP_DPDP1&prodType=table