

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION
MINNESOTA DIVISION**

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT & SECTION 4(f) DE MINIMIS DETERMINATION

Minnesota State Project Number 2782-327

I-35W and Lake Street Improvement Project

In the City of Minneapolis

Hennepin County, Minnesota

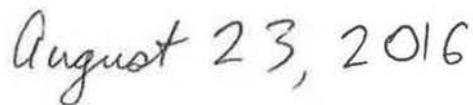
The proposed project includes construction of a Lake Street multimodal transit station; a non-motorized connection between the Midtown Greenway and the transit station; replacement of existing roadway pavement and multiple bridges; implementation of MnPASS lanes; and construction/replacement of noise walls.

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) has determined the proposed improvements, as described in the Environmental Assessment (EA) and the Findings of Fact and Conclusion (FOFC) will have no significant impacts to the human or natural environment. This Finding of No Significant Impact is based upon the EA which has been independently evaluated by the FHWA and determined to adequately discuss the need, environmental issues, and impacts of the proposed project and appropriate mitigation measures.

Furthermore, this FONSI constitutes FHWA's determination of a de minimis impact to a Section 4(f) resource: Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Park (PARK). The PARK is owned and managed by the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board. A portion of the PARK is needed to accommodate reconstruction of a non-motorized trail bridge. The Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board has concurred that the proposed project and mitigation measures will not adversely affect the features, attributes, or activities qualifying the PARK for protection under Section 4(f).

The EA provides sufficient evidence and analysis for determining that an Environmental Impact Statement is not required. The FHWA takes full responsibility for the accuracy, scope, and content of the EA for the subject project.


William Lohr, P.E.



Field Operations Team Leader