

Why You Should Read This: The document below reviews the environmental impact likely from a project. This project is planned to be federally funded through your tax dollars; therefore, you are entitled to take part in its review. If you have concerns about the environmental impact of this project, raise them now. We encourage public input in this decision making process.



IOWA STATE REVOLVING FUND
ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION DOCUMENT

PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

Applicant: City of Clarence
County: Cedar
State: Iowa

SRF Number: FS-16-23-DWSRF-022
Iowa DNR Project Number: W2022-0706

COMMUNITY DESCRIPTION

Location: The City of Clarence is located in Cedar County, Iowa approximately 30 miles east of Cedar Rapids, Iowa and 35 miles northwest of Davenport, Iowa.

Population: The population of Clarence according to the 2020 US Census was 1,039. The design for the project is based on modest population growth consistent with what the community has experienced in recent decades.

Current Distribution System: The existing water distribution system along 7th Avenue is comprised of 4-inch cast-iron water main that runs along the west side of the road. The water main along 7th Avenue is unreliable and has exceeded its useful life, with numerous recorded historical water main breaks.

The existing water main is undersized, resulting in customer complaints with regard to residual flows and pressures during periods of high use. The existing water main is also undersized to provide service during all flow conditions.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Purpose: The purpose of this project is to make improvements to the City's drinking water infrastructure to enhance reliability and replace deteriorated infrastructure in order to safely and reliably operate the City of Clarence's water system for the next 20 years.

Proposed Improvements: The proposed project includes replacement of 2,100 linear feet of failing water main along 7th Avenue from Lombard Street to Piatt Street covering an area of approximately 4.5 acres. The new water main will be installed via open trench excavation with estimated trench dimensions being 10-ft

wide by 8-ft deep. The project includes installation of water main appurtenances such as fire hydrants and replacing water services to the curb stops. Disturbed areas will remain within the existing right-of-way area. Restoration efforts include complete replacement of the roadway including pavement, curb & gutter, storm sewer, and sidewalks.

ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED

Alternatives Considered: The existing water main in service has deteriorated and is in need of replacement. Therefore, no alternatives were considered.

Reasons for Selection of Proposed Alternative: A no action alternative is not viable due to the age and deterioration of the existing water main. The selected improvements to the existing water distribution system were deemed the most cost-effective options. The evaluation took into consideration capital, maintenance, and operational costs. The project site was selected for proximity to existing infrastructure as well as minimization of the impacts to the environment.

MEASURES TAKEN TO ASSESS IMPACT

Coordination and Documentation with Other Agencies and Special Interest Groups: The following Federal, state and local agencies were asked to comment on the proposed project to better assess the potential impact to the environment:

- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- State Historical Society of Iowa (State Historical Preservation Office)
- Iowa DNR Conservation and Recreation Division
- Iowa DNR Flood Plain Management Section
- Citizen Band Potawatomi Indian Tribe
- Flandreau Santee Sioux
- Ho-Chunk Nation
- Iowa Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska
- Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma
- Kickapoo Tribe in Kansas
- Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma
- Lower Sioux Indian Community Council
- Miami Tribe of Oklahoma
- Omaha Tribal Council
- Osage Tribal Council
- Otoe-Missouria Tribe
- Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma
- Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma
- Ponca Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma
- Ponca Tribe of Nebraska
- Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation
- Prairie Island Indian Community
- Sac & Fox Nation of Mississippi in Iowa
- Sac & Fox Nation of Missouri
- Sac & Fox Nation of Oklahoma

Santee Sioux Nation
Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community
Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate
Spirit Lake Tribal Council
Three Affiliated Tribes Mandan, Hidatsa & Arikara Nations
Upper Sioux Tribe
Winnebago Tribal Council
Yankton Sioux Tribal Business and Claims Committee
Lincoln Highway Association
Iowa Lincoln Highway Association
Lincoln Highway National Heritage Byway – Prairie Rivers of Iowa

No adverse comments were received from any agencies or general public to date. Conditions placed on the applicant by the above agencies in order to assure no significant impact are included in the Summary of Reasons for Concluding No Significant Impact section.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT SUMMARY

Construction: Traffic patterns within the community may be disrupted and above normal noise levels in the vicinity of the construction equipment can be anticipated during construction and should be a temporary problem. Adverse environmental impacts on noise quality will be handled by limited hours of contractor work time during the day. Other adverse environmental effects from construction activities will be minimized by proper construction practices, inspection, prompt cleanup, and other appropriate measures. Areas temporarily disturbed by the construction will be restored. Solid wastes resulting from the construction project will be regularly cleared away with substantial efforts made to minimize inconvenience to area residents.

Care will be taken to maintain dirt to avoid erosion and runoff. The proposed project will disturb one or more acres of soil; therefore, the applicant is required to obtain an NPDES General Permit Number 2 (for storm water discharge associated with construction activities) and abide by its terms. Provided that this permit is obtained and the terms of which are abided by, no significant impact to surface water quality, fish, shellfish, wildlife, or their natural habitats is expected.

Temporary air quality degradation may occur due to dust and fumes from construction equipment. The applicant shall take reasonable precautions to prevent the discharge of visible emissions of fugitive dusts beyond the lot line of the property during the proposed project (567 Iowa Administrative Code IAC 23.3(2)“c”).

Historical/Archaeological: Various Native American tribes with an interest in the area and the appropriate historic organizations were provided information regarding the project. The project is currently under consultation with State Historical Preservation Office (SHPO). Historic survey of the project area and nearby structures has indicated the impacted portion of the Lincoln Highway and five surrounding structures are eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. The project will only proceed as planned if a determination of “no adverse effect on historic properties” can be appropriately reached with mitigation. However, if project activities uncover any item(s) that might be of archaeological, historical, or architectural interest, or if important new archaeological, historical, or architectural data should be encountered in the project APE, the applicant should make reasonable efforts to avoid further impacts to the property until an

assessment can be made by an individual meeting the Secretary of the Interior's professional qualifications standards (36 CFR Part 61).

Environmental: A Joint Application was submitted to the Iowa DNR Conservation and Recreation Division and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The DNR Flood Plain Management Section will determine if the proposed project requires a permit for impacts to the 100-year floodplain. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will determine if the proposed project will impact wetlands or jurisdictional waters of the United States. According to the Iowa DNR Conservation and Recreation Division, the proposed project will not interfere with any State-owned parks, recreational areas or open spaces. The project will not impact any wild and scenic rivers as none exist within the State of Iowa. The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Section 7 Technical Assistance website consultation determined, and Iowa DNR Conservation and Recreation Division agree, that the project will not impact protected species or their habitats. However, if any State- or Federally-listed threatened or endangered species or communities are found during the planning or construction phases, additional studies and/or mitigation may be required. No adverse impacts are expected to result from this project, such as those to surface water quantity, or groundwater quality or quantity. Therefore, no significant impact to surface water quality, fish, shellfish, wildlife, or their natural habitats is expected.

Land Use and Trends: The project will not displace population nor will it alter the character of existing residential areas. The proposed project is within the present corporate limits of Clarence in areas zoned residential, commercial, or industrial. No significant farmlands will be impacted. This project should not impact population trends as the presence or absence of existing water/sewer infrastructure is unlikely to induce significant alterations in the population growth or distribution given the myriad of factors that influence development in this region. Similarly, this project is unlikely to induce significant alterations in the pattern and type of land use.

Irreversible and Irretrievable Commitment of Resources: Fuels, materials, and various forms of energy will be utilized during construction

Nondiscrimination: All programs, projects, and activities undertaken by DNR in the SRF programs are subject to federal anti-discrimination laws, including the Civil Rights Act of 1964, section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and section 13 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Amendments of 1972. These laws prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age.

POSITIVE ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS TO BE REALIZED FROM THE PROPOSED PROJECT

Positive environmental effects will be maintained water quality for the citizens of Clarence. This project will improve the water distribution system, provide more reliable service to customers, and increase residual flow and pressures. A catastrophic loss of water supply could result in City-wide health impacts due to a lack of sanitation and the use of other water sources that may not meet Federal drinking water standards.

SUMMARY OF REASONS FOR CONCLUDING NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

- The project will not significantly affect the pattern and type of land use (industrial, commercial, agricultural, recreational, residential) or growth and distribution of population.
- The project will not conflict with local, regional or State land use plans or policies.
- The project will be reviewed for impacts to wetlands, none are anticipated.

- The project will not affect threatened and endangered species or their habitats. If any State- or Federally-listed threatened or endangered species or communities are found during the planning or construction phases, additional studies and/or mitigation may be required.
- The project will not displace population, alter the character of existing residential areas, or convert significant farmlands to non-agricultural purposes.
- The project will be reviewed for impacts to the 100-year flood plain, none are anticipated.
- The project will not have effect on parklands, preserves, other public lands, or areas of recognized scenic or recreational value.
- Historic consultation of the proposed project is currently underway with the State Historical Preservation Office. The project will only proceed as planned if a determination of either “no historic properties affected” or “no adverse effect on historic properties” can be appropriately reached with mitigation.
- The project will not have a significant adverse effect upon local ambient air quality provided the applicant takes reasonable precautions to prevent the discharge of visible emissions of fugitive dusts beyond the lot line of the property during the proposed project (567 IAC 23.3(2)“c”).
- The project will not have a significant adverse effect upon local ambient noise levels, surface water quantity, groundwater quality or quantity, or water supply.
- No significant impact to surface water quality, fish, shellfish, wildlife, or their natural habitats is expected provided that an NPDES General Permit Number 2 (for storm water discharge associated with construction activities) is obtained and the terms of which are abided by.

The project description, scope, and anticipated environmental impacts detailed above are accurate and complete to the best to my knowledge.

Signature of the Mayor, City of Clarence

Date

Printed Name of the Mayor, City of Clarence