

## **Section 4(f) Project Experience – Joe Trnka, AICP, CEP**

### **Southwest Transitway Light Rail Transit, Eden Prairie to Minneapolis, Minnesota Draft Section 4(f) Evaluation**

In 2009-2010, Mr. Trnka took the lead role in preparing the Draft Section 4(f) Evaluation for the proposed Southwest LRT Project for the Federal Transit Administration on behalf of the project applicant, Hennepin County. This LRT, which would run almost entirely on existing railroad alignment, would provide passenger service between downtown Minneapolis and Eden Prairie via Saint Louis Park, Hopkins, and Minnetonka. He conducted the fieldwork and research necessary to identify parks and recreational areas that qualify as Section 4(f) properties within the project corridor. He was also responsible for the integration of historic property information from the Section 106 information into the Section 4(f) evaluation and the Draft Environmental Impact Statement, which was being prepared simultaneously. The majority of the Section 4(f) property likely to be used by the proposed project consists of historic railroad property.

### **De Minimis Section 4(f) Evaluation for Clackamas Elementary School, Portland, Oregon**

In 2010, Mr. Trnka assisted the Oregon Department of Transportation, Portland District, with the research and preparation of the *de minimis* Section 4(f) evaluation of the need to use a portion of land from the historic Clackamas Elementary School. The need for use was driven by proposed construction of the Sunrise Highway and its connection to I-205 at the OR 212/224 Interchange. He worked directly with Oregon Department of Transportation personnel on the project, conducted fieldwork, coordinated with the Federal Highway Administration, and prepared the draft Section 4(f) documents for DOT and FHWA review. The final Section 4(f) document was signed by FHWA in 2010.

### **De Minimis Section 4(f) Evaluation for the Proposed Replacement of the Iowa Street Viaduct, Interstate 5, Portland, Oregon**

In 2010, Mr. Trnka assisted the Oregon Department of Transportation, Portland District, with the research and preparation of the *de minimis* Section 4(f) evaluation of the closure of Southwest Trail #3 due to proposed replacement of the Iowa Street Viaduct. He worked directly with Oregon Department of Transportation personnel on the project, conducted fieldwork, coordinated with the Federal Highway Administration, and prepared the draft Section 4(f) document for DOT and FHWA review. The final Section 4(f) document was signed by the FHWA in 2010.

### **Final Section 4(f) Statement, Proposed Central Corridor Light Rail Transit, Minneapolis to St. Paul, Minnesota**

In 2008-2009, Mr. Trnka took the lead role in preparing both the Draft and Final Section 4(f) Evaluations for the proposed Central Corridor LRT Project for the Federal Transit Administration on behalf of the project applicant, Metropolitan Council. This LRT, which would provide passenger service between downtown Minneapolis and downtown Saint Paul on approximately 11 miles of alignment. All the alignment would be constructed on existing city streets. He conducted the fieldwork and research necessary to identify which of the parks and recreational areas in the project corridor qualified as Section 4(f) properties. He was also responsible for the integration of historic property information from the Section 106 information into the Section 4(f) and NEPA evaluations for the project. The project alignment passed through five historic districts and passed across one historic bridge and under a second. It also passed by a number of historic properties and other Section 4(f) protected properties, including several parks. The FTA signed the Final Section 4(f) Statement for the project in 2010.

**Section 4(f) Statement, Proposed Improvements to I-29 Corridor in Sioux City, Iowa**

Interdisciplinary Team Member. Responsible for the cultural resources section of the EIS and the Section 4(f) Evaluation. Prepared for the Iowa Department of Transportation (DOT) and the Iowa Division Office of the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA).

**Section 4(f) Statement, Proposed Interchange Improvements Along I-35, Ankeny, Iowa**

Interdisciplinary Team Leader. Conducted field research and wrote cultural resources, wetlands, socioeconomic, environmental justice, and listed species sections of the NEPA document. Responsible for the Section 4(f) Evaluation and the historic building survey special study. Coordinated NEPA document through internal, City of Ankeny, Iowa DOT, and FHWA review processes.

**Section 4(f) Statement, Proposed Improvements to Collins Road (Highway 100), Cedar Rapids, Iowa**

Interdisciplinary Team Leader. Conducted field research and wrote cultural resources, wetlands, socioeconomic, environmental justice, and listed species sections of the NEPA document. Responsible for the Section 4(f) Evaluation and the historic building survey special study. Coordinated the NEPA document through internal, City of Cedar Rapids, Iowa DOT, and FHWA review processes.

**Section 4(f) Statement, Iowa City Municipal Airport, Runway Extension & Airport Improvements, Iowa City, Iowa**

2002. Interdisciplinary Team Leader. Conducted field research and prepared the Section 4(f) evaluation and wrote cultural resources, wetlands, socioeconomic, environmental justice, and listed species sections of the NEPA document. Completed the wetland delineation and historic building survey special studies. Coordinated NEPA document through internal and Federal Aviation Administration review processes.

**Final Section 4(f) Statement for the US 30/67 Project, Clinton, Iowa. 2003**

Led the Section 4(f) avoidance analysis and completed the technical report. Coordinated the technical report through internal, Iowa DOT, and FHWA review processes.