June 24, 2019

Boston Conservation Commission
C/O Amelia Croteau, Executive Secretary
1 City Hall Square, Room 709
Boston, MA 02201

Subject: United States Postal Service - Boston VMF
135 A Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02210

Pavement Improvements (USPS Project Number B71689)
Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act – Request for Determination of
Applicability

Dear Commission Members:

The United States Postal Service (USPS) is proposing to conduct pavement improvements
(resurfacing of existing parking lots and laneways) at its Boston Vehicle Maintenance Facility
(VMF), located at the above-referenced address. On behalf of the USPS and in accordance with
the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act Regulations (310 CMR 10.00 / M.G.L. c. 131, §40),
Gordon R. Archibald, Inc. (GRA) is hereby submitting a Request for Determination of
Applicability (RDA) to the Boston Conservation Commission for review. The following
materials constitute the RDA submission:

- One (1) original and two (2) copies of the signed Request for Determination of
  Applicability (WPA Form 1);
- One (1) full-size copy and two (2) reduced-size (11”x17”) copies of the 30% Project
  Plans (10 Sheets) dated 6-24-19; and
- Two (2) copies of the Project Description report, including maps, photographs, and other
  supporting documentation.

Concurrent with this submission, one (1) complete set of the application materials listed above
has been transmitted to the MassDEP Northeast Region Office in accordance with filing
requirements.
June 24, 2019

We trust that this submission package is complete for consideration during the next scheduled Conservation Commission meeting date of July 10, 2019. Should you have any questions or require additional information, please call us at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

GORDON R. ARCHIBALD, INC.

[Signature]

Kevin M. Nagle, P.E.
Senior Civil Engineer

cc: MassDEP Northeast Region Office, Wilmington, MA (w/ enclosures)
    Christopher DeFilippo, McKinnell, McKinnell & Taylor, Inc. (w/ enclosures)
    Steven D. Overko, USPS Facilities (w/ enclosures)
A. General Information

1. Applicant:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>E-Mail Address</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>USPS Facilities - Northeast Repairs &amp; Alterations</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Steven.D.Overko@usps.gov">Steven.D.Overko@usps.gov</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>955 Goffs Falls Road</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manchester</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NH</td>
<td>03103-9997</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>603-644-4176</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Representative (if any):</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Firm</th>
<th>E-Mail Address</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gordon R. Archibald, Inc.</td>
<td><a href="mailto:travenelle@graengs.com">travenelle@graengs.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Todd Ravenelle, P.E.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>200 Main Street</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pawtucket</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RI</td>
<td>02860</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>401-726-4084</td>
<td>401-728-1533</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

B. Determinations

1. I request the Boston Conservation Commission make the following determination(s). Check any that apply:

- [ ] a. whether the **area** depicted on plan(s) and/or map(s) referenced below is an area subject to jurisdiction of the Wetlands Protection Act.

- [ ] b. whether the **boundaries** of resource area(s) depicted on plan(s) and/or map(s) referenced below are accurately delineated.

- [ ] c. whether the **work** depicted on plan(s) referenced below is subject to the Wetlands Protection Act.

- [ ] d. whether the area and/or work depicted on plan(s) referenced below is subject to the jurisdiction of any **municipal wetlands ordinance** or bylaw of:

  City of Boston
  Name of Municipality

- [ ] e. whether the following **scope of alternatives** is adequate for work in the Riverfront Area as depicted on referenced plan(s).
C. Project Description

1. a. Project Location (use maps and plans to identify the location of the area subject to this request):

   135 A Street  
   Boston  
   Street Address  
   City/Town  
   N/A  
   0602760000 & 0602749100  
   Assessors Map/Plat Number  
   Parcel/Lot Number  

   b. Area Description (use additional paper, if necessary):

   U.S. Postal Service maintenance facility - vehicle parking areas and access aisles (see attached Project Description)

2. a. Work Description (use additional paper and/or provide plan(s) of work, if necessary):

   Resurfacing and restriping of postal vehicle parking areas (see attached Project Description)
C. Project Description (cont.)

b. Identify provisions of the Wetlands Protection Act or regulations which may exempt the applicant from having to file a Notice of Intent for all or part of the described work (use additional paper, if necessary).

The nature and scope project activities on USPS property are materially identical to the repair/resurfacing/reclamation of existing roadways within the right-of-way, which is considered to be a “minor activity” under 310 CMR 10.02(2)(b)2.

3. a. If this application is a Request for Determination of Scope of Alternatives for work in the Riverfront Area, indicate the one classification below that best describes the project.

- Single family house on a lot recorded on or before 8/1/96
- Single family house on a lot recorded after 8/1/96
- Expansion of an existing structure on a lot recorded after 8/1/96
- Project, other than a single family house or public project, where the applicant owned the lot before 8/7/96
- New agriculture or aquaculture project
- Public project where funds were appropriated prior to 8/7/96
- Project on a lot shown on an approved, definitive subdivision plan where there is a recorded deed restriction limiting total alteration of the Riverfront Area for the entire subdivision
- Residential subdivision; institutional, industrial, or commercial project
- Municipal project
- District, county, state, or federal government project
- Project required to evaluate off-site alternatives in more than one municipality in an Environmental Impact Report under MEPA or in an alternatives analysis pursuant to an application for a 404 permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers or 401 Water Quality Certification from the Department of Environmental Protection.

b. Provide evidence (e.g., record of date subdivision lot was recorded) supporting the classification above (use additional paper and/or attach appropriate documents, if necessary.)

N/A
D. Signatures and Submittal Requirements

I hereby certify under the penalties of perjury that the foregoing Request for Determination of Applicability and accompanying plans, documents, and supporting data are true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

I further certify that the property owner, if different from the applicant, and the appropriate DEP Regional Office were sent a complete copy of this Request (including all appropriate documentation) simultaneously with the submittal of this Request to the Conservation Commission.

Failure by the applicant to send copies in a timely manner may result in dismissal of the Request for Determination of Applicability.

Name and address of the property owner:

USPS Facilities - Northeast Repairs & Alterations C/O Steven D. Overko, Architect/Engineer
Name
955 Goffs Falls Road
Mailing Address
Manchester
City/Town
NH State
03103-9997 Zip Code

Signatures:

I also understand that notification of this Request will be placed in a local newspaper at my expense in accordance with Section 10.05(3)(b)(1) of the Wetlands Protection Act regulations.

Signature of Applicant
Digitally signed by Steven D Overko
Date: 2019.06.17 10:49:30 -04'00'
6/17/19

Signature of Representative (if any)

Date
6/24/19
BOSTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION
AND THE
MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

MASSACHUSETTS WETLANDS PROTECTION ACT

REQUEST FOR DETERMINATION OF APPLICABILITY

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

FOR PROPOSED

PAVEMENT IMPROVEMENTS

AT THE

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE
Boston VMF
135 A Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02210

Prepared by:

GORDON R. ARCHIBALD, INC.
200 Main Street
Pawtucket, RI 02860

June 2019
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## ATTACHMENTS

A. Project Location Map (USGS, 1” = 1,500’)

B. Vicinity Map (1” = 400’)

C. FEMA Flood Hazard Zone Map (FIRMette)

## APPLICATION MATERIALS BOUND SEPARATELY

- MassDEP WPA Form 1 – Request for Determination of Applicability
- Site Plans: **Pavement Improvements, Boston VMF, 135 A Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02210, 30% Submission** prepared for the United States Postal Service Facilities Service Office by McKinnell, McKinnell, & Taylor Inc. and Gordon R. Archibald, Inc., 6-24-2019 (10 sheets)
1. Project Purpose and Description

The United States Postal Service (USPS, Owner and Applicant) is proposing to conduct pavement resurfacing operations at its Boston Vehicle Maintenance Facility (VMF), located at 135 A Street in the City of Boston, Massachusetts. The location of the existing facility in the South Boston area is shown on the Project Location Map provided as Attachment A to this report.

The purpose of the proposed project is to restore the asphalt paved surfaces surrounding the VMF facility to a state of good repair. Due to the age and deteriorated condition of pavements within the parking areas flanking the VMF building, the USPS is proposing to resurface these lots with new bituminous asphalt base and surface courses, including full-depth pavement reclamation, trimming and fine grading, adjustment of drainage and other utility structures to grade, and pavement striping. No changes to the impervious surface cover of the site are proposed, and all existing drainage patterns will be maintained under post-development conditions.

As the area of the proposed work is in the general vicinity of Boston Harbor, it is understood that Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act Regulations (310 CMR 10.00) may be applicable to the proposed project. Accordingly, Gordon R. Archibald, Inc. (GRA) is submitting herewith a Request for Determination of Applicability (RDA) to the Boston Conservation Commission on behalf of the USPS. Full- and reduced-scale site plans depicting the proposed work are provided along with the signed application, this Project Description, and other required documentation. Given the project’s location, the limited nature of the work, and negligible potential for adverse impacts to natural resources, it is requested that the Boston Conservation Commission issue a Negative Determination so that the Applicant may proceed with the proposed project.

2. Existing Conditions

The Boston VMF is situated in a largely commercial/industrial area within the Fort Point District of South Boston, just south of the Interstate Route 90 (I-90) tunnel under Boston Harbor and to the immediate west of the Boston Convention and Exhibition Center (see attached Vicinity Map). The VMF property is accessed via a gated entrance off Medallion Avenue and is bound by chain link fencing around its entire perimeter, nearly all of which is protected by vehicular guardrail. As postal vehicle maintenance activities are contained to the service bays of the VMF building, use of paved areas around the facility is limited to vehicular access and parking of postal and employee vehicles (see Photos 1-4 below). The condition of these existing pavements currently ranges from fair to poor, with asphalt surfaces characterized by cracking, potholes, and spot patch applications.

An ancillary USPS parking lot (bound by A Street to the west, West Service Road Connector to the east, and Wormwood Street to the south) is also actively used at this location but is not part of the subject pavement resurfacing project. While previously accessible via the laneway that runs around the south side of the VMF, this lot is now separated from the VMF site by concrete barriers placed to block access.
Photo 1 – Medallion Avenue entrance looking west from inside VMF Lot (GRA Photo)

Photo 2 – Pavement conditions at front (southeasterly) entrance to VMF Building looking northwest (GRA Photo)
Photo 3 – Parking and maintenance bay doors along southeasterly side of VMF building looking northeast, with access laneway at right (GRA photo)

Photo 4 – Access laneway along southeasterly side of VMF looking southwest (GRA photo)
Through a review of available geospatial data for the project area (MassGIS, City of Boston), there are no freshwater or coastal wetland features in the immediate vicinity of the proposed project. The nearest coastal feature – Fort Point Channel – is approximately 1,000 feet northwest of the VMF. The entire project area is however located within the 100-year (1% annual chance, Zone AE) flood hazard area established by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) – see Attachment C for mapping excerpt.

The paved VMF lots are served by legacy closed drainage systems that collect and convey site runoff off-site. Based on a review of record plans and collected survey data, collected stormwater is released via a storm main that exits the property at the intersection of Medallion Avenue and Binford Street, whereupon flows are presumed to enter the municipal drainage system, continue north/northwest along Binford Street, and release to Fort Point Channel. The USPS currently cleans and maintains existing drainage structures within the VMF property.

3. Proposed Action

Depicted on the attached site plans, the USPS is proposing to resurface approximately 24,000 square yards of existing bituminous pavements at the VMF site, along will removal and replacement of existing reinforced concrete pads. This work will include establishing proper erosion and sediment controls (including installation of inlet protection devices), removal of existing pavements by full-depth reclamation, and placement (including fine grading and compaction) of new hot mix asphalt (HMA) pavement base and surface courses. In addition to the above, existing catch basin inlets will be adjusted to finish grade, cleaned, and retrofitted with oil/debris separator hoods (“Snout” type with bio-skirt) on the outlet pipe.

There will be no change in the area of impervious surface cover upon completion of the project, as the extents of resurfacing will be limited to existing paved surfaces. The new pavement surface will be smooth-finished to match existing grades and all existing drainage structures will remain in place. Consequently, no materials changes to existing drainage patterns or runoff flow rates/volumes will occur as a result of the proposed work. Based on the limited nature and scope of proposed activities, as well as the retrofit improvements that will be installed in drainage inlets across the site, it is understood that MassDEP Stormwater Management Standards for new development are not applicable to the proposed work. Furthermore, as there will be no material changes in grade across the site (no cutting or filling), construction of the proposed pavement improvements will not affect the depths or extents of flood hazard areas.

Since the proposed project involves construction-phase activities with the potential to mobilize pollutants and sediments, appropriate best management practices will be implemented prior to the commencement of work and will be maintained for the duration of construction. All inlets will be provided with filter fabric inlet protection devices, consisting of filter bag inserts (“Silt Sack” or approved equal, see details) installed in all catch basins that receiving runoff from the area to be resurfaced. In the execution of the work, the contractor will be required to adhere to all applicable best management practices as set forth in the latest edition of the Massachusetts Erosion and Sediment Control Guidelines for Urban and Suburban Areas (MA Executive Office of Environmental Affairs, 1997/2003), as well as the erosion and sediment control notes included on the site plans.
4. Anticipated Impacts & Regulatory Applicability

By its nature and location, the proposed project will have negligible potential for impacts to resources regulated under the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act, particularly as all work will occur over an existing developed area (with no change in impervious cover) that is over 1,000 feet from the nearest natural coastal resource area. Furthermore, the project and its constituent activities are tantamount to the repair/resurfacing/reclamation of existing roadways within the right-of-way, which is considered to be a “minor activity” under the current Wetlands Protection Act Regulations (310 CMR 10.02(2)(b)2).

Consistent with the above-referenced section of the Regulations, all work will be performed “…in a manner so as to reduce the potential for any adverse impacts to the resource area during construction, and with post-construction measures implemented to stabilize any disturbed areas.” Proper construction-phase erosion and sediment controls will be installed and maintained for the duration of the project, protecting closed drainage systems and receiving waters from potential short-term impacts. In full consideration of the above, it is requested that the Boston Conservation Commission issue a Negative Determination so that the USPS may complete the proposed pavement improvements at the Boston VMF.

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Attachments:

A. Project Location Map (USGS, 1” = 1,500’)
B. Vicinity Map (1” = 400’)
C. FEMA Flood Hazard Zone Map (FIRMette)
A. Project Location Map

Scale: 1” = 1,500’ • Sources: USGS National Map Service, MassGIS
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B. Vicinity Map

Scale: 1" = 400' • Sources: BostonMaps Open Data (parcel lines - magenta), MassGIS • Note: project area is generalized, see site plans for pavement resurfacing limits
This map complies with FEMA's standards for the use of digital flood maps if it is not void as described below. The basemap shown complies with FEMA's basemap accuracy standards.

The flood hazard information is derived directly from the authoritative NFHL web services provided by FEMA. This map was exported on 6/18/2019 at 8:18:57 AM and does not reflect changes or amendments subsequent to this date and time. The NFHL and effective information may change or become superseded by new data over time.

This map image is void if the one or more of the following map elements do not appear: basemap imagery, flood zone labels, legend, scale bar, map creation date, community identifiers, FIRM panel number, and FIRM effective date. Map images for unmapped and unmodernized areas cannot be used for regulatory purposes.

The pin displayed on the map is an approximate point selected by the user and does not represent an authoritative property location.
PAVEMENTS,

COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH UTILITY RELOCATIONS NOT INCLUDED IN THE CONTRACT

ORDINARY

THE AUTHORITY.

CHLORIDE

THE

OF

ALL

HAVING

UTILITY

WORK.

OF

UTILITY

WORK.

PAVEMENT IMPROVEMENTS

1. All material and equipment furnished to the contractor shall be delivered at the place where the work is to be performed. All material and equipment furnished to the contractor shall be delivered at the place where the work is to be performed. All material and equipment furnished to the contractor shall be delivered at the place where the work is to be performed. All material and equipment furnished to the contractor shall be delivered at the place where the work is to be performed. All material and equipment furnished to the contractor shall be delivered at the place where the work is to be performed.

2. All excavation and backfill work shall be performed in accordance with the plans and specifications. All excavation and backfill work shall be performed in accordance with the plans and specifications. All excavation and backfill work shall be performed in accordance with the plans and specifications. All excavation and backfill work shall be performed in accordance with the plans and specifications. All excavation and backfill work shall be performed in accordance with the plans and specifications.

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4. All fill placed during construction shall be compacted to the required density and shall be free of organic materials. All fill placed during construction shall be compacted to the required density and shall be free of organic materials. All fill placed during construction shall be compacted to the required density and shall be free of organic materials. All fill placed during construction shall be compacted to the required density and shall be free of organic materials. All fill placed during construction shall be compacted to the required density and shall be free of organic materials.

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8. All fill placed during construction shall be compacted to the required density and shall be free of organic materials. All fill placed during construction shall be compacted to the required density and shall be free of organic materials. All fill placed during construction shall be compacted to the required density and shall be free of organic materials. All fill placed during construction shall be compacted to the required density and shall be free of organic materials. All fill placed during construction shall be compacted to the required density and shall be free of organic materials.

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PAVEMENT IMPROVEMENTS

Civil and Environmental Engineers
Pawtucket, Rhode Island

DETAILS 1

2" SUPERPAVE BASE COURSE (SBC-37.5)
2" SUPERPAVE SURFACE COURSE (SSC-12.5)

EXIST. GRADE

PAVEMENT STRUCTURE

NOT TO SCALE

INSERT 1" REBAR FOR BAG
REMOVAL FROM INLET
(REBAR NOT INCLUDED)

OPTIONAL OVERFLOW
DUMP LOOPS
(REBAR NOT INCLUDED)

EXPANSION
RESTRAINT

LENGTH (L)
WIDTH (W)
DEPTH (D)

EXISTING CATCH BASIN GRATE

CATCH BASIN INLET PROTECTION

NOT TO SCALE

SIZE = L" X W" X D"

RECYCLED BASE COURSE COMPACTED
to 98% MODIFIED PROCTOR

RECYCLE EXISTING BITUMINOUS PAVEMENT
AND SUBBASE TO 10-INCH DEPTH

REMOVE EXCESS RECYCLED BASE AND FINE
GRADE AS REQUIRED TO ACHIEVE PROPOSED
GRADES

AREA TO PROTECT
WORK AREA

3"-4"

2"X2" WOODEN STAKES
STAKE

WATER FLOW

COMPOST FILTER SOCK

2" COMPOST FILTER SOCK

HOLE TO PROTECT

2" HOLE
1. **5% DEPLOYED FOR PIPE PORTION LARGER THAN MINIMUM LENGTH THAT HANGS BeneATH THE BOOM.**

2. **HYDROCARBON ADSORBING SKIRTED BOOM**
   - Foam gasket with PSA backing
   - **PIPE ADAPTER**
   - **FOAM GASKET**

3. **ANCHOR**
   - Stainless steel
   - **STRAINER BOLT**
   - **PILOT HOLE**
   - **EXHIBIT EXTERIOR PIPE (TRIM TO LENGTH)**

4. **BIO-SKIRT ANTI-MICROBIAL TREATED FABRIC**
   - **L-SHAPED TAB**
   - **ANCHOR SHIELD**
   - **BOLT**

5. **SNOUT OIL-WATER-DEBRIS SEPARATOR**
   - **SIDE VIEW NOT TO SCALE**
   - **SNOUT OIL & DEBRIS STOP**
   - **TYPICAL INSTALLATION**

6. **INSTALLATION KIT.**
   - **INSTALLATION DETAIL**
   - **TYPICAL WATER & STORM PIPE TRENCH DETAIL**

7. **SNOUT OIL/WATER DEBRIS SEPARATION**
   - **NOT TO SCALE**
   - **SNOUT OIL & DEBRIS STOP**

8. **ANCHOR SHIELD**
   - **BOLT**
   - **PILOT HOLE**

9. **TYPICAL WATER & STORM PIPE INSTALLATION**
   - **SURFACE COVER**
   - **2½" GRAVEL OR ?, 2½" RIVER BIBBLE**
   - **OVERLAY SURFACE**

10. **SNOUT OIL & DEBRIS STOP**
    - **SIDE VIEW**
    - **NOT TO SCALE**

11. **TYPICAL WATER & STORM PIPE TRENCH DETAIL**
    - **SURFACE COVER**
    - **2½" GRAVEL OR ?, 2½" RIVER BIBBLE**
    - **OVERLAY SURFACE**

The document contains detailed specifications for the installation of bio-skirts and related components, including the use of stainless steel anchors and bolts, foam gaskets with PSA backing, and l-shaped tabs for proper positioning. It also includes installation instructions, notes on anchor shields, and detailed views of the snout oil/water debris separation system.