



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Highway
Administration**

New Hampshire Division

March 17, 2011

19 Chenell Drive, Suite One
Concord, NH 03301

In Reply Refer To:
HEC-NH

Mr. William J. Cass, P.E., Director
Project Development
New Hampshire Department of Transportation
7 Hazen Drive
Concord, NH 03301

Attn: Mr. Charles H. Hood, Administrator
Bureau of Environment

Dear Mr. Cass:

Subject: Project Classification

We have reviewed the documentation included with Mr. Hood's March 17, 2011 recommended project classification letter for the following project and hereby concur:

Portsmouth, NH-Kittery, ME A000(911), 13678F - Class II (CE) w/Section 4(f)
(Memorial Bridge Facility (US Route 1) over the Piscataqua River)

This project appears to qualify for the Programmatic Floodplains Finding and Programmatic Wetlands Finding. Since this project did not require a public hearing it is considered acceptable for project progression. Enclosed is a copy of our Section 4(f) Determination for the project.

Sincerely,

Jamison S. Sikora
Environmental Programs Manager

Cc: Charlie Hood, NHDOT Environment (electronic copy)
Kevin Nyhan, NHDOT Environment (electronic copy)
Mark Hasselmann, FHWA ME Division (electronic copy)





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SECTION 4(f) DETERMINATION

PROJECT NO. A000 (911), 13678F Memorial Bridge (US Route 1) Project

It has been determined that there is no feasible and prudent avoidance alternative to the use of the Memorial Bridge Facility (Scott Avenue Bridge, Memorial Bridge (US Route 1) over the Piscataqua River and Kittery Approach Spans) and Memorial Park all of which have been determined as contributing elements to the Memorial Bridge and Portsmouth Historic Districts associated with the proposed transportation improvement project. The proposed action was determined to have a Section 106 Adverse Effect to National Register (NR) eligible resources, but includes all possible planning to minimize harm to these Section 4(f) resources resulting from the project.

This determination follows consideration of all the information contained in the Final Section 4(f) Evaluation, dated March 17, 2011, for the subject project. This evaluation provides detailed information about the project, the use of Section 4(f) resources, and the proposed plans to minimize harm. The information from the report is hereby incorporated into this determination.

Approved by: _____

for Patrick A. Bauer
Acting Division Administrator

Date: _____

3/17/11

