Waters of the U.S. (Including Wetlands) Delineation and Resource Protection Area Analysis

Modernization of the Boulevard
SYIP Project #3945, #90374, and #52434
City of Colonial Heights, Virginia

Prepared for:

H.W. Lochner, Inc.
2727 Enterprise Parkway
Suite 203
Richmond VA 23294

Prepared by:

EEE Consulting, Inc.
8525 Bell Creek Road
Mechanicsville, Virginia 23116

October 9, 2009
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

EEE Consulting, Inc. (EEE) has determined the limits of jurisdictional waters of the U.S. (e.g., ponds, streams, and wetlands) and Resource Protection Areas (RPA) within the referenced study area. The proposed project involves improving a portion of the Boulevard/Jefferson Davis Highway (Route 301/Route 1) and a portion of Dupuy Avenue as part of the Boulevard Revitalization Program in the City of Colonial Heights, Virginia. The study area consists of paved roads, parking lots, sidewalks, and buildings. No jurisdictional wetlands or other waters of the U.S. are present within the study area. In addition, no RPA components are located in or within 100 feet of the study area.

PROJECT LOCATION

For the purposes of this delineation, the study area includes the portion of the Boulevard/Jefferson Davis Highway (Route 301/Route 1) from Westover Avenue to Lafayette Avenue and the portion of Dupuy Avenue from Battery Place to the Boulevard in the City of Colonial Heights, Virginia. The study area covers three separate Six-Year Improvement Program (SYIP) projects (#3945, #90374, and #52434). SYIP project #3945 extends from Lafayette Avenue to Pickwick Avenue and from Battery Place to the Boulevard, SYIP project #90374 extends from Pickwick Avenue to Windsor Avenue, and SYIP project #52434 extends from Windsor Avenue to Westover Avenue. The general vicinity and approximate boundary of the study area are depicted on the attached Project Location Map (Exhibit 1) and the 1996 Chester, VA & 1994 Petersburg, VA USGS topographic quadrangle maps (Exhibit 2). The study area depicted on the attached exhibits was created by EEE to depict the outer limits of the wetland delineation and does not represent the limits of clearing and grading for this project.

METHODOLOGY

Prior to conducting field work, relevant site-specific information was reviewed, including the 1996 Chester, VA & 1994 Petersburg, VA USGS topographic quadrangle map (Exhibit 2), Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) soils map data (Exhibit 3), and the National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) map (Exhibit 4). In addition, 2005 natural color aerial imagery used as the background for Exhibits 3, 4, and 5 was examined to assess whether or not signatures indicative of wetlands or other waters of the U.S. occur within the study area.

Wetland delineation field work was conducted by EEE environmental scientist Taylor S. Sprenkle, WPIT¹, PWD² on August 18, 2009. Photographs of the study area are included in Exhibit 6 and photo locations are depicted on the Wetland Delineation Map (Exhibit 5).

¹ Wetland Professional in Training, Society of Wetland Scientists Certification Program, Inc.
² Professional Worker, Division of Water Resources, State of Virginia
FINDINGS

The USGS map of the study area (Exhibit 2) and the NWI map (Exhibit 4) do not depict any wetlands or other waters of the U.S. within the study area. The study area consists of paved roads, parking lots, sidewalks, and buildings. No jurisdictional wetlands or other waters of the U.S. are present within the study area.

According to the Code of the City of Colonial Heights Chapter 286, Article XXV, “Chesapeake Bay Preservation Area Overlay District”, resource protection areas are defined as follows:

At a minimum, RPAs shall consist of lands adjacent to water bodies with perennial flow that have an intrinsic water quality value due to the ecological and biological processes they perform or are sensitive to impacts which may cause significant degradation to the quality of state waters. In their natural condition, these lands provide for the removal, reduction or assimilation of sediments, nutrients and potentially harmful or toxic substances in runoff entering the bay and its tributaries, and minimize the adverse effects of human activities on state waters and aquatic resources.

The resource protection area shall include:

(1) Tidal wetlands.

(2) Nontidal wetlands connected by surface flow and contiguous to tidal wetlands or water bodies with perennial flow.

(3) Tidal shores.

(4) Such other lands considered by the City to meet the provisions of Subsection A herein and to be necessary to protect the quality of state waters.

(5) A vegetated buffer area not less than 100 feet in width located adjacent to and landward of the components listed in Subsections B(1) through (4) above, and along both sides of any water body with perennial flow.

EEE’s field observations confirm that no RPA components are located within or within 100 feet of the study area; therefore, no RPA exists within the study area.

CONCLUSIONS

Based on our field observations, no jurisdictional wetlands or other waters of the U.S. are present within the study area. In addition, no RPA components are present within or within 100 feet of the study area; therefore, no RPA exists within the study area.

---

2 Virginia Certified Professional Wetland Delineator # 3402-000097.
LIMITATIONS

This study is based on examination of field conditions at the time of this study and does not address conditions at a given time in the future as such conditions may change over time. Therefore, the conclusions of this study may differ from future observations. EEE makes no warranties, either expressed or implied, and this report is not a recommendation to buy, sell, or develop the property.
REFERENCES


Mid Atlantic Hydric Soils Committee 2005. Field Indicators of Hydric Soils in the Mid-Atlantic United States, Version 5.0. Published jointly by the USEPA, NRCS and National Technical Committee for Hydric Soils.


Exhibit 2 - USGS 7.5 Minute Quadrangle
Modernization of the Boulevard

Colonial Heights, Virginia
Exhibit 3 - NRCS Soil Survey Map

Jahnke Road Between Blakemore Rd. and Forest Hill Ave.
Richmond, Virginia
Exhibit 4 - National Wetlands Inventory Map
Modernization of the Boulevard

Colonial Heights, Virginia

Source: Aerial photography - 2005 National Agricultural Imagery Program (NAIP) obtained from NRCS Data Gateway.
Note:
The depicted study area represents the project limits of this investigation and does not represent the limits of clearing and grading for the project.
1. Looking east at the south side of Westover Avenue in the northern portion of the study area.

2. Looking south at the western side of the Boulevard in the north-central portion of the study area.
3. Looking east at the south side of Dupuy Avenue in the southern portion of the study area.

4. Looking north at the Boulevard in the southern portion of the study area.
5. Looking north at the eastern side of the Boulevard in the central portion of the study area.

6. Looking west at Richmond Avenue in the northern portion of the study area.