PMC-EF2a

(2/06/02)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
EERE PROJECT MANAGEMENT CENTER
NEPA DETERMINATION

RECIPIENT: City of Columbus **STATE:** OH

PROJECT TITLE : Columbus City ARRA-EECBG Act1-Downtown Bike Infrastructure Improvement

Funding Opportunity Announcement Number	Procurement Instrument Number	NEPA Control Number	CID Number
	DE-EE0000706	GFO-0000706-002	GO706

Based on my review of the information concerning the proposed action, as NEPA Compliance Officer (authorized under DOE Order 451.1A), I have made the following determination:

CX, EA, EIS APPENDIX AND NUMBER:

Description:

A9 Information gathering, analysis, and dissemination Information gathering (including, but not limited to, literature surveys, inventories, site visits, and audits), data analysis (including, but not limited to, computer modeling), document preparation (including, but not limited to, conceptual design, feasibility studies, and analytical energy supply and demand studies), and information dissemination (including, but not limited to, document publication and distribution, and classroom training and informational programs), but not including site characterization or environmental monitoring. (See also B3.1 of appendix B to this subpart.)

B1.33 Stormwater runoff control Design, construction, and operation of control practices to reduce stormwater runoff and maintain natural hydrology. Activities include, but are not limited to, those that reduce impervious surfaces (such as vegetative practices and use of porous pavements), best management practices (such as silt fences, straw wattles, and fiber rolls), and use of green infrastructure or other low impact development practices (such as cisterns and green roofs).

B5.1 Actions to conserve energy or water (a) Actions to conserve energy or water, demonstrate potential energy or water conservation, and promote energy efficiency that would not have the potential to cause significant changes in the indoor or outdoor concentrations of potentially harmful substances. These actions may involve financial and technical assistance to individuals (such as builders, owners, consultants, manufacturers, and designers), organizations (such as utilities), and governments (such as state, local, and tribal). Covered actions include, but are not limited to weatherization (such as insulation and replacing windows and doors); programmed lowering of thermostat settings; placement of timers on hot water heaters; installation or replacement of energy efficient lighting, low-flow plumbing fixtures (such as faucets, toilets, and showerheads), heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems, and appliances; installation of drip-irrigation systems; improvements in generator efficiency and appliance efficiency ratings; efficiency improvements for vehicles and transportation (such as fleet changeout); power storage (such as flywheels and batteries, generally less than 10 megawatt equivalent); transportation management systems (such as traffic signal control systems, car navigation, speed cameras, and automatic plate number recognition); development of energy-efficient manufacturing, industrial, or building practices; and small-scale energy efficiency and conservation research and development and small-scale pilot projects. Covered actions include building renovations or new structures, provided that they occur in a previously disturbed or developed area. Covered actions could involve commercial, residential, agricultural, academic, institutional, or industrial sectors. Covered actions do not include rulemakings, standard-settings, or proposed DOE legislation, except for those actions listed in B5.1(b) of this appendix. (b) Covered actions include rulemakings that establish energy conservation standards for consumer products and industrial equipment, provided that the actions would not: (1) have the potential to cause a significant change in manufacturing infrastructure (such as construction of new manufacturing plants with considerable associated ground disturbance); (2) involve significant unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources (such as rare or limited raw materials); (3) have the potential to result in a significant increase in the disposal of materials posing significant risks to human health and the environment (such as RCRA hazardous wastes); or (4) have the potential to cause a significant increase in energy consumption in a state or region.

Rational for determination:

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) provided funding to the State of Ohio under the DOE's American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program (EECBG). Ohio proposes to subgrant $490,000 to the City of Columbus for Activity 1 – Downtown Bike Infrastructure Improvements within the 38 block core of downtown Columbus.

The proposed project would involve the following improvements:

• Upgrade and install new bike parking at 2 City and County-owned parking garages. Both facilities would have lighting, locked main access and racks bolted to the floor. Capacity would be for 25 bikes each.

o Covered racks would be located on the north side of E. Nationwide Blvd. at the Convention Center Parking Garage.
o Bike rooms would be added in the parking garage at the north side of W. Elm St. between N. Front St. and N. Wall St and at the Franklin County Parking Garage on the north side of E. Fulton St. at High St.
• Install 6 bike shelters with green (grass) roofs to control stormwater runoff (24 feet long; capacity for 18 bikes) at the following locations:
o West side of N. High St at E. Hickory St.
o East side of N. Front St at W. Long St.
o East side of N. Third St. at E. Broad St.
o East side of N. Fourth St at Broad St.
o West side of S. High at Capital Square
o East side of S. High at Dorrian Commons
• Install 4 bike lockers on the west side of N. High St. at W. Lynn St. in the alley, adjacent to the Transit Authority headquarters and bus stop.
• Install 65 bike rack clusters. Each rack would accommodate 2 bikes and be bolted to a concrete surface. One cluster would accommodate 20 bikes.

Because the project would be located in the previously disturbed, downtown core of Columbus, the proposed project would not located in a wetland or floodplain, nor are threatened and endangered species known to occur in the area. In a letter dated March 13, 2012, the Ohio State Preservation Officer identified the Plaza at 100 E. Broad St. as eligible for listing on the National Register for Historic Place. Since the Plaza was extensively altered from its original design in the 1990's, OSPO determined the proposed bike shelter would not have an adverse effect on the property's historic integrity. DOE has determined the proposed project would not have an adverse effect on historic properties.

The proposed project would improve the usability and security of bike parking options to reduce traffic congestion and conserve energy. Also, the green roofs on the new bike shelters would reduce stormwater runoff. Based on this information, DOE has determined the work outlined is consistent with activities identified in categorical exclusion A9 (information gathering, analysis and dissemination), B1.33 (stormwater runoff control) and B5.1(a) (actions to conserve energy and water).

NEPA PROVISION

DOE has made a final NEPA determination for this award

Insert the following language in the award:

Note to Specialist :

Cristina Tyler 5.1.2012

SIGNATURE OF THIS MEMORANDUM CONSTITUTES A RECORD OF THIS DECISION.

NEPA Compliance Officer Signature: _____ Date: 5/2/2012
NEPA Compliance Officer

FIELD OFFICE MANAGER DETERMINATION

☐ Field Office Manager review required

NCO REQUESTS THE FIELD OFFICE MANAGER REVIEW FOR THE FOLLOWING REASON:

☐ Proposed action fits within a categorical exclusion but involves a high profile or controversial issue that warrants Field Office Manager's attention.
☐ Proposed action falls within an EA or EIS category and therefore requires Field Office Manager's review and determination.

BASED ON MY REVIEW I CONCUR WITH THE DETERMINATION OF THE NCO :

Field Office Manager's Signature: _____ Date: _____
Field Office Manager