

COMBINED NOTICE OF FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT  
AND INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS

*Date of Notice Posting: September 2, 2021*

**Project Name:** Lamesa - 7220182 - DRP - EA

**State/Local Identifier:** 7220182

**Contact:**

Josh Steven, Mayor

City of Lamesa

601 S. 1st St.

Lamesa, Texas 79331

806-872-2124

financedirector@ci.lamesa.tx.us

These notices shall satisfy two separate but related procedural requirements for activities to be undertaken by the **City of Lamesa**.

**REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS**

On or about **September 22, 2021**, the **City of Lamesa**, will submit a request to the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) for the release of Community Development Block Grant funds under Section 104 (F) of Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended to undertake a project known as **Lamesa - 7220182 - DRP - EA** for the purpose of **replacing sidewalks in the Downtown District to improve pedestrian safety and eliminate existing conditions of slums or blight.**

**Project Location:**

All work will occur in the City of Lamesa, Dawson County, Texas in the following locations:

Sidewalk Activities

- Austin Avenue from N 2nd Street to N 1st Street
- Austin Avenue from S 1st Street to S 2nd Street
- Main Avenue from N 2nd Street to N 1st Street
- Main Avenue from S 1st Street to S 2nd Street

**Description of the Proposed Project** [24 CFR 50.12 & 58.32; 40 CFR 1508.25]:

Sidewalk Activities

Contractor shall install approximately one thousand three hundred seventy-four linear feet (1,374 l.f.) of concrete sidewalk, curb and gutter, twelve (12) ADA accessible ramps, six hundred forty linear feet (640 l.f.) of steps, four (4) lights, electrical improvements, pavement repair, and all associated appurtenances.

Professional Services including

Grant Administrator and Project Engineer activities

Project Issues: Historical Properties. Details in the Environmental Review Record (ERR).

Project size: Approximately 0.91 acres.

Funding:

Project will cost \$575,000 and will be paid for with \$500,000 in HUD CDBG - DRP grant funds administered by the Texas Department of Agriculture and \$75,000 in Local Funds.

### **FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT**

The **City of Lamesa** has determined that the project will have no significant impact on the human environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) is not required. Additional project information is contained in the Environmental Review Record (ERR) on file at the **City of Lamesa, 601 S. 1st St., Lamesa, Texas**, and may be examined or copied weekdays 9 A.M to 4 P.M.). The ERR may also be accessed online at the following website <https://tinyurl.com/9mt6svy>.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to the **City of Lamesa, 601 S. 1st St., Lamesa, Texas 79331, Attn: Josh Steven, Mayor, [financedirector@ci.lamesa.tx.us](mailto:financedirector@ci.lamesa.tx.us)**. All comments received by **September 21, 2021**, or within eighteen (18) days following this posting (whichever is later) will be considered by the **City of Lamesa** prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds. Commenters should specify which part of this Notice they are addressing.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION**

The **City of Lamesa** certifies to TDA that **Josh Steven** in their capacity as **Mayor** consents to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal Courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to the environmental review process and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. TDA's approval of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under NEPA and related laws and authorities and allows the **City of Lamesa** to use Program funds.

## **OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS**

TDA will accept objections to its release of funds and the **City of Lamesa's** certification for a period of fifteen days following the anticipated submission date or its actual receipt of the request (whichever is later) only if they are on one of the following bases: (a) the certification was not executed by the Certifying Officer of the **City of Lamesa**; (b) the **City of Lamesa** has omitted a step or failed to make a decision or finding required by HUD regulations at 24 CFR part 58; (c) the grant recipient or other participants in the development process have committed funds, incurred costs or undertaken activities not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of a release of funds by TDA; or (d) another Federal agency acting pursuant to 40 CFR Part 1504 has submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality. Objections must be prepared and submitted via email in accordance with the required procedures (24 CFR Part 58, Sec. 58.76) and shall be addressed to Texas Department of Agriculture, ATTN: Environmental Specialist, [CDBG\\_EnvReview@texasagriculture.gov](mailto:CDBG_EnvReview@texasagriculture.gov). Potential objectors should contact TDA via email [CDBG\\_EnvReview@texasagriculture.gov](mailto:CDBG_EnvReview@texasagriculture.gov) to verify the actual last day of the state objection period.

**Josh Steven, Mayor**

**Environmental Assessment  
Determinations and Compliance Findings for HUD-assisted Projects  
24 CFR Part 58**

**Project Information**

**Project Name:** Lamesa - 7220182 - DRP - EA

**Responsible Entity:** City of Lamesa

**Grant Recipient** (if different than Responsible Entity):

**State/Local Identifier:** 7220182

**Preparer:** Todd Cave, Cave Consulting, Inc.

**Certifying Officer Name and Title:** Josh Steven, Mayor

**Grant Recipient** (if different than Responsible Entity):

**Consultant** (if applicable): Public Management, Inc. - GA

**Direct Comments to:**

Josh Steven, Mayor

City of Lamesa

601 S. 1st St.

Lamesa, Texas 79331

806-872-2124

financedirector@ci.lamesa.tx.us

**Project Location:**

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**Sidewalk Activities**

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The project area is in the Central Business District area of the City. There is a Courthouse, Museum and City Hall in the direct project area. The roads in the project area are brick/paved with curb and gutter. Commercial businesses line the streets and above and below ground utilities also exist in the project area.

**Description of the Proposed Project [24 CFR 50.12 & 58.32; 40 CFR 1508.25]:****Sidewalk Activities**

Contractor shall install approximately one thousand three hundred seventy-four linear feet (1,374 l.f.) of concrete sidewalk, curb and gutter, twelve (12) ADA accessible ramps, six hundred forty linear feet (640 l.f.) of steps, four ( 4) lights, electrical improvements, pavement repair, and all associated appurtenances.

**Professional Services including**

Grant Administrator and Project Engineer activities.

**Statement of Purpose and Need for the Proposal [40 CFR 1508.9(b)]:**

The City of Lamesa Downtown District has sidewalks that are deteriorated and non-ADA compliant, resulting in hazardous pedestrian traffic. The purpose of this project is to replace sidewalks in the Downtown District to improve pedestrian safety and eliminate existing conditions of slums or blight.

**Existing Conditions and Trends [24 CFR 58.40(a)]:**

Lamesa's 2018 population was estimated to be 9,264, which is about a .02% decrease from the 2010 population of 9,422. The proposed improvements are not expected to affect population growth in the area.

The City of Lamesa has slum and blight conditions in its Downtown including vacant and dilapidated buildings, decayed and insufficient sidewalks and streets, noncompliant and inadequate ADA access, insufficient lighting, degraded landscaping, and other inadequate and deteriorated infrastructure. These features present a threat to public health and safety and depresses economic activity in the area. The pedestrian access into Downtown is especially worrisome and the existing sidewalks are severely deteriorated with uneven surfacing and noncompliant ADA access. This disallows safe pedestrian access in the Downtown and has depressed economic activity. Relatedly, since there is not safe pedestrian lighting in the area, the Downtown essentially shuts down at dark leaving a large commercial and civic area of the City as entirely underutilized. This is especially disheartening as Lamesa's Downtown has a history as being a vibrant regional commercial center and public gathering space.

To eliminate conditions of slum and blight, improve residents' quality of life, and encourage economic activity in the Downtown the City needs to reconstruct sidewalks, improve ADA access, and install pedestrian lighting in its Downtown District.

**Funding Information**

<b>Grant Number</b>	<b>HUD Program</b>	<b>Funding Amount</b>
7220182	CDBG - DRP	\$500,000

**Estimated Total HUD Funded Amount:** \$500,000

**Estimated Total Project Cost (HUD and non-HUD funds) [24 CFR 58.32(d)]:** \$550,000

Project will cost \$575,000 and will be paid for with \$500,000 in HUD CDBG - DRP grant funds administered by the Texas Department of Agriculture and \$75,000 in Local Funds.

**Compliance with 24 CFR 50.4, 58.5, and 58.6 Laws and Authorities**

Record below the compliance or conformance determinations for each statute, executive order, or regulation. Provide credible, traceable, and supportive source documentation for each authority. Where applicable, complete the necessary reviews or consultations and obtain or note applicable permits of approvals. Clearly note citations, dates/names/titles of contacts, and page references. Attach additional documentation as appropriate.

<b>Compliance Factors:</b> Statutes, Executive Orders, and Regulations listed at 24 CFR §58.5 and §58.6	Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?	Compliance determinations
<b>STATUTES, EXECUTIVE ORDERS, AND REGULATIONS LISTED AT 24 CFR 50.4 and 58.6</b>		
<b>Airport Hazards</b>  24 CFR Part 51 Subpart D	Yes    No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	According to Google Maps and a map of Military Bases in the U.S., the project is not within 15,000 feet of a military airport or 2,500 feet of a civilian airport.  Review is in compliance with 24 CFR Part 51 Subpart D. (see Airport Hazards)
<b>Coastal Barrier Resources</b>  Coastal Barrier Resources Act, as amended by the Coastal Barrier Improvement Act of 1990 [16 USC 3501]	Yes    No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	According to the GLO Coastal Barrier Map, the project is not located in a coastal barrier area.  Review is in compliance with the Coastal Barrier Resources Act, as amended by the Coastal Barrier Improvement Act of 1990 [16 USC 3501]. (See Coastal Barriers)

<p><b>Flood Insurance</b></p> <p>Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 and National Flood Insurance Reform Act of 1994 [42 USC 4001-4128 and 42 USC 5154a]</p>	<p>Yes    No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/>    X</p>	<p>According to the FEMA Map # 48115C05C (effective date 2/4/11), the project area will not occur within a floodplain.</p> <p>The City of Lamesa is participating in the National Flood Insurance Program. In addition, this project is not required to have flood insurance.</p> <p>Review is in compliance with the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 and National Flood Insurance Reform Act of 1994 [42 USC 4001-4128 and 42 USC 5154a].</p>
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**STATUTES, EXECUTIVE ORDERS, AND REGULATIONS LISTED AT 24 CFR 50.4 & 58.5**

<p><b>Clean Air</b></p> <p>Clean Air Act, as amended, particularly section 176(c) &amp; (d); 40 CFR Parts 6, 51, 93</p>	<p>Yes No  <input type="checkbox"/> X</p>	<p>According to the EPA Texas County Nonattainment/Maintenance Status, Dawson County is not considered a Non-Attainment area.</p> <p>Review is in compliance with the Clean Air Act, as amended, particularly section 176(c) &amp; (d); 40 CFR Parts 6, 51, 93 . (See Clean Air)</p>
<p><b>Coastal Zone Management</b></p> <p>Coastal Zone Management Act, sections 307(c) &amp; (d)</p>	<p>Yes No  <input type="checkbox"/> X</p>	<p>According to the GLO Coastal Zone Map, the project is not located within a Coastal Zone.</p> <p>Review is in compliance with the Coastal Zone Management Act, sections 307(c) &amp; (d). (See Coastal Zone Management)</p>
<p><b>Contamination and Toxic Substances</b></p> <p>24 CFR Part 50.3(i) &amp; 58.5(i)(2)</p>	<p>Yes No  <input type="checkbox"/> X</p>	<p>Onsite observation revealed no visual evidence of contaminated soil.</p> <p>After searching the following state/federal databases, potential sources of contamination which could pose a hazard or would restrict the intended uses of the property or to the occupants were identified</p> <p>State Databases:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Industrial and Hazardous Waste (IHW);</li> <li>● Petroleum Storage Tanks (PST);</li> <li>● Leaking Petroleum Storage Tanks (LPST);</li> <li>● Brownfield Site Assessments (BSA);</li> <li>● State superfund (SF);</li> <li>● Municipal Solid Waste Landfill Sites (MSWLF); and</li> <li>● Radio Active Materials</li> <li>● Superfund</li> <li>● Voluntary Cleanup</li> <li>● Closed and Abandoned Landfill Inventory (County).</li> </ul>

		<p>Federal (NEPA Assist Databases):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● National Priorities List (NPL);</li><li>● Resource Conservation and Recovery Act – Corrective Action (RCRAC);</li><li>● Resource Conservation and Recovery Act – Generator (RCRAG);</li><li>● Brownfield Management System (BF);</li><li>● Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Information System (CERCLIS)</li><li>● EPA Cleanup Sites</li></ul> <p>Potential Sources of Contamination:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● 10 RCRA facilities within 1 mile of the project area.</li><li>● 15 LPSTs within ½ mile of the project site.</li><li>● One (1) Municipal Waste Disposal site within ½ mile of the project area.</li><li>● Three (3) PST on the subject property and two (2) PST on property adjacent to the project area.</li></ul> <p>The City considered the necessity to have a ASTM Phase I Environmental Soil Analysis completed and rejected the idea for the following reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● None of the RCRA facilities are not under any Corrective Actions.</li><li>● Six (6) of the LPST’s were listed as inactive and there were no enforcement orders on any of the active LPST’s.</li><li>● The Municipal Waste Disposal site had no enforcement orders against it.</li></ul>
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<p><b>Endangered Species</b></p> <p>Endangered Species Act of 1973, particularly section 7; 50 CFR Part 402</p>	<p>Yes    No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/>    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>On-site inspection, coordination with the USFWS and review of the TPWD County Species List revealed the following:</p> <p>USFWS:  <u>Endangered Species:</u>  There is a total of two (2) threatened (T), endangered (E) or candidate (C) species that may occur or could potentially be affected by activities in the general project area:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Least Tern <i>Sterna antillarum</i></li> <li>● Red Knot (<i>Calidris canutus rufa</i>)</li> </ul> <p>Because the project will occur within a developed, downtown area of the community, it was determined that the habitat for none of these species exists in the project area and it is unlikely that any of these species will be encountered during construction.</p> <p><u>Critical Habitat:</u>  None exists.</p> <p><u>Wildlife Refuges and Fish Hatcheries:</u>  None exist.</p>

		<p><u>Wetlands in the National Wetlands Inventory:</u> According to the USFWS Wetland Mapper, no portion of the project will occur in or otherwise affect a wetland.</p> <p>TPWD: <u>Migratory Birds</u> Because the project will occur within a developed, downtown area of the community, it was determined that the habitat for no migratory birds exists in the project area. Therefore, there will be no impacts to migratory birds.</p> <p>The proposed project would have “no effect” on federally listed species or critical habitat and no impact on state-listed species.</p> <p>Review is in compliance with the Endangered Species Act of 1973, particularly section 7; 50 CFR Part 402. (See Endangered Species)</p>
<p><b>Explosive and Flammable Hazards</b></p> <p>24 CFR Part 51 Subpart C</p>	<p>Yes    No <input type="checkbox"/>    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>The proposed HUD-assisted project does not include a hazardous facility (a facility that mainly stores, handles or processes flammable or combustible chemicals such as bulk fuel storage facilities and refineries) and does not include any of the following activities: development, construction, rehabilitation that will increase residential densities, or conversion.</p> <p>According to Kelly Warner of HUD, acceptable distance comes into play when you are dealing with projects that involve habitable structures or places where people congregate. She stated that "the HUD reg under Part 51 Subpart C refers to HUD-assisted projects intended for residential, institutional, recreational, commercial or industrial use".</p>

		<p>Further, temporary construction workers would not be considered under this rule. Since this project involves an activity that is not a habitable structure and temporary construction workers are not to be considered, Explosive and Flammable Hazards are not applicable.</p> <p>The review is in compliance with 24 CFR Part 51 Subpart C. (See Explosive and Flammable Hazards)</p>
<p><b>Farmlands Protection</b></p> <p>Farmland Protection Policy Act of 1981, particularly sections 1504(b) and 1541; 7 CFR Part 658</p>	<p>Yes    No  <input type="checkbox"/>    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>The project does not include activities that could convert agricultural land to non-agricultural land.</p> <p>Review is in compliance with the Farmland Protection Policy Act of 1981, particularly sections 1504(b) and 1541; 7 CFR Part 658. (See Farmlands Protection)</p>
<p><b>Floodplain Management</b></p> <p>Executive Order 11988, particularly section 2(a); 24 CFR Part 55</p>	<p>Yes    No  <input type="checkbox"/>    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>According to the FEMA Map # 48115C05C (effective date 2/4/11), the project area will not occur within a floodplain.</p> <p>Review is in compliance with the Executive Order 11988, particularly section 2(a); 24 CFR Part 55 . (See Section 17, Floodplain Management)</p>

<p><b>Historic Preservation</b></p> <p>National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, particularly sections 106 and 110; 36 CFR Part 800</p>	<p>Yes    No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/>    X</p>	<p><u>Above-Ground Resources</u></p> <p>Property/properties are eligible for listing or already listed in the National Register of Historic Places. No adverse effects on historic properties.</p> <p><u>Archeology Comments</u></p> <p>No identified historic properties, archeological sites, or other cultural resources are present or affected. However, if cultural materials are encountered during project activities, work should cease in the immediate area; work can continue where no cultural materials are present. Please contact the THC's Archeology Division at 512-463-6096 to consult on further actions that may be necessary to protect the cultural remains.</p> <p><u>Additional Comments:</u></p> <p>This project area appears to be potentially eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. However, by incorporating the protection notes from our Streetscape Guidelines into the construction plans the project as proposed will have no adverse effect on historic properties and may proceed as planned.</p> <p>According to the HUD Tribal Directory Assessment Tool, there were four (4) tribes with an interest in the County.</p> <p>Comment letters were sent out on July 28, 2021. No responses were received.</p> <p>Review is in compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, particularly sections 106 and 110; 36 CFR Part 800. (See Historical Preservation)</p>
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<p><b>Noise Abatement and Control</b></p> <p>Noise Control Act of 1972, as amended by the Quiet Communities Act of 1978; 24 CFR Part 51 Subpart B</p>	<p>Yes    No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/>    X</p>	<p>The project does not involve a noise sensitive use such as a residential structure, school, hospital, nursing home, library, etc.</p> <p>During construction, noise levels will increase which could disturb businesses in the area. However, since work will occur during working hours, any disturbance would be considered to be minimal.</p> <p>Review is in compliance with the Noise Control Act of 1972, as amended by the Quiet Communities Act of 1978; 24 CFR Part 51 Subpart B. (See Noise Abatement and Control)</p>
<p><b>Sole Source Aquifers</b></p> <p>Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, as amended, particularly section 1424(e); 40 CFR Part 149</p>	<p>Yes    No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/>    X</p>	<p>The project involves new construction but does not involve land use conversion. According to the EPA Sole Source Aquifer Map, the project is not near a sole source aquifer.</p> <p>Review is in compliance with the Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, as amended, particularly section 1424(e); 40 CFR Part 149. (See Sole Source Aquifers)</p>
<p><b>Wetlands Protection</b></p> <p>Executive Order 11990, particularly sections 2 and 5</p>	<p>Yes    No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/>    X</p>	<p>According to an onsite review, no wetlands appear to be present.</p> <p>According to the USFWS Wetland Mapper, no portion of the project will occur in or otherwise affect a wetland.</p> <p>Review is in compliance with Executive Order 11990, particularly sections 2 and 5 . (See Wetlands Protection)</p>

<p><b>Wild and Scenic Rivers</b></p> <p>Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968, particularly section 7(b) and (c)</p>	<p>Yes No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> X</p>	<p>According to the Texas Wild and Scenic and Inventory Rivers map, the project is not within a one (1) mile proximity of a designated Wild, Scenic River; Study River or a river segment that potentially qualifies as a national wild, scenic or recreational river area.</p> <p>Review is in compliance with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968, particularly section 7(b) and (c). (See Wild and Scenic Rivers)</p>
<p><b>ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE</b></p>		
<p><b>Environmental Justice</b></p> <p>Executive Order 12898</p>	<p>Yes No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> X</p>	<p>No adverse environmental impacts were identified in any other compliance review portion of this project's total environmental review. Moreover, all work will occur within existing ROW and on property owned by the City.</p> <p>Review is in compliance with the Executive Order 12898. (See Environmental Justice)</p>



**Environmental Assessment Factors** [24 CFR 58.40; Ref. 40 CFR 1508.8 &1508.27] Recorded below is the qualitative and quantitative significance of the effects of the proposal on the character, features and resources of the project area. Each factor has been evaluated and documented, as appropriate and in proportion to its relevance to the proposed action. Verifiable source documentation has been provided and described in support of each determination, as appropriate. Credible, traceable and supportive source documentation for each authority has been provided. Where applicable, the necessary reviews or consultations have been completed and applicable permits of approvals have been obtained or noted. Citations, dates/names/titles of contacts, and page references are clear. Additional documentation is attached, as appropriate. **All conditions, attenuation or mitigation measures have been clearly identified.**

**Impact Codes:** Use an impact code from the following list to make the determination of impact for each factor.

- (1) Minor beneficial impact
- (2) No impact anticipated
- (3) Minor Adverse Impact – May require mitigation
- (4) Significant or potentially significant impact requiring avoidance or modification which may require an Environmental Impact Statement

Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
<b>LAND DEVELOPMENT</b>		
Conformance with Plans / Compatible Land Use and Zoning / Scale and Urban Design	1	<p>Review of Google Maps and onsite photos indicated that the project is in conformance with local development plans and no special permit or change in zoning will be required as the project involves improvements to existing infrastructure.</p> <p>The project is in compliance with surrounding land uses and there will be no change in land use as the project will occur within existing rights of way on infrastructure that has been in existence for years.</p> <p>The project does not constitute an activity that would contribute to urban sprawl as it involves improving existing infrastructure in the central business district of the City.</p> <p>There will be a positive long-term impact of the project on the visual character of its surroundings and ultimately, on the residents, users and/or visitors of the project as the project includes beautifying existing downtown infrastructure.</p>

<p>Soil Suitability/ Slope/ Erosion/ Drainage/ Storm Water Runoff</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>According to the National Seismic Hazard map, the project area is in a low hazard area.</p> <p>The project will not be affected by a high water table as construction activities will occur well above the water line.</p> <p>No unusual soil conditions were identified during an onsite review of the project area and there was no visible evidence of soil problems or filled ground.</p> <p>No soil studies have been conducted. However, the project engineer has determined that the soil is suitable for the project and unsuitable soil conditions are not expected to affect the project.</p> <p>The project will occur within a Central Business District area of the City within existing ROW and will not change any land uses. Therefore, the project will not significantly affect soils that may be better suited for natural resource management activities such as farming, forestry, unique natural area preservation, etc.</p> <p>Onsite observations and review of on-site photos revealed no steep slopes and the project area is relatively flat.</p> <p>There was no visual indication of previous slides or slumps in the project area, such as tilted trees or fences, that would affect this project. Therefore the project will not significantly affect or be affected by slope conditions.</p> <p>Onsite observations and review of on-site photos revealed no evidence of erosion and/or sedimentation.</p> <p>Because the project may involve site clearance, the removal of soil and some native grasses, which could contribute to soil erosion, will likely occur.</p> <p>Onsite inspection revealed no evidence of sedimentation and erosion controls will be installed.</p> <p>No erosion or sedimentation is expected to result from this project.</p>
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<p>Hazards and Nuisances including Site Safety and Noise</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>On-site observations, review of onsite photos and aerial photos revealed that the project will not be affected by natural hazards, but will be affected by man-made hazards during construction: (Hazardous Streets and Underground/Above Ground Utilities).</p> <p>No unusual conditions were found at the site and review of state and federal hazmat databases indicated that the site has not been used as a dump, sanitary landfill or mine waste disposal area.</p> <p>There was no indication of contaminated soil or, fill/vent pipes, pipelines, drainage structures and there are no air pollution generators which would adversely affect the site.</p> <p>The project will not be affected by any nuisances as it involves infrastructure improvements to the Central Business District and does not constitute a place where people will live, study or work.</p> <p>The project itself is not a noise-generating facility in a noise-sensitive area. Therefore, no such facility will be affected by this project.</p>

		<p>During construction, noise levels will be temporarily increased which could disturb residents in the area. Additionally, during construction, pedestrians could be injured by open trenches, broken concrete, etc...</p> <p>Potential negative impacts of Hazards and Nuisances including Site Safety will be reduced as state mandated dig tests will be performed as necessary, appropriate traffic controls and site safety will be incorporated into construction contracts as necessary and work is anticipated to occur during working hours.</p> <p>As a result of this project, it will be easier for pedestrians, especially those with disabilities to safely navigate the central business district.</p>
Energy Consumption	2	<p>The project does not involve construction of an energy using activity. However, during construction, energy consumption is expected to slightly increase, but should not significantly impact existing supplies.</p>

Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
<b>SOCIOECONOMIC</b>		
Employment and Income Patterns	1	<p>The project involves infrastructure improvements to the Central Business District which will result in no direct changes in employment and income patterns, will not significantly increase or decrease employment opportunities and will not create conditions favorable to industrial or institutional operation.</p> <p>However, the project will contribute to commercial operation or development by making the central district more attractive for commercial development and increased prosperity which could result in more jobs in the community.</p>
Demographic Character Changes, Displacement	2	<p>After reviewing project area photos, it was concluded that the project will not have a measurable effect on the demographic character of the area, will not severely alter residential, commercial or industrial uses and will not destroy or harm any community institution, such as a church.</p> <p>The proposed will not cause the relocation or displacement of any residence or business or adversely affect planned development, businesses, residences, or neighborhoods near the project area.</p>

Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
<b>COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES</b>		
Educational and Cultural Facilities	2	<p>Based upon review of Google Maps, on-site and aerial photos, the project will not directly serve or be affected by school facilities and there are no such facilities in or near the project area.</p> <p>The project does not involve a housing development and will not directly serve an educational or cultural facility. Therefore, adequate access to cultural facilities, as it pertains to housing, does not apply.</p>
Commercial Facilities	3	<p>The project involves infrastructure improvements to the Central Business District which will indirectly serve commercial facilities by ensuring they have pedestrian walkways.</p> <p>According to Google Maps, there are many commercial facilities located in or near the project area.</p> <p>During construction, pedestrians could enter the project area and get injured and vital utilities such as electric, water, sewer and internet could be damaged which could impede commerce.</p> <p>Potential negative impacts to Commercial Facilities will be reduced as standard site safety practices will be observed during construction and state mandated dig tests will be performed.</p>

Health Care and Social Services	2	<p>Based on review of the project description, the project includes sidewalk and utility improvements which will not directly affect or be affected by health care or social service facilities. According to Google Maps, no such facilities exist in the project area.</p>
Solid Waste Disposal / Recycling	2	<p>Based upon review of onsite photos and Google Maps, the project will not directly serve a solid waste facility and there are no such facilities in the project area.</p> <p>In addition, the project does not involve a housing or commercial development. Therefore, consideration of adequate solid waste disposal/recycling, as it pertains to these activities, does not apply.</p> <p>It is anticipated that waste associated with the project will be generated during construction. The contractor will be responsible for disposing of the waste in accordance to state laws, including those pertaining to hazardous materials.</p> <p>Due to the small amount of waste anticipated to be produced, existing landfill capacities in the area are expected to be adequate.</p>
Waste Water / Sanitary Sewers	3	<p>The project does not involve a housing or commercial development. Therefore, consideration of adequate sewer service, as it pertains to these activities, does not apply.</p> <p>However, during construction, wastewater lines could be cut which could interrupt service and result in raw sewage spills. To mitigate the potential of cutting these lines, state mandated dig tests will be performed prior to construction.</p>

Water Supply	3	<p>The project does not involve a housing or commercial development and will not directly serve a public safety facility. Therefore, water supply, as it pertains to these activities, does not apply.</p> <p>However, during construction, water lines could be cut which could interrupt service. To mitigate the potential of cutting these lines, state mandated dig tests will be performed prior to construction.</p>
Public Safety - Police, Fire and Emergency Medical	3	<p>The project does not involve a housing or commercial development and will not directly serve a public safety facility. Therefore, adequate police, fire and emergency medical access, as it pertains to these activities, does not apply.</p> <p>Review of onsite-photos and Google Maps, City Hall, which often has Police Departments, is located in the direct project area. As such, during construction vital utilities such as water, sewer, electric and internet could be damaged and street detours could interfere with emergency activities.</p> <p>Potential negative impacts will be mitigated as state-mandated dig tests will be performed and appropriate traffic controls will be incorporated into the construction documents.</p>
Parks, Open Space and Recreation	2	<p>The project does not involve a housing development. Therefore, adequate access to parks, open space and recreation, as it pertains to housing, does not apply.</p> <p>According to on-site inspection, Google Maps and review of project area photographs, there are no such areas in or near the project area.</p>



Transportation and Accessibility	1	<p>The project does not involve a housing or commercial development. Therefore, adequate access to transportation facilities and parking, as it pertains to these activities, does not apply.</p> <p>During construction street detours could interfere with traffic flows. Potential negative impacts will be mitigated as appropriate traffic controls will be incorporated into the construction documents.</p> <p>As a result of the project, it is anticipated that both commercial businesses and tourism to the area may increase, which will place an increased demand on the roadways in the City. However, the increased demands are expected to be minimal and within the capacity of the current and planned City budgets.</p> <p>As a result of the project, the area will be beautified and pedestrians will be able to more safely navigate the Central Business District which will make it easier for visitors to participate in commerce.</p>
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Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
<b>NATURAL FEATURES</b>		
Unique Natural Features, Water Resources	2	<p>Review of Google Maps and onsite photos indicated that there are no natural features (bluffs or cliffs) or public or private scenic areas near the project site.</p> <p>According to the EPA Sole Source Aquifer Map, the project is not near a sole source aquifer.</p>
Vegetation, Wildlife	2	<p>The project will not create problems by introducing nuisance or non-indigenous species of vegetation that may be ecologically disruptive, be invasive, threaten the survival of indigenous plant habitats, or disrupt agricultural or silvicultural activities as only native plants will be used.</p> <p>The project will not damage or destroy existing remnant or endemic plant communities, especially those containing nationally, regionally or locally rare species (e.g., prairie grasslands, ice-age disjuncts, local soil-type endemics, etc.) as none exist in the project area.</p> <p>The project will not damage or destroy plant species that are legally protected by state or local ordinances as none exist in the project area.</p> <p>There is no potential that the project will damage or destroy trees in the project area as none exist in the project area.</p> <p>The project will create special hazards for animal life as ground soil and native grasses which serve as habitat for some species, may be removed during construction. However, the disturbance is expected to be minimal and most affected animal life should be able to relocate on adjacent properties.</p> <p>The project will not impact migratory birds as their habitat does not exist in the project area.</p> <p>The project site does not host species that are monitored or listed by local, state, tribal or the federal government.</p>

		<p>The project will not damage or destroy existing wildlife habitats (e.g., removal or blockage of wildlife corridors, such as a riparian buffer) as none exist in the project area.</p> <p>The project will not include excessive grading that will alter the groundwater level and thus cause death of trees and ground cover which in turn diminishes animal habitat as no such grading is included in this project.</p> <p>The project will not damage game fish habitat or spawning grounds as none exist in the project area.</p> <p>During construction, storm drainage could be disrupted. However, any disruption is expected to be minimal as drainage controls will be incorporated into the construction contract where needed.</p> <p>The project will not create conditions favorable to the proliferation of pest species as it is anticipated that only native plants/soils will be utilized in the project as native grasses and landscaping will be utilized.</p> <p>The project will not create conditions (e.g., generate excessive noise or introduce pesticide usage) that could harm or harass wildlife species that are nationally, regionally or locally rare or protected by state or local ordinance as none exist in the project area.</p>
Other Factors		None Identified.

**Additional Studies Performed:** None

**Field Inspection** (Date and completed by): 12/26/20 - Jake McAdams, Public Management, Inc.

**List of Sources, Agencies and Persons Consulted** [40 CFR 1508.9(b)]:

Sources:

- US Census
- Google Maps
- Aerial Photos
- Onsite Observation
- Military Bases in the U.S
- General Land Office Coastal Barrier Map
- NEPA Assist
- Closed and Abandoned Landfills - Regional COG
- TCEQ - CQR
- General Land Office Coastal Zone Map
- USFWS IPAC Report and Official Species List
- TPWD County Species List
- FEMA floodplain map
- HUD Tribal Directory
- EPA Sole Source Aquifer Map
- USFWS Wetland Mapper
- Texas Wild and Scenic and Inventory Maps
- National Seismic Hazard Map

Agencies:

- USFWS - 7/28/21
- Texas Historical Commission - 7/16/21
- Apache Tribe of Oklahoma - 7/28/21
- Comanche Nation, Oklahoma - 7/28/21
- Tonkawa Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma - 7/28/21
- Wichita and Affiliated Tribes - (Wichita, Keechi, Waco & Tawakonie), Oklahoma - 7/28/21

**List of Permits Obtained:** None

**Public Outreach** [24 CFR 50.23 & 58.43]:

**The public was given the following opportunities to comment:**

- During Application Process
- During FONSI comment period (September 2021)

## **Cumulative Impact Analysis [24 CFR 58.32]:**

### **Project Size and Beneficiaries**

The project will be approximately 0.91 acres and shall benefit nine thousand two hundred seventy (9,270) persons, of which three thousand seven hundred twenty (3,720) or forty percent (40%) are of low- to moderate-income.

## **Alternatives [24 CFR 58.40(e); 40 CFR 1508.9]**

### **BUILD**

- 1. Construct wider sidewalks.** The City has determined that the chosen sidewalk widths are adequate. However, it is possible wider sidewalks may be constructed if deemed necessary by the City and adequate funds become available. (potentially viable)
- 2. Address different sidewalks in the area.** The City considered addressing different sidewalks in the downtown area and has concluded that those identified in this project are the most critical to address. However, it is possible that additional sidewalks will be addressed if funding allows, but a reevaluation of the environmental assessment would be required. (viable if adequate funding becomes available)

### **BUILD/PROPOSED**

- 3. Construct the project as proposed.** The City has determined that the project, as proposed, is the best solution to address downtown revitalization efforts. (viable)

## **No Action Alternative [24 CFR 58.40(e)]:**

- 4. A no action alternative was considered.** The sidewalks in the downtown area are inadequate and/or in poor condition which presents a blight in the area, a threat to public safety and a detriment to commerce. (Not Viable)

## **Summary of Findings and Conclusions:**

### **Resource Study Area**

Based on a review of the performance statement in the grant contract with TDA, the relevant resource study area (RSA) is the Downtown area of the City of Lamesa as well as the areas adjacent to the downtown area.

### **The Context**

The project will involve existing sidewalks within the Central Business District area of the City and all work will occur within existing City ROW.

The City of Lamesa has slum and blight conditions in its Downtown including decayed and insufficient sidewalks and streets, noncompliant and inadequate ADA access, and insufficient lighting. To eliminate these conditions, improve residents' quality of life, and encourage economic activity in the Downtown area of the City, the City proposes to reconstruct sidewalks, improve ADA access, and install pedestrian lighting in its Downtown District.

With the aid of federal grant funds, the City has been able to upgrade other infrastructure in the City. In addition, planning studies have been commissioned which will help the City better allocate their funds for such projects.

### **Cumulative Effects**

The project will have direct or indirect impacts to the following:

- ADA
- Commercial Growth and Well Being
- Tourism
- Public Safety
- Transportation

Using a trends method to analyze the cumulative effects on the resources over time along with consultation with federal, state authorities, the City and the project engineer, the effect or cumulative stresses was determined for the RSA.

- ADA
  - As a result of this project, more people who would be subject to the ADA act will have access to the Downtown District.
- Commercial Growth and Well Being
  - As a result of the project, the Central Business District will be able to better promote downtown pedestrian traffic which will in turn have a positive effect on local businesses.
- Tourism

- As a result of the project, the City will become a more appealing destination which will likely increase tourism.
- Public Safety
  - As a result of the project, more pedestrian traffic is anticipated which will increase the demand for public safety in the area. The increased demands were considered by the City as part of the development of this project.
- Transportation
  - As a result of the project, automobile traffic may increase due to more visitors to the area from both residents and tourists which could put a strain on City infrastructure. The increased demands were considered by the City as part of the development of this project.

### **Foreseeable Actions**

It has been determined that addressing the Central Business District improvements will occur.

### **Conclusion**

Based on available environmental documents, consultation with the project engineer, and other information collected about these actions, it was determined that there will be no adverse effects to the environment resulting from this project if appropriate mitigation measures are undertaken. No federal or state listed species will likely be affected during and after the project.

**Mitigation Measures and Conditions [40 CFR 1505.2(c)]**

Summarize below all mitigation measures adopted by the Responsible Entity to reduce, avoid, or eliminate adverse environmental impacts and to avoid non-compliance or non-conformance with the above-listed authorities and factors. These measures/conditions must be incorporated into project contracts, development agreements, and other relevant documents. The staff responsible for implementing and monitoring mitigation measures should be clearly identified in the mitigation plan.

<b>Law, Authority, or Factor</b>	<b>Mitigation Measure</b>
Historical Preservation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="651 674 1414 930">• <u>Archeology Comments</u>: If cultural materials are encountered during project activities, work should cease in the immediate area; work can continue where no cultural materials are present. Please contact the THC's Archeology Division at 512-463-6096 to consult on further actions that may be necessary to protect the cultural remains. TDA should also be contacted.</li><li data-bbox="651 936 1398 1045">• <u>Additional Comments</u>: The protection notes from THC Streetscape Guidelines must be included into the construction plans. TDA should also be contacted.</li></ul>



**Determination:**

**Finding of No Significant Impact** [24 CFR 58.40(g)(1); 40 CFR 1508.27]

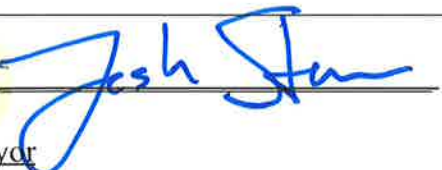
The project will not result in a significant impact on the quality of the human environment.

**Finding of Significant Impact** [24 CFR 58.40(g)(2); 40 CFR 1508.27]

The project may significantly affect the quality of the human environment.

Preparer Signature:  Date: 9/1/2021

Name/Title/Organization: Todd Cave, Cave Consulting, Inc.

Certifying Officer Signature:  Date: 9/1/2021

Name/Title: Josh Steven, Mayor

This original, signed document and related supporting material must be retained on file by the Responsible Entity in an Environmental Review Record (ERR) for the activity/project (ref: 24 CFR Part 58.38) and in accordance with recordkeeping requirements for the HUD program(s).