

Combined Notice of Finding of No Significant Impact and Notice of Intent to Request Release of Funds

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

Date of Publication: *February 26, 2023*

*City of Barling
PO Box 23039
Barling, AR 72923-2623
479-452-1556*

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

REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

On or after March 17, 2023, the City of *Barling* will submit a request to the Arkansas Economic Development Commission for the release of ACEDP funds under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, to undertake the following project:

Project Title: *Barling Mercy Crest*

Purpose:

COVID related deaths occurred in people over 65 years of age. According to the Arkansas Department of Health, people over 65 and people with certain medical conditions (kidney disease, diabetes, heart or circulatory conditions, high blood pressure, etc.) are at high risk for serious medical complications from COVID-19. To combat the spread of COVID-19, the CDC recommends that individuals socialize and exercise in outdoor spaces, if possible. COVID-19 appears to be an ongoing threat which will not be eradicated in the near future. Because of this impact on its residents and staff, Mercy Crest strives to ensure an environment that is safe from COVID. Rather than quarantine residents in their apartments, Mercy Crest adopted stringent infection control protocols, which allow noninfected residents to remain active and social. Being able to visit with family and maintain an active and social life is vital to a higher quality of life for residents. As our society comes out of the COVID restrictions, Mercy Crest must find ways to allow its residents to safely lead more normal lives. To accomplish that, Mercy Crest needs appropriate outdoor areas where its residents can socially distance with each other, staff and family members. Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, residents socialized, exercised, and met with family members in indoor areas. Such activities are crucial to the physical and mental well-being of Mercy Crests residents and staff. However, because of the pandemic, such indoor activities place residents and staff at risk for contacting COVID-19. Residents of Mercy Crest have been known to walk along the drive way as a way to exercise and experience the outdoors. Since the COVID-19 pandemic, it has been increasingly more important for people to have access to outdoor facilities that allow for proper social distancing.

Location: *1300 Strozier Lane, Barling, AR 72923*

Project Description:

Courtyard Repurposing. Mercy Crest proposes to repurpose its 1st level courtyard to include a 20' x 30' covered outdoor space in its courtyard for residents to utilize. The space will be located adjacent to Mercy Crest's activity room where restrooms are available. The courtyard will be ADA compliant and have handicapped accessible sidewalks and small activity spaces. There will be appropriate landscaping to engage residents. The covered area in the courtyard repurposing will have approximately 600 square feet. The sidewalks inside the courtyard will be approximately 450 feet in length.

Outdoor Trail. Mercy Crest also proposes to construct an ADA compliant and wheelchair accessible outdoor trail next to its Restorative Care Therapy Room. The trail will provide a longer path for walking and wheelchair travel. The trail will be located in a grove of trees for shade. It will be away from vehicular traffic and can be reached without crossing any streets or driveways. There will be appropriate landscaping in the area to maintain interest of residents. The Outdoor trail will be approximately 700 feet in length will be shaded by an existing grove of trees.

Project Issues: *None.*

Mitigation Measures/Conditions/Permits (if any): *None.*

Estimated Project Cost: \$323,840.00

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The City of Barling 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 Barling, 307 Fort Street Barling, AR 72923, and may be examined or copied weekdays 8:30A.M to 4P.M.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to the Barling City Hall or WAPDD. All comments received by March 17, 2023, will be considered by the name of RE prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds. Comments should specify which Notice they are addressing.

RELEASE OF FUNDS

The City of Barling certifies to Arkansas Economic Development Commission that Steve Core, Certifying Officer, in his capacity as City Administrator 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. Arkansas Economic Development Commission's approval of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under NEPA and related laws and authorities and allows the name of grant recipient to use ACEDP program funds.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

Arkansas Economic Development Commission will accept objections to its release of fund and the RE'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 Barling*;**
 - (b) The *RE* 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 Arkansas Economic Development Commission; 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 in accordance with the required procedures (24 CFR Part 58, Sec. 58.76) and shall be addressed to Grants Management Division, Arkansas Economic Development Commission, 900 West Capitol, Suite 400, Little Rock, Arkansas 72201. Potential objectors should contact Arkansas Economic Development Commission to verify the actual last day of the objection period.**

Steve Core, City Administrator, Certifying Officer


Designation of Environmental Review Compliance Liaison
(Submit with Environmental Review Record to the
Arkansas Economic Development Commission Grants Manager.)

Project number: 795-00052-20

Grantee: City of Barling

This is to certify that Barling (City/County) has designated Tracee McKenna/WAPDD (Name) as Environmental Review Compliance Liaison to act on behalf of the Grantee with the Arkansas Economic Development Commission to help ensure compliance with all environmental requirements applicable to the above-referenced project.

It is understood that this person is familiar with environmental review requirements and processes and is qualified to represent the Grantee as the Environmental Review Compliance Liaison, and undertake the responsibilities as laid forth in the ACEDP Administrative Procedures Manual. It is also understood that this letter *does not* constitute a designation of this person as Certifying Officer.



Chief Executive Officer Signature



Date



U.S. Department of Housing and Urban
Development
451 Seventh Street, SW
Washington, DC 20410
www.hud.gov

espanol.hud.gov

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

This is a suggested format that may be used by Responsible Entities to document completion of an Environmental Assessment.

Project Information

Project Name: Barling Mercy Crest Trail and Pavilion

Responsible Entity: City of Barling

Grant Recipient (if different than Responsible Entity):

State/Local Identifier: 795-00052-20

Preparer: Tracee McKenna/WAPDD

Certifying Officer Name and Title:

Grant Recipient (if different than Responsible Entity):

Consultant (if applicable):

Direct Comments to: Tracee McKenna/WAPDD 479-785-2651 or Steve Core/City Administrator 479-452-1556

Project Location: 1300 Strozier Lane, Barling, AR 72923

Description of the Proposed Project [24 CFR 50.12 & 58.32; 40 CFR 1508.25]: Courtyard Repurposing. Mercy Crest proposes to repurpose its 1st level courtyard to include a 20' x 30' covered outdoor space in its courtyard for residents to utilize. The space will be located adjacent to Mercy Crest's activity room where restrooms are available. The courtyard will be ADA compliant and have handicapped accessible sidewalks and small activity spaces. There will be appropriate landscaping to engage residents. The covered area in the courtyard repurposing will have approximately 600 square feet. The sidewalks inside the courtyard will be approximately 450 feet in length.

Outdoor Trail. Mercy Crest also proposes to construct an ADA compliant and wheelchair accessible outdoor trail next to its Restorative Care Therapy Room. The trail will provide a longer path for walking and wheelchair travel. The trail will be located in a grove of trees for shade. It will be away from vehicular traffic and can be reached without crossing any streets or driveways. There will be appropriate landscaping in the area to maintain interest of residents. The Outdoor trail will be approximately 700 feet in length will be shaded by an existing grove of trees.

Statement of Purpose and Need for the Proposal [40 CFR 1508.9(b)]: Nationwide, 75% of COVID related deaths occurred in people over 65 years of age. According to the Arkansas Department of Health, people over 65 and people with certain medical conditions (kidney disease, diabetes, heart or circulatory conditions, high blood pressure, etc.) are at high risk for serious medical complications from COVID-19. To combat the spread of COVID-19, the CDC recommends that individuals socialize and exercise in outdoor spaces, if possible. COVID-19 appears to be an ongoing threat which will not be eradicated in the near future. Because of this impact on its residents and staff, Mercy Crest strives to ensure an environment that is safe from COVID. Rather than quarantine residents in their apartments, Mercy Crest adopted stringent infection control protocols, which allow noninfected residents to remain active and social. Being able to visit with family and maintain an active and social life is vital to a higher quality of life for residents. As our society comes out of the COVID restrictions, Mercy Crest must find ways to allow its residents to safely lead more normal lives. To accomplish that, Mercy Crest needs appropriate outdoor areas where its residents can socially distance with each other, staff and family members.

Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, residents socialized, exercised, and met with family members in indoor areas. Such activities are crucial to the physical and mental well-being of Mercy Crests residents and staff. However, because of the pandemic, such indoor activities place residents and staff at risk for contacting COVID-19. Residents of Mercy Crest have been known to walk along the drive way as a way to exercise and experience the outdoors. Since the COVID-19 pandemic, it has been increasingly more important for people to have access to outdoor facilities that allow for proper social distancing.

Existing Conditions and Trends [24 CFR 58.40(a)]: Mercy Crest consists of a 100-apartment facility on 19 acres. In 2021, Mercy Crest was home for a total of 142 elderly people. Currently, Mercy Crest has no outdoor area where Mercy Crest residents can safely gather to socialize, exercise, or meet with family members. Several residents are now walking in the facility's driveway for exercise. This places them in danger because of vehicular traffic.

Funding Information

Grant Number	HUD Program	Funding Amount
795-00052-20	CDBG	\$323,840.00

Estimated Total HUD Funded Amount: \$323,840.00

Estimated Total Project Cost (HUD and non-HUD funds) [24 CFR 58.32(d)]: \$323,840.00

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.

Compliance Factors: Statutes, Executive Orders, and Regulations listed at 24 CFR §58.5 and §58.6	Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?	Compliance determinations
STATUTES, EXECUTIVE ORDERS, AND REGULATIONS LISTED AT 24 CFR 50.4 and 58.6		
Airport Hazards 24 CFR Part 51 Subpart D	Yes No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Project does not include sale or purchase of existing property. Project is not located within 2,500 feet of the end of a civil airport runway or within 15,000 feet of the end of a military runway.
Coastal Barrier Resources 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"/>	None in Arkansas
Flood Insurance Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 and National Flood Insurance Reform Act of 1994 [42 USC 4001-4128 and 42 USC 5154a]	Yes No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Project is not located in a FEMA identified Special Flood Hazard Area

STATUTES, EXECUTIVE ORDERS, AND REGULATIONS LISTED AT 24 CFR 50.4 & 58.5

<p>Clean Air</p> <p>Clean Air Act, as amended, particularly section 176(c) & (d); 40 CFR Parts 6, 51, 93</p>	<p>Yes No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>Only Non-Attainment Area in Arkansas is Crittenden County.</p>
<p>Coastal Zone Management</p> <p>Coastal Zone Management Act, sections 307(c) & (d)</p>	<p>Yes No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>No coastal zone management programs exist in Arkansas, as established by Nat'l Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration, Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management. http://coastalmanagement.noaa.gov/mystate/docs/StateCZBoundaries.pdf</p>
<p>Contamination and Toxic Substances</p> <p>24 CFR Part 50.3(i) & 58.5(i)(2)</p>	<p>Yes No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>None within 0.5 miles. NEPA Report.</p>
<p>Endangered Species</p> <p>Endangered Species Act of 1973, particularly section 7; 50 CFR Part 402</p>	<p>Yes No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>Only endangered species listed for project area is the Indiana Bat and the project location does not overlap the final critical habitat for this species. See attached list.</p>
<p>Explosive and Flammable Hazards</p> <p>24 CFR Part 51 Subpart C</p>	<p>Yes No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>None visible from site. Site inspection and maps.</p>
<p>Farmlands Protection</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>Activities NOT subject to FPPA include: Renovation of existing structures, Projects on land already in urban development or used for water storage, Projects on land already zoned non-agricultural, Projects in area with over 40 structures per square mile. Project is located within Barling city limits. See attached map.</p>
<p>Floodplain Management</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>Not in Floodplain. FIRM attached.</p>
<p>Historic Preservation</p> <p>National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, particularly sections 106 and 110; 36 CFR Part 800</p>	<p>Yes No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>Letter dated 1-3-2023.</p>

Noise Abatement and Control Noise Control Act of 1972, as amended by the Quiet Communities Act of 1978; 24 CFR Part 51 Subpart B	Yes No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Only projects involving a noise sensitive use such as a residential structure, school, hospital, nursing home, library, daycare center or other structures where people may sleep or study require a noise assessment.
Sole Source Aquifers Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, as amended, particularly section 1424(e); 40 CFR Part 149	Yes No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No Sole Source Aquifers exist in Arkansas, as established by Environmental Protection Agency Region 6.
Wetlands Protection Executive Order 11990, particularly sections 2 and 5	Yes No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No wetlands in proximity to project. Map attached shows a pond, but it no longer exists.
Wild and Scenic Rivers Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968, particularly section 7(b) and (c)	Yes No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	None near project area.
ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE		
Environmental Justice Executive Order 12898	Yes No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Project benefits a low-income population.

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
LAND DEVELOPMENT		
Conformance with Plans / Compatible Land Use and Zoning / Scale and Urban Design	2	Project does not require special permitting or change in zoning. Project will not require change in land use and is compatible with surrounding land uses.
Soil Suitability/ Slope/ Erosion/ Drainage/ Storm Water Runoff	2	No evidence of soil issues. Proposed site is generally flat with very little slope.
Hazards and Nuisances including Site Safety and Noise	1	Project will not be affected by natural hazards, built hazards, or nuisances. Project will provide a safer space for Mercy Crest residents to walk that keep them away from traffic.
Energy Consumption	2	Project will not impact energy consumption.
SOCIOECONOMIC		
Employment and Income Patterns	2	Project will not impact employment or income patterns.
Demographic Character Changes, Displacement	2	Project will not alter demographic characteristics of the community. Project will not demolition or impact any structures. Project will not displace families or individuals.
COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES		
Educational and Cultural Facilities	2	Project will not impact educational or cultural facilities
Commercial Facilities	2	Project will no impact any commercial facilities
Health Care and Social Services	2	Project will not impact health care or social services.
Solid Waste Disposal / Recycling	2	Project will not increase solid waste.
Waste Water / Sanitary Sewers	2	Project will not impact waste water needs or capacity.
Water Supply	2	Project will not impact water supply needs or capacity

Public Safety - Police, Fire and Emergency Medical	2	The quality of the police, fire protection and emergency medical services available to the project is adequate to meet project needs
Parks, Open Space and Recreation	1	Current facilities are adequate, and project will provide new recreation space for Mercy Crest residents.
Transportation and Accessibility	1	Project provides accessible walking trail for Mercy Crest residents.
Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
NATURAL FEATURES		
Unique Natural Features, Water Resources	2	Project will not impact water resources or any natural features
Vegetation, Wildlife	3	Project will require the removal of vegetation for the construction of new facility.
Other Factors	2	

Additional Studies Performed:

Field Inspection (Date and completed by): **March 23, 2022/Tracee McKenna, Cindy Taylor, Pat Morris, Rick Spearman, Steve Core**

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

AHPP
Arkansas Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism
City of Barling
Fish and Wildlife

List of Permits Obtained:

Public Outreach [24 CFR 50.23 & 58.43]: A Public Meeting to determine community needs was held on April 26, 2022 and this project was determined to be a priority.

Cumulative Impact Analysis [24 CFR 58.32]: There are no long term direct or indirect impacts on resources and there are no cumulative effects.

Alternatives [24 CFR 58.40(e); 40 CFR 1508.9]: . Mercy Crest considered a free-standing outdoor pavilion located a few hundred feet away from its facility with a walking trail that was nearly a mile in length. Both were rejected because of the cost and distance from the facility.

No Action Alternative [24 CFR 58.40(e)]: No action would not result in improved facilities for the residents of Mercy Crest and therefore is not a viable option.

Summary of Findings and Conclusions: There will be no environmental impacts to Endangered Species, Wetlands, or Floodplains or any other potential environmental impacts.

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.

Law, Authority, or Factor	Mitigation Measure

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: _____

Name/Title/Organization: Tracee McKenna/Director of Community Development/WAPDD

Certifying Officer Signature: Phillip S. Core Date: 6 Feb 2023

Name/Title: Phillip S. Core / City Administrator

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).



AERIAL MAP
BARLING, ARKANSAS

Western Arkansas Planning & Development District, Inc

1109 S 16th St - Fort Smith, AR 72901
ph 479.785.2651 www.wapdd.org fax 479.785.1964

1:12,984

0 265 530 1,060 1,590 Feet





CONSTRUCTION MANAGER:
Travis Beshears
Beshears Construction, Inc.
PO Box 6299
Fort Smith, AR 72906
Phone: 479-646-0846
Email: travis@beshearsconstruction.com

ARCHITECT:
Kelly M. Wilson, AIA
PO Box 6299
Fort Smith, AR 72906
Phone: 479-646-0846
Email: kelly@beshearsconstruction.com

Schematic Design
Drawings

Mercy Crest
Site Improvements
1300 Strozler Lane, Barling, AR 72923

Site Plan

Project #:

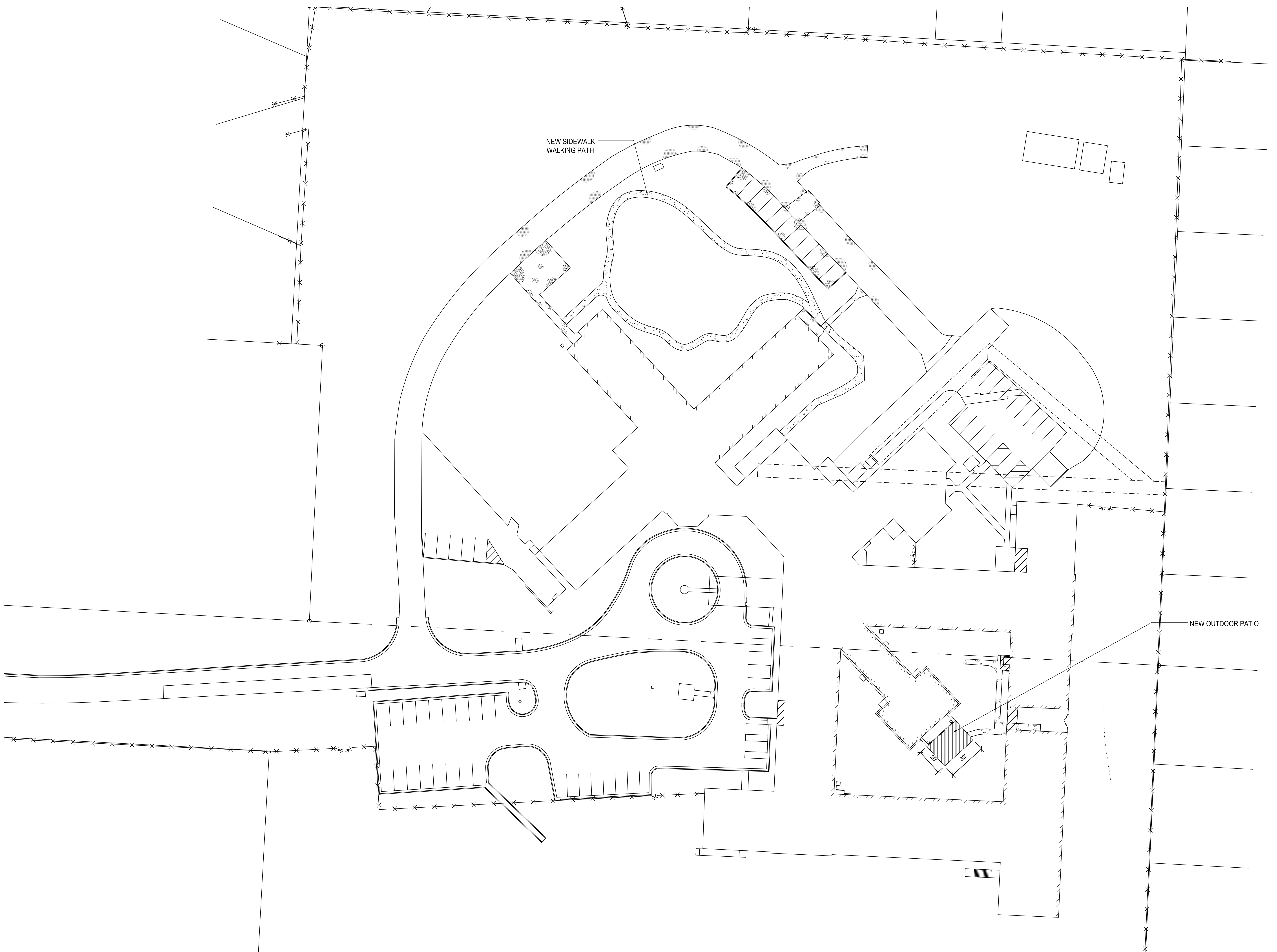
Issue Date:

April 25, 2022

Sheet No.:

A1.01

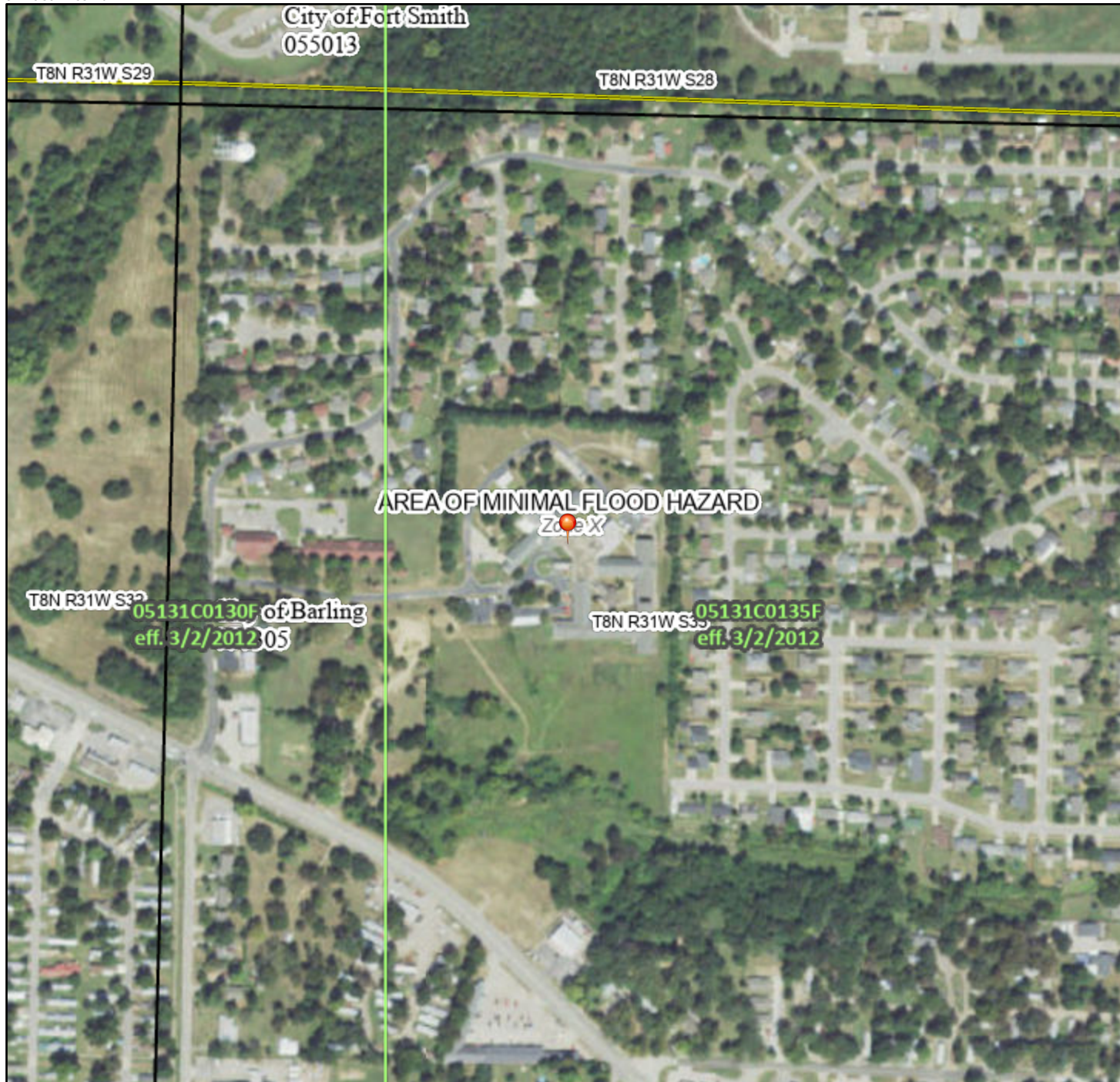
© Beshears Construction 2022



National Flood Hazard Layer FIRMMette



94°18'58"W 35°20'27"N



0 250 500 1,000 1,500 2,000 Feet 1:6,000
 Basemap: USGS National Map: Orthoimagery: Data refreshed October, 2020

Legend

SEE FIS REPORT FOR DETAILED LEGEND AND INDEX MAP FOR FIRM PANEL LAYOUT

SPECIAL FLOOD HAZARD AREAS

- Without Base Flood Elevation (BFE) Zone A, V, A99
- With BFE or Depth Zone AE, AO, AH, VE, AR
- Regulatory Floodway

OTHER AREAS OF FLOOD HAZARD

- 0.2% Annual Chance Flood Hazard, Areas of 1% annual chance flood with average depth less than one foot or with drainage areas of less than one square mile Zone X
- Future Conditions 1% Annual Chance Flood Hazard Zone X
- Area with Reduced Flood Risk due to Levee. See Notes. Zone X
- Area with Flood Risk due to Levee Zone D

OTHER AREAS

- NO SCREEN Area of Minimal Flood Hazard Zone X
- Effective LOMRs
- Area of Undetermined Flood Hazard Zone D

GENERAL STRUCTURES

- Channel, Culvert, or Storm Sewer
- Levee, Dike, or Floodwall

OTHER FEATURES

- 20.2 Cross Sections with 1% Annual Chance Water Surface Elevation
- 17.5 Coastal Transect
- Base Flood Elevation Line (BFE)
- Limit of Study
- Jurisdiction Boundary
- Coastal Transect Baseline
- Profile Baseline
- Hydrographic Feature

MAP PANELS

- Digital Data Available
- No Digital Data Available
- Unmapped

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

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 **11/4/2022 at 11:35 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.



United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Arkansas Ecological Services Field Office
110 South Amity Suite 300
Conway, AR 72032-8975
Phone: (501) 513-4470 Fax: (501) 513-4480

In Reply Refer To:
Project Code: 2023-0012549
Project Name: Mercy Crest Walking Trail

November 04, 2022

Subject: List of threatened and endangered species that may occur in your proposed project location or may be affected by your proposed project

To Whom It May Concern:

The enclosed species list identifies threatened, endangered, proposed and candidate species, as well as proposed and final designated critical habitat, that may occur within the boundary of your proposed project and/or may be affected by your proposed project. The species list fulfills the requirements of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) under section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act (Act) of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

New information based on updated surveys, changes in the abundance and distribution of species, changed habitat conditions, or other factors could change this list. Please feel free to contact us if you need more current information or assistance regarding the potential impacts to federally proposed, listed, and candidate species and federally designated and proposed critical habitat. Please note that under 50 CFR 402.12(e) of the regulations implementing section 7 of the Act, the accuracy of this species list should be verified after 90 days. This verification can be completed formally or informally as desired. The Service recommends that verification be completed by visiting the ECOS-IPaC website at regular intervals during project planning and implementation for updates to species lists and information. An updated list may be requested through the ECOS-IPaC system by completing the same process used to receive the enclosed list.

The purpose of the Act is to provide a means whereby threatened and endangered species and the ecosystems upon which they depend may be conserved. Under sections 7(a)(1) and 7(a)(2) of the Act and its implementing regulations (50 CFR 402 *et seq.*), Federal agencies are required to utilize their authorities to carry out programs for the conservation of threatened and endangered species and to determine whether projects may affect threatened and endangered species and/or designated critical habitat.

A Biological Assessment is required for construction projects (or other undertakings having similar physical impacts) that are major Federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment as defined in the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4332(2) (c)). For projects other than major construction activities, the Service suggests that a biological

evaluation similar to a Biological Assessment be prepared to determine whether the project may affect listed or proposed species and/or designated or proposed critical habitat. Recommended contents of a Biological Assessment are described at 50 CFR 402.12.

If a Federal agency determines, based on the Biological Assessment or biological evaluation, that listed species and/or designated critical habitat may be affected by the proposed project, the agency is required to consult with the Service pursuant to 50 CFR 402. In addition, the Service recommends that candidate species, proposed species and proposed critical habitat be addressed within the consultation. More information on the regulations and procedures for section 7 consultation, including the role of permit or license applicants, can be found in the "Endangered Species Consultation Handbook" at:

<http://www.fws.gov/endangered/esa-library/pdf/TOC-GLOS.PDF>

Migratory Birds: In addition to responsibilities to protect threatened and endangered species under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), there are additional responsibilities under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (BGEPA) to protect native birds from project-related impacts. Any activity, intentional or unintentional, resulting in take of migratory birds, including eagles, is prohibited unless otherwise permitted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (50 C.F.R. Sec. 10.12 and 16 U.S.C. Sec. 668(a)). For more information regarding these Acts see <https://www.fws.gov/birds/policies-and-regulations.php>.

The MBTA has no provision for allowing take of migratory birds that may be unintentionally killed or injured by otherwise lawful activities. It is the responsibility of the project proponent to comply with these Acts by identifying potential impacts to migratory birds and eagles within applicable NEPA documents (when there is a federal nexus) or a Bird/Eagle Conservation Plan (when there is no federal nexus). Proponents should implement conservation measures to avoid or minimize the production of project-related stressors or minimize the exposure of birds and their resources to the project-related stressors. For more information on avian stressors and recommended conservation measures see <https://www.fws.gov/birds/bird-enthusiasts/threats-to-birds.php>.

In addition to MBTA and BGEPA, Executive Order 13186: *Responsibilities of Federal Agencies to Protect Migratory Birds*, obligates all Federal agencies that engage in or authorize activities that might affect migratory birds, to minimize those effects and encourage conservation measures that will improve bird populations. Executive Order 13186 provides for the protection of both migratory birds and migratory bird habitat. For information regarding the implementation of Executive Order 13186, please visit <https://www.fws.gov/birds/policies-and-regulations/executive-orders/e0-13186.php>.

We appreciate your concern for threatened and endangered species. The Service encourages Federal agencies to include conservation of threatened and endangered species into their project planning to further the purposes of the Act. Please include the Consultation Code in the header of this letter with any request for consultation or correspondence about your project that you submit to our office.

Attachment(s):

- Official Species List

Official Species List

This list is provided pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, and fulfills the requirement for Federal agencies to "request of the Secretary of the Interior information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of a proposed action".

This species list is provided by:

Arkansas Ecological Services Field Office

110 South Amity Suite 300

Conway, AR 72032-8975

(501) 513-4470

Project Summary

Project Code: 2023-0012549

Project Name: Mercy Crest Walking Trail

Project Type: Federal Grant / Loan Related

Project Description: Sidewalk trail addition including approximately 3200 square feet or 640 linear feet of 5' wide sidewalk.

Project Location:

Approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/@35.3371662,-94.31099315161124,14z>



Counties: Sebastian County, Arkansas

Endangered Species Act Species

There is a total of 7 threatened, endangered, or candidate species on this species list.

Species on this list should be considered in an effects analysis for your project and could include species that exist in another geographic area. For example, certain fish may appear on the species list because a project could affect downstream species.

IPaC does not display listed species or critical habitats under the sole jurisdiction of NOAA Fisheries¹, as USFWS does not have the authority to speak on behalf of NOAA and the Department of Commerce.

See the "Critical habitats" section below for those critical habitats that lie wholly or partially within your project area under this office's jurisdiction. Please contact the designated FWS office if you have questions.

1. [NOAA Fisheries](#), also known as the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), is an office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration within the Department of Commerce.

Mammals

NAME	STATUS
Indiana Bat <i>Myotis sodalis</i> There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5949	Endangered
Northern Long-eared Bat <i>Myotis septentrionalis</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9045	Threatened

Birds

NAME	STATUS
Eastern Black Rail <i>Laterallus jamaicensis ssp. jamaicensis</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10477	Threatened
Piping Plover <i>Charadrius melodus</i> Population: [Atlantic Coast and Northern Great Plains populations] - Wherever found, except those areas where listed as endangered. There is final critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6039	Threatened
Red Knot <i>Calidris canutus rufa</i> There is proposed critical habitat for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1864	Threatened

Insects

NAME	STATUS
<p>American Burying Beetle <i>Nicrophorus americanus</i> Population: Wherever found, except where listed as an experimental population No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/66</p>	Threatened
<p>Monarch Butterfly <i>Danaus plexippus</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9743</p>	Candidate

Critical habitats

THERE ARE NO CRITICAL HABITATS WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA UNDER THIS OFFICE'S JURISDICTION.

IPaC User Contact Information

Agency: WAPDD
Name: Tracee McKenna
Address: 1109 S 16th Street
City: Fort Smith
State: AR
Zip: 72901
Email: tmckenna@wapdd.org
Phone: 4797852651

Lead Agency Contact Information

Lead Agency: Department of Housing and Urban Development



United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Arkansas Ecological Services Field Office
110 South Amity Suite 300
Conway, AR 72032-8975
Phone: (501) 513-4470 Fax: (501) 513-4480

In Reply Refer To:
Project code: 2023-0012549
Project Name: Mercy Crest Walking Trail

November 04, 2022

Subject: Consistency letter for 'Mercy Crest Walking Trail' for specified federally threatened and endangered species and designated critical habitat that may occur in your proposed project area consistent with the Arkansas Determination Key for project review and guidance for federally listed species (Arkansas Dkey).

Dear Tracee McKenna:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) received on **November 04, 2022** your effect determination(s) for the 'Mercy Crest Walking Trail' (the Action) using the Arkansas DKey within the Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) system. The Service developed this system in accordance with the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA) (87 Stat.884, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.).

Based on the answers provided, the proposed Action is consistent with a determination of “no effect” for the following species as outlined in the Service’s Arkansas Determination Key for project review and guidance for federally listed species.

Species	Listing Status	Determination
American Burying Beetle (<i>Nicrophorus americanus</i>)	Threatened	No effect
Eastern Black Rail (<i>Laterallus jamaicensis ssp. jamaicensis</i>)	Threatened	No effect
Indiana Bat (<i>Myotis sodalis</i>)	Endangered	No effect
Northern Long-eared Bat (<i>Myotis septentrionalis</i>)	Threatened	No effect
Piping Plover (<i>Charadrius melodus</i>)	Threatened	No effect
Red Knot (<i>Calidris canutus rufa</i>)	Threatened	No effect

Status

Your agency has met consultation requirements for these species by informing the Service of the “no effect” determinations. No further consultation for this project is required for these species. This consistency letter confirms you may rely on effect determinations you reached by

considering the Arkansas DKey to satisfy agency consultation requirements under Section 7(a)(2) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (87 Stat. 884, as amended 16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.; ESA).

The Service recommends that your agency contact the Arkansas Ecological Services Field Office or re-evaluate this key in IPaC if: 1) the scope, timing, duration, or location of the proposed project changes, 2) new information reveals the action may affect listed species or designated critical habitat; 3) a new species is listed or critical habitat designated. If any of the above conditions occurs, additional consultation with the Arkansas Ecological Services Field Office should take place before project changes are final or resources committed.

Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act: The following resources are provided to project proponents and consulting agencies as additional information. Bald and golden eagles are not included in this section 7(a)(2) consultation and this information does not constitute a determination of effects by the Service.

The Service developed the National Bald Eagle Management Guidelines to advise landowners, land managers, and others who share public and private lands with Bald Eagles when and under what circumstances the protective provisions of the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act may apply to their activities. The guidelines should be consulted prior to conducting new or intermittent activity near an eagle nest. Activity specific guidelines begin on page 10 of the document. To access a copy of the National Bald Eagle Management Guidelines please visit the Service's Bald and Golden Eagle Management webpage and scroll down to the Guidance and Tools section: <https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/bald-and-golden-eagle-management>

If the recommendations detailed in the National Bald Eagle Management Guidelines cannot be followed, you may apply for a permit to authorize removal or relocation of an eagle nest in certain instances. To obtain an application form or contact information for Regional Migratory Bird Permit Offices please visit the Service's Bald and Golden Eagle Management webpage and scroll down to the Permits section: <https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/bald-and-golden-eagle-management>

Action Description

You provided to IPaC the following name and description for the subject Action.

1. Name

Mercy Crest Walking Trail

2. Description

The following description was provided for the project 'Mercy Crest Walking Trail':

Sidewalk trail addition including approximately 3200 square feet or 640 linear feet of 5' wide sidewalk.

Approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/@35.3371662,-94.31099315161124,14z>



Species Protection Measures

Qualification Interview

1. Have you made an effects determination of "no effect" for all species in the area of the project? A "no effect" determination means the project will have no beneficial effect, no short-term adverse effects, and no long-term adverse effects on any of the species on the IPaC-generated species list for the proposed project or those species habitat. A project with effects that cannot be meaningfully measured, detected or evaluated, effects that are extremely unlikely to occur, or entirely beneficial effects should not have a "no effect" determination. (If unsure, select "No").
No
 2. Is the action authorized, funded, or being carried out by a Federal agency?
Yes
 3. Are you the the action agency or the designated non-federal representative?
Yes
 4. Choose the agency you represent in this consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service:
g. All other federal agencies or agency designees
 5. [Semantic] Does the project intersect designated critical habitat for the Leopard Darter?
Automatically answered
No
 6. [Semantic] Does the project intersect designated critical habitat for the Neosho Mucket?
Automatically answered
No
 7. [Semantic] Does the project intersect designated critical habitat for Yellowcheek Darter?
Automatically answered
No
 8. [Semantic] Does the project intersect designated critical habitat for Rabbitsfoot?
Automatically answered
No
 9. [Semantic] Does the project intersect the American burying beetle consultation area?
Automatically answered
Yes
 10. Have you determined that the proposed action will have "no effect" on the American burying beetle? (If you are unsure select "No")
Yes
 11. [Semantic] Does the project intersect the red-cockaded woodpecker AOI?
Automatically answered
No
-

12. [Semantic] Does the project intersect the Eastern black rail AOI?
Automatically answered
Yes
13. Will the project take place in freshwater herbaceous wetlands and/or wet prairies?
No
14. [Semantic] Does the project intersect the red knot AOI?
Automatically answered
Yes
15. Will the project affect sand and gravel areas or shorelines along rivers, lakes, or reservoirs?
No
16. Does the project take place in marshy or flooded open field habitat?
No
17. [Semantic] Does the project intersect the Piping Plover AOI?
Automatically answered
Yes
18. [Semantic] Does the project intersect the Whooping Crane AOI?
Automatically answered
No
19. [Semantic] Does the project intersect the interior least tern AOI?
Automatically answered
No
20. [Semantic] Does the project intersect the Gray Bat AOI?
Automatically answered
No
21. [Semantic] Does the project intersect the Ozark Big-eared Bat AOI?
Automatically answered
No
22. [Semantic] Does the project intersect the Indiana bat AOI?
Automatically answered
Yes
23. Are there any caves within 0.5 mile of the project area?
No
24. Does the project occur in a subdivision or urban area?
Yes
25. [Semantic] Does the project intersect the Northern Long-eared bat AOI?
Automatically answered
Yes
-

26. Have you determined that the proposed action will have “no effect” on the northern long-eared bat? (If you are unsure select "No")

Yes

27. [Semantic] Does the project intersect the Benton County Cave Crayfish AOI?

Automatically answered

No

28. [Semantic] Does the project intersect the Hell Creek Cave Crayfish AOI?

Automatically answered

No

29. [Semantic] Does the project intersect the Ozark cavefish AOI?

Automatically answered

No

30. [Semantic] Does the project intersect the Missouri bladderpod AOI?

Automatically answered

No

31. [Semantic] Does the project intersect the Geocarpon AOI?

Automatically answered

No

32. [Semantic] Does the project intersect the running buffalo clover AOI?

Automatically answered

No

33. [Semantic] Does the project intersect the Pondberry AOI?

Automatically answered

No

IPaC User Contact Information

Agency: WAPDD
Name: Tracee McKenna
Address: 1109 S 16th Street
City: Fort Smith
State: AR
Zip: 72901
Email: tmckenna@wapdd.org
Phone: 4797852651

Lead Agency Contact Information

Lead Agency: Department of Housing and Urban Development



Asa Hutchinson
Governor
Stacy Hurst
Secretary

January 3, 2023

Ms. Tracee McKenna
Director of Community Development
Western Arkansas Planning & Development District
1109 S. 16th Street
Fort Smith, AR 72901

RE: Sebastian County: Barling
Section 106 Review: HUD
Proposed Undertaking: Walking Trail and Pavilion Construction at Mercy Crest Assisted Living
AHPP Tracking Number: 110687

Dear Ms. McKenna:

The staff of the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program (AHPP) reviewed the submission for the above referenced undertaking in Section 33, Township 8 North, Range 31 West in Sebastian County, Arkansas. The proposed undertaking entails the construction of a walking trail and pavilion at Mercy Crest Assisted Living in the City of Barling. There are no previously recorded archeological sites within the area of potential effect (APE). The APE is located within multiple Tear of Tears Corridors; however, the project location has been disturbed by previous construction activities.

Based on the provided information, the AHPP concurs with the finding of **no historic properties affected pursuant to 36 CFR § 800.4(d)(1)** for the proposed undertaking.

Tribes that have expressed an interest in the area include the Caddo Nation, the Cherokee Nation, the Chickasaw Nation, the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, the Osage Nation, the Quapaw Nation, and the Shawnee Tribe. We recommend consultation in accordance with 36 CFR § 800.2(c)(2).

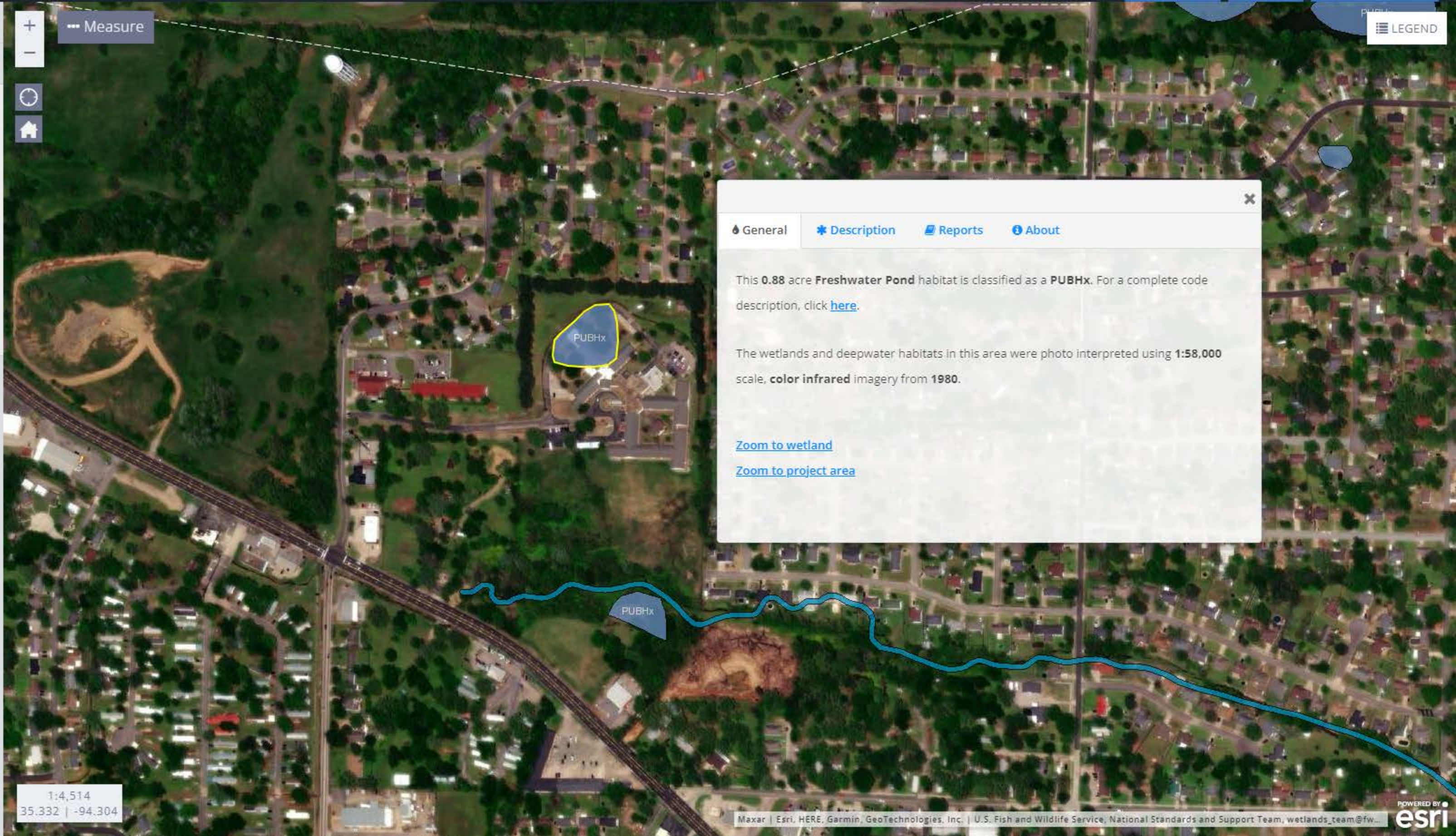
Thank you for the opportunity to review this undertaking. Please refer to the AHPP Tracking Number listed above in all correspondence. If you have any questions, call Kathryn Bryles at 501-324-9784 or email kathryn.bryles@arkansas.gov.

Sincerely,

for
Scott Kaufman
Director, AHPP

cc: Dr. Melissa Zabecki, Arkansas Archeological Survey

- BASEMAPS >
- MAP LAYERS >
- Wetlands
 - Riparian
 - Riparian Mapping Areas
 - Data Source
 - Source Type
 - Image Scale
 - Image Year
 - Areas of Interest
 - FWS Managed Lands
 - Historic Wetland Data



General Description Reports About

This 0.88 acre **Freshwater Pond** habitat is classified as a **PUBHx**. For a complete code description, click [here](#).

The wetlands and deepwater habitats in this area were photo interpreted using **1:58,000** scale, **color infrared** imagery from **1980**.

[Zoom to wetland](#)

[Zoom to project area](#)

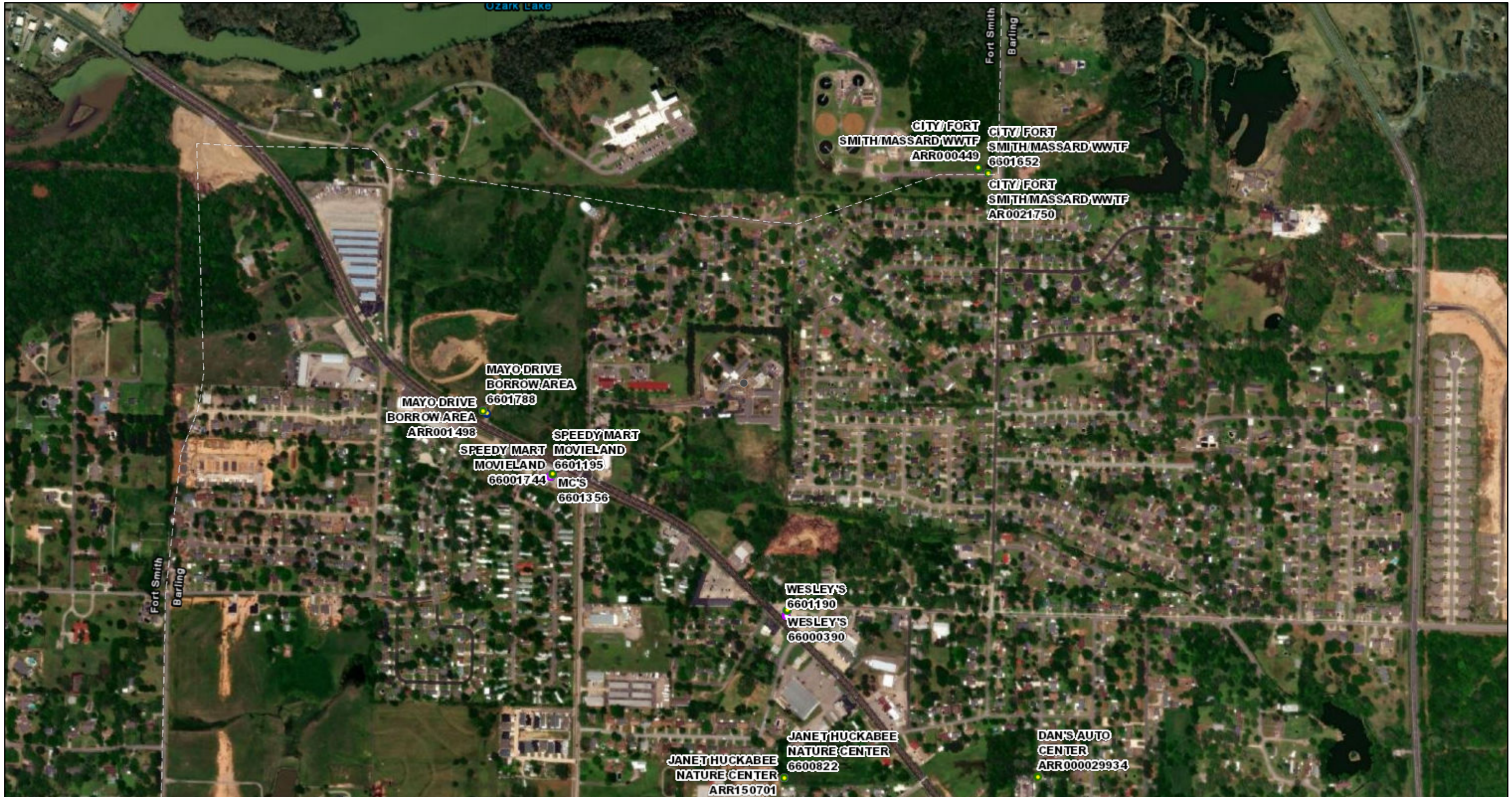
1:4,514
35.332 | -94.304

NEPAssist Report

Mercy Crest Walking Trail

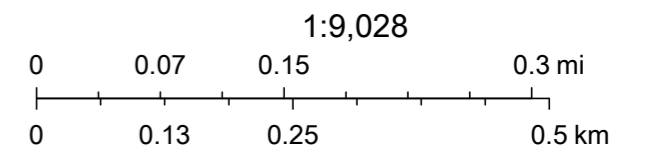
Project Location	35.337248,- 94.311014
Within 0.5 miles of an Ozone 8-hr (1997 standard) Non-Attainment/Maintenance Area?	no
Within 0.5 miles of an Ozone 8-hr (2008 standard) Non-Attainment/Maintenance Area?	no
Within 0.5 miles of a Lead (2008 standard) Non-Attainment/Maintenance Area?	no
Within 0.5 miles of a SO2 1-hr (2010 standard) Non-Attainment/Maintenance Area?	no
Within 0.5 miles of a PM2.5 24hr (2006 standard) Non-Attainment/Maintenance Area?	no
Within 0.5 miles of a PM2.5 Annual (1997 standard) Non-Attainment/Maintenance Area?	no
Within 0.5 miles of a PM2.5 Annual (2012 standard) Non-Attainment/Maintenance Area?	no
Within 0.5 miles of a PM10 (1987 standard) Non-Attainment/Maintenance Area?	no
Within 0.5 miles of a Federal Land?	no
Within 0.5 miles of an impaired stream?	no
Within 0.5 miles of an impaired waterbody?	no
Within 0.5 miles of a waterbody?	yes
Within 0.5 miles of a stream?	yes
Within 0.5 miles of an NWI wetland?	Available Online
Within 0.5 miles of a Brownfields site?	no
Within 0.5 miles of a Superfund site?	no
Within 0.5 miles of a Toxic Release Inventory (TRI) site?	no
Within 0.5 miles of a water discharger (NPDES)?	yes
Within 0.5 miles of a hazardous waste (RCRA) facility?	no
Within 0.5 miles of an air emission facility?	no
Within 0.5 miles of a school?	no
Within 0.5 miles of an airport?	no
Within 0.5 miles of a hospital?	yes
Within 0.5 miles of a designated sole source aquifer?	no
Within 0.5 miles of a historic property on the National Register of Historic Places?	no
Within 0.5 miles of a Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) site?	no
Within 0.5 miles of a Land Cession Boundary?	yes
Within 0.5 miles of a tribal area (lower 48 states)?	no
Within 0.5 miles of the service area of a mitigation or conservation bank?	yes
Within 0.5 miles of the service area of an In-Lieu-Fee Program?	no
Within 0.5 miles of a Public Property Boundary of the Formerly Used Defense Sites?	no
Within 0.5 miles of a Munitions Response Site?	no
Within 0.5 miles of an Essential Fish Habitat (EFH)?	no
Within 0.5 miles of a Habitat Area of Particular Concern (HAPC)?	no
Within 0.5 miles of an EFH Area Protected from Fishing (EFHA)?	no
Within 0.5 miles of a Bureau of Land Management Area of Critical Environmental Concern?	no
Within 0.5 miles of an ESA-designated Critical Habitat Area per U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service?	no
Within 0.5 miles of an ESA-designated Critical Habitat river, stream or water feature per U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service?	no

Mercy Crest Walking Trail



11/4/2022, 12:36:27 PM

- RATFA
- SPL
- Inspections
- NPL
- Facilities
- Permitted Sites



Esri, HERE, Garmin, GeoTechnologies, Inc., Maxar

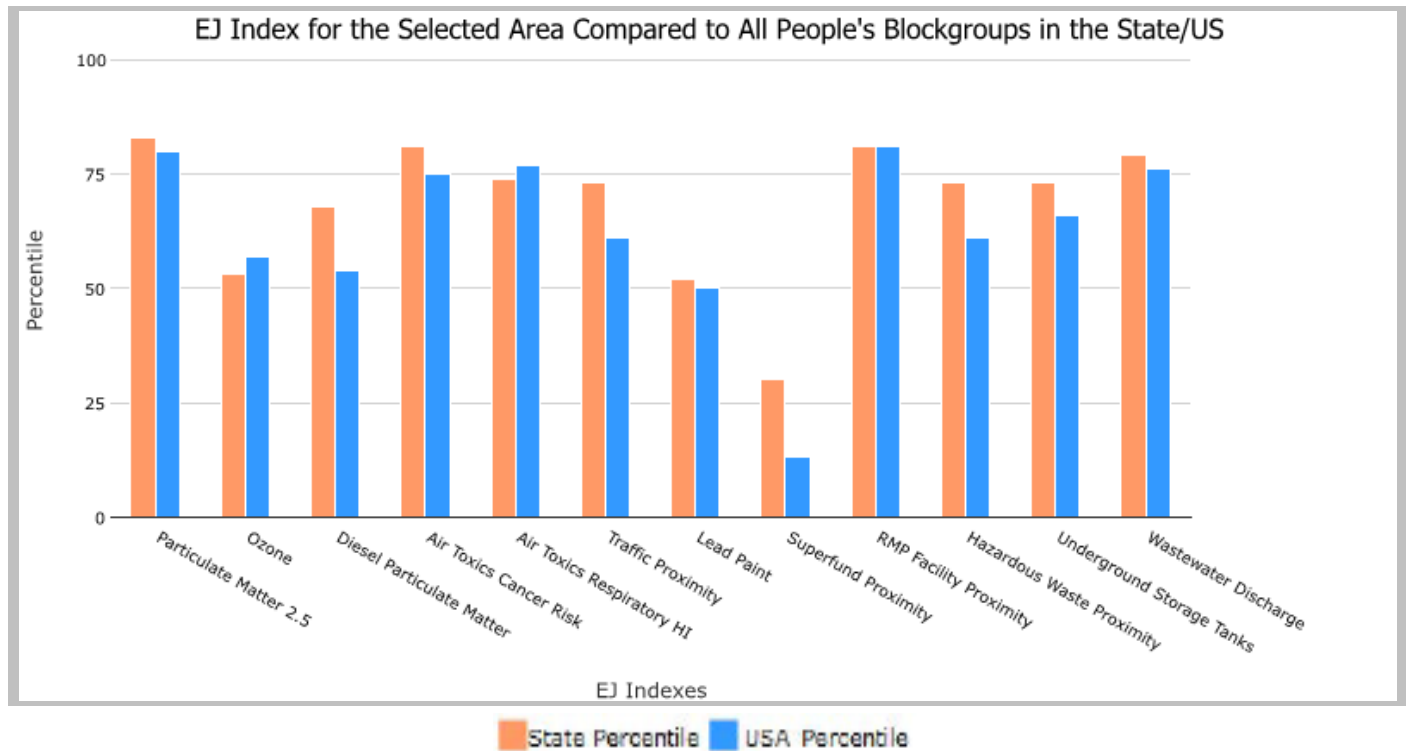
0.5 miles Ring Centered at 35.337252,-94.311032, ARKANSAS, EPA Region 6

Approximate Population: 1,848

Input Area (sq. miles): 0.79

Mercy Crest Walking Trail

Selected Variables	State Percentile	USA Percentile
Environmental Justice Indexes		
EJ Index for Particulate Matter 2.5	83	80
EJ Index for Ozone	53	57
EJ Index for Diesel Particulate Matter*	68	54
EJ Index for Air Toxics Cancer Risk*	81	75
EJ Index for Air Toxics Respiratory HI*	74	77
EJ Index for Traffic Proximity	73	61
EJ Index for Lead Paint	52	50
EJ Index for Superfund Proximity	30	13
EJ Index for RMP Facility Proximity	81	81
EJ Index for Hazardous Waste Proximity	73	61
EJ Index for Underground Storage Tanks	73	66
EJ Index for Wastewater Discharge	79	76



This report shows the values for environmental and demographic indicators and EJSscreen indexes. It shows environmental and demographic raw data (e.g., the estimated concentration of ozone in the air), and also shows what percentile each raw data value represents. These percentiles provide perspective on how the selected block group or buffer area compares to the entire state, EPA region, or nation. For example, if a given location is at the 95th percentile nationwide, this means that only 5 percent of the US population has a higher block group value than the average person in the location being analyzed. The years for which the data are available, and the methods used, vary across these indicators. Important caveats and uncertainties apply to this screening-level information, so it is essential to understand the limitations on appropriate interpretations and applications of these indicators. Please see EJSscreen documentation for discussion of these issues before using reports.

0.5 miles Ring Centered at 35.337252,-94.311032, ARKANSAS, EPA Region 6

Approximate Population: 1,848

Input Area (sq. miles): 0.79

Mercy Crest Walking Trail



Sites reporting to EPA	
Superfund NPL	0
Hazardous Waste Treatment, Storage, and Disposal Facilities (TSDF)	0

EJScreen Report (Version 2.1)



0.5 miles Ring Centered at 35.337252,-94.311032, ARKANSAS, EPA Region 6

Approximate Population: 1,848

Input Area (sq. miles): 0.79

Mercy Crest Walking Trail

Selected Variables	Value	State Avg.	%ile in State	USA Avg.	%ile in USA
Pollution and Sources					
Particulate Matter 2.5 ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)	9.82	9.24	88	8.67	82
Ozone (ppb)	40.6	41.2	36	42.5	35
Diesel Particulate Matter* ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)	0.179	0.177	62	0.294	<50th
Air Toxics Cancer Risk* (lifetime risk per million)	40	35	97	28	95-100th
Air Toxics Respiratory HI*	0.5	0.48	92	0.36	95-100th
Traffic Proximity (daily traffic count/distance to road)	210	200	73	760	47
Lead Paint (% Pre-1960 Housing)	0.1	0.15	47	0.27	35
Superfund Proximity (site count/km distance)	0.012	0.039	18	0.13	6
RMP Facility Proximity (facility count/km distance)	2.2	0.63	92	0.77	91
Hazardous Waste Proximity (facility count/km distance)	0.54	0.55	68	2.2	46
Underground Storage Tanks (count/km ²)	1.2	1.1	69	3.9	50
Wastewater Discharge (toxicity-weighted concentration/m distance)	0.0097	0.68	80	12	69
Socioeconomic Indicators					
Demographic Index	39%	36%	65	35%	64
People of Color	14%	28%	39	40%	31
Low Income	64%	39%	86	30%	91
Unemployment Rate	0%	5%	0	5%	0
Limited English Speaking Households	13%	2%	96	5%	88
Less Than High School Education	9%	13%	37	12%	53
Under Age 5	1%	6%	15	6%	16
Over Age 64	17%	17%	52	16%	58

*Diesel particulate matter, air toxics cancer risk, and air toxics respiratory hazard index are from the EPA's Air Toxics Data Update, which is the Agency's ongoing, comprehensive evaluation of air toxics in the United States. This effort aims to prioritize air toxics, emission sources, and locations of interest for further study. It is important to remember that the air toxics data presented here provide broad estimates of health risks over geographic areas of the country, not definitive risks to specific individuals or locations. Cancer risks and hazard indices from the Air Toxics Data Update are reported to one significant figure and any additional significant figures here are due to rounding. More information on the Air Toxics Data Update can be found at: <https://www.epa.gov/haps/air-toxics-data-update>.

For additional information, see: www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice

EJScreen is a screening tool for pre-decisional use only. It can help identify areas that may warrant additional consideration, analysis, or outreach. It does not provide a basis for decision-making, but it may help identify potential areas of EJ concern. Users should keep in mind that screening tools are subject to substantial uncertainty in their demographic and environmental data, particularly when looking at small geographic areas. Important caveats and uncertainties apply to this screening-level information, so it is essential to understand the limitations on appropriate interpretations and applications of these indicators. Please see EJScreen documentation for discussion of these issues before using reports. This screening tool does not provide data on every environmental impact and demographic factor that may be relevant to a particular location. EJScreen outputs should be supplemented with additional information and local knowledge before taking any action to address potential EJ concerns.

Tracee McKenna

From: Randy Roberson <randy.roberson@arkansas.gov>
Sent: Friday, January 13, 2023 2:15 PM
To: Tracee McKenna
Subject: RE: Barling-Mercy Crest Assisted Living Walking Trail and Pavilion

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Tracee,

Thanks for the opportunity to review information regarding the above referenced project. As the Environmental Review Coordinator for the Outdoor Recreation Grants Program of the Department of Parks, Heritage and Tourism, I focus attention on a proposed project's potential to affect public outdoor recreation sites with emphasis on those sites that have utilized grant funds administered by our program.

Based on the information provided, the proposed construction of a walking trail and pavilion at Mercy Crest Assisted Living in the City of Barling, AR (Parcel # 63020-0199-00000-07) will not conflict with any public outdoor recreation sites monitored by our program. Please accept this message as confirmation of this finding.

Sincerely,

RANDY ROBERSON,
Project Officer – Environmental Review Coordinator
Outdoor Recreation Grants Program - Office of Outdoor Recreation

Arkansas Department of Parks, Heritage and Tourism
One Capitol Mall
Little Rock, AR 72201
randy.roberson@arkansas.gov
p: 501.682.6946 | f: 501.682.0081

[OutdoorGrants.com](https://adpht.arkansas.gov)

<https://adpht.arkansas.gov/office-of-outdoor-recreation>



From: Tracee McKenna <tmckenna@wapdd.org>
Sent: Thursday, December 29, 2022 3:49 PM
To: Randy Roberson <Randy.roberson@arkansas.gov>
Subject: Barling-Mercy Crest Assisted Living Walking Trail and Pavilion

Good afternoon,

The city of Barling has been awarded CDBG funds from AEDC for a walking trail and pavilion at Mercy Crest Assisted Living.

The proposed location is on the campus of Mercy Crest Assisted Living.

Attached is the property information as well as a location map, Firmette, and site plan for the proposed project.

Your comments regarding possible impacts would be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Tracee McKenna

Director of Community Development

WAPDD