URS

Memorandum

Date: December 5, 2013
To: Kristi Krueger, Principal Civil Engineer, Community Development Division, Development and Public Works Department, City of Springfield
From: Danni Kline, Wetland Ecologist, URS Corporation
Subject: Wetland Resources, Franklin Boulevard Design Refinement and Environmental Classification Project

INTRODUCTION

This memorandum documents preliminary findings regarding potentially jurisdictional wetlands and waters of the state and U.S. in the Franklin Boulevard Project's Area of Potential Impact (API). The principal purpose of the memorandum is to identify environmentally sensitive wetlands that could be impacted by the Project so that design revisions can be developed to avoid or minimize such impacts, if necessary.

These preliminary findings are based upon a desktop review of existing reports and spatial data interpretation. These findings have not been reviewed by any federal or state agencies for concurrence. Preliminary findings conclude that no wetlands or waters are present within the Project API.

AREA OF POTENTIAL IMPACT

The Wetland Resources API is limited to the area where direct or indirect effects due to Project construction or operation could occur. For this Project, the API includes the area within a 400-foot-wide corridor centered on the Franklin Boulevard centerline (Figure 1).

METHODS

Desktop research was conducted to determine the known extent of wetlands or waters within the API. Several sources were consulted, including the U.S. Geological Survey Eugene East topographic quadrangle; National Resource Conservation Services (NRCS) digital soil survey data for Lane County; the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's National Wetlands Inventory (NWI); the Local Wetlands Inventory (LWI) for the Glenwood Area of Springfield, Oregon; and recent aerial photography.

EXISTING CONDITIONS

The Project is located in the Glenwood area of Springfield, Oregon, a low-lying area at the bend in the Willamette River between Eugene and downtown Springfield. The API lies within the Upper Willamette River watershed and within the Willamette River's 500-year floodplain. Topography slopes to the north and east toward the river, and elevations range from approximately 420 to 440 feet.[1] Most of the API contains urban land uses, including commercial, industrial, and residential development along Franklin Boulevard. The majority of the API contains impervious surfaces. Urban development, including placement of fill and construction of stormwater collection and conveyance facilities, has likely affected the historical extent and distribution of wetlands and other water resources that may have previously existed within the API.

Soil mapping shows the API underlain by well-drained to excessively drained urban lands soil complexes, which are generally disturbed and/or developed (Figure 1).[2] These soils are not considered hydric by the NRCS. Table 1 lists the mapped soil types.

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[1] Pacific Habitat Services, Inc. 2005. Local Wetlands Inventory and Riparian Corridor Assessment for the Glenwood Area of Springfield, OR. Prepared for City of Springfield. p. 9.

[2] NRCS. 2013. Web Soil Survey. http://websoilsurvey.sc.egov.usda.gov/App/HomePage.htm. Accessed November 4, 2013.

Table 1. Soils Mapped within the Project API

Soil Series	Soil Name	Classification	Drainage Class	Hydric?
23	Camas-Urban land complex	Fluventic Haploxerolls	Excessively drained	No
30	Cloquato-Urban land complex	Ultic Haploxerolls	Well drained	No
95	Newberg fine sandy loam	Fluventic Haploxerolls	Somewhat excessively drained	No
97	Newberg-Urban land complex	Fluventic Haploxerolls	Somewhat excessively drained	No

Source: NRCS. 2013. Web Soil Survey. http://websoilsurvey.sc.egov.usda.gov/App/HomePage.htm. Accessed November 2, 2013.

Neither the NWI nor LWI mapping resources show wetlands or other waters within the Project API. [3,4] The Willamette River, a perennial, navigable water of the state and U.S., is mapped north of the API and several wetlands are mapped south of the API (Figure 1). These resources are located outside of the API.

PRELIMINARY FINDINGS

Based on a review of existing data, no wetlands or other potentially jurisdictional waters are present within the Project API. No direct impacts to wetlands or other waters are likely. Indirect impacts to other waters, particularly the Willamette River, can be avoided through stormwater treatment enhancements constructed as part of the Project.

[3] USFWS. 2013. National Wetland Inventory Wetlands Mapper. http://www.fws.gov/wetlands/Wetlands-Mapper.html. Accessed November 4, 2013.

[4] Pacific Habitat Services, Inc. op. cit. Map A-1.

Figure 1 Wetland Resources Map