

Searsport 17281.00

Highway Improvements Project

de minimis Summary

Brief Description for Project

The purpose for the action is to improve vehicular, bicycle, and pedestrian safety along 1.94 miles of Route 1 (Main Street) in Searsport.

The need for this project is because the pavement is deteriorated and failing and the sidewalks are narrow, discontinuous, and do not comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). This corridor links downtown Searsport to the Port of Searsport and carries many oversized and heavy weight vehicles, along with a heavy volume for vehicles related to the tourist season. Additionally, Route 1 is a Priority 1, Principal Arterial, on the National Highway System and carries approximately 12,500 annual average daily traffic (AADT).

The proposed action (Option 1) would include rehabilitation of the travel lanes and full depth shoulder reconstruction from Sta. 241+00 (south of Savage Road northeast to Sta. 266+50 at Mill Brook) and full depth reconstruction of the travel lanes and shoulders from Mill Brook to Sta. 242+50 (the end of the project north of Station Road). The project would include two 12' travel lanes, 5' shoulders, and 5.5' sidewalks, except where a center left turn lane would be constructed from Sta. 313+25 south of Trundy Road to Sta. 340+00 north of Station Avenue. The typical cross section would be curbed urban box section with closed drainage. Granite curbing would be installed in the downtown area and bituminous curbing would be installed elsewhere. Sidewalks in the downtown would be brick with a bituminous base. Sidewalks would be reconstructed with gaps eliminated to provide a continuous route and ADA compliance. Streetscape improvements and landscaping would be completed by MaineDOT in coordination with the Town. Drainage work would include capturing runoff and diverting flow at twin culverts at Sta. 289+50. Lighting, style, and how many fixtures, would be determined by the Town for Searsport.

Use for 4(f) Properties and Impacts

Section 4(f) of the Department for Transportation Act of 1966 and its revisions protects four types of properties; parks, recreation areas, wildlife and water-fowl refuges, and historic sites. Two Section 4(f) properties were found within the project area: historic sites and one park.

Note – For de minimis impact findings on historic sites, Section 4(f) does not require public notice or opportunity for public review and comment, therefore impacts to historic sites are not discussed within this public comment copy of the de minimis evaluation.

The following section describes 4(f) uses found within the property lines of the park. Stationing is provided below for all rights impacts. Figure 1 below pictures the entire project area.

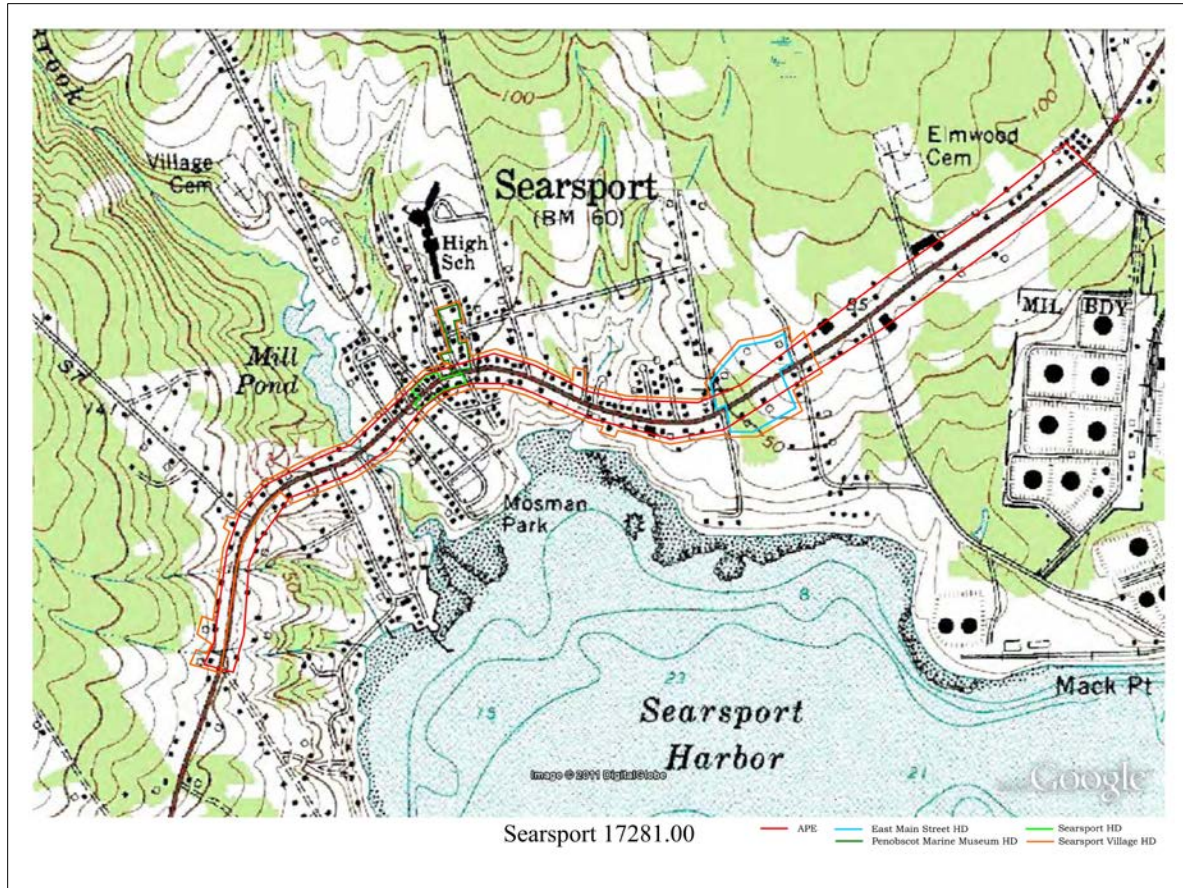


Figure 1: Searsport 17281.00 Area of Potential Effect

Historic Sites

Historic sites are not included in this public comment copy of the de minimis evaluation.

Public Parks

Granite Grange Memorial Park, East Main Street (Town for Searsport; 275+80R to 276+95R)

The proposed action would require the use of approximately 127 SF for permanent acquisition and 277 SF for temporary construction rights at that location.

Recreational Areas

No recreational areas were found within the project area.

Wildlife and Waterfowl Refuges

No wildlife and waterfowl refuges were found within the project area.

Avoidance, Minimization, and Mitigation

The proposed action minimizes effects by using in-kind curbing adjacent to the park property and avoids major tree removal. Other minimization efforts include the construction of brick sidewalks within the Searsport Historic District (which is part for the Searsport Village Historic District), which would replace existing asphalt sidewalks. The brick sidewalks would be more sensitive to materials and design within the historic district.

Analysis

MaineDOT has determined portions of the Granite Grange Memorial Park represent temporary occupancies of land so minimal as to not constitute a use within the meaning of Section 4(f). All conditions in 23 CFR 774.13(d) 1-5 are present, including:

- The land use is of short duration (less than the time needed for the construction of the project);
- There is no change in ownership of the land;
- The scope of the work is minor;
- There are no temporary or permanent adverse changes to the activities, features, or attributes of the property;
- The land will be fully restored to a condition at least as good as prior to the project; and,
- There is a documented agreement from the official with jurisdiction (Town of Searsport) over the property with the above conditions (coordination pending public comment period).

The use of the remaining Granite Grange Memorial Park was found to have a *de minimis* impact due to the project having no adverse effect on the park in accordance with 23 CFR 774. The transportation use of the Section 4(f) property, together with impact avoidance and minimization, does not constitute a net adverse effect to the activities, features, or attributes that qualify the resource for protection under Section 4(f). Measures to avoid and minimize impacts to the park have been undertaken. **[Concurrence with the Town is currently pending and the public comment period is ongoing]**

A *de minimis* summary sheet identifying 4(f) uses and evaluation results for the properties are included below.

Finding

This transportation project is determined to have a *de minimis* impact on the Granite Grange Memorial Park. **[Concurrence with the Town is currently pending and the public comment period is ongoing].**

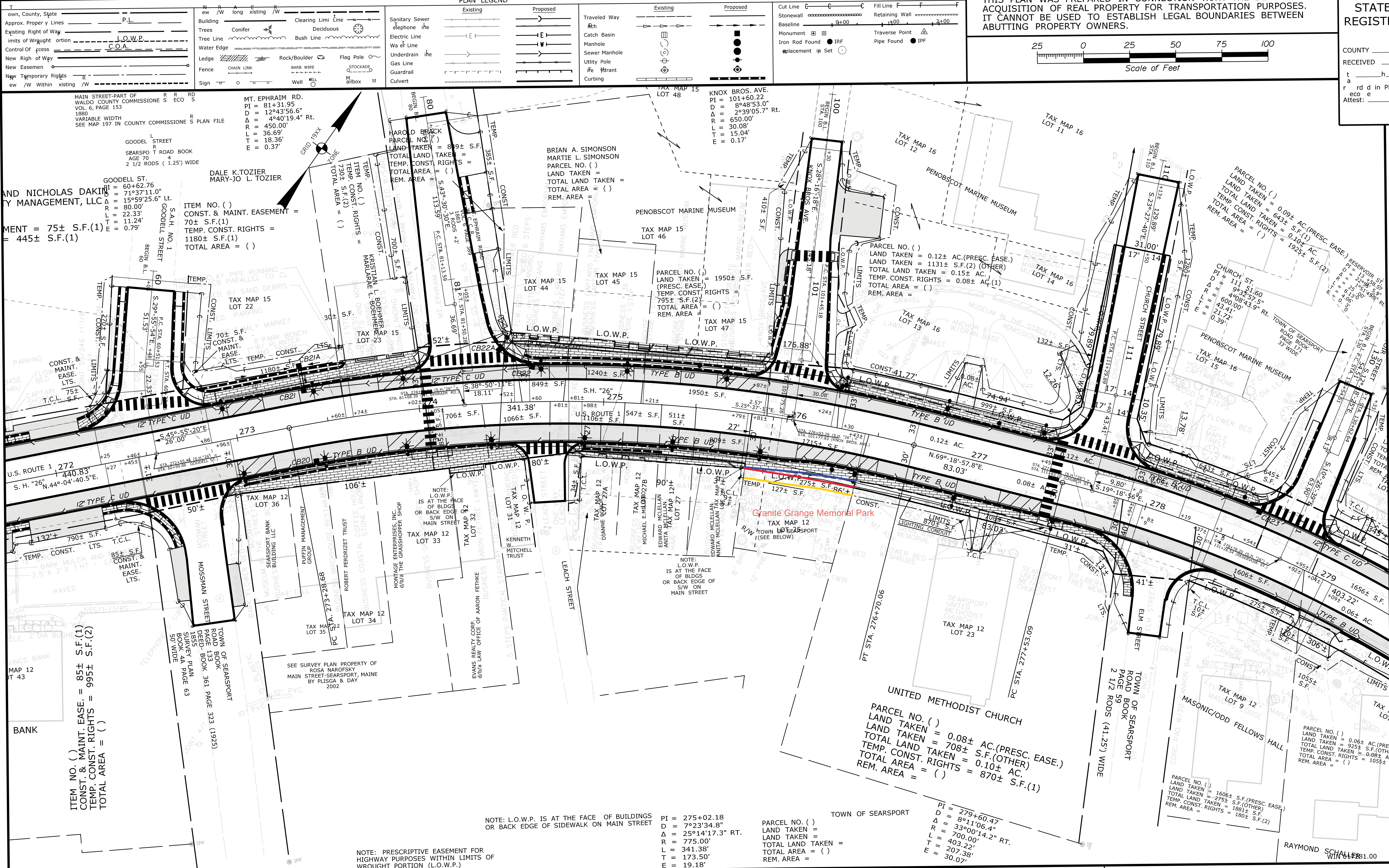
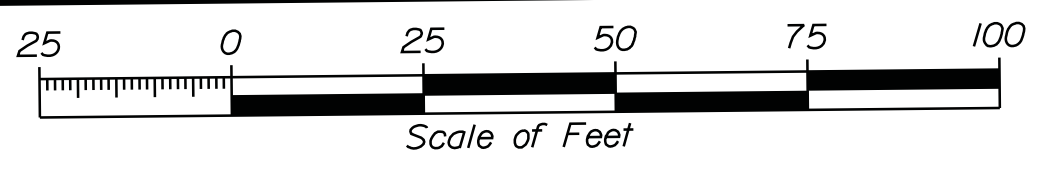
Table 1. De Minimis Summary Sheet
 Searsport 17281.00

Station	Name	NR Eligibility	4(f) Use?	Section 106 Determination	4(f) Finding
STA 275+80R to STA 276+95R	Granite Grange Memorial Park	Contributing Resource to Searsport Village Historic District	Yes, 127 SF for permanent acquisition.	No adverse	<i>de minimis</i>

THIS PLAN WAS PREPARED IN CONNECTION WITH THE DEPARTMENT'S ACQUISITION OF REAL PROPERTY FOR TRANSPORTATION PURPOSES. IT CANNOT BE USED TO ESTABLISH LEGAL BOUNDARIES BETWEEN ABUTTING PROPERTY OWNERS.

STATE OF MAINE REGISTRY OF DEEDS

COUNTY RECEIVED t h m a r d in Pl n Bk Pg a Attest: REGISTER



PRELIMINARY PLAN

Table with columns: ITEM, TECH, CHECKED, EXISTING PLAN, CONDITION PLAN, FINAL RIGHT OF WAY, AREAS

STATE OF MAINE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION 16 STATE HOUSE STATION - AUGUSTA, ME 04333-0016 - 207-624-3460 SEARSPORT RIGHT OF WAY MAP

Date: 11/20/2020 Username: Terril.L.Blair Division: ROW

Table with columns: NO., DATE, REVISIONS DESCRIPTION, BY, PLAN FILED IN PLAN BOOK, PAGE, COUNTY RECORD, INSTRUMENT, DATE, BOOK, PAGE, BRUCE A. VAN NOTE, COMMISSIONER, JOYCE NOEL TAYLOR, CHIEF ENGINEER, DATE

STATE HIGHWAY "26" U.S. ROUTE 1 / ROUTE 3 / E. MAIN STREET SEARSPORT WALDO COUNTY FEDERAL AID PROJECT NO. NH-1728(100)E DECEMBER 2020 RIGHT-OF-WAY MAP D.O.T. FILE NO. 14-TBD SCALE 1" = 25' SHEET XX OF XX SHEET NUMBER 206 OF