Environmental Review for Activity/Project that is Categorically Excluded Subject to Section 58.5

Pursuant to 24 CFR 58.35(a)

Responsible Entity: New Jersey Department of Community Affairs, Richard Constable III, Commissioner

Applicant Name: George Savasttano/City of Sea Isle City (Business/Corporate Name)

Project Location: Along Landis Ave. from 39th St to 40th St and from 41st St to 43rd St. (Street Address) Sea Isle City (Municipality) Cape May (County) NJ (State) 08243 (Zip)

Blocks and Lots: 39.02 1, 2, 8.01, 9.01, 8.02, 9.02 39.03 10, 11.01, 11.02, 12.01, 23.01, 23.02, 24.01, 24.02 40.02 1.01, 2.01, 1.02, 2.02, 3.02, 3.05, 4.04, 8.02, 9.02, 8.03, 9.03 40.03 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 1.04, 4, 12 41.02 1.01, 4.04, 8.01, 1.02, 2.01, 4.01, 2.02, 3.01, 4.02, 3.02, 41.02 4.03, 9.01, 9.02, 10.01 41.03 11.01, 12.01, 10.03, 11.02, 12.02, 10.04, 11.03, 10.05, 11.05, 41.03 11.06 41.09 13 42.02 1.01, 1.02, 8.02, 9.01, 8.01 42.03 11.01, 12.01, 11.02, 12.02, 22, 23 .01, 24.01, 23.02, 24.02

The following measures are required as conditions for approval of the project:

General

- 1. Acquire all required federal, state, and county/ local permits prior to commencement of construction and comply with all permit conditions.
- 2. If the scope of work of a proposed activity changes significantly, the application for funding must be revised and resubmitted for reevaluation under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

Construction-Stage Best Management Practices

Air Quality – The project must meet the regulatory requirements of New Jersey's Air Rules/Air Pollution Control Requirements (SRP0043409_RevisedGeneralConformityApplicabilityAnalysis_SPF_TOSRP0043409). The Contractor will implement the following Best Management Practices (BMPs) aimed to reduce air quality effects during construction:

- 1. Use water or chemical dust suppressant in exposed areas to control dust
- 2. Cover the load compartments of trucks hauling dust-generating materials
- 3. Wash heavy trucks and construction vehicles before they leave the site
- 4. Reduce vehicle speed on non-paved areas and keep paved areas clean
- 5. Retrofit older equipment with pollution controls

6. Establish and follow specified procedures for managing contaminated materials discovered or generated during construction

7. Employ spill mitigation measures immediately upon a spill of fuel or other hazardous material

8. Obtain an air pollution control permit to construct and a certificate to operate for all equipment subject to N.J.A.C. 7:27-8.2(c). Such equipment includes, but is not limited to, the following:

a. Any commercial fuel combustion equipment rated with a maximum heat input of 1,000,000 British Thermal Units per hour or greater to the burning chamber (N.J.A.C. 7:27-8.2(c)1);

b. Any stationary storage tank for volatile organic compounds with a capacity of 2,000 gallons and a vapor pressure of 0.02 pounds per square inch or greater (N.J.A.C. 7:27-8.2(c)9);

c. Any tank, reservoir, container, or bin with capacity in excess of 2,000 cubic feet used for storage of solid particles (N.J.A.C. 7:27-8.2(c)10); and

d. Any stationary reciprocating engine with a maximum rated power output of 37 kW or greater, used for generating electricity, not including emergency generators (N.J.A.C. 7:27-8.2(c)21).

(Note: One or two family dwellings and dwellings of six or less family units, one of which is owner occupied, are exempt pursuant to NJSA 26:2C-9.2.)

9. Minimize idling and ensure that all on-road vehicles and non-road construction equipment operated at or visiting the project site comply with the applicable smoke and "three-minute idling" limits (N.J.A.C. 7:27-14.3, 14.4, 15.3 and 15.8).

10. Ensure that all diesel on-road vehicles and non-road construction equipment used on or visiting the project site use ultra-low sulfur fuel (<15 ppm sulfur) in accordance with the federal Non-road Diesel Rule (40 CFR Parts 9, 69, 80, 86, 89, 94, 1039, 1051, 1065, 1068).

11. Operate, if possible, newer on-road diesel vehicles and non-road construction equipment equipped with tier 4 engines, or equipment equipped with an exhaust retrofit device.

Noise – Time constraints on construction activity in accordance with local ordinances and proper maintenance and documentation of construction equipment in accordance with manufacturer's specifications to keep unnecessary noise impacts to a minimum.

Soils and Water Resources – The Construction activities will comply with the New Jersey Standards for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control. The Contractor will install and maintain erosion and sedimentation control measures and appropriate best management practices prior to and throughout construction, and in compliance with the contract project drawings.

FINDING:

- This categorically excluded activity/project converts to **EXEMPT** per Section 58.34(a)(12), because it does not require any mitigation for compliance with any listed statutes or authorities, nor requires any formal permit or license; **Funds may be committed and drawn down after certification of this part** for this (now) EXEMPT project; OR
- X This categorically excluded activity/project cannot convert to Exempt status because one or more statutes or authorities listed at Section 58.5 requires formal consultation or mitigation. Complete consultation/mitigation protocol requirements, **publish NOI/RROF and obtain "Authority to Use Grant Funds"** (HUD 7015.16) per Section 58.70 and 58.71 before committing or drawing down any funds; OR
- This project is not categorically excluded OR, if originally categorically excluded, is now subject to a full Environmental Assessment according to Part 58 Subpart E due to extraordinary circumstances (Section 58.35(c)).

CERTIFICATIONS:

Kristen J, Maines, Deputy Program Manager <u>Gannett Fleming, Inc.</u> Preparer Name and Agency

RE Certifying Officer Name

JAM DAR

Preparer Signature

June 17, 2014 Preparer Completion Date

RE Certifying Officer Signature

RE CO Signature Date

Funding Information:

Grant Number	HUD Program	Funding Amount
B-13-DS-34-0001	Neighborhood Community Revitalization	\$999,894.00

Estimated Total HUD Funded Amount:

\$999,894.00

Estimated Total Project Cost [24 CFR 58.32(d)]: (HUD and non-HUD funds)

\$999,894.00

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

This project allows Sea Isle City to proceed with pre-Superstorm Sandy plans for revitalizing the business district through streetscape improvements. In October of 2012, the City was in the process of preparing streetscape designs for the central business district. The streetscape improvements were part of the overall "Beach to Bay Corridor" initiative, a multiphase project developed through a partnership with Cape May County which is central to the City's Capital Improvement Program. The proposed project area was severely impacted during Superstorm Sandy. Many ground floor businesses were damaged from flood waters, requiring almost total reconstruction. Business losses attributable to Superstorm Sandy in the city have been estimated at \$6 million. The proposed project will complement the improvements already made in the business district related to storm recovery and assist in the City's revitalization of their central business district and overall economic recovery.

Description of the Proposed Project [24 CFR 50.12 & 58.32, 40 CFR 1508.25]: (Include all contemplated actions that are logically either geographically or functionally a composite part of the project, regardless of the source of funding. As appropriate, attach maps, site plans, renderings, photographs, budgets, and other descriptive information.)

The City of Sea Isle City is seeking funding to make streetscape, landscape, and lighting improvements along a three-block portion of Landis Avenue (from 39th St to 40th St and from 41st St to 43rd St) in the city's central business area. The city recently completed streetscape improvements along John F. Kennedy/ Veteran's Boulevard Gateway, which is the main road running perpendicular to Landis Avenue, and to one block on Landis Avenue between JFK/Veteran's Blvd (41st St.) and 40th St. The proposed project would extend those along additional portions of Landis Avenue. Streetscape improvements would include the installation of decorative pavers for sidewalks, crosswalks, decorative streetlights, bollards, benches, bike racks, and landscaping.

STATUTORY CHECKLIST [24 CFR 50.4, 24 CFR 58.5]

DIRECTIONS - For each authority, check either Box "A" or "B" under "Status."

"A box" The project is in compliance, either because: (1) the nature of the project does not implicate the authority under consideration, or (2) supporting information documents that project compliance has been achieved. In either case, information must be provided as to WHY the authority is not implicated, or HOW compliance is met; OR "B box" The project requires an additional compliance step or action, including, but not limited to, consultation with or approval from an oversight agency, performance of a study or analysis, completion of remediation or mitigation measure, or obtaining of license or permit.

IMPORTANT: Compliance documentation consists of verifiable source documents and/or relevant base data. Appropriate documentation must be provided for each law or authority. Documents may be incorporated by reference into the ERR provided that each source document is identified and available for inspection by interested parties. Proprietary material and studies that are not otherwise generally available for public review shall be included in the ERR. Refer to HUD guidance for more information.

Statute, Authority, Executive Order,	STATUS		Compliance Documentation	
Regulation, or Policy cited at 24 CFR §50.4 & 58.5		В		
1. Air Quality [Clean Air Act, as amended, particularly sections 176(c) & (d), and 40 CFR 6, 51, 93]	\boxtimes		According to the US EPA, Cape May County has been designated a nonattainment or maintenance area for two NAAQS pollutants (NCR38958_AirQualityMap_NCR_TO1013):	
			 a moderate attainment area for 8-hour ozone (1997 Standard) 	
			• a marginal attainment area for 8-hour ozone (2008 Standard)	
			NJDEP has determined that activities under the CDBG-DR program are below the <i>de minimus</i> thresholds of the Federal General Conformity regulations and are presumed to conform to the State Implementation Plan. The project will meet applicable emission standards and regulations of the State Air Pollution Control Code, and will not have an adverse effect on air quality (NCR38958_RevisedGeneralConformityApplicabilityAnalysis_NCR_TO1 013).	
2. Airport Hazards (Clear Zones and Accident Potential Zones) [24 CFR 51D]	\boxtimes		The project site is not located within any Clear Zones or Accident Potential Zones (NCR38958_AirportClearZonesandAccidentPotentialZonesMap_NCR_T O1013) nor is it located within 15,000 feet of a military airport or 2,500 feet of a civilian airport (NCR38958_AirportHazardsMap_NCR_TO1013), so no airport hazard effects are expected.	
3. Coastal Zone Management [Coastal Zone Management Act sections 307(c) & (d)]			The New Jersey Coastal Area Facility Review Act (CAFRA) of 1973 established the CAFRA zone and boundaries within New Jersey, implementing the requirements of the federal Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA) of 1972 (16 U.S.C. § 1451 et seq). Certain activities undertaken within the CAFRA zone are regulated by the NJDEP. The project site is within the CAFRA Zone (NCR38958_CoastalZoneManagementActMapCAFRA_NCR_TO1013). However, the NJDEP Division of Land Use Regulation has determined that the action is not regulated under the Coastal Permit Program and	

		(NCR38958_DEP_DLUR_CoastalJurisdictionalDetermination_NCR_TO1 013). The project is not located within the regulated boundaries of the Upland Waterfront Development Zone or the Hackensack Meadowlands (NCR38958_CoastalZoneManagementActManCAERA_NCR_TO1013)
4. Contamination and Toxic Substances [24 CFR 50.3(i) & 58.5(i)(2)]		 (NCR38958_CoastalZoneManagementActMapCAFRA_NCR_TO1013) The project site is not included in a State or Federal Hazardous Waste sites database and no recognized environmental conditions were identified through site reconnaissance. The project site may be within the 3,000-foot radius of a Hazardous Waste cleanup site, Landfill, solid waste cleanup site or Hazardous Waste facility that handles hazardous materials or toxic substances, however, all sites that were determined by NJDEP to be "non-threatening" to the potential HUD project are not depicted on the NJ HUD Environmental Review Tool 2.1 map. Only sites determined to be "threatening" by the NJDEP are depicted on the map (NCR38958_ToxicHazardousandRadioactiveSubstanceMap_NCR_TO1013). There are no "threatening" sites identified within 3,000 feet of the project site. As the project does not involve any structures intended for human occupation, regulations concerning lead-based paint, asbestos and radon are not applicable.
5. Endangered Species [Endangered Species Act of 1973, particularly section 7; 50 CFR 402]		Consultation with the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) was completed through a review of the iPaC landscape explorer tool to obtain a preliminary USFWS species list for the project area (NCR38958_USFWS_EndangeredSpeciesReview_NCR_TO1013). The report identified three federally threatened species potentially in the vicinity of the project: piping plover, red knot and seabeach amaranth Review of the NJDEP HUD Environmental Review Tool 2.1 (NCR38958_EndangeredSpeciesMap_NCR_TO1013) did not indicate the presence of piping plover or red knot. The review tool did indicate the potential presence of northern long-eared bat. Consultation with the NJDEP Natural Heritage Program (NHP) requested a search of the Natural Heritage Database, the Landscape Project habitat mapping, and Biotics Database. The NHP response indicated on-site concern for the southeastern beach tiger beetle (NCR38958_NaturalHeritageProgramDatabase_Response_NCR_TO102 3). Follow-up coordination on April 29, 2014 confirmed that ENSP has no concerns with this project for threatened and endangered species (NCR38958_ENSP_Response_NCR_TO1013), including the northern long-eared bat. Seabeach amaranth occurs on barrier island beaches just above the high tide line, growing on nearly pure sand substrate. As the project area is a developed, urbanized area with no habitat capable of supporting seabeach amaranth, no impacts to amaranth are expected The project will have No Effect on any federal or state-listed species.
6. Environmental Justice [Executive Order 12898]	\boxtimes	Executive Order (EO) 12898 requires Federal agencies to consider and addresses disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects on minority and low-income populations resulting from their actions. The project area contains small

		environmental justice populations — 0-10% minority population and residents below poverty level. (NCR38958_EnvironmentalJusticeMap_PercentMinority_NCR_TO103) NCR38958_EnvironmentalJusticeMap_PercentPoverty_NCR_TO1013) The project would not generate adverse resource or health effects or adversely impact residential, commercial, or community facilities or services which may be of importance to environmental justice populations. Thus, the project would not generate disproportionately high and adverse environmental impacts on environmental justice populations (NCR38958_EnvironmentalJustice_Checklist_NCR_TO1013).
7. Explosive and Flammable Operations [24 CFR 51C]	\boxtimes	As the project does not involve any structures intended for human occupation, regulations concerning explosive and flammable operations are not applicable.
8. Farmland Protection [Farmland Protection Policy Act of 1981, particularly sections 1504(b) & 1541; 7 CFR 658]		The project area is urbanized with no associated agricultural lands. According to the NJDEP HUD Environmental Review Tool, the project area is not located on land classified as containing Prime Farmland Soils (NCR38958_FarmlandProtectionMap_NCR_TO1013). The soils on the property are not designated as agricultural land or prime agricultural soils and the project is located in the Census-designated Atlantic City NJ "urbanized area." Therefore, the requirements of the federal Farmland Protection Policy Act (FPPA) are not applicable to the project.
9. Floodplain Management [24 CFR 55; Executive Order 11988, particularly section 2(a)]		Pursuant to 24 CFR 55 and EO 11988, the proposed project was evaluated to determine potential effects within a flood hazard area. The project is located in the 100-year floodplain (Zone AE) (NCR38958_FloodplainMgmtandFloodInsuranceNFIPNotInFloodwayM ap_NCR_TO1013). An 8-step floodplain analysis that complies with 24 CFR 55 and EO 11988 was completed (NCR38958_FloodplainAnalysis_NCR_TO1013) that determined the proposed action is the most practicable alternative for meeting the needs of the project while minimizing impacts to the floodplain. As the vast majority of Sea Isle City and its central business district are within the 100-year floodplain, no alternative locations are available and the proposed action is the most practicable alternative for addressing needed revitalization.
10. Historic Preservation [National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, particularly sections 106 & 110; 36 CFR 800]		A portion of the project area is not within a Historic Property Exemption Zone ("Green Zone") according to the NJDEP HUD Environmental Review Tool (NCR38958_HistoricPreservationExemptionZoneMap_NCR_TO1013). On April 21, 2014, the New Jersey State Historic Preservation Office provided a "No Historic Properties Affected" finding based on their Section 106 consultation review (NCR38958_SHPO_Response_NCR_TO1013). Section 106 compliance for the project is complete and no further consultation is required.
11. Noise Abatement and Control [Noise Control Act of 1972, as amended by the Quiet Communities Act of 1978; 24 CFR 51B]		As the project does not involve any structures intended for human occupation, HUD regulations concerning residential and community noise environments are not applicable. The only noise expected from the project will be temporary construction noise that will cease once construction is complete. The

		project is located in an urban area and the construction will not require any significant noise-creating activities (i.e. blasting, pile driving, etc.) so construction noise is not expected to appreciably add to existing levels.
12. Sole Source Aquifers [Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, as amended, particularly section 1424(e); 40 CFR 149]		The project site lies within the NJ Coastal Plain Aquifer System (NCR38958_SoleSourceAquiferMap_NCR_TO1013). The existing project area is an urbanized downtown area. The proposed improvements will not change existing impervious coverage of the site. Therefore, there will be no net effect to aquifer recharge as a result of project completion. Furthermore, the project has no potential to impact ground water during or after construction and will therefore has not potential to create a significant hazard to public health. The project is therefore exempt from Sole Source Aquifer review by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.
13. Wetlands Protection [24 CFR 55, Executive Order 11990, particularly sections 2 & 5]	\boxtimes	No jurisdictional wetlands (federal or state) are located within or adjacent to the project area. (NCR38958_WetlandsProtectionMap_NCR_TO1013).
14. Wild and Scenic Rivers [Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968, particularly section 7(b) & (c); 36 CFR 297]	\boxtimes	The project is not located within 1/4 mile of a designated Wild and Scenic River (WSR) stream bank and will have no adverse effect on protected WSRs. Additionally, the project site is not located within a one-mile radius of a WSR or its tributaries (NCR38958_WildandScenicRiversMap_NCR_TO1013). Therefore, consultation and review by the National Park Service is not required.

24 CFR 58.6 CHECKLIST [24 CFR 50.4, 24 CFR 58.6]

1. AIRPORT RUNWAY CLEAR ZONES AND CLEAR ZONES NOTIFICATION [24 CFR Part 51.303(a)(3), D]

Does the project involve the sale or acquisition of property located within a Civil Airport Runway Clear Zone or a Military Airfield Clear Zone?

 \mathbf{X} No. Cite or attach Source Documentation:

See NCR38958 AirportClearZonesandAccidentPotentialZonesMap NCR TO1013 and NCR38958_Airport_HazardsMap_NCR_TO1013

[Project complies with 24 CFR 51.303(a)(3).]

Yes. Notice must be provided to the buyer. The notice must advise the buyer that the property is in a Runway Clear Zone or Clear Zone, what the implications of such a location are, and that there is a possibility that the property may, at a later date, be acquired by the airport operator. The buyer must sign a statement acknowledging receipt of this information, and a copy of the signed notice must be maintained in the ERR.

2. COASTAL BARRIERS RESOURCES ACT [Coastal Barrier Resources Act, as amended by the Coastal Barrier Improvement Act of 1990 (16 USC 3501)] Is the project located in a coastal barrier resource area?

X No. Cite or attach Source Documentation: The project site is not located within a regulated System unit or an Otherwise Protected Area boundary of the Coastal Barrier Resources Act. Further consultation with the USFWS is not required. See NCR38958 CoastalBarrierResourcesActMap NCR TO1013. [Proceed with project.]

Yes. Federal assistance may not be used in such an area.

3. FLOOD DISASTER PROTECTION ACT [Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 and National Flood Insurance Reform Act of 1994 (42 USC 4001-4128 and 42 USC 5154a)]

Does the project involve acquisition, construction, or rehabilitation of structures located in a FEMA-identified Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA)?

No. Cite or attach Source Documentation:

[Proceed with project.]

X Yes. Cite or attach Source Documentation: The project area lies within a FEMA-identified floodplain (AE) and will involve construction within a special flood hazard area

(NCR38958 FloodplainMgmtandFloodInsuranceNFIPNotInFloodwayMap NCR TO1013).

However, the project does not involve financial assistance for construction, rehabilitation, or acquisition of a mobile home, building, or insurable personal property or the purchase of machinery, equipment, fixtures, or furnishings that are insurable under NFIP. Additionally, the project does not involve a structure meeting the definition of 44 CFR 59.1, Subpart A. Therefore, flood insurance requirements are not applicable.

Is the community participating in the National Insurance Program (or has less than one year passed since FEMA notification of Special Flood Hazards)?

X Yes. Flood Insurance under the National Flood Insurance Program must be obtained. If HUD assistance is provided as a grant, insurance must be maintained for the economic life of the project and in the amount of the total project cost (or up to the maximum allowable coverage, whichever is less). If HUD assistance is provided as a loan, insurance must be maintained for the term of the loan and in the amount of the loan (or up to the maximum allowable coverage, whichever is less). A copy of the flood insurance policy declaration must be kept on file in the ERR. Flood insurance not required – see above.

No. Federal assistance may not be used in the Special Flood Hazard Area.

Summary of Findings and Conclusions

Field Inspection (Date and completed by):

April 8, 2014 by Richard Grubb and Associates, under contract to Gannett Fleming, Inc.

Summary Statement of Findings and Conclusions:

The proposed action involves renovation of an existing urban, commercial street with installation of decorative pavers for sidewalks, crosswalks, decorative streetlights, bollards, benches, bike racks, and landscaping. The purpose of the project is to assist in the revitalization of the Sea Isle City central business district to address economic and tourism impacts post-Superstorm Sandy.

Completion of this categorical exclusion environmental review and associated consultation confirms that the proposed project would not have a significant environmental impact and that further assessment is not necessary. HUD funding of the proposed action will not have a significant impact on the quality of the human environment.

Required Mitigation and Project Modification Measures: [24 CFR 58.40(d), 40 CFR 1505.2(c), 40 CFR 1508.20] (Recommend feasible ways in which the proposal or its external factors should be modified in order to minimize adverse environmental impacts and restore or enhance environmental quality.)

General –

- 1. Acquire all required federal, state, and county/ local permits prior to commencement of construction and comply with all permit conditions.
- 2. If the scope of work of a proposed activity changes significantly, the application for funding must be revised and resubmitted for reevaluation under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

Implementation of best management practices to address the following construction stage impacts:

Air Quality – The project must meet the regulatory requirements of New Jersey's Air Rules/Air Pollution Control Requirements revised General Conformity Applicability Analysis. The Contractor will implement the following Best Management Practices (BMPs) aimed to reduce air quality effects during construction:

- 1. Use water or chemical dust suppressant in exposed areas to control dust
- 2. Cover the load compartments of trucks hauling dust-generating materials
- 3. Wash heavy trucks and construction vehicles before they leave the site
- 4. Reduce vehicle speed on non-paved areas and keep paved areas clean
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8. Obtain an air pollution control permit to construct and a certificate to operate for all equipment subject to N.J.A.C. 7:27-8.2(c). Such equipment includes, but is not limited to, the following:

a. Any commercial fuel combustion equipment rated with a maximum heat input of 1,000,000 British Thermal Units per hour or greater to the burning chamber (N.J.A.C. 7:27-8.2(c)1);

b. Any stationary storage tank for volatile organic compounds with a capacity of 2,000 gallons and a vapor pressure of 0.02 pounds per square inch or greater (N.J.A.C. 7:27-8.2(c)9);

c. Any tank, reservoir, container, or bin with capacity in excess of 2,000 cubic feet used for storage of solid particles (N.J.A.C. 7:27-8.2(c)10); and

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(Note: One or two family dwellings and dwellings of six or less family units, one of which is owner occupied, are exempt pursuant to NJSA 26:2C-9.2.)

9. Minimize idling and ensure that all on-road vehicles and non-road construction equipment operated at or visiting the project site comply with the applicable smoke and "three-minute idling" limits (N.J.A.C. 7:27-14.3, 14.4, 15.3 and 15.8).

10. Ensure that all diesel on-road vehicles and non-road construction equipment used on or visiting the project site use ultra-low sulfur fuel (<15 ppm sulfur) in accordance with the federal Non-road Diesel Rule (40 CFR Parts 9, 69, 80, 86, 89, 94, 1039, 1051, 1065, 1068).

11. Operate, if possible, newer on-road diesel vehicles and non-road construction equipment equipped with tier 4 engines, or equipment equipped with an exhaust retrofit device.

Noise – Time constraints on construction activity in accordance with local ordinances and proper maintenance and documentation of construction equipment in accordance with manufacturer's specifications to keep unnecessary noise impacts to a minimum.

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