

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT Town of Marmet, West Virginia for Sanitary/Storm Separation Project: Maryland Avenue Overflow Abatement

Introduction

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is preparing this Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Town of Marmet, West Virginia's Maryland Avenue Sewer Overflow Abatement project. This project will be supported using federal grant funds from the fiscal year (FY) 2022 Congressional Appropriation. This grant will be managed by the EPA Region 3 Community Grants Program in coordination with the Town of Marmet (Town).

This EA has been prepared in compliance with Section 102 of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) and the EPA's NEPA procedures for implementing NEPA under 40 C.F.R. Part 6.

This EA analyzes the adverse and beneficial environmental impacts of water infrastructure projects in compliance with NEPA, the required environmental crosscutters, and other federal, state, and local environmental reviews, including the Town's environmental review report. This Environmental Assessment presents general information on existing conditions and discusses potential impacts and mitigation measures that may generally occur during construction and operation of broad project types.

All supporting documents, including this EA, are available for review through the EPA NEPA Compliance Document website at: <u>https://cdxapps.epa.gov/cdx-enepa-II/public/action/nepa/search/search#results</u>.

Name of Project:	Town of Marmet for Sanitary/Storm Separation Project: Maryland Avenue	
	Sewer Overflow Abatement	
Name and Address	Town of Marmet	
of Applicant:	9403 MacCorkle Avenue	
	Marmet, WV 25315	

I. <u>Project Identification</u>

Project Location:	Maryland Avenue and 87th Street
	Marmet, WV
EPA Grant Amount:	\$860,000
Estimated Total	\$1,075,000
Project Cost:	

The EPA's funding for this action will focus on the reconfiguration of overflow at the 87th Street Pump Station, which includes approximately 120 linear feet (LF) of upgraded overflow line and new headwall; 1,100 LF of upgraded and new sanitary sewer line; 575 LF of upgraded and new storm sewer line; one new flow meter; and associated structures such as manholes and drop inlets. The estimated total cost of the project is \$1,075,000 which includes construction, contracts, and other costs. All sources of funding are indicated as follows:

EPA Community Grant Amount:	\$860,000
Community Grant State Match:	\$172,000
WV Infrastructure and Jobs Development Council Grant:	\$43,000

II. Background and Purpose

The Town of Marmet currently operates a sanitary sewer (wastewater) collection and treatment system that is permitted under National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit # WV0021750. This system treats wastewater from Marmet and the adjoining Town of Chesapeake. The sanitary sewer collection system is permitted as a combined sewer overflow system. The collection system includes areas in between MacCorkle Avenue and the Kanawha River including, but not limited to, Virginia Avenue, Maryland Avenue, Long Alley, and California Avenue. Maryland Avenue, immediately east of 87th Street, is a low-lying area relative to the adjoining streets. During heavy precipitation events, manhole(s) along Maryland Avenue are surcharged and sewage overflows into the street, whereupon much of the overflow drains to a storm water collection system that discharges to the Kanawha River. The collection system area lies immediately upstream of the Marmet locks and dam. The Kanawha River pool level behind the dam is at a higher elevation than the sanitary sewer lines on the lower end of 87th Street. This leads to concerns that groundwater infiltration could be contributing to surcharge effects and increased flows to the collection system. The 87th Street Pump Station collects flow from this area and pumps the flow into a common force main system that flows to the wastewater treatment plant.

The stormwater improvements on Long Alley are designed to remove stormwater from the sanitary sewer collection system which will reduce wet weather volumes in the system and mitigate the risk of overflows. In the current configuration, effluent that overflows from a low laying manhole on Maryland Avenue runs overground to an existing stormwater system inlet that directs this flow to the river. This project will reduce pollutants entering the Kanawha River by reducing the volume of stormwater entering the sanitary sewer system causing overflows onto Maryland Avenue.

III. <u>Alternatives</u>

The Town of Marmet's contractor, Potesta & Associates Inc., assessed nine (9) alternative actions and a no-action alternative. Alternative 9, Sanitary/Storm Separation: Maryland Avenue Sewer Overflow Abatement, was identified as the proposed alternative. It was selected due to the certainty to reduce the overflows on Marland Avenue and the reconfiguration of the pump station overflow. The preliminary engineering report for the project was submitted to both the State of West Virginia and the EPA. The report did not identify any significant effects to resources as a result of implementing this proposed alternative.

The EPA evaluated the no-action alternative and the Town's proposed alternative.

No-Action Alternative

The no-action alternative consists of not awarding the Community Grant to the Town of Marmet for the Maryland Avenue Sewer Overflow Abatement project. If no action is taken, sewer overflows occurring on Maryland Avenue will continue to happen. The streets are heavily travelled, leading to concerns of increased exposure to disease-causing organisms and public health impacts. Due to the negative impacts of this alternative, the EPA has found it to be untenable.

Sanitary/Storm Separation: Maryland Avenue Sewer Overflow Abatement – <u>Proposed Alternative</u> This alternative is intended to abate sewer overflows occurring on Maryland Avenue by reconfiguring the overflow at 87th Street Pump Station. This includes approximately 120 LF of upgraded overflow line and new headwall; 1,100 LF of upgraded and new sanitary sewer line; 575 LF of upgraded and new storm sewer line; one new flow meter; and associated structures such as manholes and drop inlets.

IV. Environmental Impacts of Proposed Alternative

The environmental impacts of the alternatives and their predictable consequences have been reviewed for a broad range of potential areas of concern. Note that several resources were not evaluated in this EA because additional investigation is not necessary to determine that implementation of the alternatives are unlikely to have any impacts.

• Land Use

Land use is residential and low and medium density development, and no portion of the project will change the land use type. This project is not located within qualifying farmland and is located within previously developed land in an urban area. Therefore, the requirements of the Farmland Protection Policy Act (7 U.S.C. §§ 4201-4209) do not apply. Also, the project is not located in or near any Wilderness areas; therefore, the requirements of 16 U.S.C. § 1131 do not apply.

• Air Quality

The proposed project will result in temporary construction related impacts, generating noise, dust, and construction related traffic impacts. Best management practices will be implemented to reduce these impacts to the community. The impacts during construction will be minimized and will be restored back to their pre-existing conditions. The project is not located in a nonattainment or maintenance area for any relevant air pollutants; therefore, the project is not subject to a conformity determination. Potential emissions may occur during project construction, though this will be temporary in nature and potential impacts will be minimized through best management practices.

• Noise and Vibration

Noise and vibration impact due to the construction of the proposed improvements are expected to be temporary in nature and typical for this type of project.

• Geological and Soil Resources

This project is not located within qualifying farmland and is located within previously developed land in an urban area. Therefore, the requirements of the Farmland Protection Policy Act (7 U.S.C. §§ 4201-4209) do not apply.

• Water Resources

The project will not control or modify surface waters; therefore, the requirements of the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (16 U.S.C. § 661) do not apply. The project is located near Kanawah River and portions are located in a 100-year floodplain. The proposed activity is in an urban area within roadways, hardscapes, and developed area; it will not add any new or additional structures to the floodplain. Ground disturbing or excavation activities will be minimal, and the area will be returned to pre-construction conditions. Based on these considerations, the proposed project is not anticipated to result in a negative impact to the natural and beneficial floodplain values. Therefore, the project is anticipated to conform to Executive Order No. 11988 (1977), as amended by Executive Order No. 12148 (1979).

There are no known wetlands, waters of the United States, or Section 10 waters within the proposed project area. No sole source aquifers exist at or near the project location nor is it

located within the coastal zone/barriers; therefore, the requirements of the 42 U.S.C. §§ 300F-300J-26, 16 U.S.C. §§ 1451-1466 and 3501-3510 do not apply. There are no Wild and Scenic Rivers within the project area; therefore, the requirements of 16 U.S.C. §§ 1271-1287 do not apply. This project also is not located within an essential fish habitat. Therefore, the requirement of 16 U.S.C. §§ 1801-1891 do not apply.

• Biological Resources

An endangered species list was verified using the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) system on 10/28/2024. The project is not expected to significantly affect federally listed threatened or endangered species, however the following species are present: Indiana Bat (endangered), Northern Long-eared Bat (endangered), Big Sandy Crayfish (threatened), Black-billed Cuckoo (Bird of Conservation Concern), and Gray Bat (endangered).

There is also a total of 64 live freshwater mussels species found in the project area, which include *A. plicata, L. complanata, L. recta, O. reflexa, P. alatus, P. fragilis, Q. quadrula,* and *T. truncata*. No live or relic shells of federally rare, threatened, or endangered species of mussels were found. Due to the presence of live mussels within the project's proposed salvage zone, a salvage and relocation survey of the proposed salvage zone is required prior to the initiation of in-steam construction activities. All salvaged, state listed species will be relocated to suitable habitat upstream of the Project salvage zone and then moved back to the oringinal habitat once the project is done.

The proposed activity does not involve capture, transport, exhibition, collection, control or disturbance of eagles or eagle parts, nests, or eggs. Additionally, no construction is expected to occur near eagle nests; therefore, the requirements of 16 U.S.C. §§ 668-668C do not apply. This project does not involve the taking, killing, possession, transportation, or importation of migratory birds, their eggs, parts, or nests. Beneficial practices to avoid and minimize the incidental take of migratory birds, including best management practices and conservation measures will be implemented when necessary; therefore, this project would not conflict with 16 U.S.C. §§ 703-712. Additionally, the project will not affect marine mammals; therefore, the requirements of the Marine Mammal Protection Act (16 U.S.C. §§ 1361-1407) do not apply.

• Cultural Resources and Historic Properties

The project does not appear to be in or cause impacts to Indian country. All tribes within EPA Region 3 have been notified of the project and were given an opportunity for consultation. No additional consultation was requested.

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The EPA reviewed the National Register of Historic Places, and this project will have no adverse effects to historic properties.

The proposed activity is not located on federal or Indian lands; therefore, the requirements of the Archaeological Resources Protection Act (16 U.S.C. §§ 470AA-MM) do not apply. The project is also not located on Indian or Native Hawaiian lands where Native American human remains, funerary objects, sacred objects, and cultural items may be present; therefore, the requirements of 25 U.S.C. § 3001 do not apply.

• Transportation and Traffic

Temporary impacts to traffic consistent with developments of this type are anticipated, however, no long-term transportation and traffic impacts anticipated because of the proposed improvements.

V. <u>Coordination/Public Participation</u> None.

VI. <u>Appendix</u>

- 1. Preliminary Engineering Report dated April 9, 2021, by Potesta & Associates, Inc. "Maryland Avenue Overflow Abatement/ Outlet No. 003 Reconfiguration"
- 2. West Virginia Department of Arts, Culture and History Letter dated March 20, 2025
- 3. U.S. Department of Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service correspondence dated October 29, 2024; Project code 2023-0061130