



## NOTICE OF INTENT TO MAKE SECTION 4(F) DE MINIMIS IMPACT FINDING

### What is a Section 4(f) de minimis impact finding?

- Section 4(f) of U.S. Department of Transportation Act protects “significant” parks and recreation areas.
- RTC, in cooperation with the City of Reno, intends to recommend to FHWA that the effects of the project on Wingfield Park (including the whitewater park) are a de minimis impact under Section 4(f).
- A de minimis impact finding may be made if:
  - The project would not adversely affect the features, attributes, or activities qualifying the property for protection under Section 4(f).
  - The official with jurisdiction (City of Reno) is informed of the intent to make a de minimis impact finding.
  - An opportunity for public review and comment is provided.
  - After considering any comments received from the public, the official with jurisdiction (City of Reno) concurs in writing that the project will not adversely affect the activities, features, or attributes that make the property eligible for Section 4(f) protection.

### How will the Arlington Avenue Bridges project affect Wingfield Park (including the whitewater park)?

#### Permanent Changes:

- Proposed improvements along Arlington Avenue include wider sidewalks, a buffer between bicycle lanes and travel lanes, and pedestrian scale lighting, which would enhance access to Wingfield Park by improving user experience and safety.
- To address a lack of maintenance access that has resulted in degraded function of the whitewater park from sediment build-up, a new ramp accessing the river is being evaluated near the existing ADA ramp from Island Avenue. Implementation of this or other potential access solutions must comply with floodplain management requirements.

- Bicycle, pedestrian, and transit improvements proposed along Arlington Avenue, necessitate minor widening of the transportation facility into Wingfield Park. The estimated impact to sodded areas of the park is approximately 0.03 acre.
- The configuration of the north bridge would be changed from two piers to one pier in the river, which could affect the functionality of the whitewater park for kayaks and other watercraft. RTC will coordinate with the original designer of the whitewater park through final design to develop construction plans that provide continued safety and functionality of the whitewater park for recreation use.

#### Temporary Impacts:

- Wingfield Park, including the whitewater park, would be closed to the public during the two-year construction period to ensure public safety.
- A portion of the water in the north channel of the Truckee River would be diverted to the south channel to allow a two-phase reconstruction of the north bridge. Similarly, water in the south channel would be diverted to the north channel during reconstruction of the south bridge.
- RTC will require the contractor to prepare a construction management plan that includes procedures for safely directing river users to exit the river upstream of the whitewater park and ensure no river users enter the construction zone.
- Temporary construction fencing would be placed along the perimeter of Wingfield Park to prevent public access during the two-year construction period. The pedestrian bridges accessing the park would be closed during construction.
- Some of the concrete paths within the construction zone would be temporarily impacted.
- Staging and material storage may occur within park boundaries at the City's discretion.
- Any temporary impacts to the park will be restored to preconstruction conditions upon project construction completion.

#### **How can I submit comments?**

- Submit comments through question #4 of the survey on the project website: <https://arlingtonbridges.com/videos>
- Email RTC Project Manager, Judy Tortelli: [jtortelli@rtcwashoe.com](mailto:jtortelli@rtcwashoe.com)
- Mail written comments to: [1105 Terminal Way, Suite 108, Reno, NV 89502](#)
- Comments accepted through September 16, 2022.