



**U.S. Department of Housing and Urban  
Development**

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## **Environmental Assessment Determinations and Compliance Findings for HUD-assisted Projects 24 CFR Part 58**

### **Project Information**

**Project Name:** Town of Malden Fire Station

**Responsible Entity:** Town of Malden

**Grant Recipient** (if different than Responsible Entity):

**State/Local Identifier:** 21-62210-033

**Preparer:** J. Light, TD&H Engineering

**Certifying Officer Name and Title:** Dan Harwood, Mayor

**Grant Recipient** (if different than Responsible Entity):

**Consultant** (if applicable):

**Direct Comments to:** Dan Harwood, Mayor, Town of Malden

**Project Location:**

14 W. Moreland Avenue, Malden, WA, 99149

**Description of the Proposed Project** [24 CFR 50.12 & 58.32; 40 CFR 1508.25]:

Construction of a new fire station with spaces for up to four fire/emergency vehicles, a minor vehicle maintenance area, apparatus room, storage, restrooms and show, small kitchen/eating area, and a training room. The building will also eventually house City Hall and administrative offices as well as the Post Office. The project will also include pro-rated public safety costs for preparation of surrounding ground for driving and parking, adequate site drainage, water connections, sewer septic system, and exterior lighting.

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

Most of the town was destroyed by a rapidly moving wildfire on Labor Day 2020. The Malden fire station, which served Malden, Pine City, and surrounding areas was lost in the blaze. This creates an added burden on the Rosalia and St. John fire departments and increases response time for Malden and Pine City residents, as well as reducing the number of departments available for mutual aid calls. There is an opportunity to build back better with a fire station/multi-use building that better meets the region’s needs and will be energy efficient making it less costly to maintain.

**Existing Conditions and Trends** [24 CFR 58.40(a)]:

Currently the city of Malden and Pine City have a temporary fire station with limited fire services. Community members rely on fire and emergency service. Malden is part of the regional fire response along with Rosalia and St. John fire departments. Limited services and response will continue until the fire station in Malden is replaced.

The project area is currently a vacant lot. The original fire station was in this same place in the middle of town, on a city-owned lot. The area is relatively flat with paved and gravel roads, and has water, communication, electric, and gas utilities.

**Funding Information**

<b>Grant Number</b>	<b>HUD Program</b>	<b>Funding Amount</b>
21-62210-033	CDBG	900,000

**Estimated Total HUD Funded Amount:** \$900,000

**Estimated Total Project Cost** (HUD and non-HUD funds) [24 CFR 58.32(d)]: \$1,588,300

## Compliance with 24 CFR 50.4, 58.5, and 58.6 Laws and Authorities

Record below the compliance or conformance determinations for each statute, executive order, or regulation. Provide credible, traceable, and supportive source documentation for each authority. Where applicable, complete the necessary reviews or consultations and obtain or note applicable permits of approvals. Clearly note citations, dates/names/titles of contacts, and page references. Attach additional documentation as appropriate.

<b>Compliance Factors:</b> Statutes, Executive Orders, and Regulations listed at 24 CFR §58.5 and §58.6	Are formal compliance steps or mitigation required?	Compliance determinations
<b>STATUTES, EXECUTIVE ORDERS, AND REGULATIONS LISTED AT 24 CFR 50.4 and 58.6</b>		
<b>Airport Hazards</b>  24 CFR Part 51 Subpart D	Yes    No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The project location is >15,000 feet of a military airport (30 miles from Fairchild AFB) and > 2,500 feet of a civilian airport (Rosalia). See airport hazards map and worksheet.
<b>Coastal Barrier Resources</b>  Coastal Barrier Resources Act, as amended by the Coastal Barrier Improvement Act of 1990 [16 USC 3501]	Yes    No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	There are no costal barrier resources in Washington, therefore, the Act does not apply.
<b>Flood Insurance</b>  Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 and National Flood Insurance Reform Act of 1994 [42 USC 4001-4128 and 42 USC 5154a]	Yes    No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Section 58.6 requires compliance with the Flood Disaster Protection Act. However, under <b>24 CFR 55.1 (b)(1)</b> the prohibitions are not applicable to HUD financial assistance under the State-administered CDBG Program (24 CFR part 570, subpart I). Therefore, the Act does not apply.
<b>STATUTES, EXECUTIVE ORDERS, AND REGULATIONS LISTED AT 24 CFR 50.4 &amp; 58.5</b>		
<b>Clean Air</b>  Clean Air Act, as amended, particularly section 176(c) & (d); 40 CFR Parts 6, 51, 93	Yes    No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The project site is in an attainment area for all NAAQS. See “Clean Air” section in environmental documentation.
<b>Coastal Zone Management</b>  Coastal Zone Management Act, sections 307(c) & (d)	Yes    No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Concurrence from Dept. of Ecology for Coastal Zone Management is no longer required under a Part 58 or Part 50 Environmental Review in Washington State. However, at the time of project development, the activity may trigger review if it falls under other parts of the CZMA

		regulations for federal agency activities (Title 15 CFR Part 930, subpart C), or consistency for activities requiring a federal license or permit (Title 15 CFR Part 930, Subpart D) and will be subject to all enforceable policies of the Coastal Zone Management Program. It is during the local permitting process that a project might be subject to CZM and further review by the Dept of Ecology.
<b>Contamination and Toxic Substances</b>  24 CFR Part 50.3(i) & 58.5(i)(2)	Yes    No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	An environmental assessment was performed. No historical or current evidence of environmental contamination was found. See Site Assessment Report in NEPA documentation.
<b>Endangered Species</b>  Endangered Species Act of 1973, particularly section 7; 50 CFR Part 402	Yes    No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Not likely to affect was determined based on no critical habitat on or near the site, site location and function, and FWS and NMFS worksheet. FWS iPAC determinations included in NEPA environmental documentation.
<b>Explosive and Flammable Hazards</b>  24 CFR Part 51 Subpart C	Yes    No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	This project does not include development, construction, rehabilitation that will increase residential densities, or conversion. See NEPA environmental documentation.
<b>Farmlands Protection</b>  Farmland Protection Policy Act of 1981, particularly sections 1504(b) and 1541; 7 CFR Part 658	Yes    No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	This project does include new construction; however, it is replacing an existing fire station that was destroyed in a wildfire. The soil is eligible for Prime Farmland, however the use and location make the site less desirable and functional for farming. The property is owned by the City of Malden. See in NEPA documentation.
<b>Floodplain Management</b>  Executive Order 11988, particularly section 2(a); 24 CFR Part 55	Yes    No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	This project is not within a Special Flood Hazard Area. A map is included with the worksheet in NEPA environmental documentation.
<b>Historic Preservation</b>  National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, particularly sections 106 and 110; 36 CFR Part 800	Yes    No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	A cultural resources study was conducted at the site and it was determined the site was not eligible for NRHP listing. See NEPA environmental documentation.
<b>Noise Abatement and Control</b>  Noise Control Act of 1972, as amended by the Quiet	Yes    No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	This project does not include any residential buildings. There are no overnight

Communities Act of 1978; 24 CFR Part 51 Subpart B		accommodations, nor is the facility designed for any residential activity.
<b>Sole Source Aquifers</b> Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, as amended, particularly section 1424(e); 40 CFR Part 149	Yes No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The project is 12 miles from the closest sole source aquifer (Rathdrum). See NEPA environmental documentation.
<b>Wetlands Protection</b> Executive Order 11990, particularly sections 2 and 5	Yes No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The project does not impact an on- or off-site wetland. There are no wetlands on or near the site, stormwater will not discharge to wetlands. See NEPA environmental documentation
<b>Wild and Scenic Rivers</b> Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968, particularly section 7(b) and (c)	Yes No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The project is not within a designated Wild, Scenic River. See NEPA environmental documentation
<b>ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE</b>		
<b>Environmental Justice</b> Executive Order 12898	Yes No <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The site and surrounding neighborhood does not suffer from adverse environmental conditions and this project will not create an adverse or disproportionate environmental impact or aggravate an existing impact. This project will restore fire service to the surrounding community. The project replaces a formerly existing fire station that burned down in a wildfire. See environmental justice report in NEPA documentation.

**Environmental Assessment Factors** [24 CFR 58.40; Ref. 40 CFR 1508.8 &1508.27] Recorded below is the qualitative and quantitative significance of the effects of the proposal on the character, features and resources of the project area. Each factor has been evaluated and documented, as appropriate and in proportion to its relevance to the proposed action. Verifiable source documentation has been provided and described in support of each determination, as appropriate. Credible, traceable and supportive source documentation for each authority has been provided. Where applicable, the necessary reviews or consultations have been completed and applicable permits of approvals have been obtained or noted. Citations, dates/names/titles of contacts, and page references are clear. Additional documentation is attached, as appropriate. **All conditions, attenuation or mitigation measures have been clearly identified.**

**Impact Codes:** Use an impact code from the following list to make the determination of impact for each factor.

- (1) Minor beneficial impact
- (2) No impact anticipated
- (3) Minor Adverse Impact – May require mitigation
- (4) Significant or potentially significant impact requiring avoidance or modification which may require an Environmental Impact Statement

Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
<b>LAND DEVELOPMENT</b>		
Conformance with Plans / Compatible Land Use and Zoning / Scale and Urban Design	2	This is an existing use for this property.
Soil Suitability/ Slope/ Erosion/ Drainage/ Storm Water Runoff	3	The project will not change the elevation or soils currently on site. This will increase hard surface as it includes additional paving and the building will be slightly larger than the previous one. Area surrounding building location is undeveloped and available for stormwater infiltration. Attention to grading and paving will be necessary to direct stormwater runoff to areas for infiltration.
Hazards and Nuisances including Site Safety and Noise	2	During construction it is anticipated there will be noise during business hours, typical of commercial construction, which is presently allowed in the city and county. After construction, this project will improve the safety of the area with local fire and emergency service. Fire station operations will conform to city requirements.
Energy Consumption	1	The energy impacts should be improved from the previous fire station as the new building will be built to new codes and improved technology for HVAC

Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
<b>SOCIOECONOMIC</b>		
Employment and Income Patterns	1	This project improves the fire service to the community and a new building may encourage additional volunteer support from the community.
Demographic Character Changes, Displacement	2	No impact is expected as the fire station will continue to operate as it has previously.

Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
<b>COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES</b>		
Educational and Cultural Facilities	2	This fire station will improve fire services with a new facility, storage for vehicles, and room for equipment and training closer to the community.
Commercial Facilities	2	This project will not impact commercial facilities as this project is a replacement of a previously existing fire station in the same location.
Health Care and Social Services	1	This project streamlines the fire department facility which should improve the response time when called providing a benefit with respect to emergencies and social services.
Solid Waste Disposal / Recycling	2	This project improves and replaces the previously existing fire station in the same location. No impact to solid waste disposal/recycling is expected.
Waste Water / Sanitary Sewers	3	Bathroom/shower facilities will be added to the new fire station. The previous one did not have these facilities, so there will be an added impact on the water/wastewater system. Proper sizing for water and wastewater will be necessary during construction design.
Water Supply	3	No water service to the old fire station existed. This will be an addition to the existing water system, however the building will not have any residential amenities, so water usage in the area will increase, but only when occupied, which will be occasional usage.
Public Safety - Police, Fire and Emergency Medical	1	This project replaces an aging fire station that was destroyed in a wildfire. Rebuilding the fire station will improve response time and facilitate training to improve services
Parks, Open Space and Recreation	2	This project does not affect parks, open space or recreation. The fire station will be rebuilt in the same location.
Transportation and Accessibility	1	There are no changes in transportation and accessibility although a new building design will improve accessibility and will improve emergency transportation.

Environmental Assessment Factor	Impact Code	Impact Evaluation
<b>NATURAL FEATURES</b>		
Unique Natural Features, Water Resources	2	There is no impact to unique natural features or water resources as this project will rebuild the fire station in the same location.
Vegetation, Wildlife	2	There is no impact to vegetation and wildlife as this project will rebuild the fire station in the same location. Some trees will have to be removed to accommodate sizing requirements for turnaround and vehicles, as well as reducing tree hazards from damage from the wildfire.
Other Factors		

**Additional Studies Performed:**

Washington SEPA, Cultural Resources Study for project location, septic capacity calculations

**Field Inspection** (Date and completed by): Jenni Light, 4/15/2022, TD&H Engineering

**List of Sources, Agencies and Persons Consulted** [40 CFR 1508.9(b)]:

Dan Harwood, Mayor Malden

Bob Law, long-time resident of Malden

EDR review of historical documentation and regulatory databases. This includes Washington State Department of Ecology records, WA Department of Health, EPA, NOAA, Washington Fish & Wildlife

WA SEPA review process

Chris Skidmore, Whitman County Environmental Health

**List of Permits Obtained:** permits that **will be** applied for include:

NPDES general stormwater for new construction

Building permit from Whitman County & Town of Malden

Septic approval Whitman County

**Public Outreach** [24 CFR 50.23 & 58.43]:

Notice in local newspaper (Whitman County Gazette) advertising public hearing 5/6/2021 and 5/13/2021; Public meeting discussing potential CBDG grant activities held 5/20/2021.

The town has an assigned building committee that met and discussed this on 4/14/2022 and 4/21/2022 as well as discussing it during the town council meeting held on 4/26/2022. All meetings are open to the public. Notice of findings to be published in local newspaper 5/19/2022.

**Cumulative Impact Analysis** [24 CFR 58.32]:

Cumulative impacts for this project consider the design and construction of the fire station. The cumulative impacts include short-term ground disturbance, noise, and dust during construction. After the building is constructed, long-term impacts may be seen as activities may increase around the area and become more concentrated as the building is used by both fire and administrative people in addition to volunteer firefighters. This could mean additional traffic and activity around the building



and vicinity. There will be additional noise when fire alarms and sirens are used during emergency calls that can disturb neighbors and wildlife.

There will be impacts to stormwater, water and wastewater. The building will increase the impervious area slightly more than the previous fire station. Grading and attention to drainage patterns will be necessary to ensure stormwater infiltration to nearby areas. The city has the capacity to increase water usage as there are only two non-residential connections out of a total of 65 connections. This connection would add one more non-residential connection. There appears to be at least two groundwater wells available, one with ~150 gallon per minute capacity. There may be additional traffic impacts as the building is used for additional administrative activities. However, these impacts should be minimal as the total population is approximately 215 full time residents, the city area is approximately 480 acres, with the main part of town covering approximately 200 acres.

#### **Alternatives [24 CFR 58.40(e); 40 CFR 1508.9]**

##### **No Action Alternative [24 CFR 58.40(e)]:**

The community would continue to require fire service from Rosalia and St. John, resulting in delayed response and additional burdens for those fire stations. The combined response available will continue to be reduced if the fire station is not restored.

##### **Summary of Findings and Conclusions:**

There will be no significant impacts due to this project.

The project site has historically had a fire station located on it that operated from 1998 to 2020 when it was destroyed in a wildfire that also devastated the town of Malden.

A thorough evaluation of environmental impacts per HUD, Washington Department of Environmental Quality guidance, and SEPA indicate there will be some temporary environmental impacts of increased dust, noise, and wildlife disturbance during construction from construction activities. After construction and throughout the life of the project, the environmental impacts will be like those of the previous fire station, except for energy impacts, which will be reduced due to improved HVAC and construction materials. Additional societal and environmental benefits are gained by replacing the fire station reducing the dependence on nearby fire services and improving response times for Malden and Pine City communities. Additionally, the fire station adds additional resources to regional fire protection services.

##### **Mitigation Measures and Conditions [40 CFR 1505.2(c)]**

Summarize below all mitigation measures adopted by the Responsible Entity to reduce, avoid, or eliminate adverse environmental impacts and to avoid non-compliance or non-conformance with the above-listed authorities and factors. These measures/conditions must be incorporated into project contracts, development agreements, and other relevant documents. The staff responsible for implementing and monitoring mitigation measures should be clearly identified in the mitigation plan.

No mitigation measures are necessary for this project.

##### **Determination:**

**Finding of No Significant Impact [24 CFR 58.40(g)(1); 40 CFR 1508.27]**

The project will not result in a significant impact on the quality of the human environment.

**Finding of Significant Impact** [24 CFR 58.40(g)(2); 40 CFR 1508.27]  
The project may significantly affect the quality of the human environment.

**Determination:**

**Finding of No Significant Impact** [24 CFR 58.40(g)(1); 40 CFR 1508.27]  
The project will not result in a significant impact on the quality of the human environment.

**Finding of Significant Impact** [24 CFR 58.40(g)(2); 40 CFR 1508.27]  
The project may significantly affect the quality of the human environment.

Preparer Signature:  Date: 5/17/2022

Name/Title/Organization: Jenni Light, PhD, Environmental Engineer, TD&H Engineering

Certifying Officer Signature: Dan Harwood Date: 5/19/2022

Name/Title: Dan Harwood Mayor Town of Malden

This original, signed document and related supporting material must be retained on file by the Responsible Entity in an Environmental Review Record (ERR) for the activity/project (ref: 24 CFR Part 58.38) and in accordance with recordkeeping requirements for the HUD program(s).