

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT (EA) FOR THE
The Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indian Reservation
East McKeese Road and M-22 Improvement Project
Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI)

Notice is hereby given that the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), Michigan Agency has made a FONSI dated October 16, 2026 for The Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indian Reservation East McKeese Road and M-22 Improvement Project. The federal action is to add a paved walking path (sidewalk) along a portion of East McKeese Road and M-22, add a crosswalk along M-22 near existing tribal buildings and the Leelanau Sands Casino and Lodge, and slightly widen portions of East McKeese Road and M-22. The project is in Peshawbestown, on the Grand Traverse Reservation in Leelanau County, Michigan (Sections 10 and 11 of Township 30 North, Range 11 West). The project extends along East McKeese Road/North Stallman Road from the intersection with Strongheart Way Road east to the intersection with M-22 and north along M-22 to East Bear Drive. The length of the project on East McKeese Road/North Stallman Road from North Strongheart Way to M-22 is approximately 0.25 mile. The length of the project on M-22 from East McKeese Road/North Stallman Road to north Bear Drive is approximately 0.9 mile. The proposed work to add the sidewalk and widen the existing roads (East McKeese and M-22) would occur in the existing right-of-way (ROW). The paved sidewalk would be limited to the south side of McKeese Road and the east side of M-22. The existing ROW is 66 feet wide on East McKeese Road/North Stallman Road and 100 feet wide on M-22. The project are is on Michigan DOT (MDOT) and Leelanau County ROW property. The purpose of the Proposed Action is to improve pedestrian safety and mobility along M-22 and McKeese Road within the community of Peshawbestown, Michigan, by constructing sidewalks, marked crosswalks, and associated pedestrian infrastructure.

Based on the analysis and impacts in the EA and the entire administrative record, it has been determined that the proposed action will not result in significant impacts to the quality of the human environment; therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement is not required. The BIA is issuing a FONSI which is a finding on environmental effects and not a decision to proceed with an action; therefore it cannot be appealed. 25 CFR 2.203 requires a 30-day appeal period, after the decision to proceed with the action is made, before the action may be implemented. Appeal information will be made publicly available when the decision to proceed is made. Approval of the proposed project constitutes a Federal action under the governing regulations for compliance with Section 102(2) of NEPA and requires a concise public document to be prepared that analyzes the environmental impacts to the human environment. The EA has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of NEPA, as amended, 516 DM 1 the DOI Handbook of NEPA Implementing Procedures, and other applicable environmental statutes and regulations. This finding ends the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) environmental review process.

The FONSI is available for review on the internet at <https://www.bia.gov/regional-offices/midwest/nepa-compliance-documents> for the The Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indian Reservation East McKeese Road and M-22 Improvement Project.

For additional information, please contact Scott Virden, Acting Superintendent, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Michigan Agency at 906-632-6809 or by email at scott.virden@bia.gov.