Section 4(f) Resources

Section 4(f) of the Department of Transportation Act of 1966 requires that before the Department of Transportation approves the “use” of a Section 4(f) resource they first prove that there are no feasible and prudent alternatives and that all possible planning to minimize harm has gone into the project—or the use is de minimis.

Section 4(f) Resources are:
- Publicly owned
- Parks
- Recreation Areas
- Wildlife Refuges
- Waterfowl Refuges
- Historic sites, publically or privately owned

A use occurs when:
- Land is permanently incorporated into the transportation facility

A de minimis use means that the use will not harm the protected features of the Section 4(f) resource.

MoDOT gets approval to use Section 4(f) resources from the Federal Highway Administration. There is a determination that the use is de minimis, that we can use a nationwide programmatic evaluation, or we prepare an individual Section 4(f) evaluation. Programmatic evaluations are for routine types of projects and have eliminated most of the agency reviews. Individual evaluations involve multiple reviews and an opportunity for the public to comment.

MoDOT was able to minimize impacts on this property.

Public Park and Historic Property

Historic bridges have a nationwide Programmatic 4(f) evaluation.

Publicly owned parks are 4(f) resources.

Publicly owned trails are 4(f) resources.

For more information:
www.modot.org/ehp