National Endowment of the Humanities

Public Notice of Availability of the Draft Environmental Assessment

For

New Library Construction for Town of Mont Vernon, NH

To: All Interested Agencies, Groups, and Individuals

This is to give notice that the Mont Vernon Public Library Charitable Foundation (MVPLCF) has conditionally received an offer of a Challenge Infrastructure and Capacity Building Grant (CHA-286624) from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH).

The Town will build a new library on land previously acquired for a library and a cemetery. The site, Lot 4-45, is located on the North side of Grand Hill Road, behind the US Post Office in Mont Vernon, NH, 03057. The new Library will be constructed on a 10-acre portion of the 41.2-acre parcel, the balance assigned to the future cemetery. The lot is bounded by conservation land, a Town Park, residential areas and a US Post Office. The new, one-story slab-on-grade library building will be approximately 7,600 square feet. The site will feature a natural outdoor performance space in front and surrounding gardens.

The Town will also construct, as a separate project, a new road to provide library access, parking and cemetery access. The projects involve grading, trenching and other site work for the road and building construction. The road project will fill 0.21 acres of wetlands and include infiltration basins to protect the area from excessive runoff from the access road and new Library site.

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 and NEH's implementing guidance, an Environmental Assessment (EA) is being prepared to assess the potential impacts of the proposed alternatives on the human and natural environments. This public notice invites public comments on the proposed project in accordance with NEPA. The draft EA and draft Finding of No Significant Impact are available <u>online</u> for review and comment at:

- Draft EA CHA-286624 Mont Vernon Library Charitable Foundation
- Draft FONSI CHA-286624 Mont Vernon Public Library Charitable Foundation

Written comments regarding this environmental action should be submitted no later than 5 pm on June 10, 2024, to Ann Piesen, NEH Federal Preservation and Environmental Officer at <u>apiesen@neh.gov</u>. If no substantive comments are received by this deadline, the draft EA and associated Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) will become final and be published by NEH. If substantive comments are received, they will be addressed as appropriate in the final documents.