



KINSTON BYPASS PROJECT

STIP Project Number R-2553



NEWSLETTER ISSUE NO. 2—AUGUST 2014—PUBLIC MEETING ROUND 4

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Language Assistance is Available

Un intérprete en español estará disponible en las reuniones públicas. Este comunicado y el material que se presentará en el taller estarán disponibles en español en la página de internet del proyecto (vea abajo). Para asistencia en español puede comunicarse al teléfono 1-800-233-6315

A Spanish interpreter will be available at the workshops. This newsletter and other workshop materials are available in Spanish on the project website (see below). Assistance in Spanish is also available by calling 1-800-233-6315. If assistance in a language other than Spanish is needed, please request it prior to the meeting by calling 1-800-233-6315.

Need Special Services or Assistance Coming to the Meetings?

NCDOT will provide auxiliary aids and services under the Americans with Disabilities Act for disabled persons. Anyone requiring special services should contact Senior Public Involvement Officer, Anamika Laad at 919.707.6072 or e-mail at alaad@ncdot.gov as early as possible so that arrangements can be made.

PROJECT UPDATE

Working with the US Army Corps of Engineers as the lead federal agency, the NC Department of Transportation (NCDOT) led a January 2014 meeting with local officials and other state and federal agencies, in which all northern bypass alternatives were eliminated from further study. At the same meeting, a new alternative was added for consideration—Upgrade Existing US 70 with a Shallow Southern Bypass. Please see Page 2 for information on this newly added alternative. The existing Southern Bypass alternatives and the Upgrade Existing US 70 will remain under consideration.

The decision to remove Northern Bypass alternatives is a direct result of new traffic projections that show Southern Bypass alternatives will draw significantly more traffic onto a bypass. Southern Bypass alternatives attract enough traffic from the existing US 70 such that traffic congestion is noticeably reduced in central Kinston - which eliminates the need for widening existing US 70 in the foreseeable future. Northern Bypass alternatives draw so little traffic from existing US 70 that improvements to existing US 70 would still be needed, even after a Northern Bypass was constructed.

WHY IS THIS PROJECT NEEDED?

The project is needed to address traffic congestion, capacity deficiencies, and traffic delays on US 70 and US 70 Bypass between LaGrange and Dover.

The purpose of the project is to improve regional mobility, connectivity, and capacity for US 70 between LaGrange and Dover in a manner that meets the intent of the North Carolina Strategic Highway Corridors Plan.

PUBLIC MEETINGS

The NCDOT has scheduled two Public Meetings as shown below. The meetings will be informal open house drop-in style with **the same information being presented at both meetings**. There will be **no** formal presentation.

Tuesday, August 26, 2014
4:00 PM to 7:00 PM

Kennedy Children's Home Gym
2380 Kennedy Dairy Road
Kinston, NC 28504

Thursday, August 28, 2014
4:00 PM to 7:00 PM

Southwood Memorial
Christian Church
1027 NC Highway 58 South
Kinston, NC 28504

Connecting people and places safely and efficiently, with accountability and environmental sensitivity to enhance the economy, health and well-being of North Carolina.

NEW ALTERNATIVE: UPGRADE EXISTING US 70 WITH A SHALLOW SOUTHERN BYPASS



Due to the high density of development and the natural environmental features found in central Kinston, engineers encountered a number of impacts and issues as functional designs were developed for the Upgrade Existing US 70 alternative. Based on this, the project team looked at several short alignments that might bypass the most densely-developed areas.

The Upgrade Existing US 70 with a Shallow Southern Bypass alternative was officially added as a detailed study alternative in January 2014 (as shown on Page 3). This alternative widens US 70 to the east and west sides of the city, but creates a new location highway in central Kinston. The corridor for the new Upgrade Existing US 70 with a Shallow Southern Bypass alternative begins just

east of the recently opened section of the C.F. Harvey Parkway and runs to the southeast across the Neuse River, crossing NC 11/55 near the Goodman Road intersection. The corridor then crosses US 258 near Collier-Loftin Road and continues eastward to cross NC 58 in the area south of Lenoir Community College and rejoins existing US 70 near Neuse Road.

WHAT'S NEXT?

The Kinston Bypass study is in a conceptual phase. The NCDOT has conducted corridor-level analyses, and has not made any decisions on specific highway alignments within these wide corridors. All design alternatives are subject to change as the project team continues to study the best ways to have minimum impacts to homes, businesses, and community and natural resources in the area. NCDOT will start preparing a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) later in 2014. The DEIS will discuss all of the alternatives studied (and eliminated) and the process followed to date. It will list specific parameters such as traffic analysis, cost, and impacts to the human and natural environment for each of the alternatives analyzed. After this information is published and before any decisions are made on a preferred corridor, NCDOT will conduct a Public Hearing to seek public opinions and preferences on the various alternatives analyzed in the DEIS.



The updated Project Schedule shown below identifies future opportunities for public input. However, the project team is available to answer project related questions throughout the project planning and design process.

Project Schedule

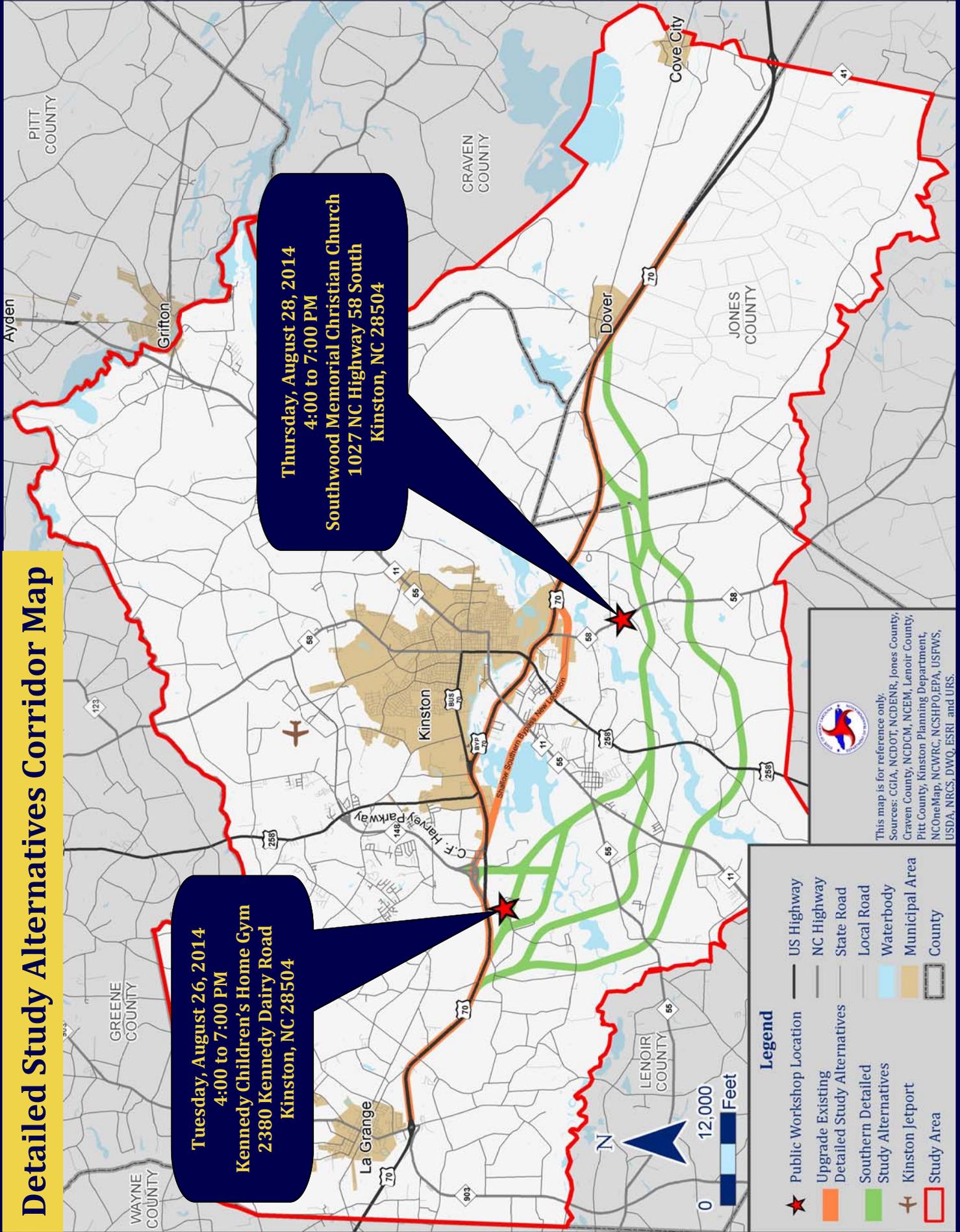


* Indicates opportunities for citizen input

Detailed Study Alternatives Corridor Map

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Legend

- ★ Public Workshop Location
- US Highway
- Upgrade Existing
- Detailed Study Alternatives
- Southern Detailed Study Alternatives
- ✈ Kinston Jetport
- Study Area
- NC Highway
- State Road
- Local Road
- Waterbody
- Municipal Area
- County


 This map is for reference only.
 Sources: CGIA, NCDOT, NCDENR, Jones County, Craven County, NCDOT, NCEM, Lenoir County, Pitt County, Kinston Planning Department, NCOneMap, NCWRC, NCSHP, EPA, USFWS, USDA, NRCS, DWQ, ESRI and URS.

US 70 Kinston Bypass Project
North Carolina Department of Transportation
C/O URS Corporation
Chris Werner
1600 Perimeter Park Drive, Suite 400
Morrisville, NC 27560



Please join us at one of the Public Meetings...

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Project Manager—NCDOT

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Missed the Meeting?

If you are unable to attend the meeting, scan the QR Code to the right to access the project website.



Project Hotline - Línea Gratuitita del Proyecto:
1-800-233-6315 (English/ Español)

Project Website - Página Web del Proyecto:
<http://www.ncdot.gov/projects/kinstonbypass/>