

NOTICE OF PRE-HEARING OPEN HOUSES AND CORRIDOR PUBLIC HEARINGS FOR THE  
PROPOSED U.S. 64 IMPROVEMENTS FROM COLUMBIA EASTWARD TO  
U.S. 264 (VICINITY OF MANNS HARBOR)

TIP Project Nos. R-2544 & R-2545

Tyrrell and Dare Counties

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) will hold two (2) Pre-Hearing Open Houses and Corridor Public Hearings for the above mentioned highway projects at the following times and locations:

- **Monday, April 23, 2012: Columbia High School - Auditorium, 902 Main St., Columbia**  
**Pre-Hearing Open House: 4:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.**  
**Formal Presentation: 7 p.m.**
- **Tuesday, April 24, 2012: East Lake Community Building, 16674 US Hwy 64, East Lake**  
**Pre-Hearing Open House: 4:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.**  
**Formal Presentation: 7 p.m.**

NCDOT representatives will be available at the Pre-Hearing Open Houses to answer questions and receive comments regarding the proposed projects. The opportunity to submit written comments and questions will be provided. Interested citizens may attend at any time during the above hours.

The formal presentations will consist of an explanation of the proposed location, design, right of way and relocation requirements and procedures. Citizens will have the opportunity to comment or ask questions. The presentation and comments will be recorded and a transcript will be prepared.

NCDOT proposes to widen existing U.S. 64 from two lanes to a four-lane divided highway and build a new four-lane bridge over the Alligator River with portions on new location. The project starts in Columbia and ends at U.S. 264 in Dare County. The project is 27.3 miles in length.

The primary purposes of the projects are to reduce the U.S. 64 hurricane evacuation times to better meet state coastal clearance goals for severe hurricanes in the project study area, maintain a bridge across the Alligator River that meet the needs of highway users, and provide consistency with the North Carolina Strategic Highway Corridor Plan. Additional right-of-way acquisition and the relocation of homes and businesses will be required for these projects.

A map displaying the location of the projects and a copy of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) are available for public review at the NCDOT Resident Engineer's Office located at 349 Waterplant Rd., Unit B, Manteo; Dare County Clerk's Office, 954 Marshall C. Collins Dr., Manteo; and the Tyrrell County Administrative Office, 108 S. Water St., Columbia. Copies of the map and DEIS are also available on the project website at: <http://www.ncdot.gov/projects/us64improvements/>

Copies of the DEIS are also available for review at the Dare County Public Library at 700 N. Highway 64/264, Manteo and the Tyrrell County Library, 414 Main St., Columbia.

The US Army Corps of Engineers, Wilmington District, also has the DEIS document available on their website which can be accessed at [http://www.saw.usace.army.mil/Wetlands/Notices/Current\\_notices.html](http://www.saw.usace.army.mil/Wetlands/Notices/Current_notices.html). Contained within this website is a local public notice drafted by the Corps announcing the release of this document as well as the description of the ongoing process in choosing the LEDPA (Least Environmentally Damaging Practicable Alternative) for the subject project.

Anyone desiring additional information may contact Jamille Robbins, NCDOT-Human Environment Unit at 1598 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1598, by phone at (919) 707-6085, or via email at [jarobbins@ncdot.gov](mailto:jarobbins@ncdot.gov). Additional material may be submitted until May 24, 2012.

NCDOT will provide auxiliary aids and services under the Americans with Disabilities Act for disabled persons who want to participate in this hearing. Anyone requiring special services should contact Robbins as early as possible so that arrangements can be made.