



# U.S. 64/U.S. 276/N.C. 280 INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS



## PROJECT OVERVIEW

The N.C. Department of Transportation, in coordination with the City of Brevard and Transylvania County, is proposing to improve the intersection of U.S. 64/N.C. 280 (Asheville Highway) and U.S. 64/U.S. 276 (Hendersonville Highway/Pisgah Highway) in Brevard. This newsletter is an update on the project status and NCDOT's public outreach process.

## LOCAL OFFICIALS AND PUBLIC MEETING INFORMATION

At the May 24, 2018 meeting, attendees were presented with detailed information on two design alternatives. Alternative 1 proposed converting the intersections of U.S. 64/U.S. 276/N.C. 280 and N.C. 280/Deavor Road/Forest Gate Drive to roundabouts. Alternative 2 proposed to add additional turn lanes and increase storage lengths at the existing intersections.

During the Public Meeting, citizens were encouraged to review detailed maps of the design alternatives along with informational boards and artistic renderings showing how to navigate a roundabout, potential roundabout configurations, and existing and future traffic conditions.



Meeting Attendees Reviewing Design Alternatives and Project Information

## PUBLIC MEETING QUICK FACTS

- Held on May 24, 2018 from 4-7pm at the Transylvania County Library
- 71 People Attended
- 37 Comment Forms Received

*\*Public comment period was open through June 15, 2018*

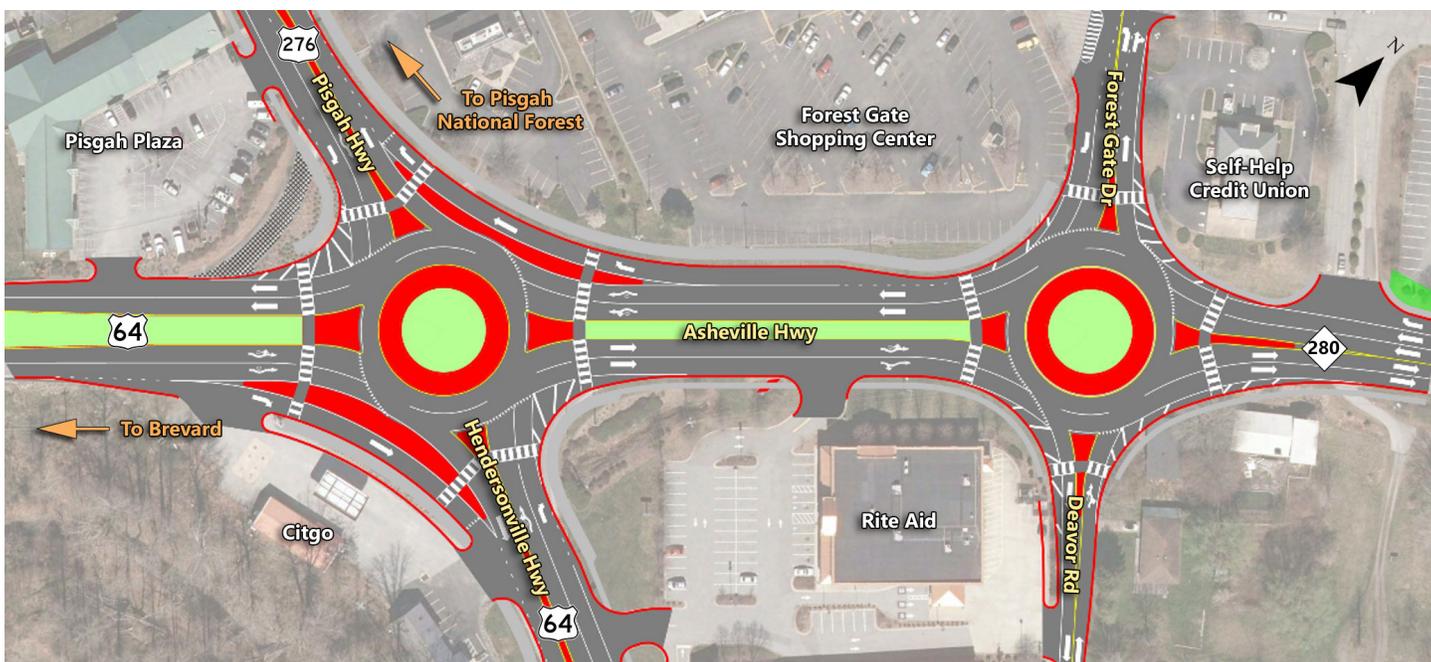
NCDOT project team members were available to answer questions and listen to citizens' comments. Attendees were also encouraged to complete comment forms.

The following is a general summary of the comments received:

- Many respondents expressed concern over the increase in bicycle and pedestrian traffic in the area and felt that the roundabout option would be safer for them.
- Several respondents expressed concern regarding proximity of business access points to the proposed roundabout and how this may be a safety concern.
- Concerns were expressed about how traffic backing up at the signalized intersection of U.S. 64 and Ecusta Road would impact roundabout operations.
- Requests were made for additional bicycle and pedestrian connectivity across the Davidson River.
- Safety concerns were noted for visitors and people unfamiliar with roundabouts. Signage and pavement markings were requested to notify drivers about how to navigate the roundabouts.

## SELECTION OF THE PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE

Following the close of the public comment period, all comments received from the public and local officials were reviewed by the project team. Based on this review and the reasons described below, the project team selected Alternative 1 (dual roundabouts) as the Preferred Alternative for improving the intersection.



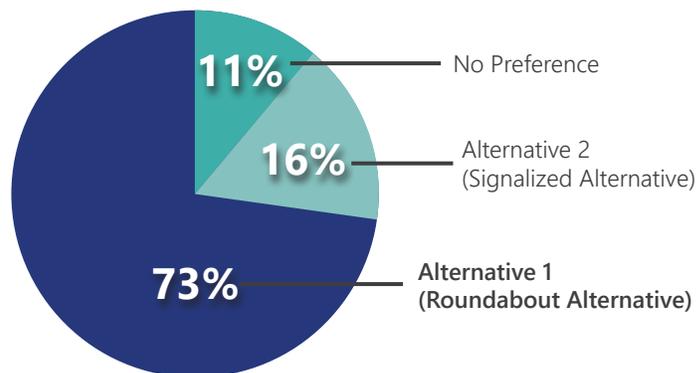
Preferred Alternative – Dual Roundabouts

## REASONS FOR SELECTING ALTERNATIVE 1

After careful consideration and evaluation of environmental and community impacts as well as comments from regulatory agencies, local officials, and citizens, the NCDOT Project Team selected Alternative 1 due to the following reasons:

- Better able to handle existing and projected traffic volumes than the signalized intersection alternative
- Offers safety benefits for both vehicles and pedestrians compared to signalized intersections
- More aesthetically appealing and consistent with local area plans and goals
- Supported by local officials and preferred by a majority of public comments

## PUBLIC PREFERENCE



## NEXT STEPS

The Project Team will begin preparing detailed design plans for Alternative 1 and complete the required environmental documentation in accordance with the NC State Environmental Policy Act. Based on the current project schedule, right-of-way acquisition would begin in 2019 and construction would start in 2021.

### For Additional Information:

**Jonathan Woodard, PE - NCDOT Project Engineer**  
 E-mail: [jwoodard@ncdot.gov](mailto:jwoodard@ncdot.gov) Phone: (828) 631-5481



Meeting maps and handouts from the Public Meeting are available for review at [www.ncdot.gov/news/public-meetings/Pages/R-5799-2018-05-24.aspx](http://www.ncdot.gov/news/public-meetings/Pages/R-5799-2018-05-24.aspx)