



# 15th Street Widening and Access Management Project

From U.S. 17 Business to U.S. 264 in Washington, Beaufort County

Feb. 2025

State Transportation Improvement Program Project No. U-5860

## PROJECT DESCRIPTION

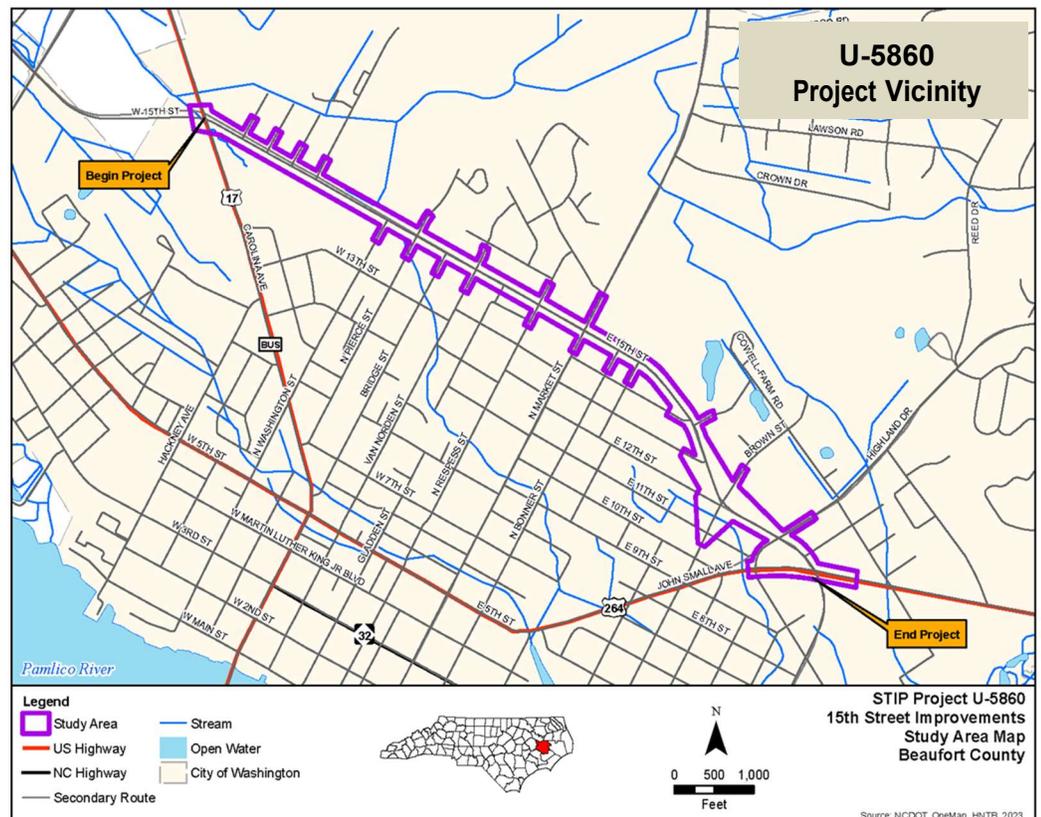
This project proposes to upgrade 15th Street from a multi-lane undivided road to a four-lane, raised median divided road from west of U.S. 17 Business (Carolina Avenue) to U.S. 264 (John Small Avenue). Median breaks will be provided for left turns as traffic volumes warrant, and U-turns will be provided at multiple locations. Additionally, the project will construct a 10-foot multi-use path on the south side of 15th Street and a 5-foot sidewalk on the north side, improving pedestrian and bicycle access.

## PROJECT HISTORY

STIP Project U-5860 began in 2015 and progressed to preliminary plans in 2016. A Public Meeting was held on August 11, 2016, providing the community with information, and inviting public input. During a 30-day comment period ending on August 24, 2016, feedback primarily focused on considerations related to the median, access, drainage, right-of-way, and safety for both vehicles and bicyclists/pedestrians. In December 2016, the Washington City Council unanimously voted not to proceed with the initial design proposal shared by NCDOT, pausing the project to address local concerns and ensure stronger community alignment.

Since the project restart in 2023, NCDOT has been collaborating closely with the City of Washington to address project needs and incorporate design refinements that address previous feedback received. The project design has been updated since 2016 to address community feedback, with several improvements

included. Lane widths have been adjusted to 11 feet to minimize the roadway footprint and reduce impacts. Some sections of the previously proposed concrete median have been removed and left turns and U-turns will be incorporated based on traffic needs. A multi-use path, sidewalks, and crosswalks are being added to enhance bicycle and pedestrian safety. The locations for crosswalks, ADA-compliant median cut-throughs, and pedestrian signals will be determined as the design progresses and incorporates ongoing public input.



# 15<sup>th</sup> Street Widening and Access Management Project

From U.S. 17 Business to U.S. 264 in Washington, Beaufort County

## PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

Public Meetings are an important step in the N.C. Department of Transportation's procedure for making you, the public, an integral part of the project development process. Our goal tonight is to provide you information of the project development process and the proposed design and gather your input on the project. Your input helps guide our planners and engineers to develop transportation solutions that complement the community's goals and visions. A comment form is included with this handout. You may leave the comment form here with us tonight, on the project webpage via email, US mail or phone.

### Access the Project Webpage

<https://publicinput.com/15th-Street-Improvements>

Comments may be submitted online or emailed to:

[15th-Street-Improvements@publicinput.com](mailto:15th-Street-Improvements@publicinput.com)



Please provide comments by:

**February 19, 2025**

# 15<sup>th</sup> Street Widening and Access Management Project

From U.S. 17 Business to U.S. 264 in Washington

## PROJECT PURPOSE AND NEED

STIP Project U-5860 is needed to reduce congestion during peak service hours along 15th Street from U.S. 17 Business to U.S. 264. Congestion causes queueing at several intersections and presents safety concerns due to the lack of access control and usage of the inner through travel lanes as left-turn lanes. The lack of existing bicycle and pedestrian facilities also presents safety concerns.

The project aims to enhance safety and improve traffic flow. The proposed median plays an important role in meeting these goals.

## Project Schedule

Milestone	Date*
Public Meeting	February 2025
Environmental Document**	August 2025
Right-Of-Way Acquisition Begins	August 2025
Construction Begins	June 2028

*\*Future dates are preliminary and subject to change*

*\*\*State Minimum Criteria Determination Checklist (MCDC) anticipated*

## Project Cost

	Estimated Amount*
Right Of Way	\$ 8,900,000
Utilities	\$ 7,500,000
Construction	\$ 22,200,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 38,600,000</b>

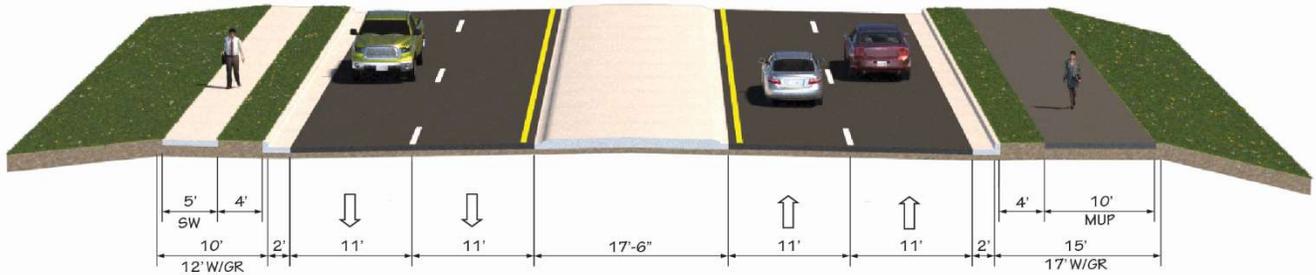
*\*Estimated costs are preliminary and subject to change*

# 15<sup>th</sup> Street Widening and Access Management Project

From U.S. 17 Business to U.S. 264 in Washington

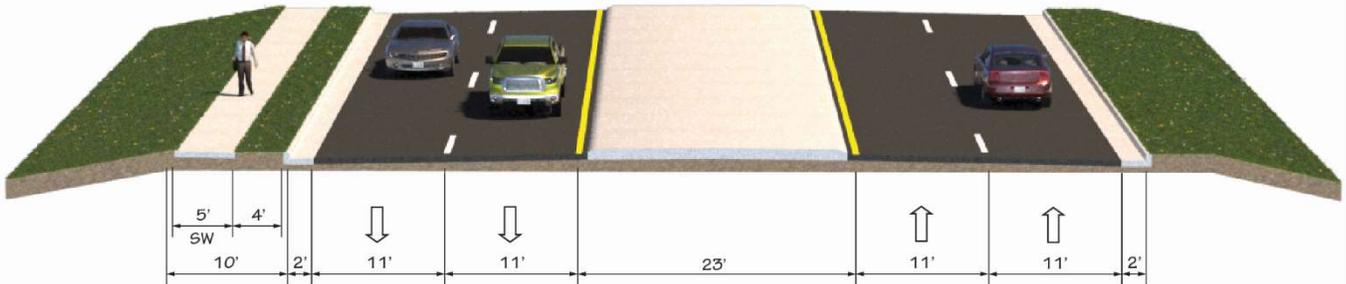
## PROPOSED TYPICAL SECTIONS

### 15<sup>th</sup> Street from U.S. 17 Business (Carolina Avenue) to Brown Street



TYPICAL SECTION NO.1

### 15<sup>th</sup> Street from Brown Street to U.S. 264 (John Small Avenue)



TYPICAL SECTION NO.2

# Right-Of-Way Process

Once decisions are made regarding the final design of the project, the limits of the project will be staked in the ground. If you are an affected property owner, a right-of-way agent will arrange a meeting with you to explain the plans, how it affects you and your rights as a property owner.

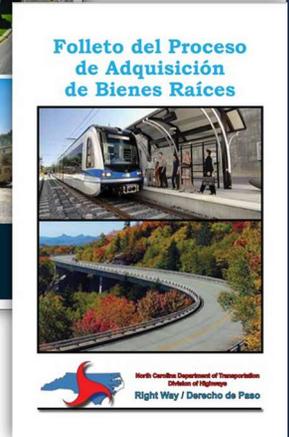
If permanent right-of-way is required, then an appraisal will be completed, and an offer will be made to you based on that appraisal. The appraisal will be a fair market appraisal at the highest and best use of that property at that time.

NCDOT's policy is to:

- Contact affected property owners and conduct property appraisal
- Treat all owners and tenants equally
- Fully explain the owners' rights
- Provide fair market value for property
- Provide relocation advisory assistance

## Relocation Assistance

If your business or residence is to be acquired as part of the project, additional assistance in the form of advice and compensation is available.



## ***Get Involved, Stay Informed***

Public participation and feedback are integral to the project development process. By sharing your ideas and concerns, you can help us identify appropriate transportation solutions in your community.

For more information about this project and to provide feedback, please visit

<https://publicinput.com/15th-Street-Improvements>

Comments may be submitted online, emailed, or mailed to:  
15<sup>th</sup>-Street-Improvements@[publicinput.com](https://publicinput.com)

**Allison McAuliffe, P.E.**  
NCDOT Division 2  
Project Manager  
2815 Rouse Road Extension  
Kinston, NC 28504

**James Byrd, P.E.**  
HNTB  
Consultant Project Manager  
4000 Center at North Hills St. Ste. 500  
Raleigh, NC 27609

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# TITLE VI PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT FORM

Completing this form is **completely** voluntary. You are not required to provide the information requested in order to participate in this meeting.

In accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and related authorities, the N.C. Department of Transportation assures that no person(s) shall be excluded from participation in, denied the benefits of, or subjected to discrimination under any of the Department's programs, policies, or activities, based on their race, color, national origin, disability, age, income, or gender.

**Completing this form helps meet our data collection and public involvement obligations under Title VI and NEPA, and will improve how we serve the public.** Please place the completed form in the designated box on the sign-in table, hand it to an NCDOT official or mail it to the Environmental Analysis Unit, 1598 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1598.

All forms will remain on file at the NCDOT as part of the public record.

<b>Zip Code:</b> _____ <b>Street Name:</b> <i>(i.e. Main Street)</i> _____	<b>Gender:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female <b>Age:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Less than 18 <input type="checkbox"/> 45-64 <input type="checkbox"/> 18-29 <input type="checkbox"/> 65 and older <input type="checkbox"/> 30-44
<b>Total Household Income:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Less than \$12,000 <input type="checkbox"/> \$47,000 – \$69,999 <input type="checkbox"/> \$12,000 – \$19,999 <input type="checkbox"/> \$70,000 – \$93,999 <input type="checkbox"/> \$20,000 – \$30,999 <input type="checkbox"/> \$94,000 – \$117,999 <input type="checkbox"/> \$31,000 – \$46,999 <input type="checkbox"/> \$118,000 or greater	<b>Have a Disability:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>Race/Ethnicity:</b> Select <b>all that apply</b> and enter additional details in the spaces below. <input type="checkbox"/> American Indian or Alaska Native – <i>Enter, for example, Navajo Nation, Blackfeet Tribe of the Blackfeet Indian Reservation of Montana, Native Village of Barrow Inupiat Traditional Government, Nome Eskimo Community, Aztec, Maya, etc.</i> _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Asian – <i>Provide details below.</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Chinese <input type="checkbox"/> Asian Indian <input type="checkbox"/> Filipino <input type="checkbox"/> Vietnamese <input type="checkbox"/> Korean <input type="checkbox"/> Japanese <i>Enter, for example, Pakistani, Hmong, Afghan, etc.</i> _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Black or African American – <i>Provide details below.</i> <input type="checkbox"/> African American <input type="checkbox"/> Jamaican <input type="checkbox"/> Haitian <input type="checkbox"/> Nigerian <input type="checkbox"/> Ethiopian <input type="checkbox"/> Somali <i>Enter, for example, Trinidadian and Tobagonian, Ghanaian, Congolese, etc.</i> _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic or Latino – <i>Provide details below.</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Mexican <input type="checkbox"/> Puerto Rican <input type="checkbox"/> Salvadoran <input type="checkbox"/> Cuban <input type="checkbox"/> Dominican <input type="checkbox"/> Guatemalan <i>Enter, for example, Colombian, Honduran, Spaniard, etc.</i> _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Middle Eastern or North African – <i>Provide details below.</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Lebanese <input type="checkbox"/> Iranian <input type="checkbox"/> Egyptian <input type="checkbox"/> Syrian <input type="checkbox"/> Iraqi <input type="checkbox"/> Israeli <i>Enter, for example, Moroccan, Yemeni, Kurdish, etc.</i> _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander – <i>Provide details below.</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian <input type="checkbox"/> Samoan <input type="checkbox"/> Chamorro <input type="checkbox"/> Tongan <input type="checkbox"/> Fijian <input type="checkbox"/> Marshallese <i>Enter, for example, Chuukese, Palauan, Tahitian, etc.</i> _____ <input type="checkbox"/> White – <i>Provide details below.</i> <input type="checkbox"/> English <input type="checkbox"/> German <input type="checkbox"/> Irish <input type="checkbox"/> Italian <input type="checkbox"/> Polish <input type="checkbox"/> Scottish <i>Enter, for example, French, Swedish, Norwegian, etc.</i> _____	

How did you hear about this meeting? (newspaper advertisement, flyer, and/or mailing) \_\_\_\_\_

For more information regarding Title VI or this request, please contact the NCDOT Title VI Nondiscrimination Program at (919) 508-1808 or toll free at 1-800-522-0453, or by email at [titleVI@ncdot.gov](mailto:titleVI@ncdot.gov). Thank you for your participation!



U-5860  
Attn: Diane Wilson  
NCDOT Environmental Analysis Unit  
1598 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, NC 27699-1598

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<b>Meeting Type:</b> <b>Location:</b>	<b>Date:</b>
<b>TIP No:</b> <b>Project Description:</b>	



# 15th Street Widening and Access Management Project

State Transportation Improvement Program Project No. U-5860

Public Meeting: February 6, 2025

Location: Washington, Beaufort County

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

*(Note – contact information will only be used to provide project updates and respond to comments)*

**Please provide any questions or comments regarding the overall preferred design alternative?**

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**Please provide any questions or comments regarding the proposed left and u-turn locations.**

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**Additional comments or questions can be submitted in the following ways:**

**Project Webpage:** <https://publicinput.com/15th-Street-Improvements>

**Email:** [15th-Street-Improvements@publicinput.com](mailto:15th-Street-Improvements@publicinput.com)

**Phone:** 984-205-6615 code: 10749 to leave a message

**US Mail:** Attn: Diane Wilson  
1598 Mail Service Center Raleigh, NC 27699-1598



Attn: Diane Wilson  
NCDOT Environmental Analysis Unit  
1598 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, NC 27699-1598

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