

COMMENT SHEET

US 321 Improvements

Corridor Public Hearing

R-2237C Project 6.739001T Caldwell and Watauga Counties

August 26, 2002

NAME: Gus and Libby Carpenter

ADDRESS: 773 Globe Road, Blowing Rock, NC 28605

COMMENTS AND/OR QUESTIONS:

Gentlemen;

My family and I have lived in Blowing Rock for eight years and were regular visitors to this town for many years prior to moving here. The town was our choice because it is quiet and away from the traffic and noise of busy towns like Hickory and Boone. We have studied your proposals and believe that to choose any bypass, that is not a true bypass that will serve the area for many years, is very dollar wasting. Is it true that you will need to build 4-A or 4-B eventually, even if you build 1-A or 1-B now?

The thought of road building equipment anywhere near Blowing Rock is revolting. I saw the work progress from Lenoir this way. Think of the mess, the noise, the destruction of things older than your DOT department. If you have ever spent time here you know what we are afraid you will ruin. Remember the beauty of the things you view as you drive into this old town. We do not want you to make an ugly HIGHWAY for others to use while passing through. The only bypass that makes sense is really a "bypass", not 1-A and not 1-B. You must choose one of the other, either 4-A or 4-B.

The real question is, why does the DOT continue to try and force a project on a people who have said NO so many times and so many ways? Who is pushing this? Does someone have something to gain? The Blowing Rock Village Council said NO. The majority of the people say NO. We say NO.

Comments may be mailed to:

C. B. Goode, Jr., P. E.

Manager of the Office of Human Environment

1583 Mail Service Center

Raleigh, NC 27699-1599 Phone: (919) 250-4092 Fax: (919) 250-4208

E-mail: cgoode@dot.state.nc.us

B-51

CITIZEN
RECEIVED

SEP 16 2002

COMMENT SHEET

Corridor Public Hearing

R-2237C Project 6.739001T Caldwell and Watauga Counties

August 26, 2002

NAME: DEB FOLLO CAUGHTRON

ADDRESS: 414 WOODBERRY STA WOODBERRY FOREST VA

COMMENTS AND/OR QUESTIONS: Station 22989

I lived in the Linville/Boone/Blowing Rock area from 1978 to 1994, and continue to travel to NC for vacations on a regular basis. What brought me to this area initially was the environment—the great natural resources and farmland of western North Carolina.

I have learned that the proposed bypass around Blowing Rock will destroy 93 acres of farmland, wetlands and wildlife habitat. I prefer our natural habitat over convenience, and am OPPOSED to Bypass Alternative 4 A/B.

Comments may be mailed to:

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Manager of the Office of Human Environment

1583 Mail Service Center

Raleigh, NC 27699-1599 Phone: (919) 250-4092 Fax: (919) 250-4208

E-mail: cgoode@dot.state.nc.us

1716 Westhaven Drive
Raleigh, North Carolina 27607

August 21, 2002

Mr. Lyndo Tippet
Secretary of Transportation
NCDOT
P.O. Box 25201
Raleigh, North Carolina 27611-5201

Dear Mr. Tippet,

This is to comment on the proposed widening of highway U.S. 321 from Blackberry Road north to the other side of Blowing Rock. Based on your department's video produced on this project over three years ago, and with your recent Environmental Impact Statement, it is evident that your department's efforts to design and evaluate the various alternatives have been both exhaustive and sensitive to the residents of the area. As a homeowner in Blackberry Valley, we were surprised and alarmed at the enormous cost and environmental impacts of the various alternatives to the widening of U.S. 321. The computer generated visual maps greatly helped in understanding the nature and consequences of each alternative.

We agree with your department's earlier recommendation by then Secretary Norris Tolson of the enhanced widening of U.S. 321 along its current location. Not only is this the least expensive proposal (by several million dollars, even with the enhanced version); by using the current location, it greatly minimizes the disruption of residential areas and the environment. Additionally, the enhanced features will very much improve the appearance and ease of access of the current routing of the highway through Blowing Rock. Finally, the proposal's plan to avoid bypassing traffic to downtown Blowing Rock during construction is testimony to the thought given to this design.

Unfortunately, in recent months this proposal has been the object of an intense campaign to distort and mislead the citizens of Blowing Rock, Watauga County and of North Carolina in general. A decision that should be based on the project's minimal residential impact, its economic cost and its environmental impact, is instead being pressured by an effort that is unable to confront the facts truthfully.

Your staff is to be commended for their patience in evaluating a very sensitive and complex project. They have combined technical analysis with consideration of residents' concerns to produce the most economical and technically feasible plan for widening U.S. 321. We appreciate this opportunity to comment on the proposal.

Sincerely yours,

Norman E. Childs

Virginia W. Childs

September 18, 2002

Mr. Carl Goode, P.E.
Manager of the Office of Human Environment
1583 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, N. C. 27699-1583

CITIZENS PARTIAL
RECEIVED

SEP 30 2002

Mr. Steven Lund
Department of the Army
Wilmington District, Corps of Engineers
Post office Box 1890
Wilmington, North Carolina 28402-1890

Dear Gentlemen:

It is, indeed, difficult for me to believe that your engineers would omit several million dollars worth of residential real estate from your "Widening Alternative" map but it seems to be true, unless I'm just misinformed (which is quite possible). Across the highway from Ichabod's restaurant, your map indicates nothing but a pond, presumably because your engineers relied on old FEMA maps. In reality, there now exists eight New River Falls townhomes (complete with a privacy wall) located on Clary Court, a street which, according to your "Widening Alternative," doesn't exist. There are also ten homes in the gated community of New River Lake Estates, which, according to your map, don't exist. The owners of New River Falls and New River Lake Estates jointly use New River Lake Drive to access Highway 321. Thus, my question should seem pretty obvious:

How will you gentlemen defend a "Widening Alternative" plan (or any of your work, for that matter) that, among its errors, "overlooked" an entire street and two potentially-affected neighborhoods with close to twenty residential homes which have adjoined Highway 321 for several years??? You've presumably made no allowance for these residents' access to the southbound lanes of Highway 321 in your median design, no budgeting allowance for different privacy walls which may become necessary, if the existing wall is claimed by the road (or increased noise) and no allowance for the potential of additional eminent domain expenditures. It's also probable that you've made no allowance for the fact that these residents will be measurably and immeasurably affected by the sleepless nights of four "construction seasons," as recently evidenced by the screaming voices and roaring dump trucks of the overnight in-town paving of Highway 321 (Gosh, I wonder if human habitats can be protected under the Endangered Species Act???). Indeed, I think that the real costs of your "Widening Alternative" are going to increase.

Given the fact that, in developing New River Falls, my engineers and I worked very closely with the Department of Transportation and the Army Corps of Engineers in securing permits and designing the project, I hope that I'm mistaken about what seems to be an omission and may be assured that, with all of the human endeavor that has gone

into the development of these alternatives and maps, somebody....surely, somebody....in your department(s) noticed us along the way.

Warmest regards,

Spencer Clary

Spencer Clary
P. O. Box 1828
Blowing Rock, N.C. 28605
(828)295-0654 (home)
(828)268-4631 (mobile)
e-mail: sclary71@hotmail.com

P.S. The idea of bringing that 88% of the traffic that isn't bound for Blowing Rock through our quaint village seems bureaucratic to an extreme and woefully short-sighted. We are "environment," too, and unmoved by your "objective" comparison of the alternatives.

cc Concerned Citizens of Blowing Rock, Inc.

COMMENT SHEET

US 321 Improvements

Corridor Public Hearing

R-2237C

Project 6.739001T

Caldwell and Watauga Counties

August 26, 2002

NAME:

Charles Coffey

ADDRESS:

408 Thunder Mt. Rd Blowing Rock N

COMMENTS AND/OR QUESTIONS:

I Build Custom Houses for a living and the ONLY Reason that the Blue Ridge Escarpment Below Green Hill Rd is not covered in Houses is because it's so steep. ANY place with a view in Watauga Co. is prime real estate and if it doesn't have houses then it must ~~have~~ be a cliff. To build a road along here is insane

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US 321 Improvements

Corridor Public Hearing

R-2237C

Project 6.739001T

Caldwell and Watauga Counties

August 26, 2002

NAME: CHARLES COFFEY
ADDRESS: 408 THUNDER MT RD. BEAVER ROCK

COMMENTS AND/OR QUESTIONS:

B-54
THANK YOU FOR A THOROUGH PRESENTATION
OF ALL THE INFORMATION. MY OPINION —
THE SAME AS 98% OF ALL THE PEOPLE I'VE
TOLD THAT THE DOT WAS STUDYING THE
POSSIBILITY OF A TUNNEL UNDER THE PARKWAY
NEAR THUNDER HILL OVERLOOK, " THAT'S
TOTALLY RIDICULOUS. THERE'S NO WAY THEY
WILL DO THAT. " PLEASE BE REASONABLE
THANKS.

Comments may be mailed to:
C. B. Goode, Jr., P. E.
Manager of the Office of Human Environment
1583 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-1599 Phone: (919) 250-4092 Fax: (919) 250-4208
E-mail: cgoode@dot.state.nc.us



R. Kelly Coffey
1757 Aho Road
Boone, North Carolina 28607

17, 2002

Sept.

I realize ^{it} you do not accept petitions, but
the enclosed document is not a petition per se.
Knowing that many in the community have
neither the time nor the ability to write a letter
adequately expressing their feelings, I took it upon
myself to write the letter for them. As you can
see, many agreed that the letter spoke for them.
The final statement explains that the letter was
not circulated in a petition-like manner. Please
accept the document as a letter.

Kelly Coffey

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION
RECEIVED
Oct 24 2002

North Carolina Board of Transportation
1583 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699

August 5, 2002

Board Members:

After several years of debate concerning the widening of Hwy 321, there is little left to say about the merits of widening the existing road as opposed to any alternative. By any objective measure, the recently released EIS confirms that widening the existing road is best for all concerned parties, including Blowing Rock. Therefore, the purpose of this letter is not to rehash the same arguments. We realize that public decisions are not always based on the merits of a particular position, but often based on the tactics and maneuverings of special interest groups. Consequently, the purpose of this letter is to point out that the opposition to DOT's plans to widen 321 has been purposely exaggerated.

Concerned Citizens of Blowing Rock has skillfully utilized clever tactics and marketing principles in order to make public opposition to the project appear more formidable than it really is. They have inflated their ranks by insinuating various horrors that are blatantly untrue. For example, a rumor frequently brought up is that when the widening construction begins, traffic will be diverted onto Main Street. Even though DOT denies such a plan, the rumor remains.

In interviews with large regional newspapers, Concerned Citizens representatives often do not make a distinction between Main Street (321) and 321 Bypass. This "oversight" and statements using the phrase "through the middle of town" purposely insinuate that Main Street itself will be widened. This is obviously an alarm tactic designed to draw sympathy from residents across the state who are not familiar enough with the area to distinguish between 321 and 321 Bypass.

Inhabitants of resort areas are notorious for having a gated-community attitude, characterized by a narrow perspective, pettiness, and selfishness. Those with this mentality try to create their own little world and shield it from the influence of those not privileged enough to share it. Rather than compromise and try to mitigate any potential negative influence, they demand that everyone bow to their desires, no matter how preposterous. The notion that millions of North Carolina (& United States) taxpayers should foot the enormous bill for an alternate route in order to appease a handful of privileged resort residents is ludicrous. This is not to say that everyone in Blowing Rock has such an attitude, indeed many town citizens- especially the merchants- support DOT's original plans. But they have been drowned out and, we suspect, bullied into silence by the overwhelming propaganda of the town's self-appointed spokesmen.

No one argues against the desire to maintain Blowing Rock's character. In too many situations, road-building decisions have taken precedent over every other issue, to the detriment of communities across the nation. But it should be obvious to anyone with even passing knowledge of Hwy 321 that the issue is not about preserving Blowing Rock's character. The recently-named historic district is only marginally significant, which should

be obvious from the fact that it was not considered important until widening was proposed. Much of the existing route is through an area characterized mostly by vacant lots and chain retail businesses. Indeed, the widening of the road with the proposed enhancements will actually improve the area and add to the character of the town.

Concerned Citizens, in response to opposition from the Aho, Blackberry, and Green Hill communities, has tried to characterize us as "neighborhood groups" with a NIMBY attitude. The irony is that Concerned Citizens itself has exhibited the most blatant NIMBY attitude possible. They have been emphatic that the only acceptable alternate routes are those that completely bypass Blowing Rock. They accuse DOT of having no concern for local communities when making road decisions, while being guilty of the same attitude in trying to route a bypass through any community except Blowing Rock. They have shown no concern for the amount of tax dollars needed for such routes, and are even willing to risk the Blue Ridge Parkway-a resource of national significance- as long as their backyard remains untouched. In short, our opposition to any alternate route can hardly be characterized as looking out for our own interests, in light of the extremely narrow, selfish mindset of Concerned Citizens.

We're confident that DOT is familiar with the dynamics of controversial public issues, and that you are able to see the reality behind the false images presented by Concerned Citizens. Opposition groups often have the upper hand because they are able to appeal to people's emotions (a citizen's group fighting big government, etc.). While the general public would agree that widening 321 is to be preferred over an alternate route, being for a road-widening project is not something that most people get passionate about. The public is generally complacent on most issues, trusting that the right decisions will be made for the right reasons. With this particular issue, few individuals and groups have expressed concern about an alternate route primarily because most people are sure that DOT will choose to widen the road rather than reroute it. The proposed alternatives are so expensive, so environmentally damaging, and so absurd- especially when compared to widening the existing road- that the inhabitants of the world outside Blowing Rock are unable to fathom the thought that DOT would even seriously consider the alternatives.

Like many resort communities, Blowing Rock has a significant population with the time, wealth, education, and experience to organize and orchestrate a campaign on any issue they perceive to be important to them. The surrounding rural communities are not as fortunate, being populated with working-class people who do not have the means nor the leisure to become intensely involved in public issues, real or perceived. You must ensure that your decision is based on reality; not on a scenario created, exaggerated, and promoted by a group with very narrow interests. As government leaders and decision-makers, you have responsibility to all citizens, not just those with resources to demand your attention.

(Please note that no attempt was made to widely circulate this letter in order to get as many signatures as possible. As stated above, this issue is not about which group can generate the most noise. It is about doing what is best for the state and the nation.)

PO 1304 1788 - B. R., N.C.

Mr & Mrs Robert R Coffey
P.O. Box 1814 Blowing Rock, N.C. 28605

Jenny Coffey

KENT GRATHAM
144 LOGAN LN.
Blowing Rock, NC 28605

Ramie Earl
1436 Friendship Ch. Rd
Boone W.C. 28607

Robert & Gail Coffey
757 Aho Rd
Boone, NC 28607

Keith & Lindel Perry
1759 Aho Rd
Boone, NC. 28607

Leigh Ann Perry
759 Aho Road
Boone, N.C. 28607

Nathan K. Perry
759 AHO Rd.
Boone NC 28607

Herbert H. Harmon
P.O. Box 1829
Blowing Rock

Kevin Miller
1/2 Dale St
Boone, NC
Mark & Ann Cook
1783 Aho Rd
Boone NC 28607

James & Sheila
Doris Miller
118 Aho Rd
Blowing Rock, NC

Shelby Miller
1781 Aho Rd.
Boone, NC 28607

Coy Miller
1781 AHO Rd
Boone N.C. 28607

William E and Ruby Miller
225 Hodges Miller Rd.
Blowing Rock, N.C. 28605

Buck & Barbara Parker
P.O. Box 2198 (Oak Ridge Dr)
Boone, N.C., 28607

Harold Greene
Box 1282
Blowing Rock NC 28605

Kemp and Linda Steen
PO Box 1412, 315 Green Hill Woods
Blowing Rock, NC 28605

Melba S. Watson
1811 Aho Rd.
Boone, NC 28607

Earlie and Lena Storie
811 Aho Rd.
Boone, NC 28607

RECEIVED
SEP 18 2002

Sept. 13, 2002
P.O. Box 277
Davidson, NC 28036

Dear Mr. Hoode,

The proposed construction of U.S. Highway 321 by-pass around Blowing Rock through the Thunder Mountain family farm disturbs me mightly. Four generations of the Coffey family have resisted selling it to developers for a lot of money. Instead we chose to leave the mountains as they are in order that we could enjoy and appreciate a place of magnificent beauty and serenity and provide the same for the many people driving along the Blue Ridge Parkway, many of whom stop and meditate before the mountain views or cross the parkway and stroll, fly kites or just sit in the grass - things that cannot be duplicated. Many wild plants grace the hills as do wild animals such as deer and flocks of wild turkey. This is the first of many reasons we do not want a 4 lane highway going through the middle of such beauty.

In the second place, the project alternatives 4A and 4B will cost taxpayers close to a quarter of a billion dollars, 5 times more than the widening alternative where much of the right-of-way has already been acquired.

In the third place, the damage to the environment on alternative routes 4A and 4B is much much greater and who wants that!

For these and other reasons I urge you to please make the sensible choice and widen the bypass where it already is.

1. James & Sharon Thacker
427 Hodges Miller R.D.
Blowing Rock N.C. 28605

2. Reta Miller
433 Hodges Miller
Blowing Rock, NC 28605

3. Bonnie Eggers
116 Hodges + Miller Rd.
Blowing Rock NC 28605

4. Marie Cook
152 Hodges Miller Rd.
Blowing Rock, N.C. 28605

5. Bruce & Kerensa Canton
389 Hodges Miller Road
Blowing Rock, NC 28605

6. Sammie & Jan Taylor
427 Hodges Miller Rd.
Blowing Rock, N.C. 28605

7. Lester & Ruby Bolick
387 Hodges Miller Rd.
Blowing Rock, N.C. 28605

Sam and Janie Watson
349 RC Cook Road
Blowing Rock, N.C. 28605

8. David Eggers
155 RC Cook Road
Blowing Rock N.C. 28605

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

RECEIVED

SEP 24 2002

1481 Wyngate Drive
DeLand, FL 32724
September 18, 2002

Before closing, I would like to share two very unique things about this family farm. One is the 200 year old log cabin that was taken apart in Wilkes County and reconstructed on the Thunder Mountain Farm

Three years ago the family learned that it was regionally constructed by one of the early Coffey ancestors.

The other is that three of the homes on the farm receive their total water supply from two springs at the top of the hill without the need of an electric pump and that includes an upstairs bath! Have you heard of another such situation?

Thank you for listening and for all your work on the highway.

Sincerely,
Ruth Coffey

P.S. At least I hope the springs can be saved, but I assume this route will not be chosen!

Mr. Carl Goode
Office of Human Environment
NCDOT
1583 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-1583

Dear Mr. Goode,

I am a former resident of the Aho Community between Boone and Blowing Rock and hope to return there as soon as my employment allows. I have been hearing for some time about the possibility that there may be a bypass built around the city of Blowing Rock. I assumed this would not happen since the cost of building a new unnecessary road versus widening the current highway would be prohibitive (\$46 million versus up to \$250 million with Bypass Alternative 4B). Now it seems as if this might be a real possibility.

From an economic perspective, it would be a blatant misuse of DOT highway resources to build the new highway, including a tunnel under the Blue Ridge Parkway. I realize this is being considered because a few powerful citizens are pushing for it because they think it will help slow growth in Blowing Rock, but this is a foolish misconception. It will hurt businesses in the area, but it will not help control growth in Blowing Rock. The widening of the existing Highway 321 will resolve any safety and traffic issues without wasting tax money on an unnecessary project. Let's face it, this highway will be widened in a few years anyway.

The beauty of the Blue Ridge Parkway and the undisturbed view from the Thunder Hill overlook will be permanently ruined and I firmly believe that people from all over the country, and particularly citizens of North Carolina, would be disturbed if they knew this project is being considered. However, I have noticed that especially the local people enjoy this area like a park, going there for picnics and to "get away from it all" for a quiet moment. This is the type of area that has made the Parkway and even the town of Blowing Rock famous.

My family owns a farm between Aho Road and the Blue Ridge Parkway that will be split in half if the Alternatives 4A or 4B go through and I strongly oppose this option. Passing by a 200 year old log cabin and a spring that begins a stream at the foot of Thunder Hill, the highway would destroy one of the last remaining undisturbed large tracts of land in this area. This would be a sad legacy considering the dramatically less expensive and sensible option of widening Highway 321 where it already is. Thank you for considering my opinion and I hope you will consider the opinions of the thousands of others that enjoy this area, but are unaware of this plan.

Sincerely,
Steve Coffey

COMMENT SHEET

US 32 Improvements

Corridor Public Hearing

R-2237C

Project 6.739001T

Caldwell and Watauga Counties

August 26, 2002

NAME:

Lynn Coulthard

ADDRESS:

PO Box 2710 (212 Henkel St.)

COMMENTS AND/OR QUESTIONS:

Who is it that wants this "by-pass"? Certainly not the residents of Bk. So, why is it being pushed down our throats? Blowing Rock is already a victim of noise from 321 even now. You can hear truck + other vehicular noise from anywhere in Bk. Imagine the magnification of that noise with a 4 lane-

Why not take this highway through a flat parcel of land in Lenoir + connect it to 421 which is being four laned?

Our resources can't handle more development so we really don't need more exposure -

I'm against new highways anyway because they disrupt the natural flow of the environment; destruction of animal habitat; contribution to global warming; disruption of families caught in the highway; noise pollution.

Comments may be mailed to:

C. B. Goode, Jr., P. E.

Manager of the Office of Human Environment

1583 Mail Service Center

Raleigh, NC 27699-1599 Phone: (919) 250-4092 Fax: (919) 250-4208

E-mail: cgoode@dot.state.nc.us

Improvements to be considered: bike lanes on 321 + sidewalks from the intersection at 321 + Sunset to the

COMMENT SHEET

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R-2237C

Project 6.739001T

Caldwell and Watauga Counties

August 26, 2002

NAME:

Ches L. Craig

ADDRESS:

821 Waverly Blvd. P.O.

COMMENTS AND/OR QUESTIONS:

Blowing Rock N.C.

Widen 321 only

Comments may be mailed to:

C. B. Goode, Jr., P. E.

Manager of the Office of Human Environment

1583 Mail Service Center

Raleigh, NC 27699-1599 Phone: (919) 250-4092 Fax: (919) 250-4208

E-mail: cgoode@dot.state.nc.us

Subject: Fwd: Highway 321 Project
Date: Mon, 26 Aug 2002 12:54:22 EDT
From: MKCJCG@aol.com
To: cgoode@dot.state.nc.us

Subject: Highway 321 Project
Date: Mon, 26 Aug 2002 12:49:38 EDT
From: MKCJCG@aol.com
To: cgoode@state.nc.us

Dear Mr. Goode,

I am sending this urgent email in response to the highway 321 project of widening or a possible bypass. I was born and raised in Blowing Rock and all of my family still live there. I frequently travel up the mountain from Statesville to visit them and would hate to see the environment and natural habitat destroyed with a bypass. I believe the project should continue on the current bypass and not do additional damage to the area with more major highways and building. The current 321 bypass is the 2nd one built by the state as it is, the first being Ransom Street. I can't believe the state is revisiting this with a possible 3rd bypass for the same area! Don't waste our tax dollars!

I would also have to state that the widening could not possibly harm the preservation of the so called historical Green Park Inn because this Inn does not look anything like it did 30 years ago. How it can remain on the Historical Registry with vinyl siding, renovations and destruction of some of the old cottages that used to exist is beyond me! I believe the damage to the environment with pollutants and noise in an area remote from the existing bypass would be detrimental to the community.

Do you realize the bypass alternative listed going through Green Hill and across Wonderland Drive would go within 80 feet of a house that is over 150 years old? Now, it could be considered historic! I would also have to argue that the state of North Carolina's tax dollars would not be spent wisely by spending all of this extra money that would be more damaging than staying the course of the existing highway. All of the financial and environmental elements can only lead to one conclusion, widen the existing highway 321.

Sincerely,
Cynthia Craig Greer
180 Robinhood Loop
Statesville, NC 28625

and formerly of the home of James Craig 821 Wonderland Dr Blowing Rock 28605

Page 1 of 1

Scales, Regie

From: ASPCJC@aol.com
Sent: Monday, August 26, 2002 12:18 PM
To: ScalesR@pbworld.com

Subject: Highway 321 Bypass

I am sending this email in response to the various bypass alternatives presented for highway 321 through Blowing Rock. I was born and raised in Blowing Rock and all of my family still reside in Blowing Rock. Therefore, I make many frequent trips up the mountain from Statesville. I believe the "widening" project should continue on the existing bypass now. The current 321 bypass is the 2nd one that was built, Ransom Street being the 1st bypass. I could not see this bypass hurting the "historical significance" of the Green Park Inn as the Green Park Inn does not look anything like it did even 30 years ago. How this inn has remained in the Historical Association is beyond me with vinyl siding among other things. By considering any of the other options you are endangering more natural habitat with noise and pollution. The alternative going through Green Hill and across Wonderland Drive will come within 80 feet of a house that is over 150 years old! This would be such a misuse of our tax dollars at the very least having to buy up all of the million dollar homes that have just been built and then all of the recently build homes that will have their property values negatively affected. Staying the course on the existing highway is the only prudent, cost effective and the most environmentally healthy way to widen the road.

Cynthia Craig Greer
180 Robinhood Loop
Statesville, NC 28625
and formerly of the home of James Craig 821 Wonderland Dr Blowing Rock, NC 28605