



**NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

McLeansville Road Grade Separation over the
North Carolina Railroad (NCRR)

WBS Number 52400.1.STR02T2
TIP PROJECT P-5204

Guilford County

Design Public Hearing

4:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Mt. Pleasant United Methodist Church
Fellowship Hall
5120 Burlington Road
Greensboro, NC 27405

Thursday, June 13, 2013

PURPOSE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Today's hearing is another important step in the North Carolina Department of Transportation's (NCDOT) procedure for making you, the public, a part of the project development process. The purpose of the hearing is to obtain public input on the design of the project.

Planning and environmental studies on the highway project are provided in the planning and environmental document – Environmental Assessment (EA). Copies of that report together with today's hearing maps are available for public review at the following locations:

- NCDOT Highway Division 7 Office located at 1584 Yanceyville Street, Greensboro
- City of Greensboro – Transportation Department, 300 West Washington Street, Room 321, Greensboro

The map is also available online at:

<http://www.ncdot.gov/projects/publicmeetings/>

YOUR PARTICIPATION

Now that the opportunity is here, you are encouraged to participate by making your comments and/or questions a part of the public record. This may be done by writing them on the attached comment sheet. Several representatives of the North Carolina Department of Transportation are present. They will be happy to talk with you, explain the design to you and answer your questions. You may write your comments or questions on the comment sheet and leave it with one of the representatives or mail or email them by June 28, 2013 to the following address:

Mr. Jamille Robbins
NCDOT - Human Environment Section
1598 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-1598
Email: jarobbins@ncdot.gov

Everyone present is urged to participate in the proceedings. It is important, however, that **THE OPINIONS OF ALL INDIVIDUALS BE RESPECTED REGARDLESS OF HOW DIVERGENT THEY MAY BE FROM YOUR OWN.** Accordingly, debates, as such, are out of place at workshops. Also, the workshop is not to be used as a **POPULAR REFERENDUM** to determine the location and/or design by a majority vote of those present.

WHAT IS DONE WITH THE INPUT?

A post-workshop meeting will be conducted after the comment period has ended. NCDOT staff representing Planning, Design, Traffic Operations, Division, Right of Way, Public Involvement & Community Studies and others who play a role in the development of a project will attend this meeting. The project also will be reviewed with federal agencies such as the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) and the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), as well as state agencies such as the NC Department of Environment and Natural Resources. When appropriate, local government staff will attend.

All spoken and written issues are discussed at the post-hearing meeting. Most issues are resolved at the post-hearing meeting. The NCDOT considers safety, costs, traffic service, social impacts, and public comments in making decisions. Complex issues may require additional study and may be reviewed by higher management, Board of Transportation Members, and/or the Secretary of Transportation.

Minutes of the post-hearing meeting will be summarized and are available to the public by noting your request on the attached comment sheet.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT

Comments received from the hearing about the design of the proposed McLeansville Road Grade Separation Project will be reviewed at the post-hearing meeting and incorporated, where feasible, into the design plans for the project. The design plans will also be refined, including efforts to further reduce impacts to the human and natural environment. The project will then proceed to the right of way acquisition phase upon approval of the final environmental document.

STATE-FEDERAL RELATIONSHIP

This proposed Project may involve the use of Federal funds, and thus will be considered a Federal-Aid Project. Financing of this Project may come from Federal funds, including the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). The Board of Transportation is responsible for the selection and scheduling of projects, their location, design, and maintenance cost after construction.

PURPOSE AND NEED OF PROJECT

The purpose of the Project is to improve vehicular mobility and safety and the efficiency of train traffic in the area around the McLeansville Road at-grade crossing of the North Carolina Railroad (NCRR) in Guilford County, North Carolina.

The McLeansville Road and Carmon Road at-grade crossings, and the Bullard and Black private at-grade crossing, cross both a main line track and a siding track. Trains waiting on the siding have the potential to block these at-grade crossings while other

trains pass on the main line; or train crews must disconnect the train cars stored on the siding into two sections, with one section on either side of the road crossings. Both of these options result in undesirable operating conditions for both trains and vehicular traffic.

At present, traffic along McLeansville Road and Carmon Road traveling through the at-grade railroad crossing must stop for passing trains and trains parked on the siding tracks. Typically, six passenger trains per day and 5-10 freight trains per day cross McLeansville Road. In addition, sometimes trains on the siding track can block the crossing for up to an hour. These operations contribute to vehicular delays and have a negative effect on traffic flow.

The proposed Project is a component of the Piedmont Improvement Program (PIP), which is an initiative by the NCDOT, the Norfolk Southern Railway (NS) and NCRR to improve passenger and freight railroad operations along the NCRR Piedmont Corridor from Raleigh to Charlotte. The PIP primarily consists of railroad capacity projects and crossing safety projects that will facilitate the introduction of up to six daily round trip (12 daily) passenger trains along the Raleigh to Charlotte Piedmont Corridor.

The proposed Project also is along the Preferred Alternative for the Southeast High Speed Rail Corridor (SEHSR). This corridor connects the northeastern states and Washington, DC through Richmond, Virginia to Raleigh and Charlotte, N.C. to Atlanta, GA. In Atlanta, the SEHSR extends southeast to Savannah, GA and Jacksonville, FL; and the Gulf Coast High Speed Rail corridor. Ultimately, the proposed Project will benefit the infrastructure for high-speed rail in the state of North Carolina. In the more immediate future, the proposed Project would enhance the efficiency and safety of both passenger and freight train movements.

The proposed Project is consistent with the Long Range Transportation Plans for the local municipalities within the study area. Local governments within the Greensboro Urban Area Metropolitan Planning Organization, as well as NCDOT, have adopted this plan.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Preferred Alternative for the Project includes the following:

- Replace the at-grade rail crossing at McLeansville Road with a grade-separated crossing approximately 120 feet to the west of the existing crossing, increasing safety by eliminating train-vehicle conflicts and reducing train horn noise. This also will improve mobility for vehicles by removing the need to stop for passing trains and trains parked on the rail siding.
- Close two other at-grade rail crossings: a public crossing at Carmon Road to the east and the Bullard and Black private crossing located between the McLeansville Road and Carmon Road railroad crossings for safety reasons. These closures also will reduce train horn noise.

- As a consequence of constructing a grade separation at McLeansville Road, realign Bethel Church Road to reconnect to McLeansville Road approximately 350 feet south due to grade and sight distance considerations. In addition, construct a short extension of Hines Andrews Road to reconnect to the realigned Bethel Church Road. The north end of existing Bethel Church Road will be a cul-de-sac.
- Provide a new service road access from Hines Andrews Road to the two residences that are currently accessed from Frieden Church Road via the Bullard and Black private railroad crossing.

PROJECT INFORMATION

Length: *Street/Roadway* ~ 0.67 miles

Right of Way: Approximately 120 feet. 2-lane shoulder section with ditches.

Access Control: None. Driveways can be connected to the roadway.

Relocates: Three residential relocations and one business relocation.

Project Cost: \$7,067,200

Current

Schedule: The *tentative* schedule is shown below. A number of factors can affect a project schedule, so schedules are subject to change.

Right of Way Acquisition – September 2013

Construction – Fall 2014

Completion – 2016

Map 1(attached) shows the location of the Project.

At today's Design Public Hearing are boards with the Project Hearing Map showing the proposed design, roadway typical sections, and proposed construction detour routes.

RIGHT-OF-WAY PROCEDURES

After decisions are made regarding the final design, the proposed right-of-way limits will be staked in the ground. If you are an affected property owner, a Right-of-Way Agent will contact you and arrange a meeting. The agent will explain the plans and advise you as to how the project will affect you. The agent will inform you of your rights as a property owner. If permanent right of way is required, professionals who are familiar with real estate values will evaluate or appraise your property. The evaluations or appraisals will be reviewed for completeness and accuracy, and then the Right-of-Way Agent will make a written offer to you. The current market value of the property at its highest and best use when appraised will be offered as compensation. The Department of Transportation must:

1. Treat all owners and tenants equally.
2. Fully explain the owner's rights.
3. Pay just compensation in exchange for property rights.
4. Furnish relocation advisory assistance.

RELOCATION ASSISTANCE

If you are a relocatee, that is, if your residence or business is to be acquired as part of the project, additional assistance in the form of advice and compensation is available. You will also be provided with assistance on locations of comparable housing and/or commercial establishments, moving procedures, and moving aid. Moving expenses may be paid for you. Additional monetary compensation is available to help homeowners cope with mortgage increases, increased value of comparable homes, closing costs, etc. A similar program is available to assist business owners. The Right-of-Way Agent can explain this assistance in greater detail.

NOTE: PAMPHLETS SUMMARIZING RIGHT OF WAY AND RELOCATION PROCEDURES ARE AVAILABLE AT THE SIGN-IN TABLE.

Legend

- Project Study Area
- Proposed Alt A Centerline
- Proposed Alt A Bridge
- Proposed Alt A Right of Way
- Notable Features
- Church
- Fire Station
- School
- Railroad
- Delineated Streams
- Delineated Wetlands
- Delineated Open Water
- Streams
- Ponds
- Voluntary Agricultural District
- Parcels
- Existing At-Grade Railroad Crossing to be Closed
- At-Grade Railroad Crossing Remains Open

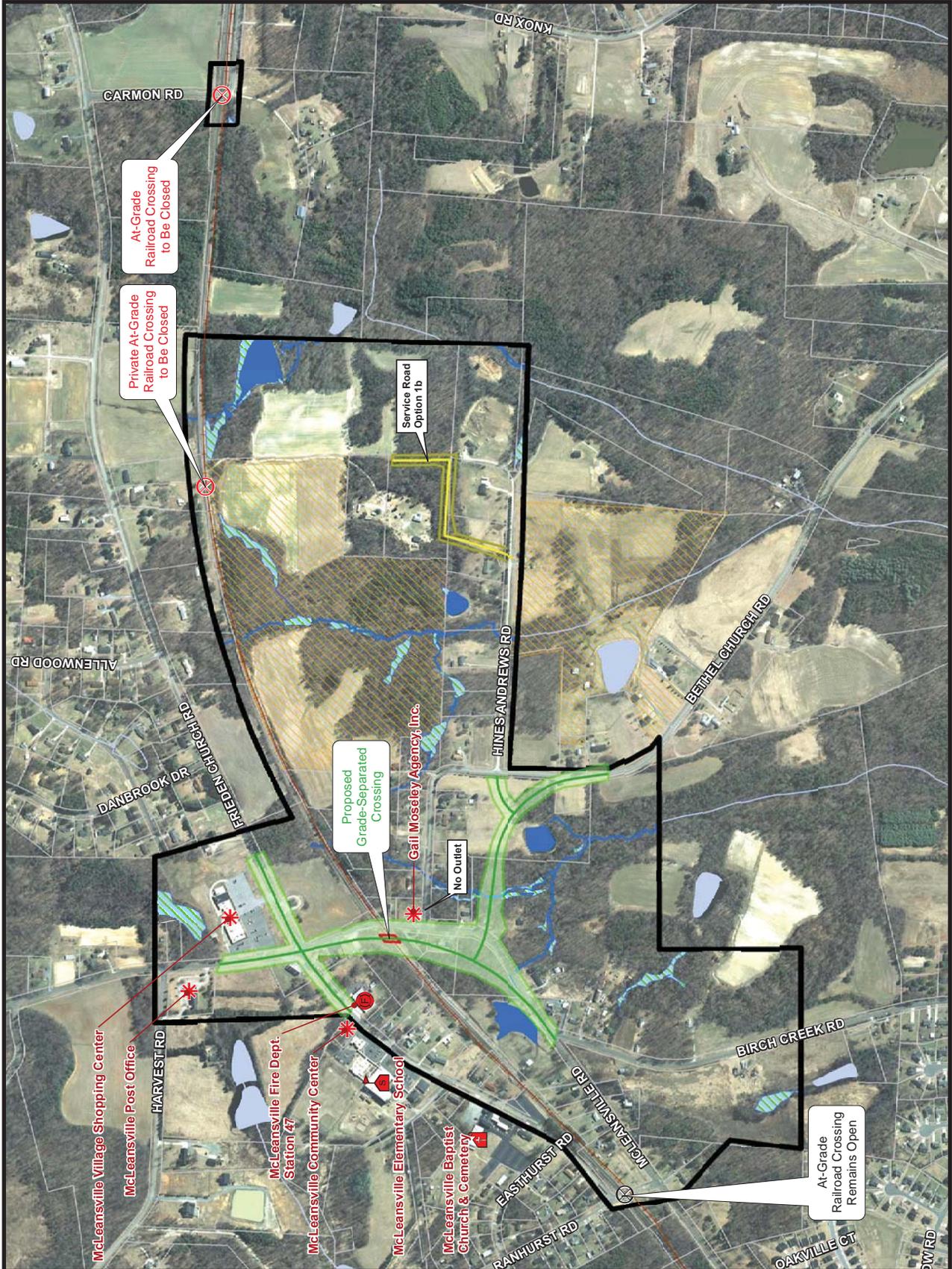
Source: Guilford County, NCOmap
 Aerial Photo: ArcGIS Image Service
 2010 - Orthimagery
 Map Printed January 2013



STIP Project No. P-5204
 Guilford County, NC

McLEANSVILLE ROAD SR-2819
 GRADE SEPARATION

**PREFERRED
 ALTERNATIVE**



At-Grade Railroad Crossing to Be Closed

Private At-Grade Railroad Crossing to Be Closed

Service Road Option 1b

Proposed Grade-Separated Crossing

No Outlet

At-Grade Railroad Crossing Remains Open

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.

Meeting Type: Design Public Hearing	Date: June 13, 2013
Location: McLeansville, Guilford County	
TIP No.: P-5204	
Project Description: McLeansville Road Grade Separation over NCRR Railroad	

In accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and related authorities, the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) 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 PDEA-Human Environment Section, 1598 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1598.

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

Zip Code: _____	Gender: <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female
Street Name: (i.e. Main Street) _____	Age: <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
Total Household Income: <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	Have a Disability: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Race/Ethnicity: <input type="checkbox"/> White <input type="checkbox"/> Black/African American <input type="checkbox"/> Asian <input type="checkbox"/> American Indian/Alaskan Native <input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic/Latino <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): _____	National Origin: (if born outside the U.S.) <input type="checkbox"/> Mexican <input type="checkbox"/> Central American: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> South American: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Puerto Rican <input type="checkbox"/> Chinese <input type="checkbox"/> Vietnamese <input type="checkbox"/> Korean <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): _____

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 Section at (919) 508-1830 or toll free at 1-800-522-0453, or by email at slipscomb@ncdot.gov.

Thank you for your participation!



**NCDOT - PDEA
Human Environment Section
1598 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-1598**

COMMENT SHEET

McLeansville Road Grade Separation Over the North Carolina Railroad

Design Public Hearing – June 13, 2013

TIP Project No. P-5204

Guilford County

NAME:

ADDRESS:

EMAIL ADDRESS:

COMMENTS AND/OR QUESTIONS:

Comments may be mailed by June 28, 2013 to:

Mr. Jamille Robbins, Public Involvement Group Leader
NCDOT - Human Environment Section
1598 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-1598
Phone: 919.707.6085 FAX: 919.212.5785
Email: jarobbins@ncdot.gov

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