

# I-440 Improvement Project Walnut to Wade



Public Meeting - November 12, 2014

WELCOME to the second public meeting for the I-440 Improvements Project. The I-440 Improvement Project will improve traffic flow and enhance mobility on I-440 between south of Walnut Street in Cary and north of Wade Avenue in Raleigh.

The purpose of tonight's meeting is to present the alternatives that are recommended for detailed study and gather your input on those recommendations.

At the first public meeting in December 2012, we gathered input on the need for the project and important community resources in the project area.

Since then, NCDOT has been developing and screening alternative concepts for the I-440 mainline, five interchanges, and two grade separations in the project study area (see map on the back of this handout).

Each alternative will:

- Widen the main travel lanes of I-440 from 4 lanes to 6 lanes to match the rest of the Beltline.
- Widen and pave inside and outside shoulders.
- Upgrade interchanges, replace bridges, and rehabilitate pavement.
- Evaluate cross streets for sidewalk and bicycle accommodations.

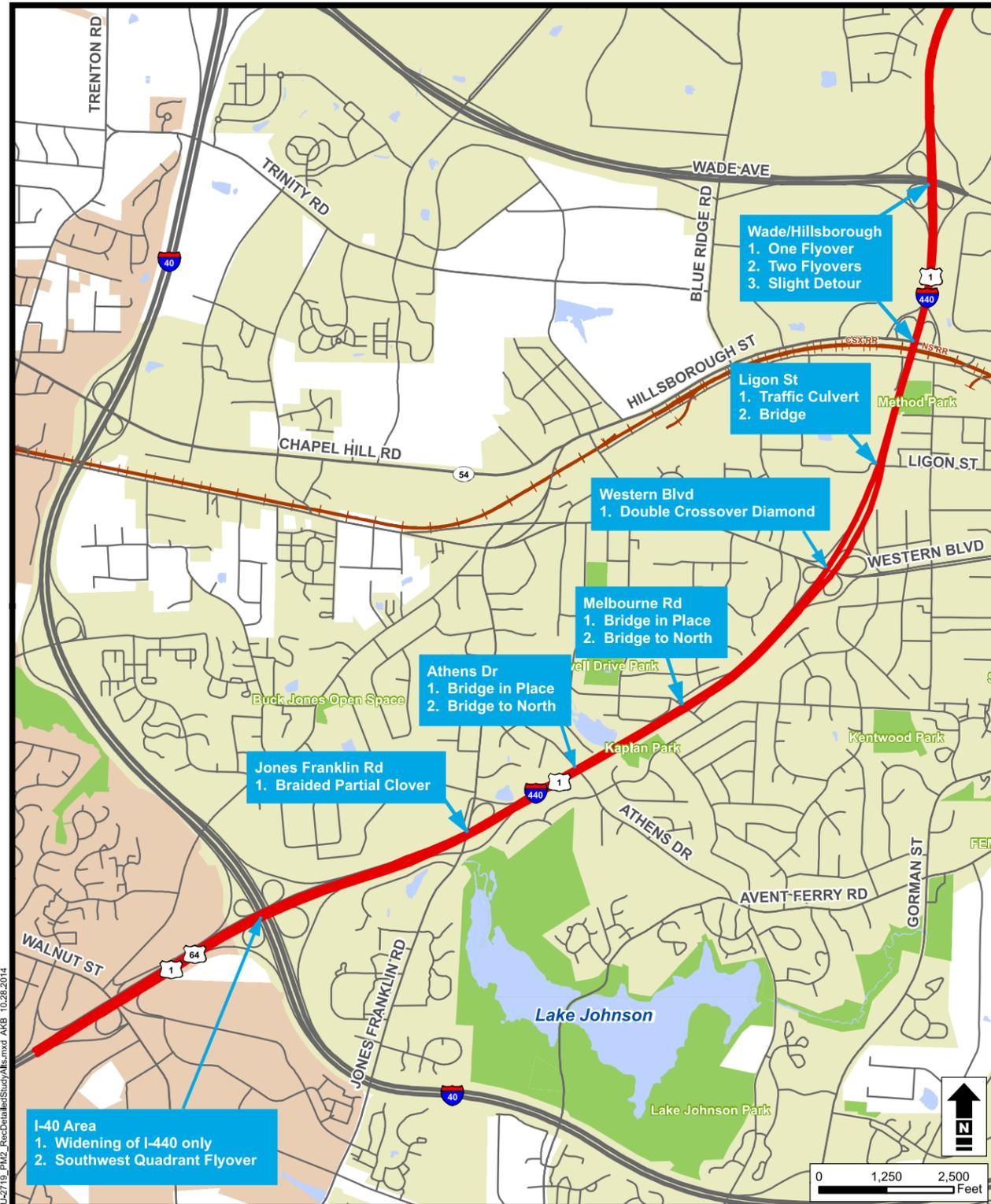
## Contact information

John Williams, Project Manager  
NCDOT – Project Development and  
Environmental Analysis Branch  
1548 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, NC 27699-1548  
(919) 707-6178  
[jlwilliams@ncdot.gov](mailto:jlwilliams@ncdot.gov)

Jill Gurak, Project Manager  
Atkins  
1616 East Millbrook  
Suite 310  
Raleigh, NC 27609  
(919) 431-5298  
[jill.gurak@atkinsglobal.com](mailto:jill.gurak@atkinsglobal.com)

## Project Schedule

Late 2014	- Finalize the set of Detailed Study Alternatives
Late 2014	- Begin preliminary design
Late 2015	- Complete Environmental Assessment
Early 2016	- Public Hearing
Early 2017	- Finalize environmental study in the anticipated Finding of No Significant Impact
2018	- Begin right of way acquisition and construction as a design-build project



### I-440 IMPROVEMENTS

STIP PROJECT NO. U-2719  
Wake County, North Carolina



Source: ESRI,  
NCDOT,  
Wake County,  
NCOneMap.

### LEGEND

- U-2719 Project Limits
- + Railroads
- Conservation Open Space
- Lakes
- Cary Municipality
- Raleigh Municipality

### RECOMMENDED DETAILED STUDY ALTERNATIVES

## Project Website

[www.ncdot.gov/projects/i-440improvements](http://www.ncdot.gov/projects/i-440improvements)

## FAQs (Frequently Asked Questions)

### Why is the I-440 project needed?

The segment of I-440 from Walnut Street to Wade Avenue has four through lanes and forms a “bottleneck” between the six through lanes on either end, and existing congestion is projected to worsen in the future. In addition, this is the oldest section of the Raleigh Beltline (constructed in the 1960’s) and is in need of rehabilitation.

### What is new since the last public meeting in December 2012?

Since the last public meeting, NCDOT has conducted environmental surveys, (streams, wetlands, protected species, and historic properties), modeled existing and projected traffic operations, and met with local stakeholders. With this information, NCDOT has evaluated alternatives, and recommended a set of alternatives to continue forward to detailed study in the environmental assessment. NCDOT will consider public input and finalize the Detailed Study Alternatives in late November 2014. Please see the graphic on the following page for an overview of the project planning process.

### What are the differences between concept designs, preliminary designs and final designs?

Concept designs include the least detail of these three design phases. This is the design phase the project currently is in. Concept designs are shown on the maps tonight. A preliminary design is more detailed and includes preliminary limits of construction. Preliminary designs will be prepared for the Detailed Study Alternatives to be evaluated in the Environmental Assessment. Preliminary designs will be presented at the Public Hearing (early 2016).

Final design is the most detailed; it includes all elements of the design, such as drainage structures, noise walls, guard rail and other details, and is based on detailed surveyed mapping. Final designs are prepared after the environmental planning phase and only for the selected alternative.

### When will the Environmental Assessment be available for review?

The Environmental Assessment is anticipated to be completed in late 2015. The document will be made available for review on the project website and by request, and a Public Hearing will be held in early 2016 to present the findings and receive public input.

### Will my house or business be affected?

The existing right of way in the project area is narrow with many constraints. For this reason, some additional right of way will be required in some locations. NCDOT will have a good idea of how much right of way will be required and which properties will be affected once the preliminary designs are completed. However, exact impacts won’t be known until final designs are complete.

### Will noise walls be constructed?

A noise study will be conducted for the Detailed Study Alternatives and noise barriers will be recommended for impacted areas in accordance with NCDOT’s noise policy. Recommendations will be presented in the Environmental Assessment. Once an alternative is selected, residents of impacted areas where noise barriers are recommended will be given the opportunity to vote on whether or not they want a noise barrier.

### Will the Melbourne Road interchange be removed?

No, NCDOT currently intends to keep the interchange open. Public input received to date demonstrated a strong preference for keeping this interchange open. The two design options recommended for detailed study include replacing the Melbourne Road bridge in its current location or replacing it to the north of its current location.

### How do I obtain current information on the progress of the I-440 project?

Please check the project website at [www.ncdot.gov/projects/i-440improvements](http://www.ncdot.gov/projects/i-440improvements) to stay informed of the project status, or contact one of the project managers listed on the front of this handout.

## The Project Planning Process

