

# North Carolina Department of Transportation

Project Development and Environmental Analysis Branch



## **TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (TIP) PROJECT I-5111**

WIDENING OF I-40 IN WAKE AND JOHNSTON COUNTIES  
FROM THE BELTLINE IN RALEIGH (EXIT 301) TO NC 42 (EXIT 312)

**CITIZENS INFORMATIONAL WORKSHOP**  
OCTOBER 13, 2009

# CITIZENS INFORMATIONAL WORKSHOP

## TIP PROJECT I-5111

### PROPOSED WIDENING OF I-40 IN WAKE COUNTY

FROM THE BELTLINE IN RALEIGH (EXIT 301), SOUTH TO NC 42 (EXIT 312) IN JOHNSTON COUNTY

## PURPOSE OF THE CITIZENS INFORMATIONAL WORKSHOP

The purpose of this workshop is to involve the public in the project development process and to present early information for the proposed project. If you have comments or suggestions about the proposed improvements described in this handout, please convey these to a representative of the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT). **Please use the enclosed comment sheet to express your concerns or suggestions.**

NCDOT realizes that individuals living close to a proposed project want to be informed of the possible effects of the project on their homes and businesses. However, as the environmental studies are early and ongoing for this project, property-specific information is not yet available. This type of detailed information will be available as the studies progress. The purpose of this workshop is to receive your comments and suggestions *before* design decisions are made, so that we will have as much information as possible when crafting final designs.

Written comments on this project may be left with NCDOT representatives at the workshop or mailed later to NCDOT. If additional information is needed or you would like to submit comments after the workshop, please address requests and comments to:

**Write:** Mr. Eric Midkiff, P.E., Project Development Unit Head  
ATTN: Robert Deaton, Project Manager  
Project Development & Environmental Analysis Branch  
North Carolina Department of Transportation  
1548 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-1548



**Call:** Robert Deaton, NCDOT Project Development & Environmental Analysis  
(919) 733-7844, Ext. 323



**E-Mail:** [rdeaton@ncdot.gov](mailto:rdeaton@ncdot.gov)

## PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) is proposing to add travel lanes on I-40 between Exit 301 at the Raleigh Beltline interchange and Exit 312 (N.C 42) in Johnston County. This project is approximately eleven (11) miles in length and crosses through Raleigh, Garner and both Wake and Johnston Counties.

## PROJECT SCHEDULE

TIP PROJECT NUMBER	LOCATION	TIP SCHEDULE
I-5111-A	I-440 (Exit 301) to US 70 Business (Exit 306)	Right-of-Way 2014/Construction 2016
I-5111-BA	US 70 Business (Exit 306) to Johnston Co. Line	Right-of-Way 2014/Construction 2016
I-5111-BB	Johnston County Line to NC 42 (Exit 312)	Right-of-Way 2016/Construction 2020

## PURPOSE OF THE PROJECT

The purpose of the proposed project is to improve traffic flow and lane transitions along this section of I-40 between Raleigh (Exit 301) and NC 42 (Exit 312). The need for the proposed project is due to existing congestion and projected increases in the future levels of traffic.

The proposed project will provide operational improvements to enhance traffic mobility on I-40 within the project study area. Traffic capacity improvements to this section of I-40 could have a direct impact on the improving the mobility experienced by drivers on the road and allow for more efficient travel into and out of the Raleigh area.

This section of I-40 is experiencing heavy congestion and delays, particularly in the morning and afternoon rush hours. The construction of additional lanes will enable merging traffic to maneuver better on to this section of the I-40 freeway, particularly in those locations where free flow, high speed traffic from U.S. Highway 70 Business (Garner) and U.S. Highway 70 (Clayton Bypass) enter I-40.

## OTHER NEARBY PROJECTS

U-4703 - Timber Drive Extension. This project in Garner is scheduled to start construction in May of 2010.

I-4739 – This project will focus on the interchange at I-40 & NC 42. It is currently not funded and would be completed sometime after I-5111.

R-2828 – Part of the Southern Outer Loop, between I-40 and US 401. NCDOT has not yet funded or scheduled this project. The N.C. Toll Authority may pursue this project at some point in the future.

## CURRENT PROJECT STATUS

Currently the project development and environmental studies for the proposed I-5111 project are in progress. NCDOT is gathering public input and information from the various state and federal agencies to document potential impacts from the project. **An Environmental Assessment (EA) is scheduled for completion in the fall of 2011.** The EA will address impacts the proposed roadway may have on the human and natural environment along the I-40 highway corridor.

## THE PROJECT DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

The environmental studies and analysis performed during the project planning and development phases are conducted in order to comply with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). NCDOT is now preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) to study the proposed widening of I-40 (TIP Project I-5111).

The Environmental Assessment will discuss the purpose and need for the proposed improvements, evaluate proposed alternatives, and analyze the project's impact on both the human and natural environment. The document will address a wide variety of issues, some of which are listed here:

- Efficiency and safety of travel
- Neighborhoods and communities
- Relocation of homes and businesses
- Economy of project area
- Historic properties and sites
- Wetlands
- Endangered species

- Wildlife and plant communities
- Water quality
- Floodplains
- Farmland and land use plans of project area
- Hazardous materials (underground tanks etc.)
- Traffic noise
- Air quality

## OPPORTUNITIES FOR PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

NCDOT provides a number of opportunities for citizen and interest group participation during project development. Some of these opportunities are listed below:

### **SCOPING LETTER**

Published in the N.C. Environmental Bulletin. This letter notifies agencies and groups on the State Clearinghouse mailing list that a project study has been initiated and solicits comments from them.

### **CITIZENS INFORMATIONAL WORKSHOP**

This is an informal workshop with the public. NCDOT representatives are available to discuss the project one-on-one with citizens. Workshop handouts provide citizens with project information. Comment sheets are also available to convey questions, comments, and concerns. The number of workshops scheduled for a project depends on the scope and anticipated impact of the project.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS & STUDY DOCUMENT**

Copies of the environmental document are submitted to the State Clearinghouse for distribution and a notice is published in the N.C. Environmental Bulletin. Upon request, NCDOT will provide copies of the document to the public. Copies are available for public viewing at NCDOT Raleigh and Division offices; the State Clearinghouse office; local government offices, including the local council of government office; and local public libraries.

### **PUBLIC HEARING**

One or more formal public hearings for the public record are held. The hearing format typically involves a short presentation followed by an opportunity for citizens to comment.

### **CITIZEN CONTACT**

Citizens are encouraged to write NCDOT, provide information, and express concerns regarding the proposed improvements. Correspondence from citizens and interest groups is considered during the course of the study.

**COMMENT SHEET**

**TIP PROJECT # I-5111  
I-40 WIDENING FROM EXIT 301 AT THE BELTLINE IN RALEIGH TO EXIT 312  
AT NC 42 IN WAKE & JOHNSTON COUNTIES**

**CITIZENS INFORMATIONAL WORKSHOP  
October 13, 2009**

**NAME** \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please Print)

**ADDRESS** \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please Print)

**COMMENTS** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Please send comments to:  
Mr. Eric Midkiff, P.E., Project Development Unit Head  
ATTN: Robert Deaton, Project Manager  
Project Development and Environmental Analysis Branch  
North Carolina Department of Transportation  
1548 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, North Carolina, 27699-1548

Or Email them to: [rdeaton@ncdot.gov](mailto:rdeaton@ncdot.gov)