



KINSTON BYPASS PROJECT

STIP Project Number R-2553



NEWSLETTER ISSUE NO. 1—APRIL 2012—CITIZENS INFORMATIONAL WORKSHOPS No. 3

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Why Is This Project Needed?

The project is needed to address:

- Traffic congestion
- Capacity deficiencies, and
- Through traffic delays on US 70 and US 70 Bypass between LaGrange and Dover.

What Is the Project's Purpose?

To improve regional mobility, connectivity, and capacity for US 70 between LaGrange and Dover in a manner that meets the intent of the North Carolina Strategic Highway Corridors Plan.

Need Special Services or Assistance Coming to the Workshops?

NCDOT will provide auxiliary aids and services under the Americans with Disabilities Act for persons who wish to participate in this workshop, and requires special services. Please contact Mark Pierce (NCDOT) 919-707-6035 as early as possible so arrangements can be made.

ALTERNATIVES SELECTED FOR DETAILED STUDY

The Interagency Team, which consists of local, state and federal agency representatives, has selected 17 alternatives for detailed study. These alternatives include the Upgrade Existing US 70 Alternatives, 6 new location alternatives north of Kinston, and 10 new location alternatives south of Kinston. These alternatives were selected for their potential to fulfill the purpose of the project while minimizing impacts to human and natural environment resources. The Detailed Study Alternatives are shown on the map included with this newsletter (see page 3).

CITIZENS INFORMATIONAL WORKSHOPS SCHEDULED

The NCDOT has scheduled two Citizens Informational Workshops at the following locations to accommodate as many people as possible. The purpose of the workshops will be to present the Detailed Study Alternatives to the public.

The workshops will run as an informal open house, with **the same information being presented at both workshops**. The public is invited to drop in, see project maps, ask questions of NCDOT representatives, and give comments on the project.

Tuesday, May 15, 2012
4:00 to 7:00 PM
Kinston Public Services Complex
2360 US Highway 258 South
Kinston, NC 28504

Thursday, May 17, 2012
4:00 to 7:00 PM
Kinston High School Cafeteria
2601 N. Queen Street
Kinston, NC 28501

If you are unable to attend, information presented at both workshops, including comment forms, will be posted to the project website. Please submit your comments to the contact on the right:

Chris Werner, Project Manager
 URS Corporation
 1600 Perimeter Park Drive, Suite 400
 Morrisville, NC 27560
 Email: christopher.werner@urs.com

INTERAGENCY TEAM MEETS TO SELECT ALTERNATIVES

The Kinston Bypass Project is being developed following the Interagency Merger Process, which is a process established to streamline the project development and permitting process. By following this process, local, state, and federal agency representatives (known as the Interagency Team) meet to discuss the project and make decisions at major milestones for the project. The purpose of this process is to allow for collaborative decision-making in order to avoid, minimize, or mitigate for impacts to the human and natural environment while meeting the safety and mobility of the traveling public and the purpose and need for the project.

The Interagency Team met in November 2011 to select Detailed Study Alternatives from among the over 60 potential route options. Prior to meeting with the Interagency Team, NCDOT reviewed all public comments received from the September 2011 Citizens Informational Workshop and revised and refined the potential route options where feasible. Impacts for the potential route options were calculated and presented to the Interagency Team for categories such as archaeological sites, historic properties, parks, churches, schools, buildings, hazardous materials sites, mitigation sites, floodplains, wetlands, streams, utilities, and threatened and endangered species. The Interagency Team reviewed the public comments received and evaluated the alternatives based on their potential to minimize impacts both the human and natural environments. The Detailed Study Alternatives selected are shown on the map to the right.



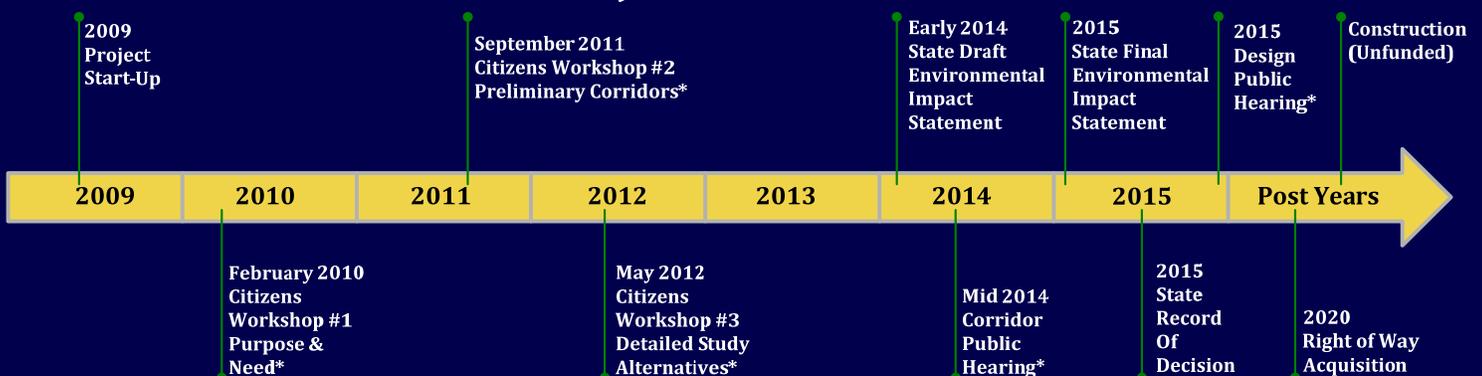
WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

The next step in the planning process will be to develop designs for the Detailed Study Alternatives, which will include interchanges at the main roads, overpasses at the minor roads, and major service roads to provide access to properties adjacent to the Detailed Study Alternatives. Once the designs have been prepared, multiple technical studies will be prepared to identify the direct and indirect effects each Detailed Study Alternative will have on the human and natural environment. The outcome of these studies will be summarized in the State Draft Environmental Impact Statement, which will be used to help determine the preferred alternative for the project.

Once the Detailed Study Alternative designs and the State Draft Environmental Impact Statement have been prepared, both will be available for review by the public and local, state and federal agencies. NCDOT will then hold the Corridor Public Hearing, which will allow the public to ask questions about the project, include a formal presentation and allow the public an opportunity to give formal statements or comments on the project.

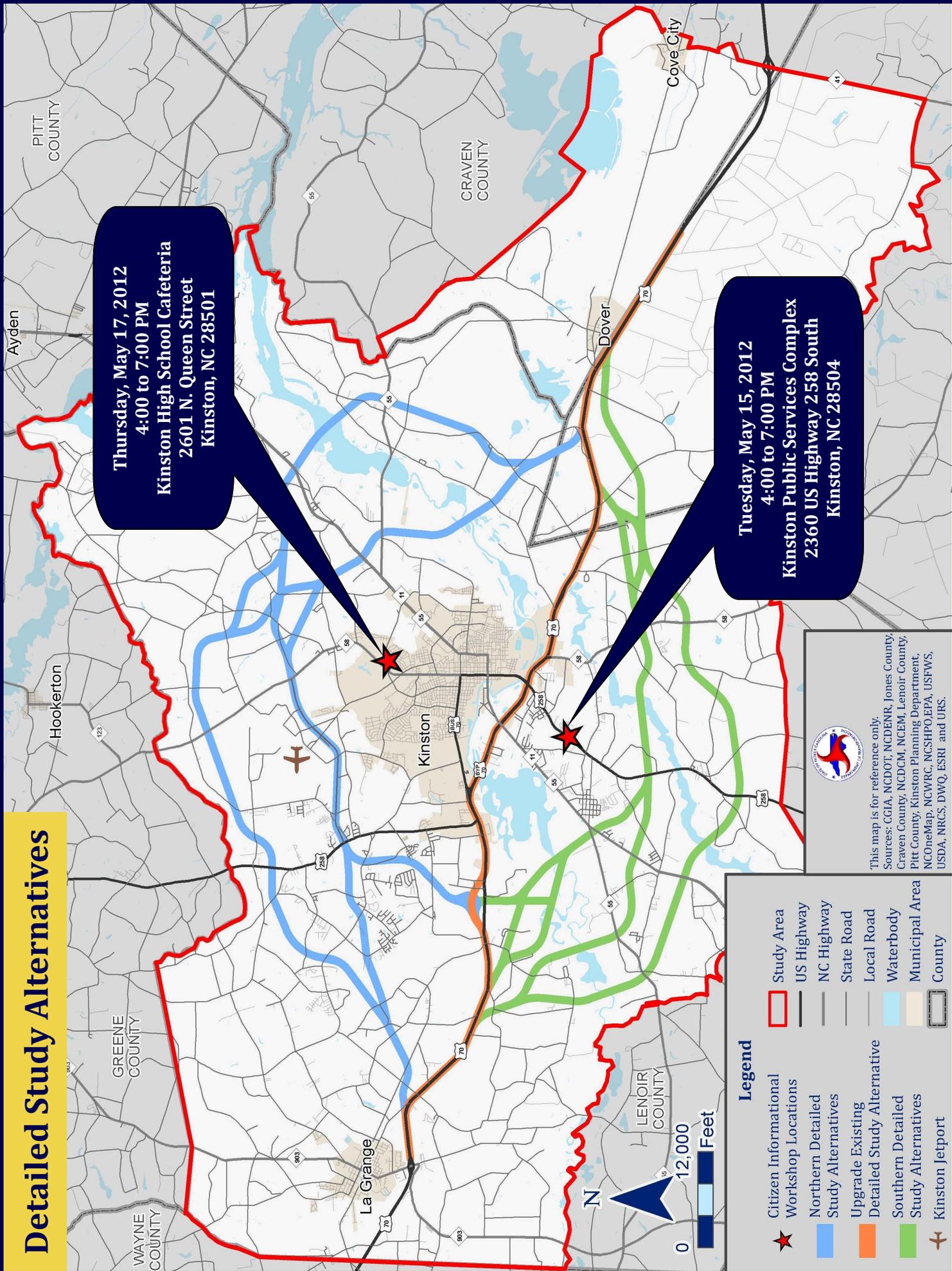
The Project Timeline below provides an overview of the project schedule; however, the project team is available to answer project related questions throughout the project planning and design process.

Project Timeline



* Indicates opportunities for citizen input

Detailed Study Alternatives



Legend

- Citizen Informational
- Workshop Locations
- Northern Detailed Study Alternatives
- Upgrade Existing Alternatives
- Detailed Study Alternatives
- Southern Detailed Study Alternatives
- Kinston Jetport
- Study Area
- US Highway
- NC Highway
- State Road
- Local Road
- Waterbody
- Municipal Area
- County

This map is for reference only.
Sources: CGIA, NCDOT, NCDENR, Jones County, Craven County, NCDOT, NCEM, Lenoir County, Pitt County, Kinston Planning Department, NCOneMap, NCWRC, NCSHPO/EPA, USFWS, USDA, NRCS, DWQ, ESRI and URS.

Kinston Bypass Project
ATTN: Chris Werner
URS Corporation
1600 Perimeter Park Drive, Suite 400
Morrisville, NC 27560



Don't forget to attend one of the Citizens Informational Workshops...

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For more information about the project, please visit the project website, or contact Chris Werner (URS) using the toll-free hotline. Written correspondence can also be provided to Chris Werner or Mark Pierce using the contact information below.

Project Hotline – Línea Gratuita del Proyecto:
1-800-233-6315 (English/ Español)

Project Website – Página Web del Proyecto:
<http://www.ncdot.gov/projects/kinstonbypass/>

Project Manager—URS Corporation

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