

Community Impact Assessment

A Community Impact Assessment (CIA) was completed in November 2003. Based on the three detail study alternative corridors as part of this CIA report, residents from the surrounding communities and downtown Mebane were asked to provide their opinions about the proposed project. This report is currently being revised based on comments received since the completion of the CIA report.

The Mebane Community Facilitation Project - Wills Duncan Group, Inc.

The Mebane Community Facilitation Project was initiated as part of the recommendations contained in the Community Impact Assessment (CIA) report prepared for the NC 119 Relocation project in November 2003 by Wilbur Smith and Associates, Inc. NCDOT retained the services of The Wills Duncan Group, Inc. (WDG) to conduct a community facilitation program to promote local community involvement in the NC 119 Relocation project. The purpose of this program was to gather information and input from the local communities that could be used to better understand the issues and concerns that exist about the proposed project.

Starting their fieldwork within each community in February 2004, WDG employed an approach that increased citizen involvement and provided an opportunity for an exchange of ideas and suggestions that could be refined into specific designs and/or actions in the project development process. The approach used was a modified "Charette Process" combined with elements of basic community organization. One-on-one interviews, surveys, direct contact with elected officials (city, county, state) and stakeholders, as well as a series of small group neighborhood meetings provided a forum for residents to voice their concerns.

The use of this combination resulted in the formation of the NC 119 Relocation Steering Committee as a vehicle for on going two-way communication between the local communities and NCDOT. The first meeting with the Steering Committee and NCDOT took place on June 24, 2004 signifying the conclusion of the modified charette process.