

NOTICE OF A CITIZENS' INFORMATIONAL WORKSHOP FOR THE PROPOSED
WIDENING OF POPLAR TENT ROAD (STATE ROAD 1394) FROM GABLE OAKS
LANE/WOODHAVEN PLACE TO THE CONCORD PARKWAY (U.S. 29-601 BYPASS)
IN CONCORD

TIP Project No. U-3415

Cabarrus County

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) will hold a citizens' informational workshop on Monday, June 18, 2012, from 6-8 p.m. at Concord Fire Station No. 9 (Community Room) located at 1020 Ivey Cline Road, in Concord.

NCDOT proposes to widen Poplar Tent Road to a four-lane divided, curb and gutter highway, with a raised 23-foot, grassy median and perform safety improvements at various intersections along the proposed roadway. The total project length is about 4.4 miles.

The project consists of two sections. Section "A", from Gable Oaks Lane/Woodhaven Place to George Liles Parkway, will be built first. Right-of-way acquisition is scheduled to begin in 2018, followed by construction in 2020. Section "B", from George Liles Parkway to U.S. 29-601 Bypass, is currently unfunded. Dates for right-of-way acquisition and construction are tentative and are subject to change. The proposed widening will improve access to Concord Regional Airport, reduce traffic congestion, and improve safety at key intersections. Widening Poplar Tent Road will require the acquisition of some properties, both residences and businesses.

Two alternatives are currently being considered. Either alternative would be four lanes wide with a 23-foot raised grassy median and have bicycle accommodations:

1) Alternative 1 would widen existing Poplar Tent Road throughout the entire length of the project using a "best-fit" design.

2) Alternative 2 would widen Poplar Tent Road from Gable Oaks Lane/Woodhaven Place to Rock Hill Church Road using a "best fit" design, then follow a new location north of Poplar Tent Road from Rock Hill Church Road to Eva Drive. This new section of roadway would be about 1 mile long.

Alternative 2 is being studied to reduce the number of residential and business relocations. The "best fit" design concept noted above widens the existing road either to the north or south side in such a way that environmental effects are minimized, including the effects on residences and businesses.

Maps will be on display depicting the project study area and the proposed alternatives. NCDOT representatives will be available to answer any questions. The opportunity to provide written comments will be provided and is encouraged. Citizens may drop in any time during the workshop hours. There will not be a formal presentation.

The citizens' informational workshop is held to provide the public an opportunity to participate in the planning process and update them on a project's status. Comments and information received from the public will be taken into consideration as work on this project progresses. Additional public involvement will be conducted throughout the project development.

For more information, contact NCDOT Project Development and Environmental Analysis Engineer Wilson Stroud at (919) 707-6045 or by email at wstroud@ncdot.gov.

NCDOT will provide auxiliary aids and services under the Americans with Disabilities Act for anyone who wants to participate in this workshop. Anyone requiring special services should contact Stroud as early as possible so that arrangements can be made.

For persons who speak Spanish and do not speak English, or have a limited ability to read, speak or understand English, interpretive services will be available at the meeting upon request. For more information, please call 1-800-481-6494 prior to the meeting.



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

BEVERLY EAVES PERDUE
GOVERNOR

EUGENE A. CONTI, JR.
SECRETARY

Release: Immediate

Contact: Communications Office, (919) 707-2660

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Public meeting for proposed widening of Poplar Tent Road set for June 18 in Concord

RALEIGH – The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) will hold a public meeting on Monday, June 18, in Concord regarding a proposed project to widen 4.4 miles of Poplar Tent Road to a four-lane divided highway with a raised grassy median between Gable Oaks Lane/Woodhaven Place and Concord Parkway (U.S. 29/601 Bypass). The project will also include safety improvements at several intersections. The proposed widening will improve access to Concord Regional Airport and reduce traffic congestion.

Right of way acquisitions will be required for both residences and businesses to accommodate the widening.

The meeting is set for 6 to 8 p.m. in the Community Room of Concord Fire Station No. 9, 1020 Ivey Cline Road.

The project would be built in two phases. Work will begin with Section A, going between Gable Oaks Lane/ Woodhaven Place and George Liles Parkway. The right of way acquisition process for this section will begin in 2018, followed by construction in 2020.

Funding is not in place yet for Section B, covering George Liles Parkway to Concord Parkway. So the dates for right-of-way acquisition and construction are not finalized.

There are two alternatives being considered for both sections, although in both cases the roadway will be four lanes wide with a 23-foot median and 4-foot bike lanes.

One possibility is to widen the road using a “best-fit” design method, one that would follow the existing path of the roadway, widening it on either side in a way to help minimize the impact on existing homes and businesses. The other option is to use the “best-fit” method for the widening between Gable Oaks Lane/Woodhaven Place and Rock Hill Church Road, but then put the newly-widened road to north of its current location for about a mile-long stretch between Rock Hill Church Road and Eva Drive. It’s being considered because that design possibly would have a lesser impact on homes and businesses.

The meeting is being held to give the public an opportunity to participate in the planning process and to learn about the project's status. NCDOT representatives will be available in an informal setting to answer questions. Maps of the proposed roadway and alternatives will be on display. The opportunity to submit written comments and/or questions will be provided and is encouraged. Interested citizens may attend at any time during the above mentioned hours. Comments and information received from the public will be taken into consideration as work on this project progresses, and additional public involvement will be conducted throughout the project development.

For more information, contact NCDOT Project Development and Environmental Analysis Engineer Wilson Stroud at (919) 707-6045 or by email at wstroud@ncdot.gov.

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