

Project U-5892 (U.S. 220 (Battleground Avenue) Widening)

November 2018 Public Meeting Summary of Public Comments

There were 74 members of the public in attendance. Written comments were received from 25 individuals during or following the November 13, 2018 public meeting. A summary of comments is below. Responses are in *italics*.

Design comments

- Additional traffic signals are needed to accommodate current neighborhoods.
 - *A traffic signal warrant analysis will be performed as part of the final design process for this project. NCDOT will coordinate with the City of Greensboro regarding potential new traffic signals.*
- The Sherrod property needs to remain to complete the neighborhood (British Woods). If the property is acquired, a noise wall would be necessary.
 - *A retaining wall will be considered at this location to reduce impacts. Specific impacts and potential mitigation will be determined during the next phase of design. NCDOT will evaluate the potential need for noise attenuation along the corridor.*

Impact comments

- Due to the changes in traffic flow on Battleground Avenue and the construction of a nearby retirement home, how will increased traffic on Whitehurst Road and other neighborhood roads be dealt with? (x3)
 - *The City is taking the lead on a project to improve the intersection of U.S. 220 and Westridge Road. This project, also referred to as Project U-5306B in the State Transportation Improvement Program, will add lanes at the intersection, and is anticipated to begin construction in Spring 2019.*
 - *Neither Project U-5892 nor Project U-5306B will modify any neighborhood roads. The City would be responsible for improvements to neighborhood roads.*
 - *The U.S. 220 widening project is designed to accommodate projected traffic volumes through 2040. Future traffic volumes are based on data from the regional travel demand model, which includes information about both specific developments and anticipated growth patterns. This information comes from the City of Greensboro and the Greensboro Metropolitan Planning Organization.*
- In Greene's Crossing, there are concerns about impacts to the neighborhood including potential impacts to the retaining wall, removal of greenery between the buildings and Battleground Avenue, visual and noise impacts, and worsened drainage issues. There is concern that these impacts will result in a reduction of property value (x3).
 - *NCDOT attended a meeting between the City and Greene's Crossing neighborhood following the public meeting. NCDOT will continue to coordinate with the neighborhood residents through the next phase of design. Where the project directly impacts properties, NCDOT will coordinate with property owners during the right-of-way acquisition process.*

- *NCDOT will attempt to avoid or minimize impacts where practicable and will replace the retaining wall if impacted. NCDOT will evaluate the potential need for noise attenuation along the corridor. NCDOT will coordinate with the City of Greensboro on the replacement of greenery. Cost and maintenance of landscaping beyond NCDOT's standard program would be the responsibility of the City.*
 - *NCDOT will develop a drainage plan on U.S. 220 as part of the next phase of design.*
- There are concerns about potential impacts to the daycare (Childtime of Greensboro) at the intersection of New Garden Road and Battleground Avenue.
 - *While there may be temporary property impacts during construction and some permanent property impacts, access to Childtime of Greensboro will remain as is. NCDOT will attempt to avoid or minimize impacts where practicable.*
- Tidal Wave Auto Spa is concerned that any impacts to their bioretention cells would render their property unusable for commercial purposes due to drainage issues and the threat of flooding. Additionally, they feel that the expansion of Battleground Avenue in front of the car wash as planned would significantly impair the operation of the car wash and the safety of its patrons and employees due to the large difference in elevation. They ask that any impacts to the driveway be avoided. They also are concerned that the addition of a U-turn at the intersection of Battleground Avenue and Cotswold Avenue would create traffic backlogs at the intersection, making it difficult and dangerous for patrons to enter and exit the property.
 - *The potential impact area shown on the public meeting maps include temporary impacts such as temporary construction easements. There are no anticipated permanent impacts to parking. The bioretention basin inlet is outside of the proposed construction limits. The proposed berm at this location has been reduced to limit impacts. The proposed pavement is only slightly higher than the existing surface elevation of the property. The City of Greensboro has requested a bus stop adjacent to the Battle Crossing development, which will be evaluated during the next phase of design. NCDOT will attempt to avoid or minimize impacts where practicable. Specific impacts to the bioretention cells and property, as well as potential minimization measures, will be determined during the next phase of design.*
- Any impacts to the Taco Bell driveway and drive-thru should be avoided.
 - *Proposed designs show the drive-thru outside of the proposed roadway construction limits. Proposed driveway radii from Battleground Avenue have been modified to more closely match the existing driveway size. NCDOT will attempt to avoid or minimize impacts where practicable.*
- Impacts on the Chick-fil-A parking area may affect operations of the restaurant, and information is requested about potential temporary and permanent impacts.
 - *NCDOT will attempt to avoid or minimize impacts where practicable. Specific impacts and potential mitigation will be determined during the next phase of design. Information will be provided as it is available.*
- Concerned about traffic and noise, and that drivers may use neighborhoods as cut-through during construction.
 - *It is anticipated that Battleground Avenue will remain open in both directions during construction. Traffic control plans will be developed later in the design process.*

Multimodal comments

- The addition of sidewalks along Battleground Avenue is welcome. (x2)
 - *No response required.*
- Due to the size of the intersection of Battleground Avenue at Westridge Road, pedestrians are not able to cross safely. A pedestrian bridge should be installed.
 - *This intersection will be improved as part of the City's project, U-5306B, and is not part of NCDOT's project to widen U.S. 220.*
 - *Pedestrian island refuges will be investigated at signalized intersections on Battleground Avenue along the project corridor.*

Access comments

- Concerns about removal of the left-turn movement onto Battleground Avenue from Devonshire Drive and Downing Street. (x8)
 - *NCDOT will work with the City to investigate options at these two intersections. (NCDOT attended a meeting between the City and British Woods neighborhood following the public meeting to discuss community concerns within the neighborhood.)*

General comments

- Traffic signals at the intersections with New Garden Road, Brassfield Road, Cotswold Avenue, and Urban Loop access need to be adjusted now to prevent traffic back-ups in northbound lanes of Battleground Avenue between 4:30 – 5:30 PM on weekdays.
 - *Traffic signals will be retimed as part of the current design process. NCDOT will coordinate with the City of Greensboro, who maintains and operates the traffic signals.*