



U.S. 70 Improvements in James City, Craven County

State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) Project No.s U-5713 & R-5777AB

*NCDOT
utilizes the
design-build
concept
to complete
projects
faster
and
save
taxpayer
money
through
innovative
approaches
to design and
construction*

WELCOME!

The purpose of this meeting is to provide an update on the U.S. 70 Improvement Project in James City to property owners and members of the surrounding community.

The N.C. Department of Transportation plans to upgrade U.S. 70 to interstate standards from east of Thurman Road (S.R. 1116) to the Neuse River Bridge in James City, Craven County. NCDOT proposes to construct approximately 5.1 miles of freeway, with full-access interchanges at Williams Road (S.R.1167) Airport Road (S.R. 1131), Grantham Road, (S.R. 1124), Taberna Way (S.R. 1922), and Thurman Road (S.R. 1116). Driveways, intersecting streets, and median crossovers will be removed, and parallel service roads will be added along portions of the project to provide access for property owners and to ensure mobility for local traffic.

The work is being funded under two State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) projects, STIP Project No. U-5713 and STIP Project No. R-5777AB, which have been coordinated through the planning phase and will be combined into a single project for construction. The project is one of several that NCDOT is working on to improve the U.S. 70 Corridor, with the intent to improve regional mobility and provide better connectivity between Raleigh and Morehead City. In May 2016, the U.S. 70 Corridor was designated the Future I-42 between I-40 and Morehead City.

This project is being constructed as a design-build project. The design-build process allows NCDOT to contract with a team of designers and contractors that is responsible for the final design, right of way acquisition, and construction of a project. Because the Team can begin construction while they finish the design and right of way acquisition, the project can be completed more quickly than the traditional "design-bid-build" process".

PROJECT WEBSITE

Project information will continue to be updated throughout the life of the project. Maps, project history, and schedule information can be found online at:

http://www.ncdot.gov/projects/US70_JamesCity/

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Upgrading U.S. 70 to interstate standards means that existing median openings, driveway connections and at-grade intersections will be closed, with interchanges and service road connections constructed to maintain access to businesses and the surrounding community. The existing service roads will be extended in some locations and relocated away from the interchanges to maintain access to the side streets. The project will construct full-access interchanges at Williams Road, Airport Road, Grantham Road, Taberna Way, and Thurman Road, with U.S. 70 crossing over the intersecting roads on bridges. The project designs will improve bicycle and pedestrian access by providing wider paved shoulders and sidewalks along Williams Road, Airport Road, and Grantham Road.

Designs shown on the maps displayed at tonight's meeting represent a preliminary design scenario. During final design, the design-build team will look to further minimize impacts, where practicable. Maps can be viewed online as they become available at http://www.ncdot.gov/projects/US70_JamesCity/. In addition, following the February 2019 public meetings, maps will be available for viewing at the locations shown below.

Map Viewing Locations

NCDOT Highway Division 2
Resident Engineer's Office– Craven
209 S Glenburnie Road
New Bern, NC
(252) 514-4759

NCDOT Highway Division 2
Construction Engineer's Office
105 Pactolus Hwy (NC 33)
Greenville, NC 27835
(252) 439-2840

New Bern Area Metropolitan
Planning Organization (NBAMPO)
NBAMPO Administrator's Office
303 First Street
New Bern, NC
(252) 639-7592



TRAFFIC NOISE ANALYSIS

Analysis of traffic noise is expected to be completed by late summer 2019, prior to the right of way acquisition phase of the project. Once the Traffic Noise Report is approved, the U-5713 Project Website (www.ncdot.gov/projects/US70_JamesCity/) will be updated to provide information to the public regarding the locations where noise abatement measures (such as noise walls) will be evaluated during the Design-Build phase of the project.

RIGHT OF WAY ACQUISITION

The design-build contract for this project is expected to be awarded in June 2019, and right of way acquisition may begin shortly thereafter. The engineering firm awarded the contract will be responsible for right-of-way acquisition on behalf of NCDOT, and will be required to follow NCDOT's process.

If you are an affected property owner, a Right-of-Way Agent will contact you and arrange a meeting. The agent will explain the plans and advise you as to how the project will affect you. The agent will inform you of your rights as a property owner. If permanent right-of-way is required, professionals who are familiar with real estate values will evaluate or appraise your property. The evaluations or appraisals will be reviewed for completeness and accuracy, and then the Right-of-Way Agent will make a written offer to you. The current market value of the property at its highest and best use, when appraised, will be offered as compensation. The Department of Transportation must:

- Treat all owners and tenants equally
- Fully explain the owner's rights
- Pay just compensation in exchange for property rights
- Furnish relocation advisory assistance

If your residence or business is to be acquired as part of the project, additional assistance in the form of advice and compensation is available. You will also be provided with assistance regarding locations of comparable housing and/or commercial establishments, moving procedures, and moving aid. Moving expenses may be paid for you. Additional monetary compensation is available to help homeowners cope with mortgage increases, increased value of comparable homes, closing costs, etc. A similar program is available to assist business owners.

CONSTRUCTION

Construction is scheduled to begin in Summer 2020, and will last approximately 42 to 48 months. Construction can begin on sections of the project and be staggered as right of way is acquired. Service roads will be constructed first, to allow traffic to be maintained within the project corridor, while bridges and other work is completed on U.S. 70. No off-site detours are anticipated to be used during the construction period. A movie visualization that represents how traffic will flow during the construction period is available for viewing on the project website www.ncdot.gov/projects/US70_JamesCity/.

Estimated Project Costs

	U-5713	R-5777 AB
Right-of-Way Cost	\$33,428,561	\$23,615,521
Utilities Cost	\$12,722,028	\$ 7,685,347
Construction Cost	\$113,500,000	\$69,700,000
Total Costs	\$159,650,589	\$101,000,868

NOTES:

Costs are estimates, and subject to change.

Right of Way estimates dated June 25, 2018

Construction Cost estimates dated June 29, 2018

Utility estimates dated May 2, 2018 (R-5777AB) and June 21, 2018 (U-5713)

Project Timeline*

July 2018: Environmental document signed for combined STIP U-5713 + R-5777AB project.

July-December 2018: Design Build Process initiated, short-listed design teams selected.

January-February 2019: Conduct meetings for the public, business owners, and local officials.

March-June 2019: Final Request for Proposals issued to short-listed design teams, technical proposals submitted and presentations made, final selection of design team.

July 2019: Right of Way acquisition process anticipated to begin.

July 2020: Construction anticipated to begin.

** Future dates subject to change*

How to Stay Informed

The project website will continue to be updated throughout the remainder of the project:

http://www.ncdot.gov/projects/US70_JamesCity/ .

Or, feel free to contact the NCDOT Division 2 Construction Engineer for questions about the project:

Cadmus Capehart, PE
ccapehart@ncdot.gov
 (252) 439-2840