

# U.S. 70 Improvements James City

## STIP Project Nos. U-5713 & R-5777A&B

Craven County June 2020



The N.C. Department of Transportation is providing updated project information and contact information for the U.S. 70 improvements in James City project in this newsletter.

### Project Overview

NCDOT has awarded a contract and begun pre-construction efforts on the U.S. 70 improvements in James City project. The improvements will span 5.1 miles from the Neuse River Bridge in James City to just east of Thurman Road in Craven County, as shown on the map. U.S. 70, future Interstate 42, will be built to interstate standards, meaning access to U.S. 70 will only be provided at interchanges. This upgrade will improve traffic flow, safety and add vehicle capacity. It is one of several NCDOT projects along the U.S. 70 corridor intended to improve regional mobility and provide better connectivity between Raleigh and the Port at Morehead City.

This is a Design-Build project, meaning the contractor is working with a design firm to finish developing the plans and build the project. The collaboration between the contractor and design firm enables design innovations to be incorporated into the project that save taxpayer money, reduce environmental impacts and alleviate driving delays for motorists. The Design-Build process reduces the overall project schedule by allowing the right-of-way acquisition and utility work to begin prior to completing final design plans.

### How to Stay Informed

Due to the COVID-19 crisis, NCDOT will not host an in-person public meeting for the U.S. 70 Improvements James City project at this time. We have developed a series of videos to provide you with the following:

- An overview of the project;
- A narrated visualization about the construction phases;
- How to navigate project maps showing the design improvements; and
- A narrated visualization about using roundabouts when entering or exiting U.S. 70.

To view the videos and updated design maps, visit our website, [ncdot.gov/jamescity](https://ncdot.gov/jamescity). On the website you can sign up to receive project communications and learn more about the project!

### Contact Us

Email to [US70-JamesCity@publicinput.com](mailto:US70-JamesCity@publicinput.com) or call 1-855-925-2801 and enter code 7872 when prompted. Follow us on social media for project updates!



Aquellas personas que no hablan inglés, o tienen limitaciones para leer, hablar o entender inglés, podrían recibir servicios de interpretación si los solicitan antes de la reunión llamando al 1-800-481-6494.





## Project Features

Five interchanges will be built on:

- Williams Road
- Airport Road
- Grantham Road
- Taberna Way
- Thurman Road

Each interchange will elevate U.S. 70 over the cross streets, eliminating the existing signalized intersections. From the Neuse River Bridge to Garner Road, U.S. 70 will be a six-lane divided interstate with a 22-foot wide, paved median and concrete barrier.

U.S. 70 between Garner Road and east of Thurman Road will be a four-lane divided interstate with a 46-foot wide, grass median and guardrail.

NCDOT will also remove median crossovers, build new and improve existing service roads to provide access to U.S. 70 for the properties along the corridor and ensure mobility for local traffic.

One feature of the project will be the use of roundabouts at some of the ramp intersections with cross streets. To improve traffic flow, safety and eliminate the need for signals at ramp intersections with cross streets, roundabouts will be constructed on:

- Williams Road
- Grantham Road
- Taberna Way
- Thurman Road

Additional information about roundabouts is available at: [ncdot.gov/initiatives-policies/Transportation/safety-mobility/roundabouts/Pages/default.aspx](http://ncdot.gov/initiatives-policies/Transportation/safety-mobility/roundabouts/Pages/default.aspx).

## Noise Concerns

As part of the project's final design activities, a final noise study is underway. This final noise study, or Design Noise Report, will identify recommended noise wall locations.

For additional information about noise, visit [ncdot.gov/initiatives-policies/environmental/reducing-noise-pollution/Pages/noise-barriers.aspx](http://ncdot.gov/initiatives-policies/environmental/reducing-noise-pollution/Pages/noise-barriers.aspx).

## Schedule

The right-of-way acquisition process has begun. If you received a letter concerning right-of-way in the mail, use the contact information to ask questions. Additional right-of-way information is available online at [ncdot.gov/projects/Pages/property-owner-resources.aspx](http://ncdot.gov/projects/Pages/property-owner-resources.aspx).

This summer, utility relocation will begin to clear conflicts with the proposed project. Schedules are tentative and subject to change.

## Updated Project Design Maps

Updated project design maps, along with the video explaining how to read these maps, can be found on the project website.

Milestone	Date
Preliminary design approved	March 2018
Environmental document complete	July 2018
Advertise design-build request for proposal	July 2018
Award design-build contract	September 2019
Right-of-way acquisition	Spring 2020
Utility relocation	Summer 2020
Construction begins	Early 2021
Construction complete	Late 2023