

## Get Involved

Ten days after this public hearing, the public comment period will close on **November 24, 2017**.

A comment sheet is enclosed and can be submitted at tonight's hearing or by mail to VDOT. Comments also may be submitted by email to [kelly.dunn@vdot.virginia.gov](mailto:kelly.dunn@vdot.virginia.gov).

Information must be postmarked, e-mailed or delivered to VDOT within 10 calendar days of tonight's hearing in order to be included in the hearing record.

VDOT representatives will review and evaluate any information received as a result of the hearing. This information, including the hearing summary, will be available for review at the VDOT office address listed in this brochure.

Project information shared here is available for review after the public hearing at VDOT's Salem District Office located at 731 Harrison Ave., Salem, VA 24153.

After all comments have been addressed, the information received as a result of this hearing will be presented to VDOT's Chief Engineer or designee for consideration. If approval of the major design features is received for this project, it will move forward to the final design phase.

## Contact Information

<b>Primary Contact:</b> Mr. Kelly Dunn, PE, LS	Project Manager <i>Location and Design</i>	731 Harrison Ave. Salem, VA 24153	540-387-5353
Terry Hutchinson	Acquisition Manager <i>Right of Way</i>	731 Harrison Ave. Salem, VA 24153	540-387-5367
Jason Bond	Communications Manager <i>Office of Communications</i>	731 Harrison Ave. Salem, VA 24153	540-387-5493



© 2017 Commonwealth of Virginia



## Design Public Hearing Interstate 81 Northbound and Southbound Auxiliary Lanes Between Exits 141 and 143 Roanoke County

Tuesday, November 14, 2017, 4:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

Northside High School  
6758 Northside High School Road  
Roanoke, VA 24019

## Design Public Hearing

Welcome to the Virginia Department of Transportation's (VDOT) design public hearing on the project to add an additional lane along northbound and southbound Interstate 81 between exit 141 (Route 419) and exit 143 (Interstate 581) in Roanoke County. The hearing will be held in an 'open-house' format.

This design public hearing is being held to provide an opportunity for citizens or organizations to give VDOT comments and/or suggestions on the proposed project. VDOT strives to ensure that all members of the community have the opportunity to participate in public decisions on transportation projects and programs affecting them.

VDOT representatives are present to discuss the project and answer your questions.

A comment sheet is included in the handouts for this meeting and your input is encouraged. All oral and written comments received on this project will be reviewed by VDOT personnel and will be available for review by citizens and other interested parties.

## Project Overview



Northbound I-81 Approaching Exit 143

**Available Allocations** – \$62 million  
**Purpose** – To alleviate congestion and provide for safer merge movements between exits  
**From** – Exit 141 (Route 419 in Salem)  
**To** – Exit 143 (Interstate 581 in Roanoke)  
**Project Length** – 2 miles  
**Improvements** –

The addition of an auxiliary lane in both directions of Interstate 81 between exits 141 and 143 will increase the number of travel lanes within the project area, in both directions, from two to three.

## PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The primary purpose of this project is to alleviate congestion and provide for safer northbound and southbound merge movements between exits 141 and 143.

The northbound auxiliary lane will connect the exit 141 on-ramp directly to the exit 143 off-ramp and will be constructed along, and adjacent to, the existing outside through lane. The southbound auxiliary lane will extend the exit 143 on ramp and become the new inside through lane. The existing outside through lane will become an exit only lane that will end at the exit 141 off-ramp.

As part of the project, sound walls will be considered along northbound I-81.

As of 2016, between 63,000 and 70,000 vehicles travel this section of I-81 each day, making it the most heavily travelled portion of I-81 in Virginia.

Temporary lane closures, traffic shifts and road detours may be necessary during construction.

The design of this project is in compliance with the Stormwater Management Act, stormwater regulations and the annual stormwater management standards and specifications approved by the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation. Potential impacts to the flood plains will be evaluated and addressed on this project.

The construction of this project will conform to the nationwide best management practices, VDOT specifications and special provisions, and the Virginia Department of Soil and Water conservation regulations. Also, during construction, every reasonable effort will be made to protect the environment with respect to dust and erosion control. Access to all properties will be maintained during construction.

### Project Graphic



## Estimated Project Cost

Available Funding: \$62 million

- Preliminary Engineering: \$7,221,481
- Right of Way and Utilities: \$694,903
- Construction: \$54,082,443

*These costs are subject to change because development of the project is in its early design stages. The project will be funded using federal and state funds.*

## Civil Rights

VDOT ensures nondiscrimination and equal employment in all programs and activities in accordance with Title VI and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

If you need more information in regards to your civil rights on this project or special assistance for persons with disabilities or limited English proficiency, contact the project manager listed on the back of this brochure.

## Right of Way

It is anticipated that no families, businesses or non-profits will be displaced as a result of this project. After this hearing, information regarding right of way may be obtained from the right of way contact listed on the back of this brochure.

Displays at this meeting show the extent of right of way that may be needed as the project is currently proposed. As the design is further developed, additional easements and right of way may be required beyond what is shown in the preliminary plans.

Property owners will be informed of the exact location of the easements during the right of way acquisition process and prior to construction.

Information about right of way purchase is discussed in VDOT's brochure, "Right of Way and Utilities: A Guide for Property Owners and Tenants." Copies of this brochure are available here from a VDOT right of way agent.

## Anticipated Schedule

The following schedule has been proposed for the project:

- Preliminary Engineering Work – In progress
- Public Hearing – Fall 2017
- Right of Way Begin – Early 2019
- Construction Begins – 2021
- Construction Completed – 2024

## Environmental Review

VDOT's Salem District Environmental Office has performed environmental reviews and coordination to obtain information about environmental resources in the project vicinity; to provide natural and historic resource agencies an opportunity to review and comment on the project during its development; and to identify opportunities for avoidance, minimization and mitigation of potential environmental impacts.

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) is applicable to this project and a NEPA document in the form of a Categorical Exclusion has been developed in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration and in accordance with federal guidelines. The NEPA document includes information from various technical reviews including those related to natural resources, water quality, threatened and endangered species, air quality, noise, etc. In compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act, Section 106 and 36 CFR Part 800, information concerning the potential effects of the proposed project on properties listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places is also provided in the environmental documentation.

The project will continue to be coordinated with the appropriate federal, state, and local agencies as part of environmental review and approval processes required throughout project development and construction. All required environmental clearances and permits will be obtained prior to commencement of construction. Strict compliance with all environmental conditions and commitments resulting from regulatory approvals, and implementation of VDOT's specifications and standard best management practices will protect the environment during construction.

The NEPA document and the results of other environmental studies are available at today's meeting. Representatives from VDOT's Environmental Section are available to discuss this information and to answer questions.