

Get Involved

Project information shared here is available for review after the public hearing at the two locations listed below:

VDOT Staunton District Office
811 Commerce Road
Staunton, VA 24401-9029

VDOT Harrisonburg Residency
3536 North Valley Pike
Harrisonburg, VA 22802

Comments can be submitted in writing to:

Mr. John-Allen Ennis, P.E.
Project Manager
Virginia Department of Transportation
811 Commerce Road
Staunton, VA 24401-9029

Comments may also be sent to:
stauntoninfo@VDOT.Virginia.gov

Please include "Route 280 Southeast Connector PH Comment" in the subject line.

Ten days after this public hearing, on May 6, 2011, the public comment period will close. All comments must be received by this date in order to be included in the meeting record.

This information, including the hearing summary, will be available for review at the VDOT office address listed below.

After all comments have been addressed, the information gathered as a result of the hearing will be presented to VDOT's Chief Engineer for consideration.

If approval of the major design features is received from VDOT's Chief Engineer for this project, the project will proceed to design completion. Public hearing participants will be notified of this decision by letter.

Contact Information

Primary Contact: John-Allen Ennis, P.E.	Project Manager	811 Commerce Road Staunton, VA 24401-9029	800-367-7623 (TDD/TTY 711)
Lori Snider	Western Regional Right of Way Manager	811 Commerce Road Staunton, VA 24401-9029	800-367-7623 (TDD/TTY 711)
Tammy Mancinelli	Staunton District Office of Civil Rights	811 Commerce Road Staunton, VA 24401-9029	800-367-7623 (TDD/TTY 711)
Sandy Myers	Staunton District Office of Public Affairs	811 Commerce Road Staunton, VA 24401-9029	800-367-7623 (TDD/TTY 711)



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Design Public Hearing

Route 280 Southeast Connector Highway Improvement Project Rockingham County

Wednesday, April 27, 2011, 4 - 7 p.m.
Rockingham County Administration Center
Community Development Meeting Room
20 East Gay Street
Harrisonburg, VA 22802

Public Meeting

Welcome to the Virginia Department of Transportation's (VDOT) design public hearing on proposed improvements to Route 280, Southeast Connector in Rockingham County.

This public hearing is being held to provide an opportunity for citizens or organizations to give VDOT comments and/or suggestions on the proposed project after reviewing the project information. 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 included in a transcript for review by VDOT personnel, citizens and other interested parties.

VDOT staff will address questions and concerns raised as a result of this hearing before the project is presented to VDOT's Chief Engineer for consideration. If approval of the major design features is received from VDOT's Chief Engineer for this project, the project will proceed to design completion. Public hearing participants will be notified of this decision by letter.

Project Overview



Route 280 Project Location

Cost - \$10,185,960

Purpose - This project will enhance east-west traffic in Rockingham County south of Harrisonburg and improve access to the new Rockingham Memorial Hospital site.

From - 0.107 Miles West of Harrisonburg City Limits

To - 0.506 Miles East of Harrisonburg City Limits

Total length - 0.613-mile

Improvements - Constructs four-lane divided road on new location.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

This project is based on Candidate Build Alternative 4 (CBA 4) from the Harrisonburg Southeast Connector (HSEC) Location Study. CBA 4 is one of two 500-foot corridors approved by Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB). The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Record of Decision (ROD) for this location study was issued December 21, 2007. CBA 4 is a 3.1 mile section from the Harrisonburg City limits at Route 726 to Route 33 south of Route 704. This proposed facility is intended to provide vital east to west mobility in a region that is experiencing significant growth.

This project consists of constructing a portion of the overall Route 280 Southeast Connector approved in the location study. This portion will be on a new location. It will be a four-lane divided urban minor arterial roadway with a 50 mile per hour design speed. It will have 12-foot lanes with 10-foot shoulders that include eight-foot wide paved shoulders and a 16-foot raised median. In addition, Peach Grove Avenue will be extended to tie into the proposed Route 280. This extension will have four 12-foot lanes with curb and gutter along each side. The intersection with proposed Route 280 will be signalized. Dual left turn lanes and a right turn lane will be provided on Route 280.

The proposed Route 280 road will tie into a City of Harrisonburg project that widens Stone Spring Road to five lanes out to the Rockingham County limits. This project is currently under construction and is scheduled to be complete in the spring of 2013. Future projects will

connect Route 280 to Port Republic Road and eventually Route 33.

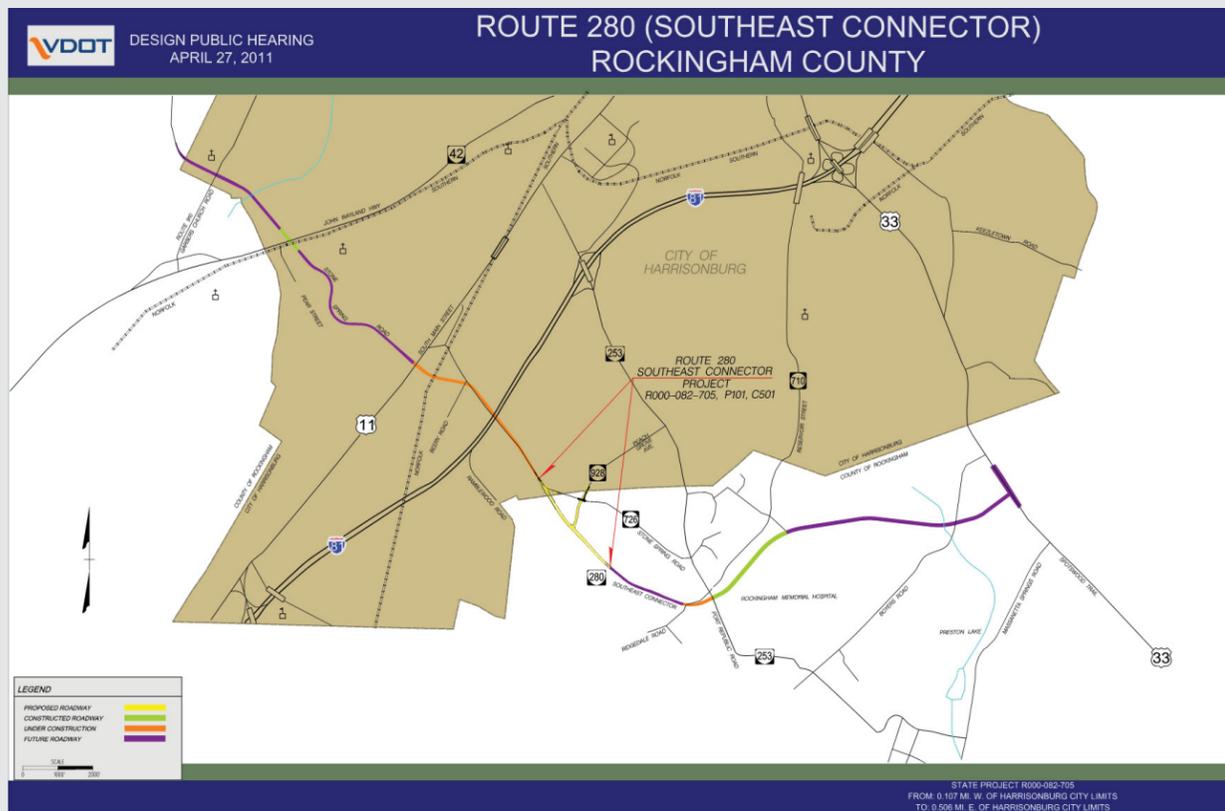
The total estimated cost for this project is \$10,185,960 with \$1,081,498 for preliminary engineering, \$2,413,405 for right of way activities, and \$6,691,057 for construction.

Design approval is scheduled for summer 2011 with right of way activities also beginning in fall 2011. Construction will begin in early 2013 with completion in spring 2014.

The average daily traffic volume on Stone Spring Road (Route 726) is 8,800 vehicles per day. Route 280 is projected to have 19,000 vehicles per day in the year 2034.

This project's design complies with Virginia's Stormwater Management Act, erosion and sediment control regulations and VDOT's approved stormwater management program. During construction, every reasonable effort will be made to protect the environment with respect to dust and erosion control, and access to all properties will be maintained.

Location Map



Estimated Project Cost

Total Cost:
\$10,185,960

Engineering of the Roadway Plans:
\$1,081,498

Right of Way Acquisition, Relocation Assistance and Utility Relocation:
\$2,413,405

Construction:
\$6,691,057

This cost is subject to change because development of the project is in the early design stage. The project will be financed using state and federal funds.

Environmental Review

VDOT 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 Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) has been developed in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration and in accordance with federal guidelines.

The NEPA document is based on 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 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.

Anticipated Schedule

The following schedule has been proposed:

Consideration for Design Approval – Summer 2011

Begin Acquisition of Right of Way – Fall 2011

Construction – Early 2013

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 or special assistance for persons with disabilities or limited English proficiency, contact VDOT's Civil Rights Division at 800-367-7623, TDD/TTY 711.

Right of Way

The construction of Route 280 will require one residential relocation.

As we further develop and finalize the development of this project, additional easements for utility relocation may be required beyond the proposed right of way shown on the public hearing 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 acquisition is discussed in VDOT's brochure entitled, *Right of Way and Utilities: a Guide for Property Owners and Tenants*.

Copies of this booklet are available from a VDOT right of way agent.

After this meeting, information regarding right of way may be obtained from the right of way contact listed on the back of this brochure.