

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The primary purpose of the project is to widen Route 11 (Lee Highway) in Washington County to four lanes from the intersection of Mount Vernon Drive to the intersection of Route F-310, located at Exit 10. The new roadway will provide four 12-foot-wide travel lanes with a raised grass median and a 10-foot-wide shared use path for pedestrians and bicycles.

The widening of Route 11 will improve traffic flow in a congested area between Interstate 81 Exit 7 and Exit 10 in Washington County. The City of Bristol is also making improvements to Route 11 from the intersection of Old Airport Road to the North City Limits of Bristol. The City of Bristol anticipates construction being advertised for bids in spring 2014.

Preliminary engineering, right of way acquisition and construction for this project is estimated at approximately \$50 million.

The proposed schedule is to begin right of way acquisition in fall 2012 and begin construction in fall 2014.

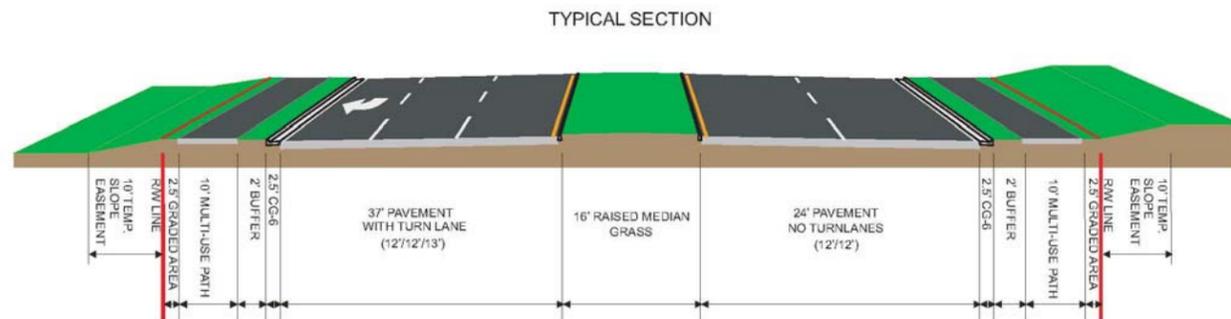
Improvements to Route 11 include realigning two intersections to improve traffic flow.

Route 1712 (Old Dominion Road) will be realigned to connect with Route 9767 (Battle Hill Drive). The traffic signal currently located at the intersection of Old Dominion Road will be relocated to Battle Hill Drive.

Sugar Hollow Park's entrance will be realigned to connect at the south traffic signal for The Highlands Center retail shops. This connection will also be used by Higher Ground Fellowship Church of God.

The shared use path will be on the left side of the northbound lanes of Route 11 from Mount Vernon Drive to John Battle Drive. It will then cross over and be on the right side of the northbound lanes from John Battle Drive to Route F-310.

Project Graphic



Estimated Project Cost

Total Cost:

\$50 million (approximately)

Engineering of Roadway Plans:

\$2.7 million

Right of Way Acquisition, Relocation Assistance and Utility Relocation:

\$14 million

Construction:

\$33 million

This cost is subject to change. The project will be financed using federal and state funds.

Environmental Review

VDOT's Bristol 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 Categorical Exclusion (CE) has been prepared 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. Right-of-way impacts to Sugar Hollow Park resulted in a de-minimis 4(f) determination by FHWA. 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.

Anticipated Schedule

The following tentative schedule has been proposed:

Approval of design – fall 2012

Right of Way begins – summer 2012

Advertise for construction – fall 2014

Civil Rights

Representatives from VDOT are present to discuss the project and answer your questions. It is the responsibility of VDOT to ensure that all members of the community are afforded the opportunity to participate in public decisions on transportation systems and projects affecting them.

VDOT ensures nondiscrimination in all programs and activities in accordance with Title VI and 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 in this brochure.

Right of Way

The widening of Route 11 (Lee Highway) in Washington County will require the displacement of two businesses and one non-profit. No families will be displaced.

As we further develop and finalize this project, additional easements for utility relocation may be required beyond the proposed right of way shown on the public hearing plans. The 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.

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

Get Involved

Ten days after this public hearing, on April 29, 2012, the public comment period will close. VDOT will review and evaluate any information received as a result of the design public hearing. 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 received as a result of the hearing will be presented to the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB) to consider the proposed location for the project. If a location is approved by the CTB, the major design features will then be presented to VDOT's Chief Engineer or designee for approval.

Project information shared here is available for review after the location and design meeting at VDOT's Bristol District Office located at 870 Bonham Road, Bristol, VA 24201.

Comments can also be submitted in writing to bristolinfo@vdot.virginia.gov. Information must be postmarked, emailed or delivered to VDOT within 10 calendar days of today's meeting (April 29, 2012) in order to be included in the design public hearing record.

Contact Information

Primary Contact: Gene Holley	Project Manager	870 Bonham Road Bristol, VA 24201	276-645-1680 1-800-352-1730
Lori Snider	Right of Way	731 Harrison Ave. Salem, VA 24153	540-387-5366 1-800-367-7623
Michelle Earl	Public Affairs	870 Bonham Road Bristol, VA 24201	276-669-9999 1-800-352-1730
Mary Ann Altum	Civil Rights	870 Bonham Road Bristol, VA 24201	276-645-1677 1-800-352-1730



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www.VirginiaDOT.org
bristolinfo@VDOT.Virginia.gov

Design Public Hearing

Route 11 (Lee Highway) Washington County

Thursday, April 19, 2012, 5-7 p.m.
John S. Battle High School Cafeteria
21264 Battle Hill Drive
Bristol, VA 24202

Public Meeting

Welcome to the Virginia Department of Transportation's (VDOT) design public hearing on proposed improvements to Route 11 (Lee Highway) in Washington County. These improvements will begin at the intersection of Mount Vernon Drive and extend two miles to Route F-310 (Exit 10).

This public hearing is being held to provide an opportunity for any person, acting on his/her own behalf or representing a group or governing agency, to give the department 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 included in a transcript for review by VDOT personnel, citizens and other interested parties.

Project Overview



Route 11 (Lee Highway) in Washington County

Anticipated Cost – Approximately \$50 million

Purpose – Widen to four lanes with a raised median and a shared use lane for bicycles and pedestrians

From – intersection of Mount Vernon Drive

To – intersection of Route F-310 (Exit 10)

Total length – 2 miles

Improvements – Provide a safe and efficient highway, improve pedestrian and bicycle access