

Summary of Public Information Meeting
Route 29 Lee Hwy Widening
From Union Mill Road to Buckley's Gate Drive in Fairfax County
State Project: 0029-029-350, P101, R201, C501, D612
UPC: 110329
Federal Project: NHPP-5A01 (917)

On October 10, 2018 the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) held a public meeting to present the preliminary design for the Route 29 Widening project, and encourage comments and discussion from the public. The meeting included handout materials, display boards, printed plans, a formal presentation, project brochure and comment sheet that could be completed by interested parties and returned to VDOT. The public information meeting was announced to the public two weeks in advance via postcard mailings. There were 49 people in attendance at the meeting, of whom most had received the card post. At the meeting, sixteen comment sheets were received and several comments were addressed during the question and answer period. A total of 79 comments were made at/following the public meeting, in written format on the comment sheets, and through email correspondence.

The comments provided as a result of the Public information Meeting have been divided into five categories: General, Environmental, Roadway, Right of Way, and Traffic. The following is a summary of those comments:

General Comments (15)

Fifteen comments were categorized as general and provided either direct project support or did not support portions of the proposed project. There were no comments that were in opposition to the project as a whole. Several of the comments addressed specific concerns related to Betty's Azalea Ranch, noting that the planned shared use path was not supported. Other features not supported by the public included proposed widening on Clifton Road and the connection of a service drive to the Brightview development near Summit Drive.

Environmental Comments (13)

Thirteen comments were received regarding noise impact, with most in support of the noise barriers. One comment indicated a preference for buffer zones with trees and shrubs rather than noise barriers. The residents who were in support of noise barriers also supported noise barrier construction prior to roadway construction beginning.

Roadway Comments (21)

In this grouping of comments, most of the concerns dealt with safety (sight distance, speed, pedestrian connectivity, and accidents), some of which are inter-related issues dealing with the current roadway's substandard profile design, limited intersection sight distance, and access connectivity. The proposed project will address these issues as part of the final design. The remaining comments focused on construction related issues including maintenance of traffic; the project will address these elements as the design is further developed.

Right of Way (5)

A few of the comments that were received expressed concern regarding potential right of way impacts as a result of the project and a desire for additional information. Most of these comments were addressed during the public information meeting or through email correspondence.

Traffic Operations (25)

Several concerns were raised about the intersection at Willowmeade Drive, specifically whether the current crossover could remain, a signal added and/or a right turn lane constructed. The remaining traffic comments focused on traffic operations, timing, allowable U-Turn movements, and the side roads adjacent to Route 29.