

Meeting: Slater Park, Reynoldstown, Skyland Neighborhood Meeting
Date/Time: April 15th, 2008
Location: Simon G. Atkins Academic and Technology School
Attendees: 12 Attendees
Anne Morris – Facilitator
Ed Lewis – NCDOT Presenter

Agenda Items:

Welcome/Introduction

- Ms. Morris welcomed attendees to the Slater Park, Reynoldstown and Skyland neighborhood meeting for the Business 40 Improvement Project.
- The facilitator introduced Ed Lewis and other NCDOT representatives.
- The slide show presentation began.

Community Outreach

- Ms. Morris discussed the outreach process.
- How community outreach has been conducted (door-to-door surveys, neighborhood business surveys, downtown business surveys).
- The canvassing process (19 core neighborhoods were being surveyed).

Project Overview

- Mr. Lewis gave a brief history of Business 40.
 - ✓ Business 40 is the oldest interstate in North Carolina.
 - ✓ It originally wasn't intended to be an interstate.
 - ✓ Business 40 carries on average 70,000 cars a day.
- Mr. Lewis discussed why the project is needed.
 - ✓ Business 40 is over 50 years old and is starting to deteriorate.
 - ✓ The 11 bridges have major design problems. (The steel beams are deteriorating; the bridges have clearance issues, etc.)
 - ✓ Business 40's lanes tend to be narrow.
- Mr. Lewis then provided proposed solutions for Business 40's existing flaws.
 - ✓ All 11 bridges crossing Business 40 will be removed and replaced.
 - ✓ Sidewalks and bicycle lanes will be considered for the roads crossing Business 40.
 - ✓ Drainage on Business 40 will be improved.
 - ✓ Widening Business 40 auxiliary lanes in addition to placing full shoulders.
 - ✓ Reconfigure the entrance- and exit-ramps.
 - ✓ Most improvements will take place within the existing right-of-way.

Ms. Morris talked about future plans for the Community Outreach process.

The Business 40 improvement project team will be speaking with:

- Large institutions with intranet access.

- R.J. Reynolds
- Wake Forest University
- Winston-Salem State University
- Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center
- Wachovia Bank

The Business 40 Improvement project team will be using other forms of community involvement.

- Issue working groups
- On- and Off-ramp surveys
- Neighborhood Meetings
- Corridor-Wide Meetings

The slide show then concluded and the question-and-answer period began.

ASKED QUESTIONS:

QUESTION: Explain the process of the project?

ANSWER: The project process closely resembles the process used for other projects within the State. The difference associated with the Business 40 project is that the Public Involvement method is much more extensive than other projects and is occurring earlier in the process than it would traditionally.

Q: Which Bridges will be removed and/or replaced?

A: All 11 bridges crossing Business 40 will be removed and/or replaced.

Q: How is the project being funded?

A: Because of the time until the project (Right-of-Way acquisition is not anticipated until 2013) will be constructed it is not yet funded. As the project approaches it is likely that a mix of federal and state transportation funds will be used for completing it.

Q: If Business 40 is closed, how will it affect already congested US 52?

A: Improvements to US 52 as well as other projects (Winston-Salem signal improvements, Salem Creek Connector, MLK extension, etc.) will be completed prior to construction of the Business 40 Improvements. These projects should help to alleviate congestion resulting from the construction. Alternative detour routes will be examined prior to construction to further minimize congestion. That being said traffic and congestion will increase on the primary detour routes for the project.

Q: How will construction on Business 40 affect access to the new Ballpark off of the Peter's Creek Parkway exit?

A: NCDOT understands that the Peter's Creek Parkway exit from Business 40 is a major hub and because of that simple fact, it will most likely be the first bridge that will undergo construction. However, NCDOT does not have any definitive answers regarding how construction will affect traffic to and from the new ballpark.

Q: Why are sidewalks and bike lanes an issue since they are not a part of Business 40?

A: No sidewalks or Bike Routes will be located on Business 40; however, sidewalks are part of the existing bridges over Business 40 and connect to sidewalks on either side of the bridges. This connectivity allows for non motorized travel between the communities and downtown Winston-Salem. This project will be the last opportunity to incorporate pedestrian/bike features on the Business 40 bridges for the life of the project.

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