

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**NCDOT TO BEGIN DOOR-TO-DOOR SURVEYS
FOR BUSINESS 40 IMPROVEMENT PROJECT**

RALEIGH — The N.C. Department of Transportation will begin conducting door-to-door surveys of residents and businesses in neighborhoods throughout downtown Winston-Salem as early as Monday, Oct. 15. Information gathered from the surveys will help shape the department's plans for proposed improvements to a section of Business 40 in downtown Winston-Salem.

Surveyors will be dressed in orange and blue shirts with the Business 40 logo and will visit each home and business in 16 downtown neighborhoods beginning daily at 10:30 a.m. until 7:30 p.m. The surveying will begin in Ardmore and continue for several months until each neighborhood is complete. A map of the neighborhoods is attached.

“Citizen input is an important part of this process and we look forward to hearing what residents have to say about the future plans for Business 40 in downtown Winston-Salem,” said N.C. Board of Transportation member Nancy Dunn of Winston-Salem, who represents the area on the board.

“These door-to-door surveys allow citizens to have a direct role in shaping the transportation future of their community,” said Pat Ivey, NCDOT's division engineer overseeing the Winston-Salem area.

NCDOT proposes to improve a 1.08-mile section of Business 40 through downtown Winston-Salem from just west of 4th Street to just east of Church Street. The improvements will include rehabilitating pavement, replacing bridges and reconstructing several interchanges. Construction is scheduled to begin after 2013.

Residents are encouraged to participate in the surveys, which will help the department determine how the project should proceed. Specifically, the department is studying whether Business 40 should be closed completely for up to two years or whether it should be partially closed for up to six years while construction is under way. The surveys will also help the department plan detour and alternate routes during construction.

Surveys will also be conducted over the next few months at area shopping centers, which will give commuters and those who do not live in close proximity to Business 40 an opportunity to provide feedback. Additionally, the department plans to survey motorists at exit ramp locations along Business 40 later this fall. Beginning in early 2008, the department will hold community meetings in other neighborhoods around Winston-Salem as well as other communities in Forsyth County.

The survey is being administered by PBS&J Engineering and Neighborhood Solutions Inc. For more information, residents are encouraged to contact the Business 40 Project office at (336) 722-0565. A Web site with project details will be available beginning the week of Oct. 15 at www.business40nc.com.

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