

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Dec. 21, 2007

Contact: Andrew Sawyer, (919) 733-2522

BUSINESS 40 SURVEYING SUSPENDED DURING HOLIDAY SEASON

More Than 4,700 Residents Have Participated To Date

RALEIGH — Door-to-door surveying of downtown Winston-Salem residences in close proximity to the proposed Business 40 Rehabilitation Project has been suspended through Wednesday, Jan. 2, 2008 for the holiday season and will resume on Thursday, Jan. 3, 2008.

More than 4,700 of the N.C. Department of Transportation surveys, representing more than 55 percent of the total 8,147 residences visited to date, have been collected.

Teams have completed surveying eight downtown neighborhoods bordering Business 40 and will resume surveying in the remaining nine neighborhoods beginning as early as Jan. 3. Those neighborhoods include West End, Westland, West Highlands, Old Salem, Happy Hill, Country Club/Industrial, Goler, East Winston and Winston-Salem State University. Surveying will be conducted Tuesdays through Fridays from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. and on Saturdays from 9:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Crews have also been surveying residents in gated communities and senior housing facilities as well as shoppers at local stores and strip malls. In addition, teams have begun surveying local houses of worship and non-profit organizations within the project study area. Surveys of the downtown business community are scheduled to begin in early January.

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, NCDOT 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.

NCDOT plans to survey motorists at exit ramp locations along Business 40 this spring. Beginning in early 2008, the department will hold community meetings in neighborhoods around Winston-Salem as well as other communities in Forsyth County.

The survey is being administered by PBS&J Engineering, Neighborhood Solutions Inc., and Simon Resources Inc. For more information, residents are encouraged to contact the Business 40 Project office at (336) 722-0565. The office will be closed from Saturday, Dec. 22, through Wednesday, Jan. 2, 2008, for the holidays. A Web site with project details is available at www.business40nc.com.

NCDOT