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Design Public Hearing

Route 11/Railroad Drive Intersection Improvements Smyth County

Thursday, January 24, 2019, 4 - 6 p.m.

Incident Weather Date: January 29, 2019, 4 - 6 p.m.

Smyth County Public Library

118 S. Sheffey Street, Marion, VA 24354

Public Meeting

The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) welcomes you to the design public hearing for the proposed improvements to the intersection of Route 11 and Route 660 (Railroad Drive) in Smyth County. These improvements will begin 0.201 mile west of the intersection of Railroad Drive and end 0.140 mile east of the intersection of Railroad Drive.

This public hearing is 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 his or her comments and/or suggestions concerning the proposed project after reviewing the project information.

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 of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

Project Overview



The intersection of Route 11 and Railroad Drive (Smyth Co.)

Anticipated Cost – \$2.7 million

Purpose – Improve safety

From – 0.208 mile west of intersection of Railroad Dr.

To – 0.140 mile east of intersection of Railroad Dr.

Total length – 0.35 mile

Improvements – Add right and left turn lanes on Route 11 at the intersection of Railroad Dr.

Anticipated Schedule – design work wraps up in early 2020; right of way begins May 2020; project will be advertised for construction bids summer 2021.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The primary purpose of this project is to improve safety by adding a left and right turn lane onto Route 660 (Railroad Drive) from Route 11.

Each turn lane will be approximately 200 feet long to provide space for vehicles waiting to make turns off Route 11 onto Railroad Drive.

The number of turning vehicles from Railroad Drive has increased significantly since the McMullin Bridge was closed due to safety concerns. This intersection currently is the only point of access to and from a large residential neighborhood located to the north of the Norfolk Southern Railroad at-grade crossing.

The intersection improvements will improve safety at the busy intersection, as well as improve sight distance and traffic flow.

During construction, motorists should expect daytime lane closures and flaggers during daylight hours. It will take approximately a year to complete the work once construction begins.

Right of way acquisition will begin May 2020. The project will be advertised for construction bids summer 2021.

Route 11 carries approximately 3,200 vehicles per day in this area.

Environmental Review

Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), 23 CFR 771, and the 2013 Agreement between the Federal Highway Administration and VDOT, a Programmatic Categorical Exclusion (PCE) was prepared for this project and is available for review at tonight's meeting. In compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act, Section 106 and 36 CFR Part 800, information concerning the potential effects of the proposed improvements on properties listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places is available for review at tonight's meeting. All subsequent environmental conditions and commitments resulting from regulatory approvals will be adhered to during project construction.

Right of Way

As the design is developed, VDOT will determine what right of way and easements will be needed to accommodate the construction. The right of way and easement information is available at the public hearing. The property owners will be notified of the exact location of the right of way and easements needed during the right of way acquisition process and prior to construction.

Get Involved

Comments can also be submitted in writing to bristolinfo@vdot.virginia.gov. Information must be postmarked, e-mailed or delivered to

VDOT within 10 calendar days of today's meeting (February 3, 2019) in order to be included in the citizen information meeting record.

Contact Information

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